

**FLORIDA CANCER CONTROL AND RESEARCH ADVISORY COUNCIL  
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
Friday, April 26, 2024, 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM**

**Council Members in Attendance**

- Senator Colleen Burton - Senate President's Appointee
- Representative Linda Chaney - House Speaker's Appointee
- Christopher Cogle, MD - Senate President's Appointee
- Mike Diaz, MD - Association of Community Cancer Centers
- Clement Gwede, PhD, MPH, RN - Moffitt Cancer Center (Chair)
- Paul Hull, PhD - American Cancer Society
- Erin Kobetz, PhD - Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center University of Miami (Vice Chair)
- Joseph Ladapo, MD - Florida's Surgeon General, Florida Department of Health
- Merritt Martin - House Speaker's Appointee
- Mitchell Peabody, DO - Florida Osteopathic Medical Association
- Luis Ruez, MD - Florida Hospital Association
- Ramzi Salloum, PhD - University of Florida Health Cancer Center

**Council Members Not in Attendance**

- Jessica MacIntyre, DNP, MBA, APRN, AOCNP - Florida Nurses Association
- Nitesh Paryani, MD - Florida Medical Association

**Others**

- |                             |                       |                         |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| • Tiffany Albury            | • Tracey Gregory      | • Tiffany McCaskill     |
| • Leanne Alexander          | • Angela Hahn         | • Leah Mitchem          |
| • Ellen Anderson            | • Susan Harbin        | • Julie Newberry        |
| • Jessica Beckstrand        | • Monique Hernandez   | • Kenneth Peach         |
| • Tarik Benidir             | • Caitlin Kennedy     | • Vickie Perez-Marrero  |
| • Robert Brooks             | • Christine Kucera    | • Lara Prewitt          |
| • Jacob Brown               | • Jennifer Kue        | • Towana Reddick        |
| • Laura Corbin              | • Heather Lake-Burger | • Lindsey Redding       |
| • Mackenson<br>Desamours    | • Paul Ledford        | • Tammy<br>Semelsberger |
| • Felisha Dickey            | • David Lee           | • Georgia Sheridan      |
| • Jason Feldman             | • Valerie Lee         | • Pamela Sirota         |
| • Bonnie Gaughan-<br>Bailey | • Gary Levin          | • Lynn Vinson           |
| • Marnie George             | • Peyton Lurk         | • Lauryn Watson         |
|                             | • Ashley Lyerly       | • Jamie Wilson          |
|                             | • Justice Mbizo       |                         |

## **Welcome**

Dr. Clement Gwede began by welcoming members and guests, taking a moment to reaffirm the Council's mission to advise the state on ways to reduce cancer burden, and reviewing the day's agenda. Council members introduced themselves.

## **Approval of Minutes**

Dr. Gwede presented the minutes from September 29, 2023. Merritt Martin made a motion to accept the minutes. Dr. Paul Hull seconded the motion to approve the minutes. The Council concurred with no objections.

## **CCRAB Bylaws: Amendment Reflecting Statute Change**

Dr. Gwede reviewed the proposed amendment to CCRAB bylaws, which is needed to reflect statutory change, pending signature by the Governor, adding Mayo Clinic Jacksonville to the Council's composition. Dr. Chris Cogle motioned to approve the bylaws. Dr. Mike Diaz seconded the motion. The Council concurred with no objections.

## **Highlights of Florida's Cancer Burden**

Dr. Gwede discussed Florida's cancer burden and focus areas of the 2020-2025 Florida Cancer Plan, including disparities in diagnoses of late-stage cancers and early detection for cancer, highlighting colorectal cancer screening. He reviewed the long-term vision of reducing cancer burden for all populations in Florida. There was discussion regarding challenges in both rural and urban areas, and infrastructure needs in communities, such as transportation and broadband access as well as adequate workforce/training. Senator Colleen Burton shared that the recently passed Live Healthy Act contains many provisions to help address some of these deficits. The Council will continue to work collaboratively highlight opportunities and identify gaps.

## **State Legislative Update & Discussion**

Senator Burton further highlighted the Live Healthy Act, which includes a number of initiatives and opportunities to improve health and health care. Susan Harbin, American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN), recapped additional highlights from the legislative session, including passage of legislation to increase access to biomarker testing, increased funding for Florida's Cancer Innovation, establishment of the Cancer Connect Collaborative in statute, and increased funding for the Mary Brogan Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program. Dr. Tarik Benidir commented on the inequities in prostate cancer treatment; access is an issue, as well as differences in coverage. There was discussion regarding the need for coverage to keep up with the science.

## **Biomedical Research Advisory Council (BRAC) Update**

Dr. Danny Armstrong gave an update on the state's cancer research programs. Dr. Armstrong discussed status of the James and Esther King Biomedical Research Program (JEK), Bankhead Coley Cancer Research Program (BC), Live Like Bella Pediatric Cancer Research Initiative (LLB), Rare Pediatric Disease Research Initiative, and the Casey DeSantis Cancer Innovation Fund. Dr. Armstrong also shared results from the BRAC's Long-Term Impact Survey and provided an update on the Florida Cancer Centers of Excellence Program. Three applications for redesignation were submitted this cycle; peer reviews have been completed and final decisions pending. There was discussion regarding the critical role interdisciplinary and institutional collaboration has in these research efforts.

### **Department of Health Updates**

Dr. Joseph Ladapo highlighted projects related to cancer and shared tobacco report findings, including decreases in both e-cigarette use and smoking. Felisha Dickey elaborated on program efforts in breast cancer screening and early detection, colorectal cancer screening, and comprehensive cancer control, and highlighted the Department's collaboration across cancer programs, leveraging of partnerships and utilization of data. There was discussion regarding involvement of FQHCs. Dr. Rob Brooks discussed the Cancer Connect Collaborative's commitment to closing gaps in cancer care and treatment, and provided an update on the Casey DeSantis Cancer Innovation Fund. Awardees from the first cycle, which was funded at \$20 million, have been notified. The next cycle is expected to be funded at \$60 million, pending budget approval by the Governor.

### **Survivorship/ Palliative Care**

Dr. Paul Hull reviewed cancer care plans, including survivorship plans. Modifications in standards developed by the Commission on Cancer (CoC) are anticipated. The American Cancer Society (ACS) and other stakeholders will continue to monitor and collaborate. Dr. Hull also shared information on a newly launched national ACS cohort study, Voices of Black Women, to better understand and improve the health of Black women. Felisha Dickey shared updates on the DOH Comprehensive Cancer Control Program efforts regarding survivorship, including a funding supplement for Community Health Workers. Paul Ledford discussed the national landscape and highlighted the importance of nationally recognized definitions for palliative care given the role of national payors, such as Medicare.

### **State Cancer Plan Implementation – Regional Cancer Control Collaborative Updates**

Dr. Erin Kobetz recapped the purpose of the community implementation grant initiative, a joint effort by the offices of community outreach and engagement at Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center, Moffitt Cancer Center, and UF Health Cancer Center, which provides up to \$16,500 to work on projects that reflect local need and evidence-based work. Felisha Dickey introduced the Regional Cancer Control Collaborative Coordinators to provide updates on the projects they are working on through this funding mechanism as well as funding through the DOH and Tobacco Free Florida. Coordinators from each of the six regions presented on the work their Collaboratives are doing.

### **Florida Cancer Data System (FCDS) Update**

Dr. David Lee, Gary Levin and Dr. Monique Hernandez provided an update on Florida's State Cancer Data Workgroups, which were developed to address objectives in the 2020-2025 Florida Cancer Plan. This includes an objective to form a state cancer data workgroup consisting of key stakeholders to develop strategies for adding cancer biology data, social determinants of health data, cancer screening data, and precancerous cervical pathology test results (CIN2/3, CIS) to the state cancer registry (Objective 2.1), and four sub-groups developed to focus on Cancer Plan Objectives 2.2 (focus on adding cancer biology data to the registry), 2.3 (focus on adding social determinants of health and additional patient demographic data to the registry), 2.4 (focus on the addition of cancer screening items to the registry) and 2.6 (focus on increasing access and utilization of registry data). The sub-groups have developed pilots and/or implementation strategies for each of the four objectives and have identified the resource needs and timelines to move forward. Much work is on hold as the groups try to identify funding sources for the pilot projects. There was discussion regarding the relevance and importance of enhancing the state cancer registry and need for resources as well as continued partnership as stakeholders begin to work on the 2026-2030 Florida Cancer Plan.

**State and National Cancer Policy Efforts**

Dr. Chris Cogle provided an update on AHCA's colorectal cancer screening and prevention initiative. Dr. Cogle also shared information on the National Cancer Policy Forum (NCPF), a collaborative effort through the National Academies. The NCPF's work entails a workshop process by which stakeholders identify a specific topic, hold proceedings, and make findings available to the public. There was discussion regarding the awareness of these resources as well as potential for Florida stakeholders to apply a similar model, which would require a source of funding.

**Florida Cancer Plan 2030 Planning and Discussion**

There was discussion regarding potential updates to the USPSTF guidelines for breast cancer screening, which are expected to be released this year. This type of change would meet the criteria for consideration by Council to update the 2020-2025 Florida Cancer Plan. If new recommendations are adopted by the USPSTF, the information will be shared with CCRAB members in accordance with the Council-approved plan for revising the Cancer Plan. The Council will continue to follow evolving science and ensure that current recommendations are captured in the reports the Council is statutorily required to develop and update.

Dr. Gwede discussed planning for the 2026-2030 Florida Cancer Plan and shared a general draft timeline. Stakeholder input from across the state, including through regional town hall meetings, was a critical part of the process for developing the current Plan.

**Comments**

Dr. Gwede invited any meeting attendees to make comments.

**Next CCRAB Meeting**

Dr. Gwede stated that the next CCRAB meeting will be in the Fall of 2024. Dr. Bobbie McKee will follow-up with Council members with additional information.

**Adjourn**

Dr. Gwede thanked everyone for participating. The meeting adjourned at 2:37 PM on April 26, 2024.