

MP3C Northeast Regional Chapter

Fighting Cancer Together

Executive Board Meeting Points of Interest

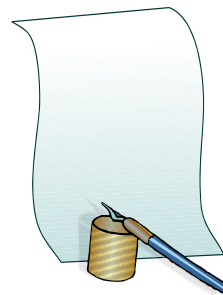
The Executive Board met in late October for their quarterly meeting. One of the most pressing issues is the updating of the Mississippi comprehensive Cancer Control 5 year plan. A committee is being formed at present to address this task. Plans are to have this in place by the end of this month. An invitation is extended to any member that has an interest in working on this report. Persons with data analysis skills and writing skills are particularly needed. Please contact Dr. Olugbe-miga Ekundayo, Evaluation Committee Chair, for more information at 601-979-8791/olugbeiga.t.ekundayo@jsums.edu This committee has just completed a redesign of the evaluation instrument that will be used at future

meetings and will continue to work on the analysis process for interactive reporting.

Each regional chair reported highlights from their respective regions. These reports will be reviewed and one or two projects will be chosen to promote as statewide projects to occur simultaneously across the state. The rationale behind this thinking is that more exposure about cancer education and awareness occurring at the same time will create a more lasting impact and will be easier for all coalitions to undertake.

Data was presented from the Membership Satisfaction Survey by Dr. Vernesia Wilson, MSDH Research and Data Specialist. The mean scores ranged from 3.5 to 4.2 with 5

being the highest score. Overall the majority of responses for the membership satisfaction portion of the survey were very good. However, one score was in the low range, scoring 3.4 to the statement "regional coalition updates and/or other reports are routinely made at meetings." Therefore, I need your help with ideas to best help me communicate with you and visa versa. I know wonderful things are going on out there and hopefully by creating this newsletter, we can highlight some of those remarkable efforts!



Cancer Resource Center Created

A mobile cancer resource center has been created for Mississippi State University students. The educational information focuses on the most prominent types of cancer among college age which are cervical, testicular, skin and breast cancers. An array of information exists con-

sisting of DVD's, powerpoints, books, models and prevention give-aways. Faculty, staff, and students can check out the moveable resource center to provide materials for programs, events, and displays. It has already been used in numerous programs and with a monthly

cancer support group that meets on campus at the Student Health Center. This was made possible through grant funding from MSDH-Mississippi Comprehensive Cancer Control Program.

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Inside this Issue:

EC Points of Interest	1
Cancer Resource Center	1
What's Happening...	2
Seniors Tackling Cancer	2
Komen on the Go	3
School Health Council	3
Tip You Should Know	3
Membership in NE Chapter	4



What's Happening in the Northeast Region ...

Baptist Desoto in Southaven, Ms has been offering external beam radiation therapy to patients for all types of cancer since December of 2001. The radioactive seed implant procedure, or brachytherapy, was implemented at Baptist DeSoto in November of 2010 for men who have been diagnosed with prostate cancer. This allows patients in Desoto and the surrounding counties to be treated closer to home.

*Jackie Gaines, CRT
Baptist Desoto*

North Mississippi Medical Center sponsored the 4th Oncology Conference on November 12 offering specialized educational sessions related to cancers of the reproductive system. Physicians and other professionals were able to receive some of their CME credits as well as other professionals. Many professionals have to travel great distances to get training for these specialized sessions, but this conference is held right here in our back door. The target audience for this symposium is physicians, nurse practitioners, nurses, pharmacists, social workers and other health care

providers who treat these cancers or are interested in learning more about them.

*Paula Turner
North MS Medical Center*

Mississippi State University Health Education and Wellness Department coordinates a free support group for MSU students, faculty, staff, and the community who have cancer, have a family member or friend with cancer, or is a survivor of cancer. The support group meets monthly with experts from the field providing education on specific topics of interest to attendees. For more information contact Dr. Joyce Yates or Ms. JuLeigh Baker at 662-325-7545.

Seniors Tackling Cancer

A community engagement project, *Seniors Tackling Cancer*, will begin in Winston County January 19th to involve local seniors and resource organizations in a grassroots effort focused on prevention, early detection, and living with cancer within Winston County. The project is supported by the Mississippi State Department of Health's Compressive Cancer Control Program and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Over 13,000 Mississippians are likely to be diagnosed with cancer this year. Winston County has the fourth highest cancer mortality rate in the state. The goal for this event is to involve the community in a dialogue about factors in Winston County supportive or detrimental to addressing cancer and its impact on older adults. Though cancer is age-blind, it more frequently impacts seniors.

Dates for portions of the project are as follows:

Forum 1—January 19, 2011, 9:30 am—11:45 am

Forum 2—February 2, 2011, 9:30 am—11:45 am

Moving From Talk To Action—February 16, 9:30 am—11:30 am

Master Health Education Volunteers—March 7, 2011, 9:00 am—3:00pm

The end goal for the project is to find local solutions to improving prevention, detection, and living with cancer for the residents of Winston county while documenting a community engagement process that can be replicated in other communities throughout the state. More information about the project can be obtained from Ann Sansing, at 662-325-4043 or asansing@ext.msstate.edu

*Wednesday, January 19
Winston County Extension Service*

**SENIORS
TACKLING
CANCER**

*460 Vance Street
Louisville
9AM-11:45AM*

Komen Van Visits Mississippi State University

There was an amazing turnout for the Komen On The Go event at Mississippi State University. The staff with Komen were very impressed with how everyone was engaged in the learning center in the RV, the number of volunteers, all of the pink around campus, and the many events going on to tell people about it! Some of the activities volunteers assisted with were passing out flyers, carrying around posters, grilling hamburgers, cutting the huge pink cake, serving food, encouraging people in classes to come check out the event, giving out ribbons and information, and working on the RV. Over 400 students assisted with this event. Two TV stations covered the event and were very impressed with the support that the students and volunteers showed about the fight against breast cancer. The event was coordinated by the Health Education and Wellness Department.

*Nicole Smylie, Graduate Assistant
Health Education and Wellness Department*

**Susan G. Komen
Komen On The Go!**



Wednesday, September 15

9am-3pm

In front of the Union

Look for the Pink RV!

School Health Council To Promote Skin Cancer Awareness

An idea was spurred at the MP3C Executive Council meeting when Stacy Curry, Coastal Region Chair, shared about skin cancer awareness with the solar bead bracelets and sun safe coloring books. Several weeks later, I attended our local school health council meeting for grades 3-5 and shared the idea of promoting this at the school health fair in the spring.

In one section of the health fair, tents are set up for the kids to do projects and this should be a fun, hands on way to educate them on protecting your skin from the sun. You may want to take these ideas to your school health councils to use as an interactive projects or for projects to use in the classroom. For more information on the coloring books check out the following website: <http://www.usm.edu/chs/smahec/itselementary.html> Solar beads can be purchased from <http://www.solarbeads.com/purchase.htm>

A PSA is available from the Coastal Region about the effects of tanning related to teens and young adults.

Contact Stacy Curry at stacy.curry@usm.edu for more information.

Tip You Should Know...

Several times a year, Ask the Expert features a different cancer-related topic. Your questions are answered by M. D. Anderson faculty and staff members chosen to address topics in their fields of expertise. Whether you're a patient or a caregiver, your questions are welcome. Asking the expert is easy. Just go to www.mdanderson.org/asktheexpert at any time during the week indicated and type in your question. It is their policy to get you an answer to you to the best of their ability within 24 to 72 hours.

*Patsy Gregory, Cancer Outreach of North Mississippi
patsygregory@theorchard.org*



Membership Form to Pass Along:

http://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/_static/resources/1310.pdf

Information Link about MP3C:

http://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/_static/43.0.292.html

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Please send information for Newsletter!

If I left out information you sent, please forgive me, it was truly an oversight. I am going to try and get something out to our chapter on a quarterly basis, but I need feedback from you regarding activities that are going on in your area. This is also important for the reporting that Millicent Shelby must do at the state level. Also, I realize we have not had a videoconference in quite sometime now and will try to get something scheduled after the first of the year. Do let me hear from you with ideas/suggestions as to how we can move our region forward. Thank you for your continued involvement in MP3C.

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Membership in Northeast Chapter

Let me encourage you to recruit for our Northeast Chapter. Everywhere you turn, someone has been affected by cancer, so we must all pull together and fight this dreaded disease. As the old saying goes, never, never, give up!

There are posters hanging in my department that are sources of encouragement for students, faculty and staff. One of my favorite is the poster that states:

**Go Over,
Go Under,
Go Around,
Or Go Through
But Never Give Up!**

May you and yours have a safe and joyous holiday season. Look ever so close and you will find a blessing in each day.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Ann Lansing

Northeast Regional Chair
Mississippi State University Extension Service
Department of Food Science, Nutrition,
and Health Promotion
asansing@ext.msstate.edu/662-325-4043

