



**North Dakota Cancer Coalition (NDCC)**  
**Steering Committee Meeting**  
**Wednesday, November 17, 2021 | 12:00 p.m. CT**  
**Held Virtually via Zoom**

**Officers Present**

Julie Garden-Robinson, Chair, [NDSU Extension](#)  
Brian Halvorson, Vice Chair, [GF Public Schools](#)  
Laura Scott, Secretary, [Sanford Health](#)  
Maria Schmidt, Treasurer, [Roger Maris Cancer Ctr.](#)

**Steering Committee Members Present**

Brad Hawk, [Commission on Indian Affairs](#)  
Jolene Keplin, [Turtle Mtn. Tribal Health Education](#)  
Cristina Oancea, [ND Statewide Cancer Registry](#)  
Katie Richardson, [Altru Health System](#)  
Jesse Tran, [NDDoH Comprehensive Cancer Control](#)  
Kaylee Vandjelovic, [American Cancer Society](#)  
Yun (Lucy) Zheng, [ND Statewide Cancer Registry](#)

**Others Present**

Amy Keller, [NDDoH Comp Cancer Program](#)  
Geneal Roth, [Coalition Manager](#)

**Steering Committee Members Absent**

Shannon Bacon, [Comm HealthCare Assn. of the Dakotas](#)  
Judy Beck, [Quality Health Associates of ND](#)  
Tinka Duran, [Great Plains Tribal Chairman's Health Board](#)  
Jodie Fetsch, [Custer Health](#)  
Pam Gahr, [Essentia Health](#)  
Justin Jones, [American Indian Cancer Foundation](#)  
Shane Jordan, [Trinity Health Cancer Center](#)  
Susan Mormann, [NDDoH, Director Community and Health Systems](#)  
Janna Pastir, [NDDoH, Health Promotion](#)  
Tara Schilke, [Bismarck Cancer Center](#)  
Mary Sahl,  [Fargo VA](#)  
Lisa Tocchio, [BCBSND](#)

Julie Garden-Robinson, Chairman, called the meeting of the North Dakota Cancer Coalition (NDCC) Steering Committee to order on Wednesday, November 17, at 12:00 p.m. CT. Julie welcomed new Committee Member, Katie Richardson, Altru Health System.

**Meeting Minutes**

Minutes of the August 23, 2021, Steering Committee meeting were reviewed. Motion by Maria Schmidt to approve the minutes as presented; second by Laura Scott. Motion carried.

**Coalition Priorities Update**

Julie Garden-Robinson briefly reviewed a list of the current Comprehensive Cancer Control Program grant recipients. She indicated the plan is to request updates from these recipients at future meetings.

Julie reviewed activity that has occurred surrounding the grant received by NDSU Extension. Julie demonstrated a “spinner” with education cards that have been developed to engage individuals to learn about sun safety. Education cards will also be developed for breast cancer. The tool has been distributed to 20 counties for use throughout the state. Julie has also been working with a representative from Student Health at NDSU who will use the spinner and sun safety cards at educational events on campus prior to spring break. NDSU Extension aligns training such as sun safety and colon cancer education at pesticide training sessions to reach out to farmers. New PSAs and Powtoons will also be developed under the grant funding this spring. Julie hopes to bring the “Food for the Field” nutrition program to North Dakota as well.

Julie reviewed breast cancer awareness materials that are being developed with grant funds. These will be distributed together with resources received from Women’s Way to 20 counties to be used in activity stations to educate women about breast cancer, nutrition and lifestyle choices.

Julie shared maps that display where “On the Move to Better Health” student education programs, dermascan machines, and Healthwise for Women/Healthwise for Guys Toolkits are available.

Julie indicated she has been collaborating with Extension colleagues in Florida and Virginia to coordinate professional development webinars. Four webinars on cancer research will be available in 2022 on January 18, February 15, March 15 and April 19 from 2:00-3:00 p.m. CT. She will share more information as it becomes available.

### **ND Comprehensive Cancer Control Program Updates**

Jesse Tran reviewed 2020 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) data including breast, cervical, colorectal and lung cancer screening rates. Colorectal cancer screenings have shown a steady increase with a rate of 72.5% in 2020, a 5% increase from 2018 and slightly above the national average. The BCBSND HEDIS colorectal cancer screening rate is 61.1%, which did not reflect much change from the previous year.

Colorectal cancer screening tests by type were colonoscopies, 66.6% and stool tests, 7.4%. The breast cancer screening rate increased from 71.1% in 2018 to 73.9% in 2020. Cervical cancer screening rates have steadily dropped over the past few years from 81.6% in 2014 to 75.2% in 2020. Lung cancer screening rates were collected for the first time in 2019 and ND’s 2020 rate is 4.3%. Jesse commented the effects of the pandemic on various screening rates may not be realized until future surveys.

Jesse reported the ND Colorectal Cancer Roundtable will be holding its annual meeting virtually on December 2 from 1:00-4:00 p.m. CT.

Jesse indicated the North Dakota Cancer Control Plan will be updated in 2022 with workgroups being formed after the turn of the year to help guide priorities for the new plan. He stated the new five-year Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) from the CDC for the Comprehensive Cancer Control Program was received, and the Department of Health is in the process of preparing a proposal. The new grant work will begin on July 1, 2022. The FOA includes language pertaining to how the grantee will work with their Cancer Coalition including helping develop a statewide cancer control plan and assisting with the implementation of evidence-based practices at the state and local levels. Additionally, CDC is requiring a new position, Manager of Coalition Activities, which will be held by Amy Keller who has been working with the Women’s Way program as well as the Comp Cancer grantees. There will be a more significant integration of the Coalition and subcontract work in the new funding cycle.

### **Communications Updates**

Geneal Roth reported the Coalition website will be moved from the state server to a new host server. KAT and Company from Bismarck has been hired to assist with the migration as well as a redesign of the website. The logo will also be refreshed at the same time.

Geneal shared communication activities that include weekly emails to the full Coalition and Facebook posts. She encouraged members to “Like” the ND Cancer Coalition Facebook page. There has been an increase in post shares from the healthcare community. She stated new social media channels will be pursued in the upcoming months.

**Upcoming Meetings**

The Steering Committee will meet from 12:00-1:00 p.m. CT on the following dates: January 19, April 20, July 20 and October 19. The Annual Coalition meeting will be held on June 15 at 12:00 p.m. CT. Plans are to hold all meetings virtually at this time.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:50 p.m. CT.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Geneal L. Roth".

Geneal L. Roth  
Coalition Manager

