

SUN SAFETY IN ACTION



Increasing Sun Safety policies & practices in community settings
 Educating and promoting the dangers of **Indoor Tanning**

PTO POLICIES IN ACTION



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

HPV VACCINE IN ACTION



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

St. Mary's Healthcare

Run 4 Your Life

Cancer Prevention in Action (CPiA) at St. Mary's Healthcare serving Fulton, Montgomery and Schenectady Counties was a proud sponsor for the 14th annual Schenectady Firefighters Cancer Foundation 5k Run 4 Your Life. Held at Central Park in Schenectady, it brought together over 1000 runners, family members, partners, and neighbors to raise awareness for firefighters and their families when dealing with cancer.



CPiA provided cancer prevention educational materials the day of the 5K and our team heard testimonials from participants who were cancer survivors themselves or who had loved ones affected by cancer in the fire service.



According to the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) firefighters have a 9% increase in cancer diagnoses and 14% increase in cancer-related deaths, compared to the general public. Firefighters are 200% more likely to contract over a dozen forms of cancer due to exposure. According to the International Association of Fire Fighters cancer is now the leading cause of death for fire fighters. CPiA congratulates the Schenectady Firefighters Cancer Foundation on their successful efforts.

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

CANCER PREVENTION IN ACTION  **St. Mary's Healthcare**
 Amsterdam
 FULTON | MONTGOMERY | SCHENECTADY

Broome County



Why offer a Cancer Screening Paid Time Off Benefit?

Did you know...

- Cancer is the top driver of employer health care costs
- Early detection of breast, colorectal, and cervical cancer finds these cancers when they are most treatable
- Employees without access to paid time off for cancer screenings are less likely to get recommended screening tests
- One of the most impactful ways employers can show they care about their employees is to provide a cancer screening paid time-off benefit
- Research suggests that employers can provide paid leave with no negative effect on profitability
- A cancer diagnosis leads to substantial work loss, number of workdays lost and absenteeism costs
- Regular cancer screenings reduce healthcare costs and improve workforce health
- **Cancer Prevention in Action can help you draft your policy, promote your new benefit to your staff, and promote the actions you're taking against cancer—all for free!**

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

CANCER PREVENTION IN ACTION  **Public Health**
 Broome County Health Department
 BROOME | TIOGA

Health Initiative

Working to Educate Parents, Patients and Providers

When it comes to HPV vaccination, CPiA works to educate parents, patients, and providers alike. In our last newsletter article, we celebrated an educational opportunity where we presented to over 70 BOCES students about negative effects of HPV infection and the benefits of vaccination. This time around, we wanted to highlight the great work our subcontractors at Oswego County Opportunities (OCO) are doing with provider education.



They recently engaged with the ConnexCare School-Based Health Centers (SBHC) in Oswego County. These health centers, as the name suggests, are located on school grounds and have proven to increase access to health care for underserved youth. On top of offering a wide range of primary care, they also offer adolescent vaccines, including the HPV vaccine. While the HPV vaccine is known to effectively prevent six types of cancer, some parents are hesitant to have their children vaccinated. For this reason, it's important to remind vaccinating providers that a strong recommendation is the most effective way to increase vaccination rates.

OCO gave two presentations to all staff of the six SBHCs in Oswego County. These presentations included an overview of CPiA objectives as well as strategies to utilize SBHCs to increase vaccination rates in the county (especially for adolescents between the ages of 9-12). Staff members were also provided with educational material to distribute to patients and their parents. Additionally, they were also able to identify two HPV vaccine champions: Joseph W Nimeh, M.D. at ConnexCare in Mexico (pictured above with Laurie Kimball, LPN) and Megan Pecha, M.D. ConnexCare in Pulaski (not pictured). Thanks to their efforts and advocacy, more Oswego County residents are understanding the need for, and the benefits of, the HPV vaccine. The Health Initiative is thankful for the hard work that OCO does to take action against cancer!

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

CANCER PREVENTION IN ACTION  **Health Initiative**
 ST. LAWRENCE | JEFFERSON | LEWIS | OSWEGO



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 for cancer screening.

TakeActionAgainstCancer.com

This project is supported with funds from the State of New York.

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Glens Falls Hospital

“CPiA Sun Safety Champion School District Award” goes to Ft. Edward Union Free School District



The Fort Edward Union Free School District (FEUFSD) and its Health and Wellness Committee showed their dedication to their school community by becoming one of Glens Falls Hospital's CPiA grants newest partnering school districts. The district, who's footprint lies within the borders of Washington County, has committed to an action plan that includes adopting a sun safety policy, and intends to implement systems and environmental changes to reduce skin cancer outcomes district wide. The district also pledged to discourage indoor tanning all year round, especially during prom season, and accepted CPiA's "Say No Way to Indoor Rays" Prom 2023 Challenge. Fort Edward was the first school district to accept this challenge without hesitation. They pledged to discourage indoor tanning on their social media platforms including the district website, created awareness of the NYS Indoor Tanning Public Health Law, and has invited CPiA into their school community to promote sun safe behaviors during the months of May and June. CPiA of Glens Falls Hospital showed appreciation for their efforts to reduce skin cancer outcomes within their school community, by awarding Fort Edward Union Free School District with the first "CPiA Sun Safety Champion School District Award" for saying, "No WAY to Indoor Rays" for prom 2023. This award includes a \$2000 After-Prom Party Sponsorship.

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



Columbia University

Columbia University Unveils PSA about HPV Vaccination for Cancer Prevention

The Columbia CPiA team worked with the Staten Island Borough President's office and Richmond University Medical Center (RUMC) to design a PSA about HPV vaccination. From late February to early April, this PSA was displayed on the main screen in the Staten Island ferry building, which at peak times transports over 80,000 people a day and about 1.7 million riders per month. The PSA educated the public about HPV vaccination as cancer prevention and prompted viewers to speak to their doctors and/or school-based health providers about receiving the vaccination. We wrote a press release about the PSA and sent it out to local news sources. One of Staten Island's most popular newspapers, the Staten Island Advance/SILive.com, used the press release to write an article about the PSA and our CPiA cancer risk reduction work in Staten Island. The press release was also published on the online news page of the Staten Island Borough President's Office. In addition, we held an event to announce this PSA and discuss HPV vaccination with medical professionals. Doctors, pharmacists, school-based health providers, and elected officials attended this event and participated in a robust discussion about perceived barriers and potential strategies to increase rates of HPV vaccination on Staten Island.



Contact Maya Lipsman at ml4082@cumc.columbia.edu



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

Policy Passed: East Coast Nurseries Protects Employees from UV Exposure with Sun Safety Policy

We congratulate East Coast Nurseries, a local wholesale nursery in Riverhead, on their new sun safety employee policy! Outdoor workers have a 60% greater risk of developing skin cancer than people who work indoors, but by incorporating sun safe practices into the workplace, the risk can be reduced. Stony Brook Cancer Center was invited to East Coast Nurseries to celebrate the adoption of the new policy and lead their first sun safety employee training, pictured above. Employees received wide-brimmed hats, UV protective sunglasses, and sunscreen, and read along with us as we discussed sun safety strategies for the outdoor workplace such as:



- Applying sunscreen before and during work, every 2 hours
- Wearing protective clothing
- Working in shaded areas when feasible

Thank you to East Coast Nurseries for taking action against skin cancer!