

**PA Cancer Coalition**  
**Health Disparity Committee**  
**April 11, 2023**

Meeting called to order at 2:07

New member introductions and welcome:

- Eliot Codner from Genentech Biomarker testing team – Improving access to, and ensuring equity in tumor testing.
- Tisha Patinski – state health department – SHIP - State Health Improvement Plan
- Jennifer Borroughs – Epidemiologist – PA Dept of Health
- Lauren Orkis – Lead epidemiologist measuring viral hepatitis - PA Department of Health

The meeting focused on the draft of the new PA Cancer Control Plan –health equity goal.

Brenda Anastasio (PADOH) informed committee members that the draft has been edited for clarity and incorporated member recommendations. Within the following sections: Health Equity, Prevention, Screening, Diagnosis, Treatment, Survivorship and Wellness, the revisions were made to eliminate redundancy. The plans are undergoing final edits and will be sent for final approval, then to be sent to a graphic design. Progress on the plan are to be evaluated via an annual work plan and summary that each group completes and submits to the state. The work plans results will be integrated into a dashboard to show ongoing progress towards the goal.

Evelyn questioned the availability of resources to support implementation of the new plan. Brenda shared that the resources for implementation of the plan have been cut, making the efforts of the coalition even more important to provide the advisement to change policy. When available, there are supplements to support survivorship efforts, but not guaranteed.

Question regarding the subgroups – will they be changed?

Brenda responded that the state will also submit a form to assess members interest and create a database to assess core interests.

Nate questioned the inclusion of environmental threats in the new state plan – Brenda noted that radon as an environmental threat is included.

Evelyn and Peg also informed that group that they will be sending a link to capture all members contact information, expertise and areas of interest to work within the Health Equity Goal. The link will allow members to prioritize the strategies to start working on. This will also allow us to pair team members to work on specific strategies. Once we prioritize the Health Equity Goals and teams, we will assess interests in the other goals/strategies. Those interested in working on other goals/strategies (beyond the health equity goal), were ask to consider their availability before responding – perhaps selecting 1-2 .

Brenda reiterated that the state is in full support of any efforts with or without a formalized cancer control plan.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:03 PM.

Respectfully Submitted: Margaret Rosenzweig