

ACS CAN Monthly Meeting Call Minutes

Attendees: Nancy Neel, Casey, Deb, Dan, Kate, Patti, Steve, Julia, Dana, Nancy D., Ally, and Melissa

Special Guest: Nancy from TX, the number one volunteer for the Ambassador Action Center in the US, joined us to talk about building a relationship with your elected officials through dropbys, special occasions notes or cards, phone calls/regular emails to the office. Some tips and tricks:

- Baked goods are a huge hit!
- Don't spend more than \$10 on anything you bring...they can't accept it
- Always include a note with an ask
- Say THANK YOU!
- Don't know the contact in your lawmaker's office? Give them a call and ask!
- Log everything you do, no matter how big or small, in the Ambassador Action Center
- Don't have an account on the Ambassador Action Center? Let Melissa know and she'll set you up!

State Updates

- Tobacco Flavors Hearing:
 - While we don't have 100% conformation, it appears that the hearing on our tobacco flavors ban bill will be on July 16th starting at 1pm.
 - We would love to have people attend, especially youth, to stand behind the panelists as they testify.
 - The hearing begins at 1pm, and could last until 3pm or 6pm, so be prepared for a full day if you choose to attend.
 - We'll be sending an alert out the week prior to the hearing asking all volunteers to reach out to their lawmakers and ask them to champion the legislation with the committee members.
- Tobacco Social Media Campaign:
 - Thank you to everyone who is posting or reposting/retweeting the weekly posts that you are receiving from your Lead or Melissa. The word is getting out there and the posts are helping to keep the youth e-cigarette epidemic on the radar of our elected officials and the media.
 - Since the beginning of May our Social Media Impressions on our ACS CAN Facebook & Twitter pages alone have reached over 11,600 people. That doesn't include those of you that are posting independently.
- City of Boston:
 - The City of Boston is considering banning the sale of flavored tobacco products, including menthol. They are holding a listening meeting on July 15th. If you are a resident of Boston and interested in attending and speaking, please let Melissa know ASAP.

Federal Updates

Budget and Appropriations:

- Last Wednesday the House passed the 4-bill ‘megabus’ that includes LHHS, DOD, Energy & Water, and SFOPS. As a reminder, the bill includes several of our priorities including increases of \$2 billion for NIH, \$300 million for NCI, almost \$40 million for cancer programs at the CDC, and a \$40 million increase for the Office on Smoking and Health at the CDC.
- Budget caps discussions continue without much progress. Large disagreements remain about parity between defense and non-defense and about how to handle the need to increase the debt limit. The talk on Capitol Hill is now about a possible one-year budget deal instead of two-year. How a one-year deal would work is unclear except that we would find ourselves in the position of trying to negotiate another one-year deal in the middle of the 2020 elections.

PCHETA:

- The PCHETA bill will finally be re-introduced this week or next week in the Senate.

CRC:

- Representative Katherine Clark has officially co-sponsored the Colorectal Bill yesterday. We will be sharing a social media post thanking her for her co-sponsorship tomorrow (Friday). Those that live in District 5 are welcome to send her office an email, thank you note, or letter to the editor thanking her for her support.

Lights of Hope

- 2019 Video: check it out at www.fightcancer.org/lightsofhope
- What is Lights of Hope: The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN) will be honoring those who have been touched by cancer and remembering those lost, during the Lights of HOPE ceremony in Washington, D.C. More than 33,000 Lights of Hope bags bearing the names of those touched by cancer will circle the reflecting pool in front of the Lincoln Memorial in an experience to fight back against cancer. If you are unable to join in person consider donating and having a Light of Hope bag displayed to honor your loved one.
- Who can fundraise: Anyone in Massachusetts, whether they are going to Washington DC for Leadership Summit and Lobby Day or not.
- Social Media: Social media is a great way to communicate with your network about Lights of Hope. We'll also be including a Lights of Hope post in our weekly sample posts. If you have your own page, simply trade out the ACS CAN page link for your page link before posting.
- Get involved: Start your page today by visiting www.fightcancer.org/lightsofhope! Need a kit and bags? Let Melissa know and she'll send you a kit that includes instructions on how to set up your page, log any bags donated with a check or cash online, and the most important part – the bags themselves.

Fundraising Corner - Patti

- Patti's fundraiser
 - Event is on July 12th at 6:00pm at Hammer and Stain in Easton, MA.
 - A fun night of sign staining and painting with laughter, all for a good cause!
 - Sign up and choose your design at <https://hammerandstainsouthshore.com/collections/private-parties/products/07-12-2019-american-cancer-society-cancer-action-network-fundraiser-private-event?variant=27908156325953&fbclid=IwAR309dEgxXx5vX5ObiTO6WhFJ6OuiOTVhb3zSMZBVW96VM5srp4XjhzJ0Kg>
 - YOU ARE NOT SIGNED UP UNTIL YOU CHOOSE YOUR DESIGN!

ACS Corner: CDC Updates to HPV Vaccine Recommendations – Melissa

On June 26, the [Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices](#) (ACIP), part of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC,) made two recommendations regarding the use the human papilloma (HPV) vaccine:

- The ACIP harmonized recommendations for men and women, saying all men and women should receive the vaccine up to age 26.
- The ACIP recommended shared clinical decision making for men and women ages 27-45.

A more comprehensive Q&A will be developed and shared, but below is a statement from **Debbie Saslow**, PhD, managing director, HPV & GYN cancers:

“The ACIP’s recommendation for catch-up vaccination for men and women through age 26 is simpler and more feasible for communicating and implementing vaccination efforts.

“The second recommendation today from ACIP recommends that patients between 27 and 45 discuss with their clinician whether a catch-up vaccination is right for them. Guidance will be needed to assist clinicians and patients in making these decisions. While HPV vaccination is safe for adults aged 27-45 years, there are limited health benefits gained vaccinating people in this age range. It’s important to note that insurance coverage may be delayed until the recommendation is officially published—usually a few months after the ACIP vote.

“Even with today’s recommendation, the primary focus of efforts by the ACS and others will continue to be increasing vaccination in early adolescents. HPV vaccination efforts will still be focused on on-time vaccination at ages 11-12, or starting at age nine, based on strong evidence that on-time vaccination will prevent about 90% of HPV cancers. Evidence has further shown that vaccination at older ages will have limited impact on preventing cancer. It will be important to determine which individuals would be most likely to benefit from vaccination at older ages as well as how to best communicate with individuals inquiring about adult vaccination.

“These new recommendations and the evidence supporting them will be reviewed by the American Cancer Society’s independent guidelines review committee. For now, our recommendations remain unchanged. Further, women who have been vaccinated should continue to follow cervical cancer screening recommendations.”

For more information on HPV vaccination, visit www.cancer.org/hpv.

Upcoming Events: - Melissa

- July 11th Tobacco Hot Topic Call - We’ll review the facts about nicotine use on the teen brain, discuss our plan and share actions you can take to help protect our kids from becoming addicted to tobacco products. Register today at http://action.fightcancer.org/site/Survey.jsessionid=00000000.app358b?ACTION_REQUIRED=URI ACTION_USER_REQUESTS&SURVEY_ID=38949&NONCE_TOKEN=8141F072B1623A1DA92ABC9DB5765510
- Health Equity Web Series
 - “Show me the Data” - July 15 2-3pm
 - **Join the webinar here:** <https://join-noam.broadcast.skype.com/cancer.org/899ee0ad71754f07a367a60b5038c56a/en-US/>
 - Hosted by the health equity team, this one-hour webinar will focus on cancer disparities data. It is the first webinar in a series that will increase staff and volunteer knowledge about health equity. The presenters are Kim Miller, MPH, senior associate scientist, Surveillance Research, ACS, and former ACS board member Electra Paskett, PhD, Marion N. Rowley Professor of Cancer Research, Division of Cancer Prevention and Control, Department of Internal Medicine, College of Medicine, Ohio State University. They will define health disparities; summarize cancer disparities data and trends, including by socioeconomic status, race/ethnicity, sexual orientation, geography; and explain why the underlying factors that drive disparities compel us to focus on health equity. This webinar will help set the stage as staff and volunteers learn about how to advance health equity through future learning opportunities.