

# **Nebraska Comprehensive Cancer Control**



## **Annual Report 2008**

## Section I. Executive Summary, Honors, and Partnership Changes

### Awards and Celebrations

**LB 395 The Nebraska Clean Indoor Air Act** was passed by the Nebraska Legislature, making Nebraska one of 18 states that have enacted a statewide smokefree law for all workplaces, restaurants and bars.



**Congratulations** to all who helped enact this important policy!

We held our **Fourth Annual Cancer Conference** at the Fremont Area Medical Center. Nebraska CARES recognized two partners nominated by other partners to receive certificates of appreciation for their contributions to Nebraska CARES:

**Nicole Vetter** is a public health nurse with the U.S. Public Health Service assigned to Winnebago. Nicole leads the local cancer coalition, serves on the Northern Plains Cancer coalition, spearheaded a local Cancer 101 training for the Winnebago community, and is a past participant in the National Dialogue on Cancer. She is partnering with ACS for a 2010 Celebration of Hope POW WOW for all Nebraska Tribes and working on many other activities.

**Carol Mitchell** is also a public health nurse and a long-time Lincoln Lancaster County Health Department employee. She has been a dedicated public health advocate, working to combat cancer in Lancaster County, especially through the Lincoln Lancaster Crusade Against Cancer. Carol has been with CARES since its inception, serving on the Advisory Committee and participating in many cancer prevention and control activities. Carol retired in late summer.



**Dr. Thorson presenting Nicole Vetter and Renee Massie (with Carol Mitchell's) recognition certificates.**

The conference planning committee included: Charlotte Burke, Brian Coyle, Stephen J. Dreyer, M.D., Jennifer Dunavan, Carmen Heller, Janelle Jacobson, Diane Lowe, Renee Massie, and June Ryan.

The overall theme for the conference was ***Best Cancer Practices in our Backyard***. Dr. Alan G. Thorson, Nebraska CARES Chairman, welcomed the group and then introduced Dr. Elizabeth Reed and Dr. Nathan Green. Dr. Reed shared information about dendritic cell vaccine in breast cancer research that is being done at UNMC; and Dr. Green talked about the Midwest Personalized Oncology Program (MPOP), a Department of Defense funded research project that looks at the genetic makeup of tumor tissues. Connie Wittman, MSN, Administrative Director of Oncology Services at the Good Samaritan Health Systems Cancer Center and Mary Trauernicht, MSN, Director of the Medical Oncology Program at St. Elizabeth's Regional Medical Center talked about the National Cancer Institute's National Community Cancer Center Program-NCCCCP. St. Francis Medical Center is also an NCCCCP participant; the three Nebraska cancer centers comprise the only regionally coordinated pilot site and the only sites in Nebraska. Lunchtime presenters included Jim Rose, the former "Voice of the Huskers," who talked about the **Stay in the Game Campaign**. Dr. Thorson also introduced Holly Dingman, MS, RD, who talked about the "Whatcha Doin'?" campaign, a peer- to-peer marketing campaign promoting fruits, vegetables and physical activity to Nebraska teens.

Afternoon breakout sessions addressed Cancer Disparities in Nebraska, the Nebraska Colon Cancer Program, New Cancer Technologies, the Clean Indoor Act, and Community Cancer Coalitions. For the first time this year, the Cancer Conference offered a poster session that was well received. Evaluations indicated that the conference met partner expectations and needs.

We held our **Sixth Annual Cancer Center Meeting** in conjunction with the Annual Cancer Conference. As in previous years, this meeting was convened by the American Cancer Society, the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer and CARES. Dr. Robert Cima, Colon and Rectal Surgeon at the Mayo Clinic, discussed *"Improving Outcomes for Rectal Cancer"* with 30 participants representing 11 of the state's 13 cancer centers, ACS, CIS and CARES. This was our best meeting ever in terms of attendance!



The **2009 Cancer Summit** will be held in Scottsbluff October 2nd with Regional West Medical Center Cancer Treatment Center sponsoring the Summit and the annual Cancer Center Meeting. We will have a bus going to these two important meetings! Watch for more information in your email.

CARES continues to work with national partners: American Cancer Society, American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer, C-Change, City of Hope, Colon Cancer Alliance, Lance Armstrong Foundation, NCI CIS, Prevent Cancer Foundation, and the Susan G. Komen Foundation.

We continue to work collaboratively with the Northern Plains Comprehensive Cancer Control Program that serves the four Nebraska Native American Tribes. We continue to implement the Northern Plains Cancer Plan and collaborated to offer *Cultural Competency 101* developed by Native American Cancer Research.

#### **Partner Contributions:**

**Our current partners contributed 5939 hours valued at \$400,029! THANK YOU!!**

These numbers compare to 2007 as follows: 3709 hours valued at \$317,771. **Partners, take a bow for your generous support!** Staff traveled 40,659 miles on behalf of the CARES Partnership. CARES and national partners arranged for CARES partners to travel to Baltimore and Chicago for the National Dialogue for Action(9) and the National Partners Summit (2), accounting for an additional 21,470 miles traveled. These numbers do not count the thousands of miles partners traveled to carry out their own activities or to attend meetings, make presentations or engage their constituents to implement the state plan.

#### **New Partners:**

We continue recruiting new partner organizations and their representatives. An important new partner this year is the Susan G. Komen Foundation. As in the past, our partners participate at various levels--some attend meetings, some review documents, emails, and other communications, and some come forward to work on specific projects. All partners and levels of participation are welcome and needed. A list of partner organizations is posted on our website: [www.dhhs.ne.gov/NebraskaCARES/](http://www.dhhs.ne.gov/NebraskaCARES/). Please let us know if your information is incorrectly listed. **We challenge each partner to become involved in at least one implementation activity during 2009!**

#### **Announcements:**

The National Cancer Institute announced its intent to close the Cancer Information Service Partnership Program in January 2010. The CARES Chair and Program Manager wrote a letter of concern since this will significantly affect our program. Our relationship with NCI CIS has placed a staff person in Nebraska for most of our history. Janelle is considering her options and will inform the CARES Partnership of her plans.

The American Cancer Society and the Susan G. Komen Foundation formed a Cancer Policy Group, and set a legislative agenda for 2009 to increase funding for the Every Woman Matters program and seek funding to continue the colon cancer screening program. Watch for advocacy requests from these two partners!

## **Section II. Performance Indicators**

For the first time in 2008, CDC required comprehensive cancer control programs to report on a set of performance indicators. The second report to CDC is due in September 2009 and will be shared with you in the 2009 CARES Annual Report. Highlights regarding 2008 membership and contributions follow:

- Nebraska CARES is comprised of 164 groups and organizations and 321 individual partners. Our staff positions remained filled.
- CARES was supported by the following resources during 2008:
  - \$255,000 CDC grant funding
  - 30,000 Optional Skin Cancer grant funding
  - \$172,380 Other cash contributions (meeting registrations, [Stay in the Game](#))
  - \$400,029 Partner in-kind commitment
  - \$857,409 Total partner and other contributions (estimated)**

### Section III: 2008 Plans and Accomplishments

**Plan:** We will continue to expand and maintain the Statewide Partnership.

**Accomplishments:** Our Partnership included 325 individuals in December 07 and 321 in December 08. We decreased our individual partners but remained the same at 164 group and organizational partners.

**Plan:** We will maintain program staffing levels; we will work with students as a way to interest them in public health and specifically in cancer control and prevention.

**Accomplishments:** June Ryan, Jennifer Dunavan and Janelle Jacobson continue to staff the CARES program. We leveraged funding to support Holly Dingman, Nutritionist, and Brian Coyle, Physical Activity Coordinator. We hosted Alison Boyles, a graduate student from the University of Iowa from May through August, and we continue to serve as her placement site for an evaluation project. We currently are hosting a UNMC-UNO public health student, Sarena Murray who is completing her master's CAPSTONE project.

**Plan:** We will hold two Partnership meetings and four Advisory Committee meetings in 2008.

**Accomplishments:** We held a spring Partnership meeting on April 18. Dr. Gary Doolittle, PI for the NCI Cancer Information Service Partnership Program was our guest speaker. He talked about *"Public Health & Medicine – Collaborating to Conquer Cancer"* including how he practices telehealth medicine to provide service to rural Kansans. We held Advisory Committee meetings on April 18, September 12, and December 12. Our June meeting was cancelled due to schedule conflicts for several committee members.

**Plan:** We will apply for CDC funding to support State Plan implementation and supplemental funding to support skin cancer prevention. We will seek other funds through grants and partner contributions.

**Accomplishments:** We applied for CDC implementation funding; we were awarded \$255,000 which continues to be the "funding cap." We applied for and received \$30,000 to support skin cancer prevention. We partnered with Northern Plains to implement a grant related to improving cultural competency for persons working with American Indians; this grant is valued at one million dollars. We continued to partner with the Office of Women's and Men's Health to support the colorectal cancer project valued at about \$600,000 annually. We partnered with other state agencies to fund local health departments for implementation of evidence-based public health strategies. Thirteen of twenty local health departments were funded as first and second year grantees.

**Plan:** We will continue to support work group activities through administrative support.

**Accomplishments:** Partner in-kind contributions allowed many partners to participate in plan implementation activities through our work groups and through project-focused activities.

**Plan:** We will provide networking and educational opportunities for partners through attendance at national meetings and conferences. We believe this will benefit Nebraska CARES through new ideas and strategies.

**Accomplishments:** We supported partner participation at the following meetings and conferences (staff number in parenthesis): National Dialogue for Action-8 (1); Northern Plains Competency Training- 16 (3); National Partners Leadership Summit -1 (1); Spirit of Eagles (1), National Partners Leadership Institute 1 (1).

**Plan:** We will provide evidence-based strategies training to local health departments.

**Accomplishments:** We provided EB- Training to six local health departments eligible for DHHS agency funding; all six of the departments were funded, and the previous seven received continuation funding.

**Plan:** We will implement an evaluation plan based on CDC requirements and guidelines.

**Accomplishment:** We completed the 2008 evaluation work plan. Preliminary feedback from the CARES Partnership Survey with a 16% response (54 respondents) to date indicates the following:

- 89% are satisfied or very satisfied with the way individuals/organizations work together.
- 83% are satisfied or very satisfied with implementation of the State Cancer Plan.
- 89% are satisfied or very satisfied with the leadership of the partnership.
- 89% are satisfied or very satisfied with having sufficient opportunity to express their views.
- 98% know that the partnership has a written plan for goal achievement.
- 100% believe CARES is able to carry out its work due to contributions of diverse partners.
- 100% of partners have networked with someone because of their participation in CARES.

**Plan:** We will continue to work toward achievement of cancer plan goals and priority objectives.

**Accomplishments:** The following section offers highlights of the work groups over the past year.

### Section III: Work Group and Committee Reports

#### Eliminating Cancer Disparities Joy King, Leader

- Participated in TFN Tobacco Disparities and UNMC Cancer Disparities Work Groups.
- Shared consumer health profiles re: breast, cervical and colon cancer.
- Completed geographic disparity studies on diagnosis and on treatment.
- Supported St. Elizabeth's breast cancer coalition with Lincoln community partners.
- Arranged for Super Colon in Kearney and Omaha in March 2008.
- Supported or participated in numerous Native American projects
  - Winnebago Tribe Community Needs Assessment w/ UNMC, NP CCCP.
  - Data, Screening/Early Detection and Prevention Work Groups.
  - Northern Plains American Indian Cancer Summit in Bismarck, ND--October 20-22, 2008.
  - Applied for Northern Plains Disparities Urban American Breast/Cervical Screening funds.
  - Applied for Health Promotion among Racial and Ethnic Minority Males (R21) funds.
  - Applied for and received Spirit of Eagles grants (NP CCCP and Winnebago both funded).
  - Conducted 10 "Lunch and Learn" Events at Fred LeRoy Health and Wellness Center.

**Key partners:** AATCHB and Northern Plains CCC Program; ACS, CoC, CDC, Cancer Centers and Health Systems; (Alegent, Bryan LGH, Creighton, Good Samaritan, Methodist, St. Elizabeth's RMC, St. Francis, UNMC and Eppley Cancer Center); Fred LeRoy Health and Wellness Center, NCI/CIS, NPCCCP, Omaha, Ponca, Santee Sioux, and Winnebago Tribes, South Omaha Community Care Council, TFN, EWM, WiseWoman, Lincoln Lancaster County Health Department, Douglas-Sarpy Colon Cancer Task Force, Lincoln Lancaster Crusade Against Cancer, Native American Cancer Research (NACR), Nebraska Urban Indian Health Coalition, TFN work group, DHHS Office of Minority Health and Health Equity, UNMC College of Public Health, UNMC CPH Center for Reducing Health Disparities, UNO, UNMC and Eppley Cancer Center.

**Reducing Cancer Risks through Tobacco Control Kathy Burkland, Leader**

- Supported Women, Tobacco and Cancer Symposia follow-up projects in Omaha.
- Implemented C-Change project for enhancing collaboration and addressing sustainability.
- Completed and implemented hospital policies and programs re: tobacco cessation for inpatients.
- Hosted Lung Cancer Symposium on January 22, 2008 w/ ACS, TFN and other partners.
- Supported implementation of TFN fax referral form for persons wanting to stop tobacco use.
- Provided education and information on relationship between tobacco and various cancers.
- Partners supported passage of LB 395 that makes Nebraska a tobacco free state in June 2009.
- Prepared to implement LB 395 in all Nebraska communities.
- Expanded Medicaid coverage to provide tobacco cessation products.

***Key Partners: AATCHB, ACS, NCI/CIS, CDC, Tobacco Free Nebraska, NE Medical Association, NE Hospital Association, NE Health Ministries, UNMC College of Public Health, all cancer centers, Fremont Area Medical Center Cancer Center, selected local health departments, Fred LeRoy Health Center, Nebraska Medicaid Program, Alegent Health System, St. Elizabeth's, Bryan/LGH, Methodist, Creighton, UNMC, NMC and Eppler Cancer Center.***

**Reducing Cancer Risks through Healthy Lifestyles-Nutrition and Physical Activity**

**Holly Dingman and Brian Coyle Co-Leaders**

- Secured CDC funding for nutrition, physical activity and obesity prevention state program.
- Conducted worksite demonstration produce market in Lincoln w/ Dept. Agriculture.
- Coordinated nutrition/ physical activity coaching with UNL dietetic and health science students.
- Pilot tested the "Whatcha Doin'?" campaign in 9 rural and urban high schools in coordination with a UNL student intern and the UNL Advertising Program.
- Hosted an American Dietetic Association teleseminar at 4 NE sites on cancer prevention reaching over 50 dietetic and health professionals.
- Coordinated with the NE Department of Education to develop and distribute Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) toolkits to 28 participating NE schools serving 8450 students
- Distributed Nutrition and Physical Activity for Health Electronic-News (NAFH E-News) Alert to over 250 partners each month to highlight resources, grant opportunities, research, updates.
- Coordinated the All Recreate on Fridays (ARF) Movement; 51 schools and 10,475 participants.
- Provided Media Smart Youth (MSY) mini-grants and training for 4 after school programs.
- Presented at Nebraska Action for Healthy Kids Annual Summit to +200 school/health professionals.
- Trained clinicians to use Youth Physical Activity and Nutrition Assessment Form with Creighton College of Medicine, Children's Physicians, Boys Town, Alegent and Methodist Health Systems.
- Promoted use of assessment form during USDA Under Secretary for Food, Nutrition and Consumer, Nancy Montanez Johner, and Dr. Brian Wansink, Executive Director of the USDA Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion visit to Nebraska.
- Mailed over 300 sets of CDC's Eagle Books and support materials to Native American schools, libraries, churches and community centers.

***Key Partners: CDC, Alegent Health System, Nebraska Methodist Health System, Boys Town Hospital, Children's Physicians Group, Creighton University College of Medicine, NE Departments of Agriculture and Education, NE Cardiovascular Health Program, NE Diabetes Program, selected local health departments, Nebraska Action for Healthy Kids, Activate Omaha, Omaha, Ponca, Santee and Winnebago Tribes, UNL College of Journalism and Mass Communication, UNL Nutrition and Health Sciences, UNMC/UNO College of Public Health, WIC, American Dietetic Association, Nebraska Dietetic Association, selected grade, middle and high schools.***

**Early Detection and Early Screening Julie Glover, Leader**

- Facilitated collaboration among Omaha, Lincoln and EWM colorectal cancer screening projects.
- Conducted knowledge, attitudes and behavior re-survey related to colon cancer.
- Supported NE Colon Cancer Screening Program through participation at NE Dept. of Roads training day, Husker Harvest, Men's Night out-Lincoln, Super Colon planning, Steering Committee activities and **Stay in the Game** Campaign.
- Planned and began implementation of **Stay in the Game** Campaign with Husker Sports Network, cancer centers, ACS, ACoS, NMA and others. Check out: [StayInTheGameNE.com](http://StayInTheGameNE.com)
- Participated in National Dialogue for Action (leveraged funding or paid for 9 attendees) and Native American/Alaska Native Dialogue for Action (leveraged funding or paid for 3 attendees.)
- Supported Omaha World Herald Colon Cancer supplement; reached 275,000 families in NE.
- Dr. Thorson had an article published in the Nebraska Cornhusker Magazine.
- Dr. Thorson presented at the Institute of Medicine on Nebraska's community CRC initiatives.
- Planned for Lung Cancer Conference (Jan 22, 2008) and Super Colon (March 28-29, 2008)
- Worked with North Omaha clinics to help promote colorectal cancer screening and early detection at the March 2008 Black Family Health Fair and during the entire year.
- Began a cancer education project with the Title X program and Nebraska family planning clinics.
- Obtained funding/planned skin cancer protection projects with NE Children and Families Foundation, YMCA, NE Dermatological Association, Schering-Plough Pharmaceuticals, and health departments.

***Key Partners: Health systems: Alegent, Bryan/LG, Callahan, Creighton, Fremont Area Medical Center, Good Samaritan, Mary Lanning, Methodist, Nebraska Medical Center, Regional West Medical Center, St. Elizabeth's, St. Francis; ACS, Husker Sports Network, Nebraska Medical Association, Metropolitan Omaha Medical Society, Lancaster County Medical Society, American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer, NCI/CIS, CDC, UNMC College of Pharmacy, Lincoln Lancaster County Health Department, Lancaster AAA, EWM, EWM Providers, Family practice physicians, NE Department of Roads, Lincoln YMCA, Eppley Cancer Center, American Lung Association, Northern Plains CCCP, Winnebago Tribe, Douglas Sarpy Colon Cancer Task Force, Lincoln Lancaster Crusade Against Cancer, Nebraska Children and Families Foundation, Nebraska YMCA, Nebraska Dermatological Association, Schering-Plough Pharmaceuticals, Tobacco Free Nebraska, UNMC CPH Center for Reducing Health Disparities, all Title X funded family planning clinics and all local health departments. C-Change and The Advertising Council provided technical support.***

**Networking by Cancer Specialists Alan G. Thorson, M.D., and Stephen J. Dreyer, M.D.**

- Promoted cancer centers in the press, on radio, TV and at statewide meetings and conferences.
- Hosted 6<sup>th</sup> annual cancer center meeting at Fremont Area Medical Center; 11 of 13 cancer centers were represented at this meeting—the most ever!
- Engaged 11 of 13 accredited cancer centers in the Stay in the Game campaign.
- Supported ACS/Alegent quality of care project.
- Recognized by ACoS CoC for achieving 100% reporting of cancer data on a timely basis.
- Applied for ENACCT project funding that would have supported clinical trials work through the cancer center network; project was not funded.

***Key Partners: ACS, ACoS CoC, CDC, NCI/CIS, Cancer Centers: Alegent, Bryan/LGH, Callahan, Carson, Creighton, Fremont, Good Samaritan, Mary Lanning, Methodist, NMC, RWMC, St. Elizabeth's, St. Francis, UNMC Eppley Cancer Center; ENACCT national organization, Omaha World Herald, Channel 10-11, numerous radio and television stations affiliated with Husker Sports Network.***

**Cancer Clinical Trials    Kim Bland and Laura Mahacek, Co-Leaders**

- Planned/executed follow up cancer clinical trials survey with Nebraska cancer centers.
- Supported National Community Cancer Center Program with Good Samaritan, St. Elizabeth and St. Francis Medical Centers, a regionally organized pilot site for NCI.
- Submitted two different grant applications w/ENACCT for clinical trials training; not funded.
- Convened Clinical Trials work group to begin planning a clinical trials network meeting in 2009.

***Key Partners: ACS, ACoS CoC, CDC, NCI/CIS, Cancer Centers: Alegent, Bryan/LGH, Callahan, Carson, Creighton, Fremont, Good Samaritan, Mary Lanning, Methodist, Nebraska Medical Center, Regional West, St. Elizabeth, St. Francis, ENACCT national organization.***

**Living with Cancer    Mary Jo Gillespie, Leader**

- Supported survivorship program, “Moving Forward with Hope.”
- Methodist Estabrook Cancer Center and Northern Plains CCCP applied for and received major Lance Armstrong Foundation grants to support their survivorship programs.
- Sent two Nebraska cancer center teams to NCI City of Hope Conference.

***Key partners: Survivorship work group, Lance Armstrong Foundation, City of Hope, Methodist Estabrook Cancer Center, cancer survivors, Good Samaritan Cancer Center, Regional West Medical Center, Great Plains Regional Medical Center, Saint Francis Medical Center, BryanLGH, St. Elizabeth Regional Medical Center, Four Corners Health Department, Two Rivers Public Health Department, Chadron Hospital, Butler County Health Care Center, Chase County Community Hospital Northern Plains CCC Program.***

**Provider and Consumer Education** (No work group, but many partners participated in key activities)

- Built relationship with National Network/Libraries of Medicine Education/Nebraska Liaison.
- Invited Dr. Robert Cima, Mayo Clinic, as keynote speaker for Annual Cancer Center Meeting.
- Promoted awareness about the new colon cancer screening guidelines.
- Promoted awareness about the relationship between tobacco use and various cancers.
- Established website for **Stay in the Game** campaign; included colorectal cancer information.
- Hosted Lung Cancer Symposium and Melanoma Monday Webinar.
- Hosted annual cancer center networking meeting w/cancer center tour, and cancer conference.
- Methodist Estabrook Cancer Center hosted Cancer 101 program across the state.
- Hosted Nutrition and Cancer webinar at Lincoln, Omaha, North Platte and Norfolk.
- Participated in the NE School Nurse Assn. Meeting on “Shade Planning for America’s Schools.”
- Provided Using What Works Training to six different groups
- Hosted ten Ponca Lunch and Learn events, arranging for partners to present various topics.
- Provided training to Susan G. Komen grant applicants and assisted in strategic planning.
- Hosted American Indian Cultural Competency 101 training for 18 state health department staff.

**Membership Committee:**

The Performance Indicator Report sent to CDC in January 2008 included the following report.

- 28 of 30 suggested partnership types are included in CARES partnership (public health, other government agencies, professional associations, academic or medical institutions, business/industry, political leaders, community-based organizations.
- The CARES partnership does not include the Governor or any state legislators who typically don’t join partnerships or coalitions in Nebraska although they may be very supportive of them.
- 164 total organizations and 330 individuals included in the CARES statewide partnership.



### **Cancer Prevention and Control Policy**

- Partners participated in establishing a new cancer policy group; set 2009 agenda of seeking funding for the Nebraska Colon Cancer and the Every Woman Matters Programs.
- Partners participated in supporting Nebraska Medical Association policy group's work to provide insurance coverage to all Nebraskans.

## **Section IV. Cancer Control Goals and Priority Objectives for 2009-2010.**

**During this next year, staff and partners will assess achievement of the stated goals and objectives and implement a defined strategy for updating the Nebraska Cancer Plan. Where possible, existing workgroup and partnership meetings will be used to gather plan achievement and update information. In addition, community meetings are being scheduled in several communities including Scottsbluff, North Platte, Kearney-Grand Island-Hastings, and Norfolk.**

### **Coordination and Collaboration**

We will continue to expand, maintain and engage our Statewide Partnership.  
We will continue to seek ways to collaborate with many diverse partners across the state.  
We will hold two Partnership meetings: Spring Meeting and the Annual Cancer Summit.  
We will promote the work of our Partners and increase awareness about their activities and services.

### **Implement the State Plan**

We will address priority objectives, including all of those we plan to complete by 2010.  
We will continue test the concept of project teams in addition to work groups for plan implementation.  
We will continue to identify and seek funding to sustain and expand our cancer control efforts.  
We will utilize evidence-based strategies, projected outcomes and evaluation strategies to support our work.  
We will revise the Nebraska State Plan and develop an action plan for 2011.

### **Goal 1: Eliminate Cancer Disparities**

We will identify and distribute information about potential sources of payment for cancer care.  
We will continue to bring together partners interested on addressing cancer disparities.  
We will continue to advocate for insurance coverage for all Nebraskans as one way to reduce disparities.

### **Goal 2: Reduce Cancer Risks Related to Nutrition and Tobacco**

We will support community symposia for Women on Tobacco and Cancer.  
We will support implementation of LB 395 which creates a Tobacco Free Nebraska.  
We will work with Tobacco Free Nebraska to implement additional smoking cessation strategies.  
We will support and participate in national nutrition, physical activity and obesity reduction campaigns.  
We will partner with community health educators in local health departments to promote healthy lifestyles.

### **Goal 3: Increase Screening and Early Detection**

We will continue to implement our Dialogue Action Plan related to colorectal cancer screening.  
We will continue to implement the statewide colorectal cancer demonstration project with CDC.  
We will complete the skin cancer awareness project with local health departments and Nebraska families.

### **Goal 4: Increase Access to Appropriate and Effective Cancer Treatment & Care**

We will hold our Seventh Annual Cancer Center Meeting with ACoS Commission on Cancer and ACS.  
We will continue the work of our Clinical Trials Interest Group to increase enrollment in clinical trials.  
We will raise awareness about the accredited cancer centers and support those seeking accreditation.  
We will host a meeting of cancer clinical trials staff to promote networking and sharing of new information.

**Goal 5: Increase Understanding of Living with Cancer (Survivorship)**

We will raise awareness about survivorship among health care professionals and consumers.

We will support development of new survivorship programs and services.

We will continue promoting end-of-life decision making before crisis by promoting use of advance directives.

**Goal 6: Increase Professional and Consumer Cancer Knowledge**

We will promote evidence-based or social marketing tested cancer information and best practices.

We will increase public knowledge about cancer prevention, early detection, patient care and survivorship.

All Partners are welcome to join any of the work groups to add their experience and resources to controlling cancer in Nebraska. Work groups and their leaders are as follows:

|                                  |                             |                               |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Eliminating Cancer Disparities   | Joy King                    | joy.king@cancer.org           |
| Healthy Lifestyles Tobacco       | Kathy Burklund              | kathy.burklund@nebraska.gov   |
| Healthy Lifestyles Nutrition     | Holly Dingman               | holly.dingman@nebraska.gov    |
|                                  | Brian Coyle                 | brian.coyle@nebraska.gov      |
| Screening & Early Detection      | Julie Glover                | julie.glover@cancer.org       |
| Networking Cancer Centers        | Stephen J. Dreyer           | sjdreyer@windstream.net       |
| Clinical Trials                  | Kim Bland and Laura Mahacek |                               |
|                                  | contact                     | janelle.jacobson@nebraska.gov |
| Survivorship: Living with Cancer | Mary Jo Gillespie           | mjgillespie@neb.rr.com        |

Do you know of someone who should become a Nebraska CARES Partner?  
Contact staff and we will send them an invitation.

Remember to check out our websites: [www.dhhs.ne.gov/NebraskaCARES/](http://www.dhhs.ne.gov/NebraskaCARES/)

Also check: [StayInTheGameNE.com](http://StayInTheGameNE.com)

P.S. Staff had a change of email address this year. You can contact us at the following:  
[June.Ryan@nebraska.gov](mailto:June.Ryan@nebraska.gov) [Jennifer.Dunavan@nebraska.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Dunavan@nebraska.gov) [Janelle.Jacobson@nebraska.gov](mailto:Janelle.Jacobson@nebraska.gov)



Nebraska CARES 2009 Calendar

Advisory Committee Meetings

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| April     | ACS Omaha 9850 Nicholas Street   |
| June      | ACS Omaha 9850 Nicholas Street   |
| September | ACS Omaha 9850 Nicholas Street   |
| December  | Conference Call with host sites at Omaha<br>ACS and Lancaster County Medical Society |

|                              |           |   |
|------------------------------|-----------|---|
| Cancer Plan Update Meeting   | March 5   | RWMC Scottsbluff                            |
| NE Public Health Conference  | April 8-9 | Cornhusker Hotel, Lincoln                   |
| Spring Partnership Meeting   | April 10  | Country Inn and Suites, Lincoln             |
| Annual Cancer Center Meeting | October 1 | Regional West Medical Center<br>Scottsbluff |
| Annual Cancer Summit         | October 2 | Regional West Medical Center<br>Scottsbluff |

Nebraska CARES will be chartering a bus to Scottsbluff, making several stops along the way to raise awareness about cancer prevention and control. Let us know if you would like to receive more information about this *CARES Across Nebraska*.