American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network Hawaii-Pacific Newsletter – October 2020





Mahalo Nui Loa Cory Chun! Government Relations Director Hawaii-Guam

Aloha,

It is with mixed emotions that I share the news that I will be leaving the American Cancer Society and ACS CAN. My last day will be on November 6th. In my nine years at the American Cancer Society and ACS CAN I have experienced triumph and success along with loss and disappointment over missed opportunities on policy issues and the affect that cancer has on our families in Hawaii and Guam. I have wept over losing volunteers and amazing people to this disease and celebrated our amazing wins in research, prevention and policy changes. I would have never thought that being a lobbyist would be on my career path. Lobbying for cancer patients and their families, however, will be something that I will always cherish.

I also wanted to express my gratitude to all of you for your time and effort to help the Society's mission and on the policy and advocacy front. Many of our achievements are wins from your efforts to make advocacy a priority – from prohibiting tanning bed use for minors, fighting for research funding, supporting palliative care, expanding access to screenings and healthcare coverage, and fighting to reduce smoking, tobacco and e-cigarette use.

I know there are unfulfilled goals that we are working towards in policy and advocacy and that work will continue under the stewardship of our Grassroots Manager, Cynthia Au. I have the utmost confidence in her abilities to continue our program and lead it to more success. I know she will carry on with a strong vision of moving our policy agenda forward in Hawaii and Guam.

While this news means we may be parting ways, I don't feel this is the end. I want all of you to know that I consider myself a part of the mob and will volunteer and support the Society's efforts in any way that I can.

The late Jackie Young once shared with me that to do this work you need to have passion and heart, which is what makes us special. So let's continue to keep working to end cancer with all the passion and heart that we have together. I know we can do it.

With deepest gratitude and a fond Aloha,

Cory Chun



What we have accomplished together in the last nine years

- In 2019 Palliative Care working group received funding for palliative care training and education. Funding was given to UH Cancer Center for liver cancer research.
- In 2018 all UH Schools became smoke free campuses across the state of Hawaii. Guam increased the cigarette tax from \$3 to \$4 per pack.
- In 2017 a colorectal cancer task force in Hawaii was created. Speaker BJ Cruz from Guam received the 2017 National Distinguished Advocacy Award and Guam raised the age to purchase tobacco products to 21.
- In 2016 biosimilars passed legislation in Hawaii. Guam included bars and restaurants as places where smoking is not allowed.
- In 2015 formulary transparency for prescription drugs passed and the age to use tobacco was raised to 21 in Hawaii.
- In 2014 prohibiting tanning bed use for minors in Hawaii passed into law. Guam Increased the tax on other tobacco products including chewing and loose tobacco; prohibiting the use of multi-pack discounts or selling tobacco products for less than the list price; expanded the use of funds from the Guam Cancer Trust Fund to include education and prevention programs.
- In 2013 regulating tobacco product placement in Hawaii passed into law.
- In 2012 a bill was signed for oral chemotherapy in Hawaii and Senator Roz Baker won the National Distinguished Advocacy Award.



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Watch On-Demand - Access to Clinical Trials Virtual Event

Thank you for attending our policy forum this year! We had a very robust discussion on access to clinical trials in Hawaii and Guam with Dr. Randall F. Holcombe, Director of UH Cancer Center and Samir Ambrale, MD from FHP Medical Center in Guam. Michele Sharr, Director of Global Drug Development from Bristol Myers Squibb shared the latest advances in clinical trials. You can now watch the event recording by following these steps:



- 1. Go to http://acscan.windrosemedia.com/.
- 2. Click on the right to register and login with that email.
- 3. Once you are in the portal, click on "Archived Events" on the left of the screen.
- 4. Look for the "Hawaii" session. Feel free to check out the other policy events across the country. Enjoy!



Eliminating Cancer Disparities Across the Country

ACS CAN recognizes that much more must be done to reduce the disparities that exist in cancer outcomes and will continue to actively pursue evidence-based public policies to ensure everyone has a fair and just opportunity to prevent, detect, treat and survive cancer. Newly available fact sheets summarize how our staff and volunteers are working at the local, state, and federal levels to reduce disparities and improve health outcomes for all individuals through access to health care, prevention and early detection, and cancer research.

Federal Advocacy to Eliminate Disparities in Cancer

Addressing Disparities in Cancer Across the Country

Visit <u>fightcancer.org/healthdisparities</u> to learn more about ACS CAN's health equity work.

Costs of Cancer Report - Fresh off the press!

This ACS CAN report focuses specifically on the costs of cancer for patients in active cancer treatment as well as survivors. It examines the factors contributing to the cost of cancer care, the types of direct costs patients face, and other costs and hardships associated with cancer. To more fully illustrate what people with cancer actually pay for care, the report presents profiles of several typical cancer patients and shows what they paid when they had different types of insurance coverage.

The report presents public policy recommendations for making cancer treatments more affordable for patients, survivors and the health care system as a whole. The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN) is making cancer – and the affordability of cancer care – a top priority for public officials and candidates at the federal, state and local level





National Breast Cancer Awareness Month



Send a message to congress by signing a petition to increase funding for breast cancer research. Text **BREAST CANCER** to **40649** to find out how.

Recommendations for the Early Detection of Breast Cancer

Finding breast cancer early and getting state-of-theart cancer treatment are the most important strategies to prevent deaths from breast cancer. Breast cancer that's found early, when it's small and has not spread, is easier to treat successfully. Getting regular screening tests is the most reliable way to find breast cancer early. The American Cancer Society has screening guidelines for women at average risk of breast cancer, and for those at high risk for breast cancer.

Visit the <u>Breast Cancer Coverage page</u> for more resources.



BEE POSITIVE

As we head into the upcoming holidays, let's stay healthy and get in our steps!

Kellen's Tonkatsu Recipe



Ambassador Advocate Kellen King wanted to demonstrate how easy it was to make pork tonkatsu at home. Check out the beautiful surroundings as he does his cooking demonstration from beautiful Maui. Enjoy <u>Kellen's Tonkatsu</u> recipe. Visit @acscanhi for other cooking demonstrations!



Last call to share your ono recipes with us!

ACS CAN is collaborating with ACS Hawaii-Pacific on a healthy digital cookbook made of recipes submitted by YOU! We are collecting recipes until the end of October. Share an original favorite recipe to be included in the cookbook*. All proceeds from digital cookbook sales will benefit both ACS CAN and ACS Hawaii-Guam to continue the fight against cancer. Send recipes to Cynthia Au at Cynthia.Au@Cancer.org. *Recipes cannot be directly copied from any printed or online cookbook.