RESEARCH PRACTICE PARTNERSHIP: SUPPORTING MONTANA’S SURVIVORSHIP PROJECT

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BACKGROUND

This Research-Practice-Partnership (RPP) focused on supporting partners across Montana in addressing rural cancer survivorship. The project utilized the Healthy People 2020 MAP-IT framework to guide and support two initiatives:

• Survivorship navigation resources and trainings in a single community health center system (OneHealth)
• Develop, create, implement, and evaluate provider and care team education (ECHO and Webinar series)

MONTANA

• 5th most rural state
• 81,000 adult cancer survivors
• In Huntsman Cancer Institute’s catchment area

ONEHEALTH COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

• 9,000 plus patients served annually
• 25% of patients are American Indian/Alaska Native
• 5 sites considered very rural
• 8 clinic sites

OUTCOMES

SURVIVORSHIP NAVIGATION AT ONEHEALTH

• Process developed and data identified to find survivors
• Workflow created for Community Health Advocates (CHAs) to connect with survivors
• Resource and trainings guides developed to support CHAs who work with survivors

PROVIDER EDUCATION

ECHO SERIES

• 6 sessions
• 33 individuals who serve cancer survivors attended
• 7 health systems represented
• 91% of participants reported an increase in knowledge

ECHO TOPICS

• COVID-19 risks
• Social & emotional challenges
• Cancer care plans
• Oncologist communication
• Data coordination
• Young /adolescent survivors

SHORT WEBINAR TOPICS

• Financial toxicity
• Tobacco and alcohol use
• Suicidality
• Nutrition & physical activity
• Integrative medicine

“...a tangible step to providing much-needed resources to our cancer survivors in small rural towns: those who live 100 miles or more from their doctors, are home-bound patients, and those who suffer in silence, not realizing they can take steps to ease the physical and mental symptoms of cancer and treatment.”

-Melanie Frame, RN, OneHealth Community Health Centers