



# THE FACES OF CANCER

A PANEL DISCUSSION ABOUT THE ISSUES FACING CANCER PATIENTS IN MICHIGAN.

September 30, 2021

12:00 pm Eastern

Virtual

Register at:

[Fightcancer.org/MIFaces](https://fightcancer.org/MIFaces)



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Our hope is to bring together those who are working to address the inequities faced by Michiganders and discuss possible solutions and the commitments needed to make those changes.

## Agenda:

12:00 pm - Welcome and Introductions from Andrew Schepers

12:05 pm: Keynote - Where Michigan Currently Is? Michigan's Current Landscape - Sabrina Ford, Ph.D. - Michigan State University

12:25 pm: Panel Discussion on the barriers to accessing care in Michigan.

- Polly Hager - Section Manager, MDHHS
- Eleanor Walker, MD - Henry Ford Health Systems
- Nancy King - McLaren Health Care Bay Region
- Heidi Varner - ACS CAN Volunteer

12:55 Thank you and wrap up - Andrew Schepers

# THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

## GOLD SUPPORTERS

The Amgen logo consists of the word 'AMGEN' in a bold, blue, sans-serif font.

## SILVER SUPPORTERS

The PARMA logo features the word 'PARMA' in a stylized, blue, serif font. Below it, the tagline 'RESEARCH • PROGRESS • HOPE' is written in a smaller, blue, sans-serif font.

The Bristol Myers Squibb logo includes a stylized 'BMS' symbol in purple and pink, followed by the text 'Bristol Myers Squibb' in a blue, sans-serif font.

## BRONZE SUPPORTERS

The Novartis logo features a stylized orange and blue flame-like symbol followed by the word 'NOVARTIS' in a blue, sans-serif font.

The Genentech logo includes the word 'Genentech' in a blue, sans-serif font. Below it, the tagline 'A Member of the Roche Group' is written in a smaller, blue, sans-serif font.

The Pfizer logo features a stylized blue 'P' symbol followed by the word 'Pfizer' in a blue, sans-serif font.

The Janssen Oncology logo includes the word 'janssen' in a blue, sans-serif font, followed by a stylized blue 'J' symbol and the word 'Oncology' in a blue, sans-serif font.

# THE FACES OF CANCER OUR SPEAKERS



## Keynote and Moderator:

Sabrina Ford, PhD - Michigan State University



Dr. Sabrina Ford is a population health researcher and program evaluator for cancer prevention and control with a particular focus on women, children, and other vulnerable populations. She has expertise in HPV vaccine education, cervical cancer prevention particularly for African Americans and rural populations. Current and past projects include breast and cervical cancer screening and lack of follow-up to abnormal pap tests in African American and postpartum women. Dr. Ford is in collaboration with Michigan ACS to deliver HPV vaccine education to health providers. She is a board member of the Michigan Cancer Consortium, member of the Big 10 Cancer Research Consortium Population Health Committee, and the Henry Ford Health System/MSU Cancer Task Force. She has a deep passion and commitment to understand cancer prevention and control to inform intervention and policy.

Dr. Ford received a Bachelor of Science from the University of Michigan and her Ph.D. from the University of Iowa and completed postdoctoral work at the University of Pennsylvania. She is a fully licensed psychologist in Michigan.

## Panelist

Polly Hager - Michigan Department of Health and Human Services



Polly Hager is currently the Cancer Prevention and Control Section Manager at the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. She has worked for the last 24 years in cancer control and related programs. Polly has served as staff to the Michigan Cancer Consortium and has been involved in many facets of planning and implementation of cancer control programs. She has spoken at national and state conferences and coauthored articles about Michigan's work in cancer control.

## Panelist

Eleanor Walker, MD - Director Breast Services, Department of Radiology, Henry Ford Health System



Dr. Walker attended Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, Missouri. Completed her post-graduate training at Vanderbilt University Hospital in Tennessee and University of Maryland Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland, where she also completed a fellowship in the Department of Radiation Oncology. Dr. Walker has also received several awards including the Whitney M. Young, Jr. Scholarship Award, Federal Drug Administration Recognition of Service Award, Washington University School of Medicine Cardiology Award, University of Notre Dame Distinguished Black Exemplar, 1998 University of Notre Dame Sorin Award. She was also featured as part of the Who's Who in Black Detroit 2006. Dr. Walker's most recent publications include Li S, Aref I, Walker E, Movsas B. (2007). "Effects of prescription depth, cylinder size, treatment length, tip space, and curved end on doses in high-dose-rate vaginal brachytherapy." *Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys.* Mar 15;67(4): 1268-77. Her Philosophy is "I believe in treating each patient as if they were my own family member."

# THE FACES OF CANCER OUR SPEAKERS



## Panelist

**Nancy King - Regional Director of Cancer Services Bay Region, McLaren Health Care**



Nancy King RN BSN is the Regional Director McLaren Bay Region for the Karmanos Cancer Institute Network. Nancy is a graduate of Regis University with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. Nancy had worked as an oncology RN for many years before accepting the Regional Directors position. She works with the network on continuous quality improvement initiatives and access to care for the communities in the Bay Region. Nancy worked with 2 Free Clinics in the area to help eliminate barriers to oncology care for the uninsured. Oncology nursing is her passion and the commitment to these patients spans almost 45 years.

## Panelist

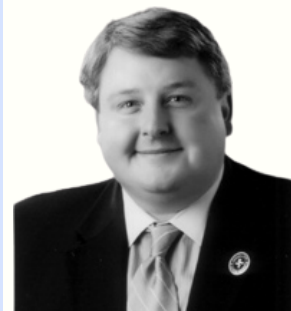
**Heidi Varner - ACS CAN Volunteer**



Heidi Varner is a volunteer with the American Cancer Society and the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network. She is the Michigan District 4 ACT Lead, leading her team of grassroots volunteers working with Rep. John Moolenaar on cancer issues and policies. In 1987, Heidi was diagnosed with cervical cancer while pregnant with her youngest daughter. 20 years later, with no insurance, Heidi faced medical decisions she couldn't afford. Biopsies came back precancerous. Thankfully she was one of the "lucky" ones to be covered under the Breast Cancer Cervical Cancer Control Program - it saved her life. She now advocates for all who don't have access to affordable insurance and care.

## Host

**Andrew Schepers - American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network**



Andrew Schepers is the Director of Michigan Government Relations for the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN). Andrew has been working either in or with the state government for the past decade. At ACS CAN and is the chief advocate for the Cancer Action Network in the state. He works with volunteers from around the state to make an impactful change on public policy issues around every aspect of cancer. Andrew worked as a lobbyist for the Michigan State Medical Society for five years before coming to the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network. At the Medical Society, Andrew worked on issues surrounding mental health, public health, and licensing and discipline of physicians. Before working at the Medical Society, Andrew worked for House Minority Leader Kevin Elsenheimer on a variety of issues for the Leader and other members of the caucus. Andrew is a graduate of Michigan State University with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and lives in East Lansing with his wife Sarah, son Ayden, and dog Finn.