

ADVANCING HEALTH EQUITY WORK IN THE CANCER PREVENTION AND CONTROL SECTION

The Cancer Prevention and Control Section (CPCS) within the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) is advancing health equity one step at a time by developing relationships with community partners, implementing and evaluating evidence-based interventions, and keeping contractors engaged with professional development opportunities related to health equity and social justice matters.

Detroit Street Care

- With the CPCS part of its annual meeting planning team, the Michigan Cancer Consortium (MCC) hosted a presentation by [Detroit Street Care](#) (DSC) which has been providing medical care to chronically homeless individuals in Detroit since 2014. This organization recently established an electronic medical record and is trying to include cancer screening and access to care as part of their work. Introductions were made with Consortium members and DSC providers; these would not have occurred without the presentation. As a result, a partnership to provide mobile mammography services at the homeless shelter where DSC hosts weekly clinics has been confirmed for early April with a second date in November. DSC will be able to use the EHR to provide follow up communication and services if needed to those screened.

Michigan Cancer Consortium

- The MCC, of which the CPCS is a key partner, sponsors an annual meeting. At the 2019 annual meeting there was a focus on health disparities and inclusion in cancer care. The main session featured a panel which utilized a 'What's Your Story?' format. The purpose of the session was to increase awareness of disparities within the LGBTQ community, provide resources for providers and community organizations and begin dialogue on how to improve health outcomes, including mental health.



Cancer Section Health Equity Team

- In January 2019, an LGBTQ training was planned for cancer section staff to promote awareness and understanding of unique challenges faced by the LGBTQ community. The training was led by an HIV Care Trainer from the HIV Care and Prevention Section.
- In May 2019, the Cancer Section Health Equity Team helped facilitate a focus group with five community-based organizations in the Greater Lansing area. The purpose of the focus group was to build relationships with community organizations and learn about some of the barriers they experience while providing social and health services to the community.
- The Cancer Section Health Equity Team also sponsored a health equity library that offers books related to healthcare access, racism, and social determinants of health for staff professional development.

