



June 2011  
Volume 6 | Issue 6

# Iowa Cancer Consortium *News*

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## ICC Members Approve the 2012-2017 Iowa Cancer Plan Draft

Since last September, numerous Iowa Cancer Consortium (ICC) members, cancer plan revision committee members, and Iowa community members have worked together to develop a comprehensive, evidence-based document focused on reducing the burden of cancer in Iowa.

Earlier this month, ICC members were asked to vote on the final draft of the content of the 2012-2017 Iowa Cancer Plan. Thirty-five voted to approve the draft; two voted not to approve draft.

The draft was submitted to the Iowa Department of Public Health on June 15<sup>th</sup>. The designed and printed version will be available in August, and the Cancer Summit - scheduled for October 3-4, 2011 in Des Moines - will focus on unveiling the Plan.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the revision process for the hours of hard and thoughtful work put into the Iowa Cancer Plan.

## ‘Justin, You Have Brain Cancer’

In April, Justin Anderson joined several other cancer survivors from Iowa, as well as ICC Board member Dr. Dick Deming, on a trek to the base camp of Mount Everest.

Visit [www.cnn.com/interactive/2011/06/health/justin.cancer.diary/](http://www.cnn.com/interactive/2011/06/health/justin.cancer.diary/) to read about Justin’s journey through cancer diagnosis, treatment, and survivorship, including his visit to the famous mountain, based on a year’s worth of his own Facebook and blog posts.



Photo by Chelsea Lister  
From [www.theworldtri.com](http://www.theworldtri.com)

## Have News to Share?

Ask your organization to add [sittig@canceriowa.org](mailto:sittig@canceriowa.org) to its news release list!

## Welcome, New Members!

The ICC extends a warm welcome to its newest members! The following individuals have joined the ICC since March:

**Megan Aucutt**,  
American Lung Association, Des Moines

**Celeste Barkley**,  
Mercy Regional Cancer Center, Cedar Rapids

**Maria Belismelis**, Des Moines

**Bobbie Bohnsack**,  
American Cancer Society, Des Moines

**Sallie Buelow**,  
Mercy Regional Cancer Center, Cedar Rapids

**Peggy Carroll**,  
Ottumwa Regional Health Center, Ottumwa

**Michelle Cole**,  
Mercy Regional Cancer Center, Cedar Rapids

**Nicole Cooney**, Iowa Falls

**Ana Coppola**, Des Moines

**Katy D'Aprile**, Bettendorf

**Angie Doyle Scar**, Des Moines

**Kamyar Enshayan**, Cedar Falls

**Cassandra Furlong**,  
American Cancer Society, Des Moines

**Christine Harlander**,  
Mercy Regional Cancer Center, Cedar Rapids

**Donna Hubbell**, Council Bluffs

**Justin Huck**,  
American Cancer Society, Des Moines

**Ann Jones**, Council Bluffs

**Catherine Kahler**, Moravia

**Nicole Lester-Ekis**, Waukee

**John L'Estrange**, West Des Moines

**Dave Milburn**, Johnston

**Gail Orcutt**, Pleasant Hill

**Micki Sandquist**,  
American Lung Association, Des Moines

**Jeff Schenk**,  
Ottumwa Regional Health Center, Ottumwa

**Bobbie Jo Sheridan**,  
American Lung Association, Des Moines

**Cindy Snedigar**, Ottumwa

**David Tellner**, West Des Moines

**Janelle Their**,  
American Lung Association, Des Moines

**Robin Thompson**, Iowa City

**Cecile Van Winkle**,  
Ottumwa Regional Health Center

**Nora Vaupel**,  
Mercy Regional Cancer Center, Cedar Rapids

**Beverly Walsmith**, Des Moines

**Keri Wise**,  
American Lung Association, Des Moines

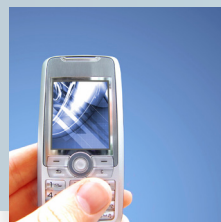
(Our apologies for any accidental omissions.)

## New Member Orientation (Teleconference)

10-10:30 a.m. | June 24, 2011

Call-in: 888-290-7502 | Pass code: 9648762#

Download materials at [www.canceriowa.org/About-the-ICC/Join-the-ICC.aspx](http://www.canceriowa.org/About-the-ICC/Join-the-ICC.aspx).



RSVP to Kelly Sittig at  
[Sittig@CancerIowa.org](mailto:Sittig@CancerIowa.org).

## Check Out This Website...

[www.CancerProgress.net](http://www.CancerProgress.net)



...for an interactive history of cancer research advances.

## Follow the ICC on Facebook!



Visit [www.facebook.com/IowaCancerConsortium](http://www.facebook.com/IowaCancerConsortium)

## Surveying - What is a Good Question?

By Kellee McCrory, ICC Evaluator

National Resource Center for Family-Centered Practice, UI School of Social Work



Writing a survey can be very challenging. Am I writing the best questions? Will people complete the survey? Will it give me reliable data? Is surveying the best method for finding out what I need to know?

Let us start at the very beginning...what is a good question?

A good question produces answers that are reliable and valid measures of something we want to describe. We are not interested in the answers for their own sake...we are interested in what the answers tell us about something else. As a result, one critical standard for a good question-and-answer process is that it produces answers that provide meaningful information about what we are trying to describe (Fowler, Jr., 1995). In order to write a good question, we must first know what we need to find out. What do you need or want

to learn? Has someone else already written a validated survey that you can use? What do you already know? A thorough literature search is your first stop when preparing to write a survey.

After your research is done and you are ready to write, keep in mind some conventional wisdom about question wording:

- Be simple, direct, comprehensible
- No jargon
- Be specific in what you are asking
- Avoid ambiguous words
- Avoid double-barreled questions
- Avoid leading questions
- Include filter questions – this allows a person to skip questions that are not relevant to them
- Be sure questions read smoothly – read them aloud, have a colleague look at them
- Allow for all possible responses

In the next newsletter we will talk about survey methodology: what is involved in delivering a survey.

## Grant Opportunities for Federally Qualified Health Centers

The American Cancer Society is seeking applications from Federally Qualified Health Centers by July 1, 2011 to address breast cancer screening disparities through policies and systems change and community outreach.

Request for Applications (RFA) include the following projects:

- 1) Rural Iowa Breast Cancer Screening Project
- 2) African American Breast Cancer Screening Project

For more information on these opportunities, and to obtain a copy of the RFA's and supporting documents, please contact Bobbie Bohnsack, Director of Community Partnerships, American Cancer Society, at 515-727-0063 or email [bobbie.bohnsack@cancer.or.org](mailto:bobbie.bohnsack@cancer.or.org).



## Save the Date: Psychosocial Oncology Care - IOM Report, Strategies for Early Identification and Management of Distress

November 2, 2011

Hotel at Kirkwood Center | Cedar Rapids, IA

Hosted by St. Luke's Cancer Care, Cedar Rapids, IA

A team of psychosocial experts will discuss the importance of early identification of distress in cancer survivors and their caregivers, and interventions to improve their quality of life.

Keynote: James Zabora Sc.D., The Catholic University of America

CEU's offered for nurses, social workers, and CHES.

For more information, contact [chapmaEJ@crstlukes.com](mailto:chapmaEJ@crstlukes.com).



## Funding Opportunities

### Home Depot Foundation Community Impact Grants Program

Proposals accepted through October 31, 2011.

[www.homedepotfoundation.org/how-we-help/grants.html](http://www.homedepotfoundation.org/how-we-help/grants.html)

## Networking, Action and Education

### Body & Soul

Free healthy eating and living health fair for Iowa's African American churches. Includes training on how to start a Body & Soul Program within a church to empower a congregation to eat fruits and vegetables and take care of their bodies and spirits.

Saturday, June 25, 2011 | 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church | 1528 E. University Avenue | Des Moines, IA

RSVP to Victoria Brenton at (515) 725-2163 or [Victoria.Brenton@idph.iowa.gov](mailto:Victoria.Brenton@idph.iowa.gov).

### Cancer Transitions™ at St. Luke's Hospital

Free six-week workshop series designed to help cancer survivors make the transition from active treatment to life after treatment. For more information, contact Nancy Hagensick, MSW, LISW, OSW-C, at (319) 369-7473 or [hagensn@crstlukes.com](mailto:hagensn@crstlukes.com).

[www.stlukescr.org/index.php?cID=1581](http://www.stlukescr.org/index.php?cID=1581)

### Direct Service Tribes (DST) Recognition and Appreciation Awards

Nominate a group or individual who has exhibited "personal and professional commitment in the delivery of quality health-care services and programs through exceptional leadership and performance for the benefit of American Indians, Alaskan Natives and Indian tribes and communities."

Nomination deadline: July 15, 2011 | [www.team-psa.com/DST2010/award.asp](http://www.team-psa.com/DST2010/award.asp)

### Research To Reality Mentorship Program

The Research to Reality (R2R) Mentorship Program is a pilot program by the National Cancer Institute's (NCI) Office of Communications and Education and the Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences. The purpose of the Program is to help build the capacity of cancer control practitioners to effectively navigate the complex, "real world" context in which evidence-based decision making occurs. Mentees will be matched with experienced public health professionals. Mentees, with guidance from their mentor, will work on a year-long cancer control and prevention project (examples on FAQs) relevant to their current jobs to learn and apply the skills and knowledge of evidence-based public health (EBPH). In addition to the mentor, participants will receive ongoing technical assistance and training, virtually and in-person, from the NCI.

<https://researchtoreality.cancer.gov/mentorship>

### Save the Date: LIVESTRONG Presentation

July 26, 2011 | 2-3 p.m. CST | Information to access the presentation will be available soon.

During this presentation, LIVESTRONG will share information about how the following resources can help support activities within cancer control plans: LIVESTRONG Navigation Services, including the LIVESTRONG Care Plan; LIVESTRONG Survey Results; and LIVESTRONG Cancer App.

### Women's Health Care Chartbook: Key Findings from the Kaiser Women's Health Survey

The Women's Health Care Chartbook presents findings from a national survey of women ages 18 to 64 and provides a look at the experience of women in the health care system. The chartbook includes data on insurance coverage, affordability of and access to care, use of health care services, prevention, and family health. The survey was conducted in 2008 and builds on data collected during previous women's health surveys conducted by the Kaiser Family Foundation in 2001 and 2004.

[www.kff.org/womenshealth/8164.cfm](http://www.kff.org/womenshealth/8164.cfm)

## Looking Ahead...

### **ICC Governmental Relations Committee (Teleconference)**

June 20 | 1 p.m.

[More info...](#)

### **Treatment Group - Leadership Dinner planning sub-committee (Teleconference)**

June 20 | 2 p.m.

[More info...](#)

### **Treatment Group - Clinical Trials Coordinator event planning sub-committee (Teleconference)**

June 21 | 9 a.m.

[More info...](#)

### **ICC New Member Orientation (Teleconference)**

June 24 | 10 a.m.

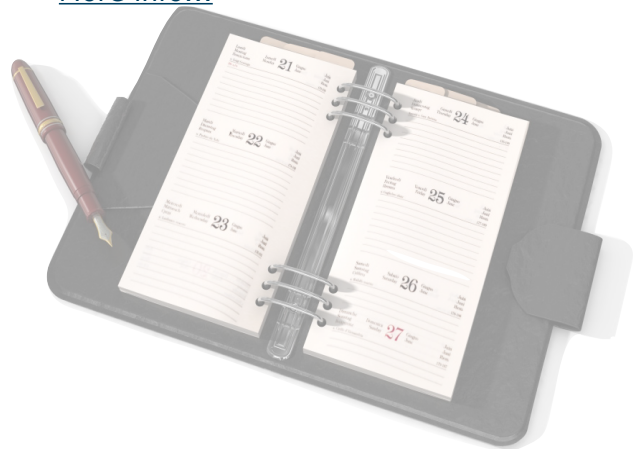
[More info...](#)

### **Iowa Radon Coalition Meeting**

July 7 | 9-11 a.m.

Old Glove Factory | Grinnell, IA

[More info...](#)



The mission of the Iowa Cancer Consortium is to reduce cancer incidence and mortality in Iowa through collaborative efforts that provide services and programs directed toward comprehensive cancer prevention and control.

## ICC Board of Directors:

**George Weiner** | Iowa City | *President*

**Richard Deming** | Des Moines

**Lorrie Graaf** | Des Moines

**Amber Leed-Kelly** | Council Bluffs

**Ron Nielsen** | Des Moines

**Claudia Robinson** | Davenport

**Norm Van Klompburg** | Newton

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Please send corrections or suggestions for future issues to [Sittig@CancerIowa.org](mailto:Sittig@CancerIowa.org).