



# **2019**

# **Annual Report**

**Kevin Cullen, MD, Chair**



The Honorable Larry Hogan  
Governor  
State House  
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

**RE: Maryland State Council on Cancer Control – 2019 Annual Report**

Dear Governor Hogan:

Pursuant to Executive Order 01.01.2016.12 (2016) and on behalf of the members of the Maryland State Council on Cancer Control (the Council), I am pleased to submit the Council's 2019 Annual Report to you.

During 2019, the Council continued to carry out its mission by holding three full Council meetings and one meeting of the Public Health Award Subcommittee. On November 14 the Council held the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Maryland State Council on Cancer Control Cancer Conference. This successful event was attended by 272 people and was the direct result of the hard work and dedication of Council members and staff.

In 2020, the Council will continue to use evidence-based research as the foundation for its activities, programs, and recommendations for cancer control programs and policies.

The Council looks forward to continuing to build a strong relationship with your office, the Maryland Department of Health, and community organizations, so that we may all contribute to the fight against cancer in Maryland.

If you have any questions regarding this report, please contact Dr. Ken Lin Tai, Director of the Center for Cancer Prevention and Control at the Maryland Department of Health, at 410-767-2036.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin J. Cullen, MD". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Kevin Cullen, MD  
Chair, Maryland State Council on Cancer Control

cc: Sarah Albert, Department of Legislative Services, 5 copies (MSAR #11049)

## **Overview and 2019 Council Activities**

### **History**

The Maryland State Council on Cancer Control (the Council) is a 25-member body. appointed by the Governor Members represent State agencies involved in cancer screening, prevention, and treatment services, as well as the general public, major academic medical institutions in Maryland's cancer community, national organizations, the business community, and health and scientific disciplines concerned with cancer control. In addition, several members of the Council are cancer survivors, one is a member of the Maryland State Senate, and one is a member of the Maryland House of Delegates. The Council was established by Executive Order 01.01.1991.22 on June 26, 1991. The mission of the Council was reaffirmed with updated Executive Orders in 1997 (01.01.1997.07), 2002 (01.01.2002.25), and 2016 (01.01.2016.12).

### **Council Mission**

The Council advises the Governor, other government officials, public and private organizations, and the general public on existing and potential policies, programs, and innovations to reduce and control cancer incidence and mortality among Marylanders, as described in the Maryland Comprehensive Cancer Control Plan. In cooperation with federal, State, and local governments, private organizations and academia, the Council is also charged with promoting and coordinating unified programs that identify and address the cancer care needs of Marylanders. Programs include public and private partnerships to improve access to prevention, screening, and treatment services. Additionally, the scope of the Council includes promoting and guiding the use of the Maryland Cancer Registry as a tool for research, planning, evaluation, and targeting of cancer control programs, as well as furthering the development of the Maryland Cancer Registry through the Cancer Registry Advisory Committee. Finally, the Council is charged with reviewing existing and planned cancer programs in the public and private sectors to ensure proper allocation of State resources.

### **Current Council Chair**

The Council is chaired by Dr. Kevin Cullen, Director of the University of Maryland Marlene and Stewart Greenebaum Comprehensive Cancer Center. Dr. Cullen, who specializes in head and neck cancer, is also a Professor of Medicine at the University of Maryland School of Medicine and is head of its Oncology program. He joined the University of Maryland in January 2004.

A graduate of Dartmouth College and Harvard Medical School, Dr. Cullen completed his internship and residency at Beth Israel Hospital in Boston, Massachusetts and received additional training at the National Cancer Institute (NCI). He served as the Interim Director of the Lombardi Cancer Center at Georgetown University from October 2000 to September 2002 and was Professor of Medicine, Oncology, and Otolaryngology at the Georgetown University School of Medicine. Dr. Cullen's research interests include cellular factors that promote the growth of cancer and molecular mechanisms that make some cancers resistant to treatment with chemotherapy. He is the author of numerous journal publications and has served on review panels for the NCI, the Veterans Administration Research Program, and other organizations. His honors include a special achievement award from the NCI and a 2011 appointment by President Obama to the National Cancer Advisory Board. Outside of the University of Maryland, Dr. Cullen serves on the external advisory boards of several NCI-designated cancer centers and

presently serves as immediate past chair of the American Cancer Society Board of Directors, having served as a member of the board since 2009.

### **Membership**

A complete list of current Council members is included in Appendix A. During 2019, one Council member resigned from the council after moving out of state and one new member was appointed to fill the vacancy. Membership changes are detailed below:

#### ***Memberships Terminating in 2019:***

- David Bennett – Brain cancer advocate
- C. Anthony Muse – Maryland Senate

#### ***Memberships Beginning in 2019:***

- Joanne C. Benson – Maryland Senate
- Matthew G. Hjortsberg, Esq – Cancer advocate

### **2019 Activities and Accomplishments**

#### ***Council Meetings***

In 2019, the Council met as a full committee on January 18, May 17, and September 20. The Council's Public Health Award Subcommittee met on October 15. In addition, an advisory committee of the Council, the Cancer Registry Advisory Committee, met three times. Council meetings consisted of discussions on Council objectives, implementation of the Maryland Comprehensive Cancer Control Plan, cancer-related legislation, updates from the Cancer Registry Advisory Committee, and planning for the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Maryland State Council on Cancer Control Cancer Conference (the Conference).

#### ***Public Health Award***

In 2019, the Council introduced the Maryland State Council on Cancer Control Public Health Award. This award recognizes the important contributions various stakeholders make to advancing cancer control efforts in Maryland. "Cancer control" describes a wide range of activities aimed at reducing the burden of cancer in a given population through dissemination and delivery of evidence-based interventions focused on prevention, early detection, and treatment. In fall of 2019, the Council sent out a call for nominations for the 2019 Public Health Award to be presented at the 26<sup>th</sup> Conference. The Council solicits nominations from stakeholders across the State for individuals, programs, and projects whose efforts or activities are related to cancer prevention and control. The nominees' contribution must have positively impacted the public health of Marylanders, and the nominees' contribution must serve as a best practice to be emulated.

This year, the award went to Dr. Tamy Buckel of Shore Dermatology and Dr. Lynn Bickley of Talbot Dermatology for their collaborative efforts to offer free skin cancer screening. On May 5, 2007, these two Kent County Dermatologists began donating their time and expertise to provide free annual skin cancer screening clinics, which continue annually on the first Saturday morning in May. Over the past 13 years, they have provided 571 free skin cancer screenings, with 10 percent of the screenings needing further work up and treatment for cancer. They referred 134

people to treatment, and diagnosed 34 basal cells, 18 squamous cells, and 7 melanomas. The complete nomination summary, as it was submitted by their peers, is included in Appendix B.

### ***26<sup>th</sup> Annual Maryland State Council on Cancer Control Cancer Conference***

The 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Cancer Control Conference (the Conference) was held on November 14. The Conference was sponsored by the Anne Arundel Medical Center DeCesaris Cancer Institute, the University of Maryland Marlene and Stewart Greenebaum Comprehensive Cancer Center, the Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins, and the American Cancer Society. A total of 272 people attended this daylong conference. Presentation topics included Pros and Cons of Cancer Screening, the Maryland Cancer Registry, Mapping Cancers by County and Census Tract: Opportunities and Challenges in Cancer Control, the Impact of Adverse Childhood Events on Adult Physical and Emotional Health Outcomes, updates from Comprehensive Cancer Centers in Maryland, Disparities in Lung Cancer, and Maryland's Latest Tobacco Prevention and Control Efforts. The Conference agenda is included in Appendix C, and conference materials can be accessed at

[https://phpa.health.maryland.gov/cancer/Pages/sccc\\_home.aspx](https://phpa.health.maryland.gov/cancer/Pages/sccc_home.aspx).

### ***Cancer Registry Advisory Committee***

The Cancer Registry Advisory Committee met on February 14, May 9, and September 12, and is currently chaired by Council member Elizabeth Platz, ScD, MPH. Meeting topics included issues and updates surrounding Maryland Cancer Registry quality assurance and data management activities, data use and dissemination, data submission, data use policy and procedures, Maryland Cancer Registry regulations, and cancer research and surveillance activities. The Cancer Registry Advisory Committee chair reported activities at each of the scheduled Council meetings.

### ***Maryland Cancer Collaborative***

The Council supported the Maryland Cancer Collaborative (the Collaborative) in implementing priority strategies selected from the 2016-2020 Maryland Comprehensive Cancer Control Plan. Several Council members actively participated in Collaborative workgroups, and one Council member served as the Council liaison on the Collaborative's steering committee. The 2016-2020 Maryland Comprehensive Cancer Control Plan is available at

<http://phpa.health.maryland.gov/cancer/cancerplan/Pages/publications.aspx>.

### **Anticipated Activities for 2020**

Moving forward, the Council plans to continue its activities during the next year as outlined below:

- Hold three full Council meetings, as well as additional subcommittee meetings on an as-needed basis, to discuss progress on Council activities as well as other issues, including Council objectives and cancer-related legislation;
- Select a recipient for the 2020 Martin D. Abeloff Award for Excellence in Public Health and Cancer Control;
- Plan and hold the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Maryland State Council on Cancer Control Cancer Conference; and
- Continue participation in the Maryland Cancer Collaborative to implement goals, objectives, and strategies from the Maryland Comprehensive Cancer Control Plan.

## Appendix A

### Maryland State Council on Cancer Control Members - 2019

**Kevin Cullen, MD - Chair**

Director, Marlene and Stewart Greenebaum  
Comprehensive Cancer Center of the University of  
Maryland Medical System

**Biana Arentz**

Cancer Survivor

**Senator Joanne C. Benson**

Maryland Senate

**Arun Bhandari, MD**

Chesapeake Oncology Hematology Associates

**Kathleen Connors-Juras**

American Cancer Society, Maryland Chapter

**Catherine Fenwick, RN, BSN**

MedStar St. Mary's Hospital

**Liza Fues, JD**

George Washington Cancer Center

**Stephanie Cooper Greenberg**

Erwin and Stephanie Greenberg Foundation

**Donna Gugel, MHS**

Maryland Department of Health  
*Secretary's designee*

**Roger Harrell, MHA**

Local health officer, Dorchester County Health  
Department

**Dominique Haynes, MHA, RN, OCN,  
CPHQ**

Adventist HealthCare

**Kathleen Hoke, JD**

University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of  
Law; Cancer Survivor

**Matthew G. Hjortsberg, Esq**

Cancer Advocate

**Ben Kosewski, MS, MBA**

Executive Director, Cancer Services at Western  
Maryland Health System Schwab Family Cancer  
Center

**Mark Mank, MS**

Maryland Department of the Environment,  
*Secretary's designee*

**Tiffany Mathis**

The Journey Continues; Cancer Survivor

**Christine Miller, MS, LCPC**

Ulman Cancer Fund for Young Adults

**Joan Mischtschuk, RN, MS**

Peninsula Regional Medical Center

**William Nelson, MD**

Director, Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer  
Center of the Johns Hopkins Health System

**Jay A. Perman, MD**

President, University of Maryland, Baltimore

**Elizabeth Platz, ScD, MPH**

Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

**Paul B. Rothman, MD**

CEO, Johns Hopkins Medicine

**Delegate Sheree Sample-Hughes**

Maryland House of Delegates

**Eden Strotsky-Himelfarb, BSN, RN**

Johns Hopkins Medicine; Cancer Survivor

**Michele Walsh, JD**

Cancer Survivor

## Appendix B

### 2019 Maryland State Council on Cancer Control's Public Health Award

#### **Dr. Tamy Buckel of Shore Dermatology and Dr. Lynn Bickley of Talbot Dermatology**

Skin cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer in the United States. According to CDC statistics, 82,476 new cases of melanoma were reported in 2016. For every 100,000 people, 22 new melanoma skin cases are reported. This does not take into account the non-melanoma skin cancers of basal and squamous cell carcinomas. Every year in the US, more than a million people are diagnosed with one of these two forms of skin cancer.

Kent County is the smallest county in the State of Maryland with an estimated population of 19,383. It is a rural county with a large agriculture, fishing and seafood industry. However, the county has the fifth highest rate of melanomas diagnosed between 2012 and 2016 in Maryland. In early 2007, the Kent County Health Department's Cancer Prevention Education Screening and Treatment (CPEST) staff reached out to Brittany Lietz, the then current Miss Maryland and a melanoma survivor, for a speaking engagement. The purpose was to educate the high school students on the dangers of tanning beds and to promote sun-safe behaviors. Dr. Tamy Buckel of Shore Dermatology heard about this initiative and contacted the CPEST staff. Dr. Buckel suggested sponsoring a free skin cancer screening around Melanoma Monday. Dr. Buckel also reached out to Dr. Lynn Bickley of Talbot Dermatology. The plan was to collaborate and offer a free skin cancer-screening clinic. On May 5, 2007, these two Kent County dermatologists began donating their time and expertise to provide free annual skin cancer screening.

Over the past 13 years, they provided 571 FREE skin cancer screenings with 10% of the screenings needed further work up and treatment for cancer. They referred 134 people, and diagnosed 34 basal cells, 18 squamous cells, and 7 melanomas. To a small, rural county experiencing health disparities and has a large underserved population, this is tremendous. These two dermatologists are very deserving of this award based on their merits of reducing skin cancer mortality and positively impacting the lives of Kent County community in the past 13 years.

Appendix C



**The 26th Annual Maryland State Council on Cancer Control  
Cancer Conference**

**Thursday, November 14, 2019**

Anne Arundel Medical Center, Doordan Institute, 7th Floor, Belcher Pavilion  
2000 Medical Parkway, Annapolis, MD 21401

- 8:00 – 8:45**                    **Registration and Continental Breakfast**
- 8:45 – 9:00**                    **Welcome and Opening Remarks**  
Pamela Williams, MHA, Director, Cancer and Chronic Disease Bureau, Maryland  
Department of Health  
Ken Lin Tai, MD, MPH, Director, Center for Cancer Prevention and Control,  
Maryland Department of Health  
Kevin Cullen, MD, Chair, Maryland State Council on Cancer Control
- 9:00 – 10:00**                **Pros and Cons of Cancer Screening**  
Otis Brawley, MD, Bloomberg Distinguished Professor of Oncology and  
Epidemiology, Johns Hopkins University
- 10:00 – 10:15**                **Maryland Cancer Registry**  
Erica Smith, MS, Acting Deputy Director, Center for Cancer Prevention and  
Control, Maryland Department of Health
- 10:15 – 10:30**                **Break**
- 10:30 – 10:50**                **Mapping Cancers by County and Census Tract: Opportunities and  
Challenges for Cancer Control**  
Clifford Mitchell, MS, MD, MPH, Director, Environmental Health Bureau,  
Maryland Department of Health
- 10:50 – 11:45**                **The Impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences on Adult Physical and Emotional  
Health Outcomes**  
Frank Kros, JD, MSW, President, Kros Learning Group &  
Joyce Harrison, MD, Child Psychiatrist, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine
- 11:45 – 12:00**                **Public Health Award**  
Kevin Cullen, MD, Chair, Maryland State Council on Cancer Control



- 12:00 – 12:45**            **Networking Lunch**
- 12:45 – 1:15**            **Comprehensive Cancer Centers in Maryland: Updates**  
 Cheryl Knott, PhD, FAAHB, University of Maryland Marlene and Stewart  
 Greenebaum Comprehensive Cancer Center  
 William Nelson, MD, PhD, Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at  
 Johns Hopkins
- 1:15 – 2:00**            **Disparities in Lung Cancer**  
 Panagis Galiatsatos, MD, MHS, Pulmonologist, Johns Hopkins Medicine
- 2:00 – 2:45**            **Maryland’s Latest Tobacco Prevention and Control Efforts**  
 Dawn Berkowitz, MPH, CHES, Director, Center for Tobacco Prevention and  
 Control, Maryland Department of Health
- 2:45 – 3:00**            **Closing Remarks**  
 Kevin Cullen, MD, Chair, Maryland State Council on Cancer Control

***Thank you to our generous conference sponsors:***

