

SEE THE IMPACT

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER - DECEMBER 2019



A PERSONAL NOTE FROM THE ALLIANCE

By Henry Well, Alliance Executive Director

I want to start off by thanking our partners for their continued dedication to the South Carolina Cancer Alliance. Together over the last 16 years, we have made great strides in the fight against cancer in South Carolina. As many of you know, the results of our collective accomplishments are highlighted in the report, *Cancer in South Carolina, 20-year Trends in Incidence, Mortality, and Survival* ([click here](#) to view the report). While I am proud of all that we have accomplished, the need to formally address cancer incidence and deaths occurring in African American men became evident from this report.

This year we released the report, *Cancer in African American Men in South Carolina* ([click here](#) to review the report). The purpose of this report is to address the significantly high death rates facing African American men. Mortality rates in African American men remain on average 38% higher than the rates for white men over the last twenty years. Cancer incidence and mortality rates are highest among African American men in cancers of the prostate, lung, and colorectum. For stomach and prostate cancer, African American men have a mortality rate that is more than 150% higher than the rate for white men.

Moving forward you will notice an increase in our fundraising efforts throughout the state. The funds we raise will be used to support interventions that will increase the screening rates in African American men. The Alliance will continue our various outreach efforts to improve the health of **ALL South Carolinians**, but this additional effort will be geared to improve the health of African American men.

I sincerely hope you will consider donating to our mission. Your gift will reduce the impact of cancer in South Carolina.

[Click here](#) to view our **Save a Life Campaign**.

WELCOME CAMIE PATTERSON AND MICHAEL SLAPNIK TO OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Alliance is pleased to welcome two new members, *whose terms begin January 1, 2020*, to our board of directors. New board members include Camie Patterson and Michael Slapnik.

Camie Patterson, CPA, FACHE, FHFMA brings extensive healthcare leadership experience in the areas of clinical and non-clinical operations. Camie holds a Bachelor of Science in Accounting degree from State University of New York Brockport and a Master of Healthcare Administration degree from the Medical University of SC, Charleston.

Michael Slapnik, CPA serves as Member, Assurance and Advisory Services for Scott and Company LLC. Michael graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration with an emphasis in Accounting from the University of South Carolina. His auditing and accounting experience began in 1998, and he was licensed as a CPA in September 2001. Since that time he has assisted professionals and business owners within all areas of assurance and advisory services.

The Alliance is excited to have Camie and Michael as a part of our team! Together, we can reduce the impact of cancer in South Carolina.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Blue Granite Day

December 5, 2019

This event is for individuals interested in public policy.



This is our Moment: HPV

Advocacy Day

March 4, 2020



Survivorship Evidence

Academy

May 8, 2020



Oral Cancer Summit

August 28, 2020



Annual Meeting

October 16, 2020



BREAST CANCER

The Breast Cancer work group is pleased to announce that Jennifer Massey will be serving as the co-chair of the workgroup alongside Dr. Trenessa Jones. Members of the workgroup are working to determine which health care providers currently provide health equity training, and how those practices can be implemented. The workgroup members also committed to ensure that they will get at least two

women each who have never been screened for breast cancer to receive a mammogram in the next two months.

HPV VACCINATION

The cervical cancer workgroup continues to promote the social media campaign, **HPV Vaccination NOW: This is Our Moment**. Researchers at the College of Charleston have 22 participants enrolled in the HPV Vaccination Influencers project. The project will be wrapping up before the holidays and the posttest survey will be disseminated on December 16th.

Also, This is our Moment: HPV Advocacy Day is scheduled for March 4, 2020. [Click here](#) to register.

Lastly, the Alliance awarded one mini-grant to Fairfield Medical Association to increase their HPV vaccination rates.

POLICY AND ADVOCACY

On Dec. 5 the Alliance hosted our annual Blue Granite Day at the Capital City Club in Columbia. This event was sponsored by Bristol Myers Squibb Pharmaceuticals. Over 30 individuals attended the event and we continued our conversation on how to improve the health of African American Men in South Carolina. The Alliance will use the information from this meeting to create an action plan that will begin to address the disparities listed in the report, *Cancer in African American Men in South Carolina*. [Click here](#) to view the report.

PROSTATE CANCER

The Prostate Cancer Workgroup is working on its evaluation from the September 2019 Prostate Health Workshop in Hartsville, SC. Look for this evaluation on the sccancer.org website in the upcoming months. The workgroup will begin planning its Prostate Health Spring Symposium in partnership with the University of South Carolina Arnold School of Public Health. The date and location will be announced after the new year.

SURVIVORSHIP

Since August, the Survivorship Workgroup has been working with a local web designer to design a new section of the Alliance website titled "Living with Cancer." Here is the link to the new section:

<https://www.sccancer.org/living-with-cancer/>

Also, planning is underway for the next Survivorship Evidence Academy. This event will be held on May 8, 2020, at Prisma Health Upstate. To register, please visit sccancer.org.

