

JANUARY 2009 Cervical Cancer Subcommittee Update

The next meeting of the Cervical Cancer Subcommittee is scheduled for Thursday, February 26 at 10:30 am. The team will discuss a plan for activities for the rest of the year. The goal is have at least one planned activity for each of the working teams, which are public health education/communication, advocacy and policy, and health care provider education/communication. Following is an update of current activities.

BILLBOARD CAMPAIGN:

To date, all of the 66 billboards have been installed across the state. If you see a billboard, please take a picture, note the location, and send to Shannon for our records. We have received positive feedback on the billboards. We welcome feedback about the development process and final product.

PLANNED SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS TO THE SC CANCER ALLIANCE:

Three cervical cancer related proposals will be submitted in response to the SCCA call for proposals to implement the cancer plan.

- 1) Bellinger, Jessica, USC, Distrust and discrimination in accessing cervical cancer prevention and control services
- 2) Messias, DeAnne, SC Hispanic Latino Health Coalition, Continued implementation and evaluation of the Spanish language Cancer Education Guide with emphasis on breast and cervical cancer screening
- 3) Williams, Andrea, USC-Clafin EXPORT Center, HPV and cervical cancer education/programs in Orangeburg

Proposals will be presented to the SCCA Early Detection Task Force on Friday Jan 30th and presented to the Breast and Female Cancers Workgroup on Tuesday Feb 2nd. Please contact Shannon for more details about those meetings.

CERVICAL CANCER SYMPOSIUM OF THE JOURNAL OF THE SC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION:
Andrea Williams has been managing the submission and peer review of articles and brief reports submitted to the Cervical Cancer Symposium of the Journal of the SC Medical Association. We are currently working on shaping the community and educational resources section of the symposium. More information will be shared about opportunities to get involved in this effort. The symposium will be published in October 2009.

ADVOCACY & POLICY:

Heather Brandt has been working with Gailya Walter (SCCA Advocacy & Policy Task Force) and Mary Lynn Donovan (Komen for the Cure – Upstate) on urging our legislators to reinstate the breast and cervical cancer treatment act to pay for cancer care of women who are diagnosed in our state but unable to afford treatment. Right now, treatment is restricted to women who are diagnosed through the Best Chance Network only. Any telephone calls, emails, and visits to legislators would be greatly appreciated. The one-page handout that was developed is attached for your information and reference.

SCCA QUARTERLY MEETING:

The South Carolina Cancer Alliance quarterly meeting is this Friday, January 30th in Columbia. More information is available on the SCCA website (<http://www.sccanceralliance.org>). You can register on the website. The Early Detecton Task Force will meet between 9:30 and 11:30 a.m.

OTHER UPDATES???

If you have other updates to share, please send them to Shannon Johnson at Shannon.johnson@sccanceralliance.org.