

SOUTHEAST FLORIDA CANCER CONTROL COLLABORATIVE

Meeting Minutes – January 19, 2006

La Liga Contra el Cancer
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.



Participants

Marjorie Aloni
Florida Breast Cancer Coalition

Amparo Alvarez
The Wellness Community- Greater Miami

Vanessa Aguilera-Vicente
Leukemia & Lymphoma Society

Pascale Denize Auguste
Haitian American Association Against Cancer

Natasha Carr
Sheridan HealthCare International Rehab.

Adriana La Rosa Cora
Liga Contra el Cancer

Jan Domlesky
Cancer Information Service

Debra Eddington
Aventura Hospital & Medical Center, Cancer Center

Phil Fusca
Aventura Hospital and Medical Center, Cancer Center

Barbara Hartstein
Florida Breast Cancer Coalition Research Foundation

Joanne Leahy
UM/Sylvester at Deerfield Beach

Angel Loor
Redes en Acción

Virginia Noy
Liga Contra el Cancer

Martha Oliveros
Cancer Information Service (Co-Chair)

Jennifer Prince
Project Screen, Miami-Dade County Health Department

Mary Pujals
Liga Contra el Cancer

Shelly Rozenberg
National Ovarian Cancer Coalition

Cesar Scheker
Liga Contra el Cancer

Carthy Thomas (Co-Chair)
UM/Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center

Kellie Wilcox
American Cancer Society

Kermit Wyche
Jackson Health System

UM Staff:
Betsy Barton
Remonia (Mona) Green
Dorothy Parker

Introductions

Dr. Luis Villa, President of La Liga, welcomed us to their facility. He described their services and shared his thoughts about opportunities for collaboration in public education and cancer prevention, including future developments relating to CT scans for lung cancer and HPV vaccines. He also mentioned that the physicians that volunteer at La Liga are available to speak at community event.

Martha Oliveros continued the meeting with introductions and approval of the minutes from the September 22, 2005 meeting.

SFCCC Member Survey

Carthy Thomas spoke about the questionnaire that was distributed via the SFCCC ListServ to get input from members about current activities of the Collaborative and ideas for future directions. She presented preliminary results and asked those who had not yet completed the questionnaire to do so. The final results will be distributed and used to help plan activities in the coming year.

DOH Funding for Cancer Education Material

A few months ago, the Florida Department Health Comprehensive Cancer Control Program awarded the SFCCC \$1,500 to purchase materials for the kiosks. The money can be used for material on colorectal, ovarian, lung, prostate and skin cancers. Dorothy Parker reported that UM will be the fiscal agent for these funds. She asked for volunteers to help determine what material to order and distribute to the kiosk hosts. Marjie Aloni, Amparo Alvarez, Kermit Wyche and Debra Eddington offered to help. Email has already been sent to the kiosk hosts, and some have replied. The committee will help follow up with the others. The money must be spent by May 2006.

Palliative Care Workgroup

Phil Fusca and Joanne Leahy reported on the very successful palliative care workshop held at North Broward Medical Center on November 5. As Joanne said, this "shows how a network can really make a difference." The workshop addresses Goal 8 of the Florida Cancer Plan, which is "to increase quality of life for patients and families." It specifically addresses Strategy 8C - to provide CMEs to physicians, nurses and students on palliative care and quality of life issues, and helps to accomplish Affinity Group 8C - implement EPEC programs throughout Florida.

Phil and Joanne presented the evaluation results, which were very positive. There were 80 participants, which was impressive since the workshop was held 2 weeks after Hurricane Wilma. The speakers and the sponsors were appropriately acknowledged at the conference and on the materials. Kathy Salce and Oscar Reyes from the Education Office at UM/Sylvester were very helpful in organizing the conference, registering participants, and paying the vendors. Phyllis Sullivan was also key in planning and sponsoring the event, including making arrangements to use the conference facility at North Broward Medical Center at no cost. Phil and Joanne also shared how their planning and communication strategies made this a success, e.g., multiple conference calls and emails – and a great team!!

The Palliative Care Workgroup is now exploring ideas for future training, e.g., for caregivers, or more in-depth coverage of some of the topics presented on Nov. 5, which was a condensed version of the multi-session EPEC training.

Disparities Workgroup

Martha Oliveros presented information she has collected, some from SFCCC members, on cultural competency training programs. A handout from "Toward a More Perfect Union" was provided; this is the organization that Mari Chumaciero from Hospice by the Sea suggested at the last SFCCC meeting. Amparo Alvarez and Pascale Auguste suggested looking at model programs in New York and New Jersey. Michigan has a program, and the ACS also has 3 modules on cultural diversity training. Nan Van Den Bergh from FIU has offered to do training on the issue of women who partner with women, as part of the Mautner Project. The Intercultural Cancer Council also has training programs which are geared toward clinicians and individual interactions. There was an excellent speaker on this

topic as it relates to palliative care at the November 5 workshop. Dorothy Parker offered to share some leads she has at the University of Miami.

There was discussion about how we want to define “cultural competency” and “diversity” would be covered. Barriers relating to culture and language are important in South Florida, including the need for health professionals to understand how these impact cancer prevention and treatment.

Martha will update the membership list for the committee, and will hold a conference call or meeting to discuss this further.

Zip Code Data

Last year, the Collaborative requested that the staff of the UM/Sylvester Population Research Core (formerly the Florida Comprehensive Cancer Control Initiative) expand the zip code report it did two years ago to include other counties in the southeast region. Rita Soza, who left UM in December, extracted the data and Betsy Barton developed maps to display the information on the percentage of late stage diagnoses for breast, cervical, colorectal and prostate cancers. After much discussion about how to display the data, e.g., should each county be its own reference point or do we want to compare one county to another, it was decided just to provide the raw data. Betsy will prepare Excel files for each county, distribute them on the ListServ, and post them on the SFCCC web page. If anyone needs a specific map, e.g., for a grant proposal, Betsy will help with the maps on an “as needed” basis.

Announcements:

- CIS and The Wellness Community will hold a seminary on clinical trials for health professionals on February 24. This was rescheduled from October due to the hurricanes. A detailed announcement will be sent via the ListServ.
- Angel Loor announced that Redes en Acción will again be awarding \$50,000 for pilot research grants that address issues relating to cancer and Hispanics. This could be an opportunity for collaboration among SFCCC members. More information will be sent on the ListServ
- The Florida Breast Cancer Coalition is selling tickets for a tango dance performance at Jackie Gleason Theatre on February 4. Proceeds from the ticket sales go to FBCC.
- Barbara Hartstein also announced the 3rd annual Race for Life sponsored by the Christ Fellowship Church in Palmetto Bay on February 18. Organizations interested in having booths at this event should contact Barbara or Marjie Aloni.
- Carthy Thomas announced that the UM/Sylvester “Conversation About Cancer” series will expand due to a donation from Wachovia Bank. They will offer programs in other locations, in addition to the main Sylvester facility and UM/Sylvester Deerfield Beach, e.g., at AARP in Coral Gables.
- The Pap Core, a group of 17,000 women who help raise money for Sylvester, will sponsor a Walk for Cancer on March 4.
- Debra Eddington mentioned an African American Cancer Awareness luncheon at Aventura on February 9.
- Natasha Carr mentioned programs throughout our region for the upcoming “Cover the Uninsured Week” in May. This is an opportunity for SFCCC members to network and to address issues that relate to cancer care.

Details of these and other activities should be emailed to Dorothy Parker or Mona Green for inclusion in the monthly calendar.

Lunch was provided, courtesy of La Liga.

Partners' Showcase

- Jennifer Prince, Project Screen (Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening Program at the Miami-Dade County Health Department)
- Virginia Noy, PsyD, LMHC, CHT, Director of Psychological Services, La Liga

Synergy Workgroup

Carthy Thomas reported on our efforts to update and expand the resource directory. The questionnaire distributed last fall resulted in a small response rate. Collecting the information is a very labor intensive and time consuming task, and right now, SFCCC does not have the resources to do that. Kellie Wilcox reminded us that ACS has a resource directory online. The Oncology Nurses Society has a resource directory, so Carthy is going to find out if that is just for Miami-Dade County, and how we can get copies.

Risk Reduction and Youth Tobacco Workgroup

Kellie Wilcox summarized the status on the tobacco ballot initiative. They have exceeded the number of signatures required to get on the ballot but the signatures have to be validated, so it is not too late for people to fill out ballots. The initiative asks the state to use money from the Florida tobacco program which was funded at \$70M in 1997, then reduced to \$40M in 2000, and to \$1M in 2004, despite the documented success in lower smoking rates among youth. The proposed constitutional amendment asks for 15% of the settlement funding (approximately \$400M per year) to be used for programs to reduce tobacco use among youth.

Virginia Noy asked if the Risk Reduction workgroup address risk factors other than tobacco. There was agreement that any cancer and risk reduction strategy would fit into the state goals and strategies.

SFCCC Organization and Structure

Dorothy Parker recapped the discussion from the last meeting about having bylaws or structure for the SFCCC. The ad hoc group hasn't convened yet, so Dorothy will do that before the next meeting. She and the Co-Chairs have already looked at examples of bylaws from other groups and drafted some for SFCCC. A conference call will be scheduled to discuss this, and report back at the next meeting.

Funding for the Collaborative was discussed on a conference call (Dec. 2, 2005) with the Co-Chairs, Jan Domlesky, Ellen Feiler, and Dorothy Parker. Because most private foundations do not fund infrastructure support (e.g., salaries for staff), Dorothy offered to request a part time position to coordinate SFCCC activities. This person could then help look for additional funds to support SFCCC activities. Other options will be explored, e.g., funding from the Dept. of Health, CDC, and other agencies.

In addition, the brochure created for the Collaborative two years ago, with funding from DOH, needs to be update. Dorothy offered to make the revisions and distribute the file on the ListServ, and post it on the SFCCC web page, so people can make copies as needed.

Florida Cancer Plan Council

Florida Cancer Plan Council (FCPC) will meet next on March 14 in Tallahassee. The state (DOH) has money to pay for two representatives from each region. This time, Carthy

Thomas and Pedro Diaz Pow Sang, Co-Chairs, plan to attend. They will report back to the SFCCC at the next meeting and through ListServ messages.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be Thursday, April 27, 2006 at a location, to be determined.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m. followed by a tour of La Liga.

Minutes prepared by Dorothy Parker, January 23, 2006