



**2022**  
**Annual Report**

**Kevin Cullen, MD, Chair**

## **Overview and 2022 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 2022, there was one membership termination and no appointments to the council. Membership changes are detailed below:

#### ***Membership Terminations in 2022:***

- Adam I. Riker, M.D., F.S.S.O., F.A.C.S. – Luminis Health

### **2022 Activities and Accomplishments**

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

In 2022, the Council met as a full committee on January 21, May 20, and September 16. The Council's Public Health Award Subcommittee met on September 6 and November 3. In addition, an advisory committee of the Council, the Cancer Registry Advisory Committee, 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, responding to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on cancer screening rates, and planning for the 29<sup>th</sup> 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. "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 the fall of 2022, the Council sent out a call for nominations for the 2022 Public Health Award to be presented at the 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Maryland State Council on Cancer Control Cancer 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. 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. Rachel Brem and the Brem Foundation to Defeat Breast Cancer (Brem Foundation). Founded over 15 years ago, the Brem Foundation provides innovative educational and advocacy resources to encourage all women to be screened for breast cancer. The Brem Foundation partners with community groups, companies, religious institutions, and private citizens to encourage breast cancer screening for all women, regardless of socio-economic status and ability to access care. Through their "Wheels for Women" program, they offer transportation and fund diagnostic tests at no cost to patients who are unable to pay for care. Through their "Re-Bra" program, the Brem Foundation provides re-purposed bras for those in need of this essential wardrobe item at no charge. Additionally, the Brem Foundation funds a breast-imaging fellowship with a community service and outreach component, training the next generation of radiologists in the community.

The Brem Foundation's founder, Dr. Rachel Brem, is a breast cancer survivor and a passionate advocate for breast cancer screening for all women. She received her Doctor of Medicine (MD) from Columbia Medical School and her Radiology and Breast Imaging training at Johns Hopkins. She is currently the director of Breast Imaging and Intervention at the George Washington Cancer Center in Washington, D.C.

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

The 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Maryland State Council on Cancer Control Conference was held virtually on December 6, 2022. There were a total of 196 participants in this virtual conference. Presentation topics included *Housing Insecurity and Its Link with Cancer Care, Addressing Health Equity and Meeting the Needs of Diverse Populations, Responding to the Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Cancer Screening*, updates from Comprehensive Cancer Centers in Maryland, and Barriers to Lung Cancer Screening.

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](https://phpa.health.maryland.gov/cancer/Pages/sccc_home.aspx).

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

The Cancer Registry Advisory Committee met on May 12 and October 20, 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 2021-2025 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 2021-2025 Maryland Comprehensive Cancer Control Plan is available at <https://health.maryland.gov/phpa/cancer/cancerplan/Pages/collaborative.aspx>.

### **Anticipated Activities for 2023**

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 2023 Martin D. Abeloff Award for Excellence in Public Health and Cancer Control;
- Plan and hold the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Maryland State Council on Cancer Control Cancer Conference; and
- Continue participating 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 - 2022**

**Kevin Cullen, MD - CHAIR**

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

**Biana Arentz**

Cancer Survivor

**Arun Bhandari, MD**

Chesapeake Oncology Hematology Associates

**Otis Brawley, MD, MACP, FASCO, FACE**

Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

**Kathleen Connors-Juras**

American Cancer Society

**Stephanie Cooper Greenberg**

Erwin & Stephanie Greenberg Foundation

**Catherine Fenwick, RN, BSN, OCN**

MedStar St. Mary's Hospital

**Liza Fues**

George Washington Cancer Center

**Donna Gugel, MHS**

Maryland Department of Health

**Roger Harrell, MHA**

Health Officer, Dorchester County Health Department

**Matthew G. Hjortsberg, JD**

Past Chair, Leukemia & Lymphoma Society Board of Trustees, MD Chapter and Cancer Advocate

**Kathleen Hoke, JD**

University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law

**Cheryl Knott, PhD**

University of Maryland at Baltimore

**Clarence Lam, MD, MPH**

Maryland Senate

**Mark Mank, MS**

Maryland Department of the Environment

**Tiffany Mathis**

The Journey Continues; Cancer Survivor

**Christine Miller**

Ulman Cancer Fund for Young Adults

**Tasha Museles, MPA**

President, The Children's Cancer Foundation, Inc.

**William Nelson, MD, PhD**

Director, Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins

**Elizabeth Platz, ScD, MPH**

Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

**Paul B. Rothman, MD**

CEO, Johns Hopkins Medicine

**Sheree Sample-Hughes, MS**

Maryland House of Delegates

**Eden Stotsky-Himelfarb, BS, BSN, RN, ONN-CG**

Johns Hopkins Medicine; Cancer Survivor

**Michele Walsh**

Cancer Survivor

## Appendix B



# **The 29th Annual Maryland State Council on Cancer Control Cancer Conference**

**Tuesday, December 6, 2022**

- 9:10 – 9:15**                    **Welcome and Opening Remarks**  
Kevin Cullen, MD, Chair, Maryland State Council on Cancer Control
- 9:15 – 10:00**                **Housing Insecurity and Its Link with Cancer Care**  
Craig Pollack, MD, MHS, Katey Ayers Endowed Associate Professor, Johns Hopkins University
- 10:00 – 10:45**              **Addressing Health Equity and Meeting the Needs of Diverse Populations**  
Panagis Galiatsatos, MD, MHS, Associate Professor, Division of Pulmonary & Clinical Care Medicine; Co-Chair, JHHS Health Equity, Office of Diversity, Inclusion, & Health Equity; Co-Director, Medicine for the Greater Good
- 10:45 – 11:30**              **Responding to the Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Cancer Screening**  
Ken Lin Tai, MD, MPH, Director, Center for Cancer Prevention and Control, Maryland Department of Health
- 11:30 – 11:45**              **Public Health Award**  
Kevin Cullen, MD, Chair, Maryland State Council on Cancer Control
- 11:45 – 12:15**              **Break**
- 12:15 – 12:45**              **Comprehensive Cancer Centers in Maryland: Updates**
- Training and Education in NCI Comprehensive Cancer Centers**  
Toni M. Antalis, Ph.D., Professor of Physiology, Associate Director of Training and Education, University of Maryland Marlene and Stewart Greenebaum Comprehensive Cancer Center, University of Maryland Baltimore
- The Johns Hopkins Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center and Cancer Control in Maryland**

Otis Brawley, MD, MACP, FASCO, FACE, Bloomberg Distinguished Professor of Oncology, Johns Hopkins University

**12:45 – 1:30**

**Barriers to Lung Cancer Screening**

Janaki Deepak, MBBS, FACP, Associate Professor, Assistant Program Director, Pulmonary and Critical Care Fellowship; Director Lung Cancer Screening and Tobacco Health Treatment, University of Maryland School of Medicine.

**1:30 - 1:45**

**Closing Remarks**