## **Cancer Prevention in Action** | Newsletter | WINTER 2023 New York Taking Action Against Cancer



dangers of Indoor Tanning



Increasing the adoption of worksite policies for paid time off benefits for employees to get cancer screenings





## St. Mary's Healthcare

#### Going "Pink" for Cancer Screening

CPiA partnered with St. Mary's Healthcare and created a "Pink Float" to encourage Paid Time Off Cancer Screening Benefits at the City of Amsterdam Halloween Parade to build support for local community leaders to carve out time for their workforce to get cancer screenings. The "Pink Float" was a hit with parade goers and kept breast cancer screenings in the conversation throughout the parade route.

CPiA created a "Pink Tree" to encourage Paid Time Off Cancer Screening Benefits for the Century Club of Amsterdam Festival of Trees and gifting the tree to new cancer prevention policy holders; Ibero and Centro Civico. CPiA collaborated with Ibero and Centro Civico to implement a cancer prevention package of policies including The Dawn Bird & Grisell Marin Paid Time Off for Cancer Screening Benefit and Sun Safety policies. Ibero and Centro Civico are leading by example and uplifting, empowering and

advocating for Latinos and the underserved. Our community partners. The Cancer Services Program (CSP) provided education and is a valuable resource helping Centro Civico get cancer screenings for breast, cervical and colon cancer for the underserved and those who do not have health insurance.

Your Organization Can Take Action Against Cancer! Contact Ginger Champain at 518-770-6815 or Ginger.Champain@nysmha.org



Marv's PREVENTION IN ACTION FULTON | MONTGOMERY | SCHENECTADY

## **Broome County**

#### Announcing New Sun Safety Policies for 2023

We are excited to announce the new sun safety and paid time off for cancer screening policies going into effect January 1, 2023 at Hulbert Engineering and Land Surveying!

Building an environment for employees to protect themselves by preventing skin cancer as well as time off for a cancer screening exam each



year demonstrates a commitment to a healthy workforce. Being up to date with recommended screenings for cancers, including breast, cervical, and colorectal can improve health outcomes and save lives. Providing a paid time off for cancer screening benefit encourages employees to prioritize their health and find cancers before they start, or early, when treatment is most successful. In addition to improving employee health, preventative cancer screenings reduce health care costs and reduce related business expenditures. President, Gene Hulbert Jr. shared, "It is important that all our employees are provided with education and sun protection measures to provide a safe environment to work in. That includes a paid time off benefit for annual cancer screenings as well as protective clothing and gear from the sun's harmful rays. We understand the magnitude of cancer, and hope prevention and early detection could potentially save their lives."

If you are interested in adopting a paid time off for cancer screening benefit to promote self-care in a meaningful way, CPiA is here to help you every step of the way, at no cost to you! In Broome or Tioga counties, please contact Abby at 607.778.2848 or abby.kaiser@broomecountyNY.gov.

> Contact Abby Kaiser at: 607-778-2848 or Abby.Kaiser@BroomeCounty.us



## **Health Initiative**

#### **Educating Youth About the HPV Vaccine**

CPiA works hard to educate about the potential negative effects of the human papillomavirus (HPV) and to advocate for the HPV vaccine as safe and effective cancer prevention. One of our strategies is educational outreach to various population groups, including students, parents, and medical professionals. Recently, CPiA at the Health Initiative was able to reach a unique audience. In the months of December and January, we gave six HPV presentations to medical career students at BOCES in St. Lawrence and Jefferson Counties. This was a perfect opportunity for this unique group, ages 16-18. Not only is this information vital to them as young adults starting to make autonomous health decisions, but also as future medical professionals.

For evaluation purposes, we distribute an anonymous survey before the presentation. There are four statements about HPV and the vaccine and students are asked to express their beliefs on a scale from "strongly agree" to "strongly disagree". This gives us an accurate baseline of students' knowledge of the topic prior to our outreach. At the end of the presentation, students are asked to complete the survey





again. The data from these surveys not only guides our work, but also affirms that this work is necessary. Of the 70 students who were in attendance between the six presentations, 49 of them (70%) agreed that the HPV vaccine helps prevent some types of HPV and cancers caused by those types of HPV (only 6 students, or 8%, "strongly agreed"). According to the post surveys, the number of students who agreed with that statement rose to 63, with a majority of them (55%) strongly agreeing this time.

We were pleasantly surprised at how engaged many of the students were. Several asked questions during and after the presentation, which indicates we were connecting with them. Education and advocacy is the best way to increase vaccination rates. With our continued work in this field, people will learn that they have the power to take action against cancer!

Di **CANCER PREVENTION IN ACTION** 

**Community Cancer Prevention in Action** (CPiA) supports a policy and systems

change approach to cancer prevention and risk reduction conducted by Cancer Prevention in Action (ny.gov) in 17 NYS counties. Grantees currently focus on policy and systems changes to reduce risk for skin cancer; increase human papillomavirus vaccine rates to prevent HPV-related cancers; and promote employer paid time off policies form cancer screening.

## TakeActionAgainstCancer.com

Contact Angelina Blank at: 315-261-4760 or angelina@gethealthyslc.org



## Cancer Prevention in Action | Newsletter | WINTER 2023

New York Taking Action Against Cancer





community settings

Indoor Tanning



Increasing the number of community education interventions to build support for the HPV vaccine as cancer prevention.

## Glens Falls Hospital

# Hitting the Ground Running with CPiA at Glens Falls Hospital

By: Lauralee Tucker

Joining the Health Promotion Center team as the new Program Coordinator for the Cancer Prevention in Action (CPiA) Initiative is a match made in heaven. Born and raised in Glens Falls, I have built a 22-year career in health promotion and prevention programming that started in the northern borders of St. Lawrence County, and stretches down through the Greater Capital Region. I think it is safe to say, that I am hitting the ground running. The end goal for quarter three was to learn the lay of the CPiA land, tie up loose ends, and fill in some identified gaps for



sun safety and HPV vaccine promotion. With great excitement, CPiA is looking forward to very promising partnerships with Six Flags Great Escape and SUNY Adirondack. There is great buzz around the office as preparations have begun to launch a no indoor tanning for prom campaign for school districts in Warren, Washington, and Saratoga County. Spring will be here before we know it, so CPiA is dialed in and continues to support outdoor worksites like the Saratoga Backstretch and is broadening its' sun safety and HPV vaccine promotion reach to include local landscape and pool companies.

Contact Lauralee Tucker at 518-926-5905 or ltucker@glensfallshosp.org



#### presented to four different groups of students at New Dorp High School in Staten Island, totaling over six hundred teens. They educated

students about sun safety and shared information about their student-led social media group called Project Sun Safe Staten Island. Project Sun Safe is an Instagram campaign that teaches youth in Staten Island how to protect themselves from skin cancer while enjoying outdoor activities. A student member of this group was part of the presentation, along with

**Columbia University** 

**New Dorp High School** 

In December, Columbia University



two Columbia CPiA representatives. About 50 new students signed up to join the social media group, and almost 100 started following Project Sun Safe on social media. In the spring, CPiA will return to New Dorp High School to give a similar presentation to the athletics teams, with special focus on providing information about how to protect themselves during their sports practices. Columbia hopes to bring this presentation to more schools throughout Staten Island in the future and invite more students to join the social media campaign.

**Columbia University Takes Sun Safety Learning to** 

Contact Maya Lipsman at ml4082@cumc.columbia.edu

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Herbert Irving Comprehensive Cancer Center ☞ Columbia **¦newyork-presbyterian** 

#### **New York State**



**Cancer Consortium** 

#### Working Together, Reducing Cancer, Saving Lives

New York State Cancer Consortium (nyscancerconsortium.org) is a voluntary network of individuals and organizations throughout New York State (NYS) that collaborate to address the cancer burden. The Consortium and its members are guided by the NYS Comprehensive Cancer Control Plan and work to leverage partnerships to implement and plan priority interventions within their communities.

### Stony Brook Cancer Center

#### Stony Brook University (SBU) School of Dental Medicine Taking Action Against HPV Cancers

SBU School of Dental Medicine is taking action against HPV cancers with the help of Stony Brook Cancer Center's CPiA team! This semester, we were invited as guest lecturers to educate SBU dental residents about HPV cancers and HPV vaccination. HPV causes six types of cancer, including oropharyngeal cancers, or cancers of the mouth and throat. The HPV vaccine can prevent oropharyngeal cancers and the five other cancers caused by HPV, and dental providers can support vaccination by:

- Including immunization history on intake forms and discussing the HPV vaccine when reviewing medical history or during oral exams.
- Recommending HPV vaccination to patients in the recommended age range and referring to primary care provider if not vaccinated. Help refer patients to primary care provider if care is not established.
- Displaying rack cards and posters throughout practice promoting the HPV vaccine, and making materials available for patients or parents who would like more information.

Dental residents learned these strategies to increase HPV vaccination in our interactive session, as well as how to address vaccine hesitancy with patients and parents, current trends in HPV cancer burden, and vaccine assistance resources for under and uninsured patients. Residents found

the session informative and felt "empowered" to know they can have an impact on cancer prevention as dental providers. The course professor, Dr. Rekha Reddy, DMD, plans to add this topic to the course syllabus going forward and has already invited our CPiA

team to present again for the spring semester. We thank Dr. Reddy and the SBU School of Dental Medicine for empowering our future dental providers to take action against HPV cancers!

Contact: Annalea Trask at: 631-601-3720 or annalea.trask@stonybrookmedicine.edu



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