Partnering to Reach Communities with Iowa’s Largest Cancer Disparities


The Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center (HCCC), Iowa Cancer Consortium (ICC), and a steering committee of Black community members are working collaboratively to address cancer disparities.

**Approach**
- Receive steering committee nominations from HCCC Community Advisory Board and ICC members
- Form steering committee
- Steering committee identifies and prioritizes cancer-related needs through assessment of cancer-related data

**Steering Committee Members**
- Chaplain
- Leaders of community organizations
- Medical professionals
- Cancer survivors

**Results**

**Focus of Monthly Meetings**
- Building relationships
- Discussing cancer-related issues
- Sharing community-specific cancer-related data

**Feedback Between Meetings**
- Strengthen relationships
- Gather input on structure, organization, and topics of interest

**Areas of Interest**
- Racism in healthcare
- Prostate screening rates in men
- Cancer cluster investigations
- Time to treatment
- Cancer & stress connection

**Action**
- Strong desire for action
- Submitted cluster investigation request to Iowa Cancer Registry
- Preparing stories & questions for commissioner of insurance

**Discussion**
Project is building and strengthening relationships between HCCC, ICC, and Waterloo community members. Steering committee members hope their work will serve as a catalyst in breaking down health care disparities. Future direction and next steps will be determined by the steering committee.

This work was supported by Grant P30CA086862 from the National Cancer Institute, administered through the Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center at The University of Iowa