

Health Policy

Cancer Health Disparities Summit 2006 Report and Recommendations

July 19, 2006

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Priority Statement:

Examine existing or develop new health policy models to determine how they may be adapted to address cancer health disparities related gaps in your community, to translate research findings into policy, and to further engage local, state and federal policy-makers.

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Promote and Sustain Cancer Health Disparities Programs

Session #1

1. Use of policy to generate funding (e.g., taxation)
2. Institutionalize health policy structure
3. Use multiprong approach (people, research, and legislature)

Session #2

1. Engage all levels of policy actors (including community, faith-based, associations, etc.)
2. Use existing resources (e.g., HP 2010, State Cancer Control Plans) to guide work
3. Link to overarching health reform initiatives (e.g., MA Insurance Bill)

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Maximize and Leverage Existing Tools & Resources

Session #1

1. Broad-based partnerships including the private sector
2. Mentorship programs for minority professionals
3. Incentives for treating the under and uninsured
4. Incentives for personal health promotion/screening

Session #2

1. Multilevel partnerships (horizontal and vertical)
2. Peer or novel advocacy (t-shirt theory)
3. Databases and tracking systems to convey evidence

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Session #1

Recommended Actions To Promote & Sustain Cancer Health Disparities Programs

- **NCI/NCMHD**
 - Document the economic returns for investments in HD research
- **Healthcare Professionals/Researchers**
 - Report cards on HD efforts
- **Community**
 - Reach communities with information on the laws that impact them
 - Empower individuals to advocate fervently
- **General**
 - Change the way we discuss HD to convey the outrage over inequities

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Session #2

Recommended Actions To Promote & Sustain Cancer Health Disparities Programs

- **NCI/NCMHD**
 - Identify national leaders as spokespersons
 - Make funding available for longer-terms studies to show impacts on HD
- **Healthcare Professionals/Researchers**
 - Incentives for professionals that work with the uninsured
 - Train to lobby
- **Community**
 - Empower community to “get involved”
 - Train and increase advocacy efforts