



2020
Annual Report

Kevin Cullen, MD, Chair

Overview and 2020 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, academic medical institutions in Maryland's cancer community, national organizations, private industry partners, 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 and 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 government, as well as 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, MA 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 2020, there were two membership terminations, including one Council member who resigned after moving out of state. Membership changes are detailed below:

Memberships Terminating in 2020:

- Ben Kosewski – Cancer Services at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, Western Maryland
- Joanne C. Benson – Maryland State Senate

2020 Activities and Accomplishments

Council Meetings

In 2020, the Council met as a full committee on January 22, May 15, and September 18, while the Council's Public Health Award Subcommittee met on October 30. In addition, the Cancer Registry Advisory Committee, an advisory committee of the Council, met two 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 27th Annual Maryland State Council on Cancer Control Cancer Conference.

Public Health Award

The Maryland State Council on Cancer Control Public Health Award recognizes the important contributions various stakeholders make to advancing cancer control efforts in Maryland. In the fall of 2020, the Council sent out a call for nominations for the 2020 Public Health Award to be presented at the 27th Conference. The Council solicited nominations from stakeholders across the State for individuals, programs, and projects whose efforts or activities are related to cancer prevention and control. To be considered, a nominee or their contribution must have positively impacted the public health of Marylanders and serve as a best practice to be emulated.

This year, the award went jointly to Brock Yetso and the Ulman Foundation. Brock Yetso has been the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Ulman Foundation since 2000. The mission of the Ulman Foundation is to change lives by creating a community of support for young adults and their loved ones who are impacted by cancer. This community of support includes patients, survivors, caregivers, and healthcare providers. Although the Ulman Foundation was founded in Maryland, Mr. Yetso has been a national leader in creating this community of support. He has participated in the development of county, state, and national public health action plans with a focus on cancer survivorship and young adult issues. Under Mr. Yetso's leadership, the Ulman Foundation has achieved national acclaim in the young adult cancer community by creating support communities for cancer patients across the country.

27th Annual Maryland State Council on Cancer Control Cancer Conference

The 27th Annual Maryland State Council on Cancer Control Conference (the Conference) was held virtually on November 18, 2020 due to COVID-19 restrictions. A total of 179 people participated, with presentations including “Accelerated Aging Following Cancer Treatment,” “Cancer and Mental Health: Updates from Comprehensive Cancer Centers in Maryland, 2021-2025 Maryland Comprehensive Cancer Control Plan,” and “Effective Caregiver Strategies for Maximizing Joy and Minimizing Pain.” The Conference agenda is included in Appendix B and conference materials can be accessed at https://phpa.health.maryland.gov/cancer/Pages/sccc_home.aspx.

Cancer Registry Advisory Committee

The Cancer Registry Advisory Committee, chaired by Council member Elizabeth Platz, ScD, MPH, met on February 13, 2020 and September 10, 2020. 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 2021

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 and objectives in addition to cancer-related legislation;
- Select a recipient for the 2021 Martin D. Abeloff Award for Excellence in Public Health and Cancer Control;
- Plan and hold the 28th Annual Maryland State Council on Cancer Control Cancer Conference;
- Release the 2021-2025 Maryland Comprehensive Cancer Control Plan; 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 - 2020

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 State 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

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

Johns Hopkins Medicine

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



**The 27th Annual Maryland State Council on Cancer Control
Cancer Conference**

Wednesday, November 18, 2020
Virtual Conference

- 9:30 – 9:45** **Welcome and Opening Remarks**
Kevin Cullen, MD, Chair, Maryland State Council on Cancer Control
- 9:45 – 10:45** **Accelerated Aging Following Cancer Treatment**
Jennifer Guida, PhD, MPH, Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences, National Cancer Institute
- 10:45 – 11:00** **Public Health Award**
Kevin Cullen, MD, Chair, Maryland State Council on Cancer Control
- 11:00 – 12:00** **Cancer and Mental Health: From Screening for Distress to Improving Quality of Life**
Kristi Graves, PhD, Associate Professor of Oncology; Director, Survivorship Research Initiative, Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center, Georgetown University
- 12:00 – 12:45** **Break**
- 12:45 – 1:15** **Comprehensive Cancer Centers in Maryland: Updates**
Minhaj Siddiqui, MD, University of Maryland Marlene and Stewart Greenebaum Comprehensive Cancer Center
William Nelson, MD, PhD, Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins
- 1:15 – 1:30** **2021 – 2025 Maryland Comprehensive Cancer Control Plan**
Niharika Khanna, MD, MBBS, DGO, Chair, Maryland Cancer Collaborative
- 1:30 - 2:30** **Effective Caregiver Strategies for Maximizing Joy & Minimizing Pain**
Loretta Veney, MS, Caregiver and Author of *Refreshment for the Caregiver's Spirit*
- 2:30 - 2:45** **Closing Remarks**
Kevin Cullen, MD, Chair, Maryland State Council on Cancer Control