

# THE COALITION VOICE

**A newsletter of the  
Texas Comprehensive Cancer Control Coalition  
December 2005**

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## NEWS MAKERS

### ***With a Little Help from My Friends***



Cancer Therapy & Research Center (CTRC) has teamed up with the *San Antonio Express-News*, H-E-B, Sea World of Texas and the San Antonio Spurs Foundation to promote good health habits and positive lifestyle behaviors in elementary school age children in and around San Antonio. Students receive cancer risk reduction educational

newspaper inserts focusing on tobacco avoidance, nutrition, sun safety, and exercise through the *San Antonio Express-News'* Newspapers in Education program and the *Team Health* mascots appear at pep rallies throughout the year. Pictured left to right at a recent *Team Health* pep rally are: H-E-Buddy from H-E-B; the San Antonio Spurs Coyote; Deborah Vollmer-Dahlke, CTRC vice president of business development; Karen K. Fields, M.D., CTRC president and CEO; the *San Antonio Express-News* EN Eagle; CTRC's Mr. Huggable T. Rabbit; and Sea World's Shamu. CTRC's *Team Health* program is funded in part by a grant from the Texas Cancer Council.

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### ***Cervical Cancer Strategic Planning Committee Orientation Held at Capitol***

The Texas Department of State Health Services in partnership with the Texas Cancer Council kicked off the new cervical cancer strategic plan initiative December 2, 2005 at the Capitol. A day-long orientation was held for the steering committee and members of the policy, education, and technology workgroups. The steering committee and workgroups are charged with identifying gaps in services and barriers to the elimination of cervical cancer mortality as outlined in

HB2475, 79<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature. Topics to be considered by the committee include:

- Barriers to effective screening and treatment of cervical cancer;
- Methods to increase the number of women screened regularly;
- Current technology and best practices for cervical cancer;
- Technology available to prevent and diagnose Human Papilloma Virus;
- Partnerships to increase awareness of cervical cancer and the importance of regular screening;
- Gaps in services;
- Actions to be taken to reduce cervical cancer morbidity and mortality by 2015 and a timeline for these actions;
- Policy and funding recommendations for changes that need to be made to achieve the strategic plan goal and objectives.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 27, 2006 and work will continue on this initiative throughout 2006.

## NEWS FROM COALITION PARTNERS



### ***Bell County oriGENal voice Shines Light on the Facts***

The Bell County *oriGENal voice: Girls Speaking out Against Big Tobacco* helped light the torch at the annual "Torch Club Conference" held at the Bronco Youth Center in Fort Hood, Texas. The Torch Club is an affiliate of the *Boys and Girls Clubs* programs designed for youth ages 11 thru 13, which focuses on the development of character and leadership skills. The *oriGENal*

*voice* girls demonstrated their own leadership skills by conducting break-out sessions where they led discussions about the dangers of tobacco, chemicals found in tobacco, the cost of tobacco, marketing tactics used to influence tobacco usage among teens, and the prohibitions of tobacco in accordance with Texas laws. *oriGENal voice* girls presented the information to their peers and received enthusiastic participation from them. The event also included an overnight leadership workshop on character building and conflict resolution.



### ***Caring for Those Who Care***

A recent article in the *El Paso Times* highlighted the needs of people who care for those who have cancer. Caregivers often forget to care for themselves when they're focusing on patients. Even everyday things like getting a haircut are often forgotten when caregivers are caring for others. Anibal Olague, project director of the Texas Cancer Council-funded *Esperanza Project*, was quoted in the article as saying "People who provide care to cancer patients often suffer from burnout and are themselves in need of support." To help offset caregiver burnout, the *Esperanza Project* organized a day of pampering for caregivers that included a meal, massages, acupressure sessions and beauty services all provided by volunteers in recognition of National Cancer Caregiver Month.

## Center for Population Health and Health Disparities

*The Community-based Health Improvement Project of the Center continues to make efforts to expand cancer prevention and awareness education throughout Liberty County. The project in collaboration with the local Cancer Awareness Network (CAN) of Liberty County conducted a second Train-the-Trainer workshop to train community members on delivering cancer prevention and awareness information in their communities. The November 12th workshop was a success with various CAN members attending and faith-based organizations receiving training and cancer education materials. The plan for next year is to train many more faith-based and civic groups to increase cancer awareness at the community level.*

### **NOEP News**

The Nurse Oncology Education Program (NOEP) recently held a "Respecting Cultural Diversity Fair" in Houston at the Methodist Hospital. Topics discussed were transcultural nursing, dynamics of intercultural communication, and valuing cultural diversity in the workplace. Pictured at right is a group from the Philippines who performed several dances.



Pictured below is our NOEP's Shirley LaVergne (in navy blue jacket) with the newest member to NOEP's Houston-area work group, Susan Curbello, MSN, RN, CNAA, BC (wearing white coat). She is the Nursing Director at the Methodist Hospital. The other two ladies



are from Africa. They modeled their native dress and had an engaging tabletop exhibit, complete with several traditional masks. For information on the latest training offered by NOEP, please see page four of this newsletter.

If you'd like more information on working with diverse populations, the Texas Cancer Council has a publication you

can request entitled *Cultural Competence in Cancer Care: A Health Professional's Passport*. For copies, please email [tcc@tcc.state.tx.us](mailto:tcc@tcc.state.tx.us)

### **Article Highlights Coalition's Accomplishments**

"Collaborating to Conquer Cancer: A Comprehensive Approach to Cancer Control" (Given, Black, Lowry, Huang & Kerner) was recently published in *Cancer Causes and Control* (2005) 16(Suppl.1):3-14. The article discusses the development of comprehensive cancer control as an approach to reducing the burden of cancer. Several state program successes, including Texas, are included.

Full abstract:

Despite substantial contributions on the part of public, non-profit, and private sector organizations, the burden of cancer in the United States remains high. As public health organizations, particularly county, state, tribal, and territorial health departments, try to reduce the significant burden of cancer, they face additional issues that make it difficult to address cancer in a comprehensive way. These challenges, along with the need to accelerate progress in reducing the U.S. cancer burden, prompted the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and its national partners to begin to work together to further define and describe comprehensive cancer control (CCC) as an approach to reducing the burden of cancer. CCC is defined as "an integrated and coordinated approach to reducing cancer incidence, morbidity, and mortality through prevention, early detection,

treatment, rehabilitation and palliation." This article describes the national effort to support comprehensive cancer control, outlines national and state level success in CCC, and provides a call to action to public, private, and non-profit organizations, governments of all levels, and individuals to renew their commitments to reducing the burden of cancer. For more information contact [philip.huang@dshs.state.tx.us](mailto:philip.huang@dshs.state.tx.us)

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## Community Resources

### **Take a Trip to PLANET's Online Training**

The Cancer Control PLANET multimedia on-line training site is now live and can be accessed through the Cancer Control PLANET website. Just click on "On-line Training" in the upper right hand corner of the home page. This is the first version, so please be aware that they will be making improvements over the next year. During this time they welcome feedback to improve their process. Visit <http://cancercontrolplanet.cancer.gov>

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### **CNNT Resources**

Dealing with a serious illness can be a difficult experience and a cancer diagnosis often evokes mixed emotions in the patient and caregiver. The patient and caregiver workshop video, presented by the *Cancer Nutrition Network for Texans (CNNT)*, addresses physical and emotional challenges such as nutrition, staying positive, energy conservation, and communication. Patients and caregivers will learn how to work together to use this information and live life to the fullest. The DVD comes with a facilitator guide to help program coordinators present the DVD to a group. A master set of PowerPoint presentations and handouts are included in the facilitator guide. If you are interested in learning more about this DVD and how you can obtain a copy for your support groups, please contact Libby Smith at [easmith@utmb.edu](mailto:easmith@utmb.edu) or (409) 772-6602. Don't forget about CNNT's Train-the-Trainer workshops. CNNT will come to your community and train local healthcare professionals on the nutritional and care-giving topics addressed in the "Creating Cancer Care Teams" workshops. To learn more about our workshops, please contact Libby Smith at [easmith@utmb.edu](mailto:easmith@utmb.edu) or (409) 772-6602.

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### **TCC Offers Two Publications**

The Texas Cancer Council has ample copies of two informative resource manuals to offer. The first is *Coalition Building: A Healthy Community is Everyone's Business* and the next selection is entitled *Cancer Funding: A Directory of Private Funding Sources for Cancer Prevention and Control Projects* (1999 version). If you'd like copies, please email [tcc@tcc.state.tx.us](mailto:tcc@tcc.state.tx.us)

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## CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS & TRAINING

### ➤ **2006 NOEP Training Dates**

**January 20** – "Immunology in the Cancer Patient" plus "Stress Management for Nurses," Midland.

**February 3** – "Pain Management" plus "Identifying Stress in the Workplace," Waco.

**February 11** – "Cancer Survivorship," Corpus Christi.

**March 3** – "The Ins and Outs of Cancer Care," Alvin.

**March 17** – "The Ins and Outs of Cancer Care," North Houston.

For information or to register for NOEP training, visit [www.noeptexas.org](http://www.noeptexas.org) or call (800) 515-6770.

**2006 Texas Comprehensive  
Cancer Control Coalition Meeting  
Dates--REVISED**

**February 24, Austin  
May 11, Austin**

➤ **February 24, 2006**

**“STOPN’s Nicotine Cessation Conference,”** 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tyler Junior College, Tyler TX. CEU credits available. For registration information, contact Rebecca Miller at (512) 869-4223 or email [info@nospit.com](mailto:info@nospit.com).

➤ **April 7-9, 2006**

**“8<sup>th</sup> Annual National African-American Breast Cancer Conference,”** Presented by Sisters Network, Inc. Houston Intercontinental Hotel, Houston, TX. CEU, CHES credits available. To register, call (866) 781-1808 or visit [www.sistersnetworkinc.org](http://www.sistersnetworkinc.org)

➤ **July 8-12, 2006**

**“UICC World Cancer Congress,”** Washington, DC. Abstract submission deadline is 5 p.m. EST December 15, 2005. For more information about abstract submission, visit [www.2006conferences.org/u-abstracts.php](http://www.2006conferences.org/u-abstracts.php)

*Thank you for your interest in the Texas Comprehensive Cancer Control Coalition. Please direct your newsletter ideas to Stephanie Uecker, [suecker@tcc.state.tx.us](mailto:suecker@tcc.state.tx.us) or call (512) 438-3096. If you would like to be removed from this mailing list, please contact Stephanie at the above address.*