

MICHIGAN CANCER CONSORTIUM

2023

ANNUAL REPORT



*Celebrating **25** Years of the MCC*



ANNUAL REPORT **2023**

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Introduction

The Michigan Cancer Consortium (MCC) has unified public and private organizations to reduce the burden of cancer for all people and improve quality of life. As we reflect this year, we celebrate the **MCC's 25th Anniversary!**

Michigan was one of the first pilot sites to receive funding through the National Comprehensive Cancer Control Program in 1998. Since then, the MCC has grown to be a strong and successful partnership. Our accomplishments over the years are testaments to the unwavering dedication and commitment of our partners. We extend our deepest gratitude to each partner for their continued support and passion, which have been the driving force behind the success of the MCC.

We are proud to present the 2023 MCC Annual Report. The report contains information on Michigan's cancer burden, the MCC's new priority objectives for 2024-2026, Michigan Cancer Plan priority workgroup updates, member activities, and resources. This report reflects the hard work of our members in 2023.

In 2024, Dr. Anas Al-Janadi moved into the position of immediate past co-chair for the MCC Board of Directors. We have appreciated his dedication and leadership in the role as MCC co-chair for the past four years! We are also happy to introduce our new MCC co-chair, Polly Hager. Polly is the Cancer Prevention and Control Section Manager at the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS). For the last 27 years, Polly has worked with MCC as a staff member at MDHHS. Most recently she has been representing MDHHS as a

standing board member. We are thrilled to have Polly serve as a co-chair and know that she will bring valuable insights, leadership, and expertise to the MCC in this new role.

We want to thank our members for their efforts and engagement over the last 25 years. The work of the MCC would not be possible without your commitment to cancer control efforts in Michigan. We hope that you will share this report widely.

Sincerely,

Sabrina Ford, Ph.D. and Polly Hager, M.S.
MCC co-chairs

Anas Al-Janadi, M.D.
MCC immediate past co-chair



Sabrina Ford, Ph.D.



Polly Hager, M.S.N., R.N.



Anas Al-Janadi, M.D.

SECTION

1

CANCER BURDEN

Michigan's cancer incidence rate has decreased from 467 (per 100,000 population) in 2012-2016 to 446 in 2017-2021, and its cancer mortality rate has decreased from 168 in 2013-2017 to 157 in 2018-2022.

From 2017-2021, more than half of new cancers were diagnosed at an early stage.

LEARN MORE about Michigan cancer burden data by clicking the boxes below:

**ANNUAL REPORT: CANCER
BURDEN PAGE**

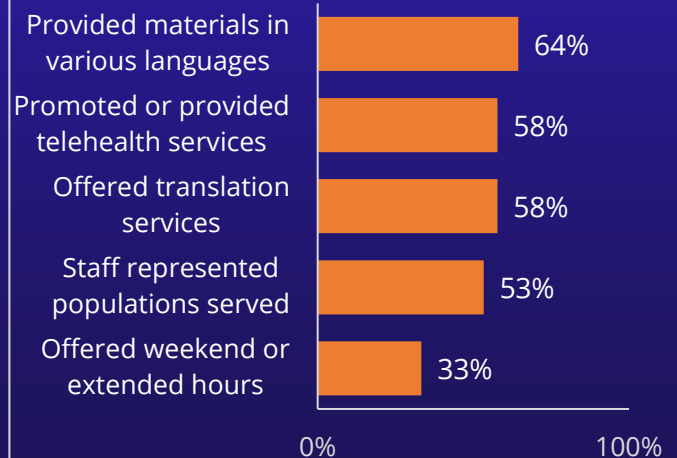
**MDHHS CANCER BURDEN
DASHBOARDS**

SECTION

2

HEALTH EQUITY

Forty-five respondents implemented several types of policies, practices, or activities to increase access to services and meet clients' and patients' needs.

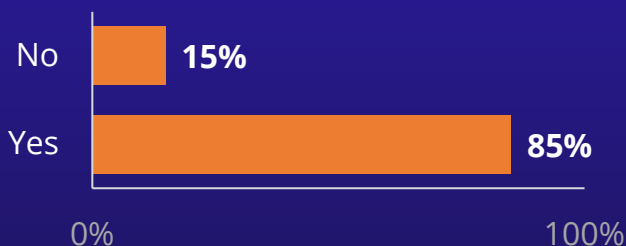


SECTION

3



In the past year, many MCC members reported participating in at least one member-related activity.



Most respondents shared MCC resources and tools or participated in a virtual MCC committee or workgroup.

SECTION

4

LEARN MORE about MCC's Call to Action for members and board members by clicking the box below:

MCC CALL TO ACTION

STAY IN THE LOOP with all MCC Updates by clicking the boxes below to access resources:

[MCC WEBSITE](#)

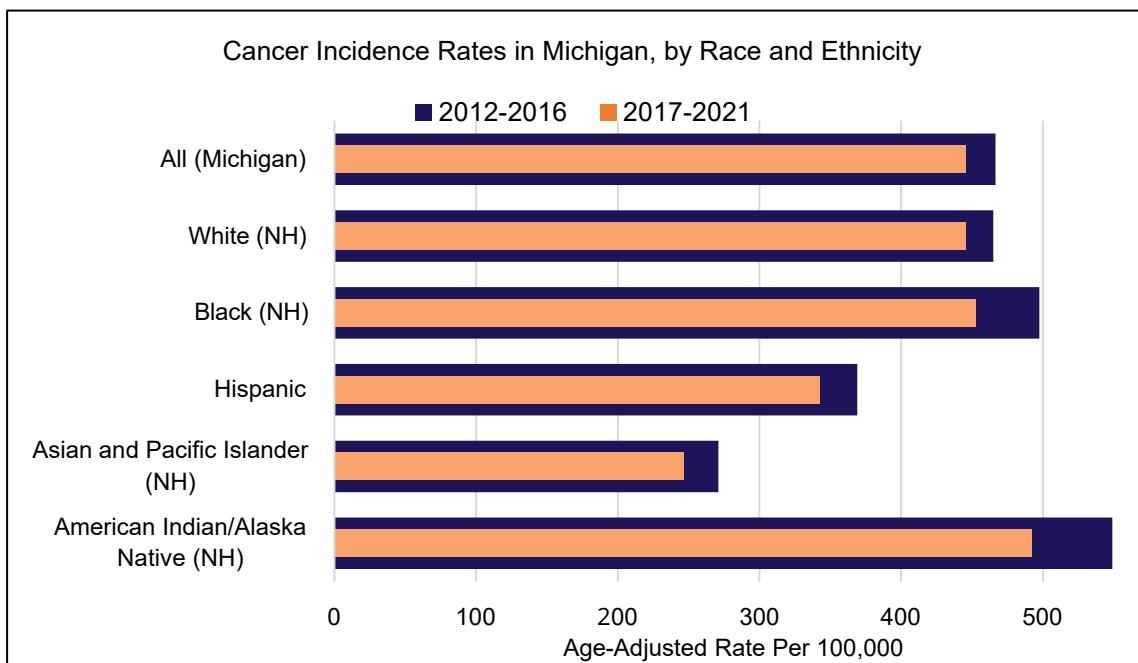
[CANCER PLAN](#)

[MCC DASHBOARD](#)

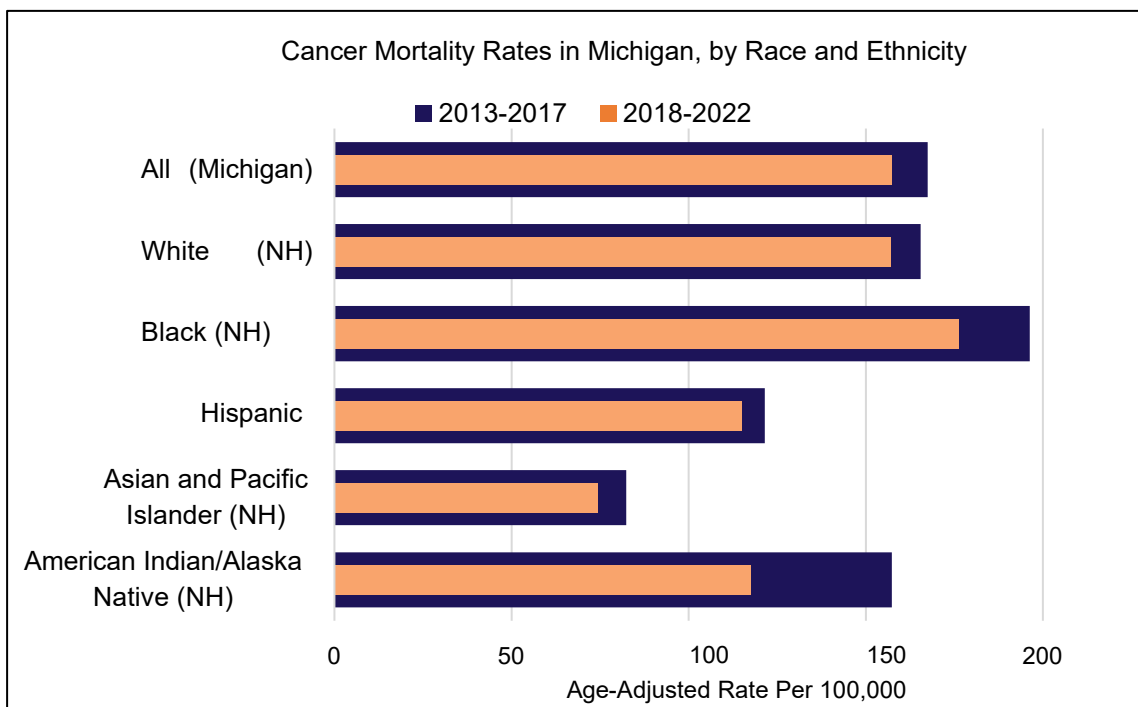


Michigan's Cancer Burden^a

Michigan's cancer incidence rate has decreased from 467 (per 100,000 population) in 2012-2016 to 446 in 2017-2021, and its cancer mortality rate has decreased from 168 in 2013-2017 to 157 in 2018-2022. These rate decreases were observed across all race and ethnicity groups.



(NH) = Non-Hispanic

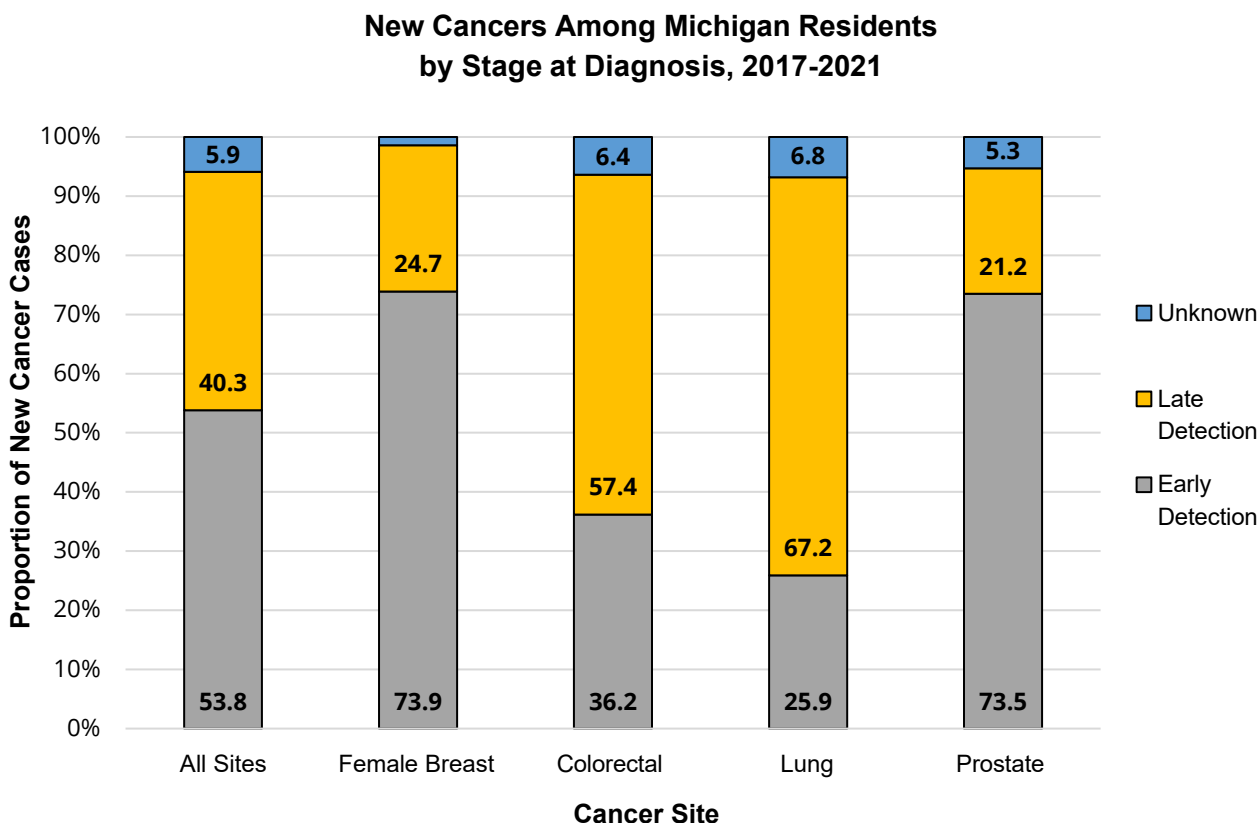


^aBurden data was obtained from the 2009-2021 Michigan Resident Cancer Incidence File and 1985-2022 Michigan Resident Cancer Death Files, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Division for Vital Records and Health Statistics. Rates were age-adjusted using the direct method and the 2000 U.S. Standard Population.



Michigan's Cancer Burden

From 2017-2021, more than half of new cancers were diagnosed at an early stage.^b Female breast and prostate cancers were detected earlier than colorectal and lung cancers.



Over the last few years, the MDHHS Cancer Prevention and Control Section and Chronic Disease Epidemiology Section have converted data fact sheets from traditional documents to Microsoft Power Business Intelligence (BI) data dashboards. The aim has been to disseminate updated cancer burden and risk data in a more rapid and thorough fashion, which will help MCC members in developing timely, data-driven efforts.

To learn more, visit the MDHHS cancer burden dashboards at the link below.

**MDHHS CANCER BURDEN
DASHBOARDS**

^bEarly detection includes cancers that are at the in situ or localized stage when first diagnosed. Late detection includes cancers that are at a regional or distant stage when first diagnosed. The remaining proportions of cancers were at an unknown stage when first diagnosed.



About the MCC

The MCC is a statewide, inclusive, broad-based partnership of public and private organizations that collaborate to reduce the human and economic burden of cancer among the citizens of Michigan.

The MCC is focused on achieving research-based, results-oriented goals. Membership in the MCC is open to organizations that have missions in line with its goals and maintenance projects.

Mission Statement

Unifying public and private organizations to reduce the burden of cancer for all people by addressing health disparities through a commitment to collaboration, evidence-based practices, and improved quality of care (revised November 2018).

Vision Statement

Striving to be a statewide leader and national model for equitable transformation of comprehensive cancer care (revised November 2018).

Members

The MCC currently has **106** members that work collaboratively to fulfill its mission and vision through engagement in the 2021-2023 Michigan Cancer Plan (MCP).










Cancer Plan for Michigan

About the Plan

The 2021-2030 Michigan Cancer Plan (MCP), which was developed for all Michiganders, is a strategic plan to reduce the cancer burden. It has 52 objectives, and 145 strategies.

It is designed to provide guidance to community members and organizations to focus on work that can play a role in controlling cancer. Several aspects of the cancer continuum are addressed. These aspects include health equity, prevention, early detection, diagnosis and treatment, and quality of life.

In 2023, the MCC Board of Directors followed a prioritization process to select five objectives from the MCP. These were selected as priorities for the MCC from 2024-2026 (shown in the table below). The MCC and its partners have established a workgroup to address **clinical trial enrollment**.

	Reduce the percentage of households in Michigan that are food insecure .
	Increase the proportion of females and males ages 13-17 years who have completed the HPV vaccine series .
	Reduce the percentage of breast cancer diagnosed at a late stage .
	Increase the percentage of Michigan adults participating in cancer treatment clinical trials .
	Decrease the percentage of Michigan adults over 18 who have ever been diagnosed with cancer who needed to see a doctor in the last year but could not because of cost .

A data dashboard has been established to track the progress on the priority objectives. It can be found on the MCC's website.

[CLICK TO VIEW DASHBOARD](#)



Priority Workgroup Updates

The MCC had two priority workgroups from 2021-2023: The Late-stage Breast Cancer Priority Workgroup and Cancer Survivor Physical Activity Workgroup. The purpose of the workgroups was to implement workplans to reduce the percentage of Michigan residents diagnosed with breast cancer at a late stage from 25.9% to 22.4% and increase the percentage of cancer survivors that meet the requirements for physical activity from 17.3% to 19.0% (Michigan Cancer Plan 2021-2030).

The priority workgroups completed their work in 2023 and shared their successes with members at the MCC Annual Meeting in November 2023. Workgroup accomplishments are listed below:

Late-Stage Breast Cancer Priority Workgroup

- Identified high burden counties with late-stage breast cancer diagnosis, including Wayne and Van Buren Counties.
- Surveyed mammography facilities in these counties and northern Michigan to better understand the practices to refer, schedule, and encourage appointment attendance for breast cancer screening.
- Thirteen mammography facilities completed the survey.
- A report was finalized in August 2023, that provided an overview of findings and included resources to improve screening processes.

Cancer Survivor Physical Activity Workgroup

- Karmanos Cancer Institute and the workgroup held a webinar to educate health care providers on physical activity guidelines for cancer survivors and the Cross Training and Physical Activity: A Better Life Experience (CAPABLE) program in November 2022.
- The workgroup developed their project workplan to refer survivors living in rural Michigan to the CAPABLE program.
- A CrossFit gym in the Petoskey, MI agreed to host the program.
- The program began in May 2023 and 11 survivors completed the program.



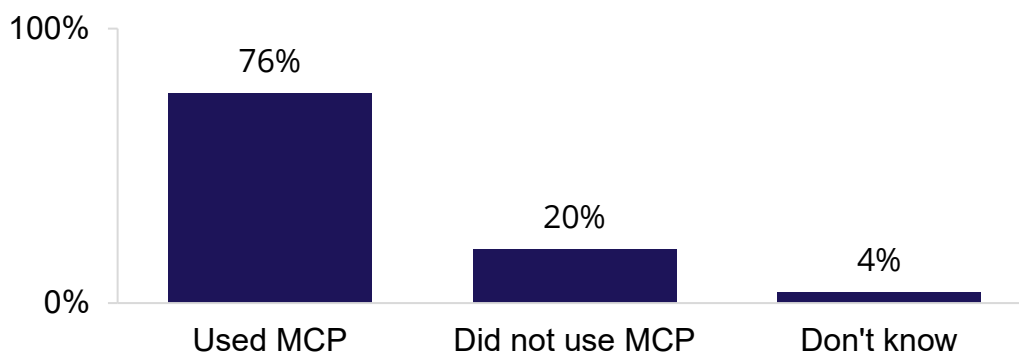
“The Cross training And Physical Activity: A Better Life Experience (CAPABLE) introduces cancer survivors to the sport of CrossFit® over a 12-week period and is an exercise intervention that looks at the benefit of high-intensity exercise and strength training for cancer survivors of all ages and cancer types .” - MCC Partner



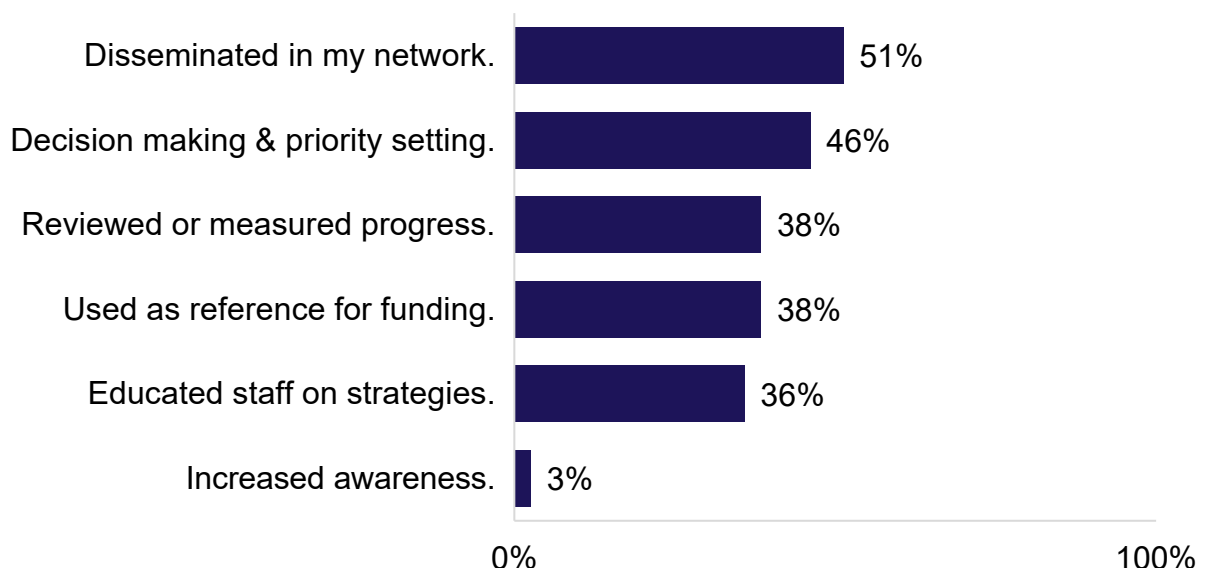
What is the Membership Doing in Their Organizations?

The 2023 MCC Annual Survey was sent to member representatives of each MCC organization via email in early 2024. Questions on the survey asked about which areas from the MCP members worked on, health equity barriers members encountered, membership engagement, and members' satisfaction with the MCC.

In total, 51 out of 106 member organizations (48%) responded to the survey. Most members stated they used the MCP.



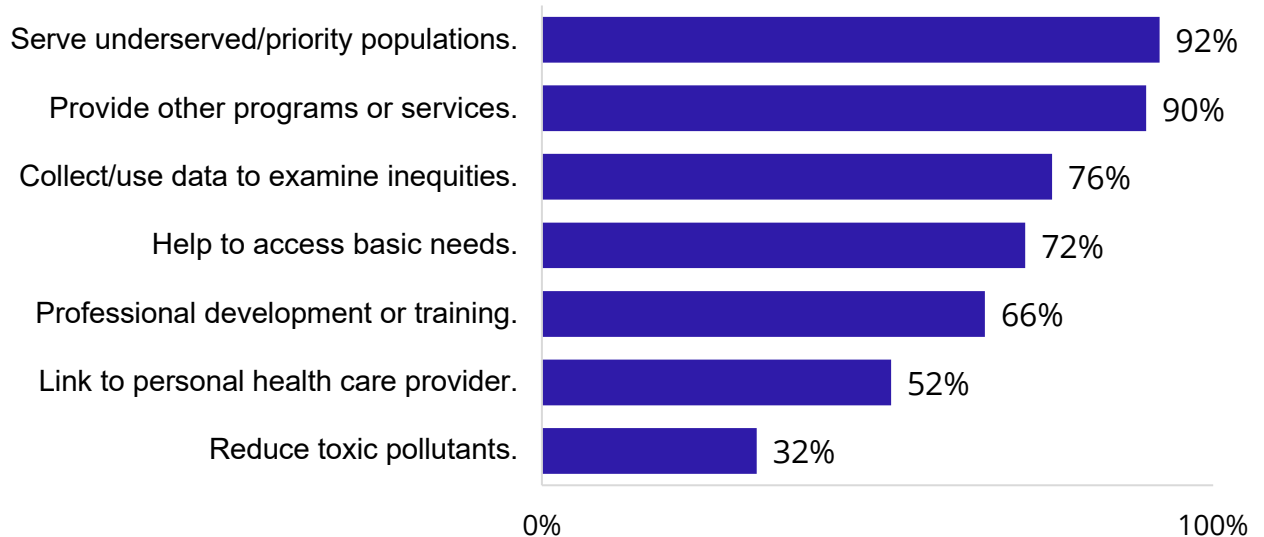
Respondents who used the MCP reported they most commonly disseminated the plan within their organization or network or used the plan to inform decision-making and priority setting for their organization.



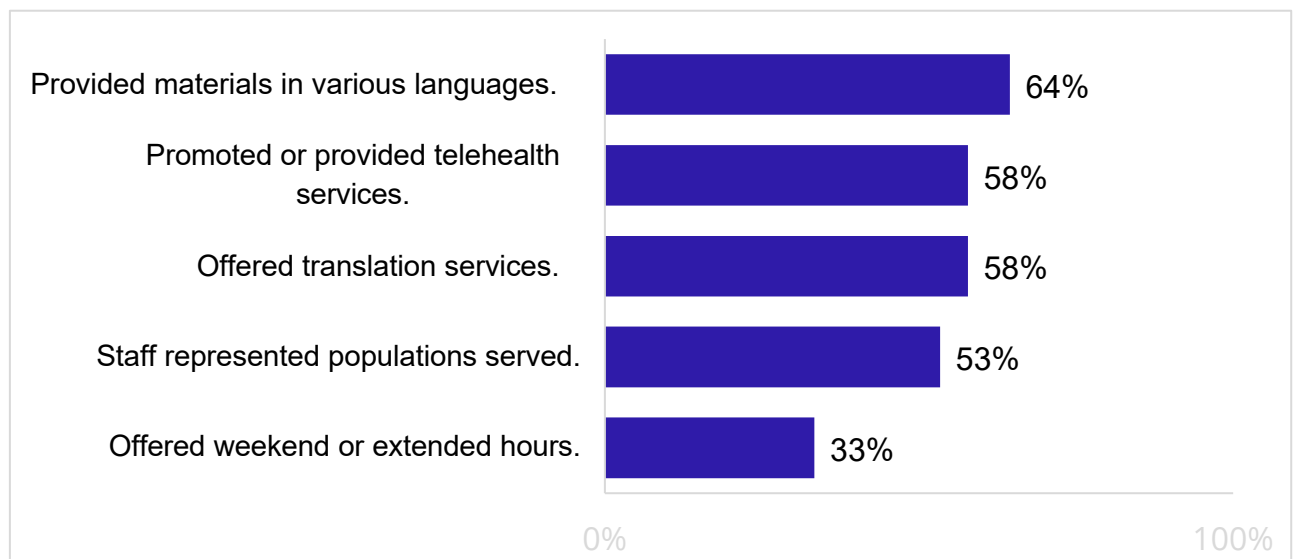


HEALTH EQUITY

The MCC survey asked members about activities they were undertaking to reduce disparities and promote equity. Of the 51 respondents, 50 (98%) reported implementing at least one health equity objective outlined in the MCP.



Forty-five respondents implemented several types of policies, practices, or activities to increase access to services and meet clients' and patients' needs.

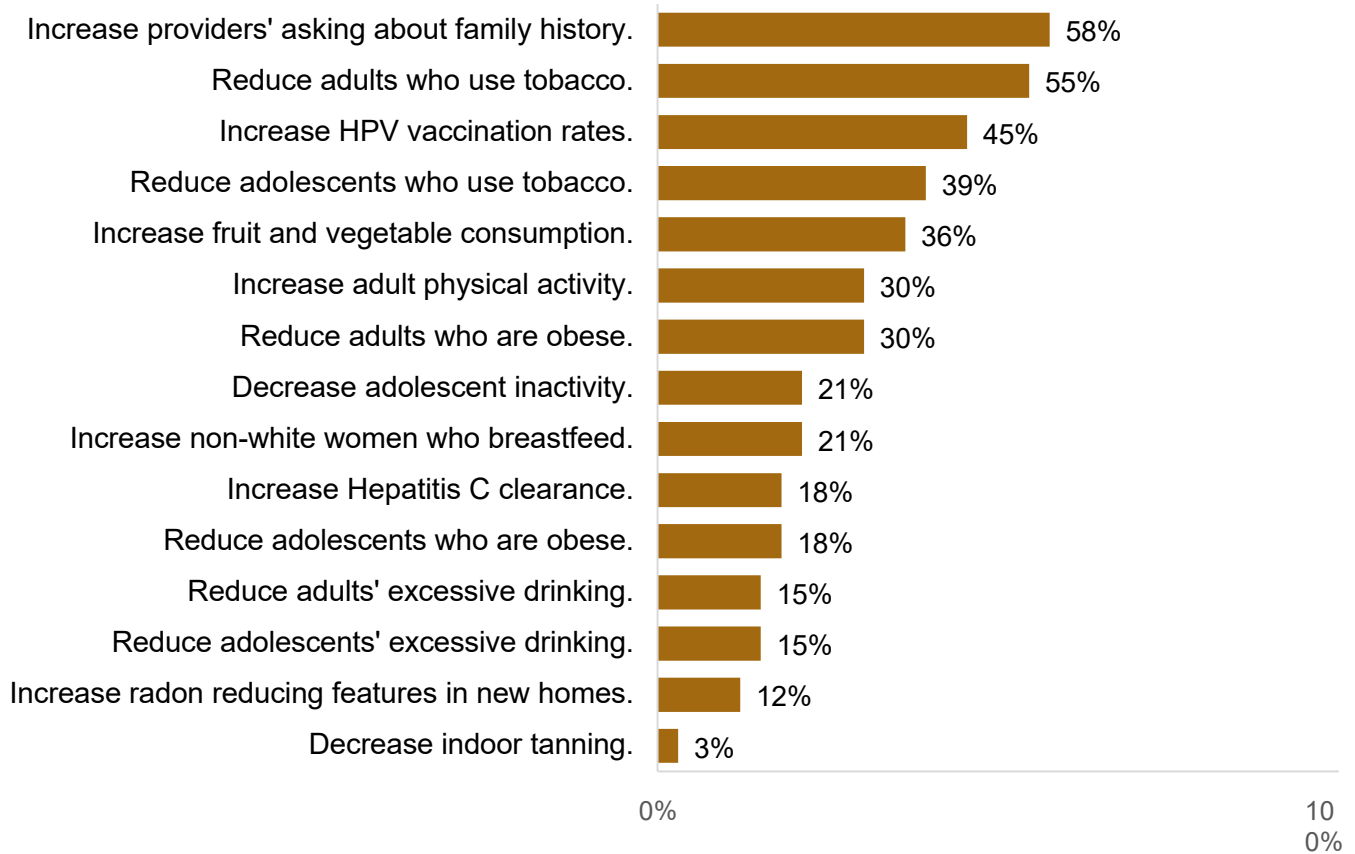


“Overall, our work is aimed at eliminating barriers to opportunities to achieve optimal health, so our main activities have been focused on supporting Community Health Worker career development and advancement and incorporating them into various settings to assist with social needs in the communities served. Several partnerships have been created for this work over the past year.” – MCC Partner



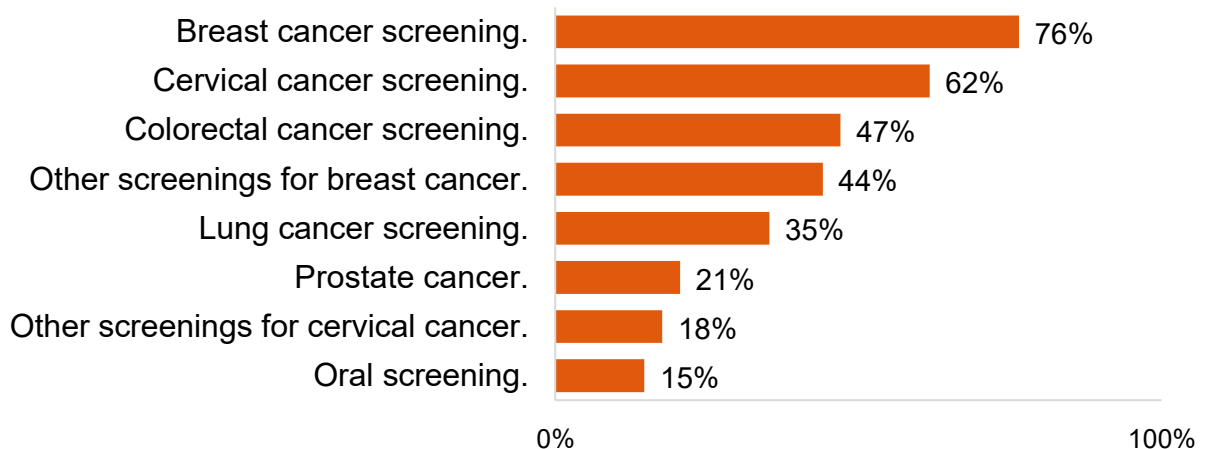
PREVENTION

Out of the 33 organizations that worked on prevention, most respondents indicated they worked to increase providers' asking about family history, reducing adults who use tobacco, and increasing Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination rates.



EARLY DETECTION

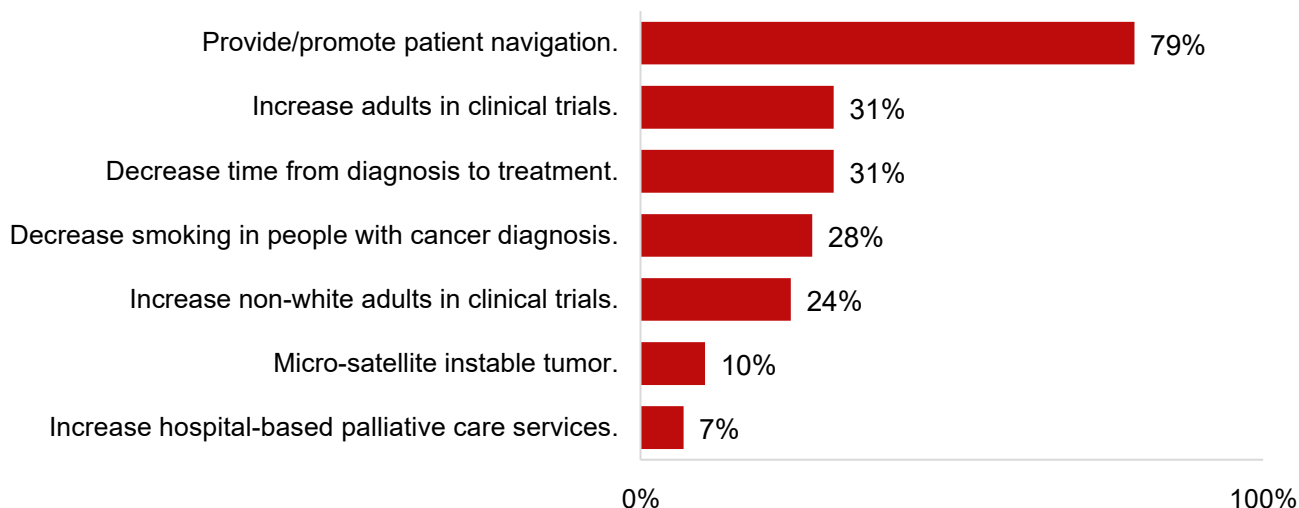
Thirty-four MCC members worked on early detection activities, most of which was focused on increasing breast, cervical, and colorectal cancer screenings.





DIAGNOSIS & TREATMENT

Of the 29 MCC members who implemented diagnosis and treatment activities, most provided or promoted patient navigation services to reduce barriers to care or coordinate care services.

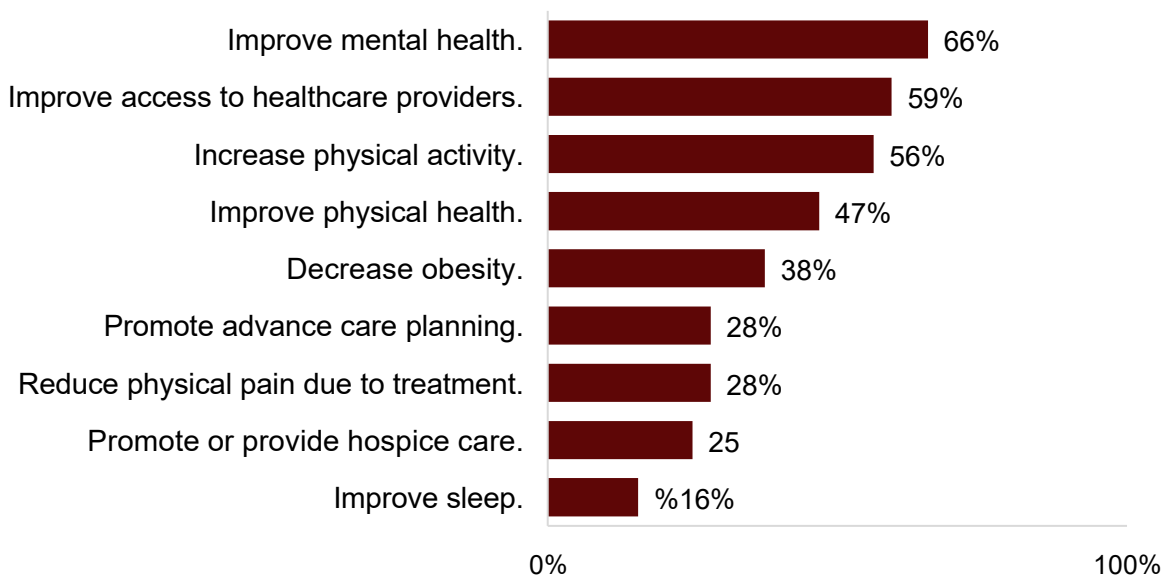


"We began using the American Cancer Society's 'Love Letters Campaign' within our art programming, promoting early detection, family history knowledge and screening. Free or low-cost resources are also provided by the ACS. This led to our first larger scale 'previvor' program in March of 2024!" – MCC Partner



QUALITY OF LIFE

Out of the 32 MCC member organizations that worked to promote quality of life activities, most worked on improving mental health, improving access to health care providers and increasing physical activity of cancer survivors.

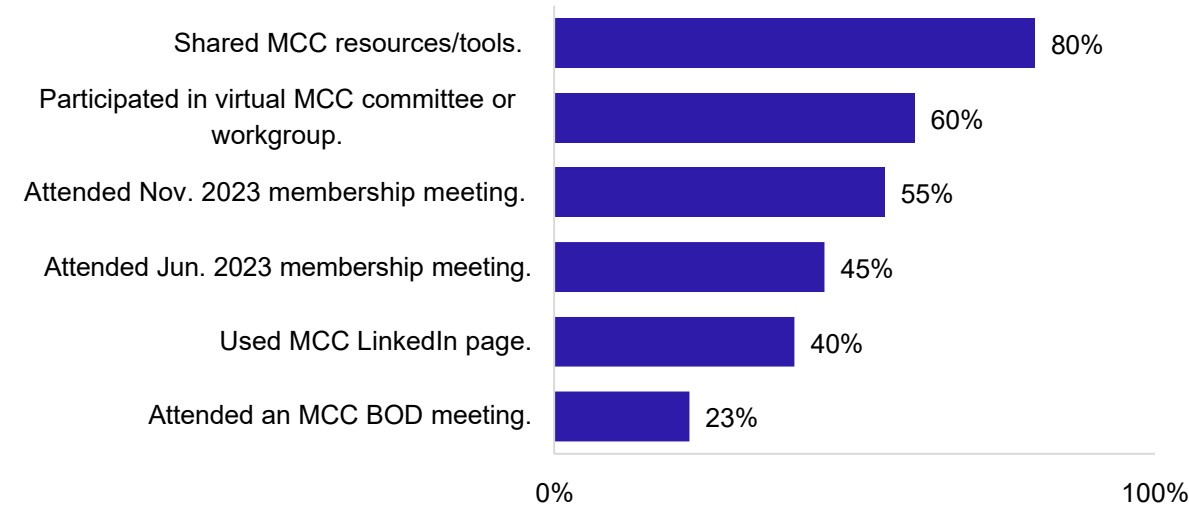


"Our mission is to provide personal and compassionate support to cancer patients and their caregivers in our community. We work with people after they are diagnosed." – MCC Partner



Membership Participation

MCC member organizations provided feedback on engagement with the MCC. Of the 47 respondents, nearly two-thirds were somewhat engaged with the MCC. In the past year, many respondents participated in at least one member-related activity. Most commonly, respondents shared MCC resources and tools or participated in a virtual MCC committee or workgroup.



Benefits to Membership

Respondents appreciated having access to resources and information and having the ability to network and collaborate with other organizations. They believed that being part of the MCC strengthened their organization’s work.

NETWORK	RESOURCES	LEARNING
<p>“Being able to meet people across the state that are working on similar projects and similarly engaged in making things better for cancer patients.”</p> <p>- MCC MEMBER ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATIVE</p>	<p>“The biggest benefit for us as a new non-profit is the valuable resources, connections, and education that MCC provides. These resources have helped us feel more confident in our services and program planning.”</p> <p>- MCC MEMBER ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATIVE</p>	<p>“Getting information about MCC priorities allows [my organization] to set performance measures.”</p> <p>- MCC MEMBER ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATIVE</p>
<p>“Connection with members and leadership with like-minded goals/missions to improve access to cancer care and decrease disparities in care.”</p> <p>- MCC MEMBER ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATIVE</p>	<p>“Understanding state level goals and objectives and how we can help support overall well-being of oncology patients.”</p> <p>- MCC MEMBER ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATIVE</p>	<p>“[Our membership] ensures that rural and Native American populations are equally represented in programming opportunities that improve health outcomes.”</p> <p>- MCC MEMBER ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATIVE</p>



MCC Inspiration Award

No one should face cancer alone. Courageous, determined, resolute, and faithful are the qualities of survivors and thrivers. Every year at the Annual Meeting, the MCC recognizes a cancer survivor or thriver who exemplifies these words and lifts others in the face of their own diagnosis. We are pleased to share that Bernestine Bailey Thornton is the 2023 MCC Inspiration Award winner!

Bernestine Bailey Thornton (AKA Bunni) has been a member of the Dynamite Delta Steppers, the Relay for Life team of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated Detroit Alumnae Chapter since the team was started over 24 years ago. During this time Bunni has been the top individual fundraiser each year. She is committed to this event and works in all aspects of the planning and implementation to assure success. She is a cancer survivor herself and makes sure others are aware of preventive measures. She also shares her knowledge of treatment with others in workshops and community events. She has consistently raised five to 10 thousand dollars annually for Relay for Life of Detroit and participates in the breast cancer event as well.

While going through her own treatment, she participated in a cancer support group and recently her sorority chapter started a group for its members who are living with cancer. Bunni is a living example of empowerment. Her attitude is

encouragement to all she meets that cancer is not the end, only the beginning of the fight.



PICTURED ABOVE: BERNESTINE THORNTON

This year we had more nominations for the MCC Inspiration Award than ever before!

This resulted in our **outstanding honorable mentions:**

- Sarah Iantelli
- Tamara Collins
- Kathryn Edick
- Michele Mitchell
- Ghada Aziz
- Jennifer Proudfoot
- Michael Hunt
- Pam Haan
- Lauren Fryzel
- Elaine Raschke
- Molly MacDonald
- Beverly Trosko



MCC Celebrates 25 Years!

At the 2023 MCC Annual Meeting, the MCC celebrated **25 years!** Michigan was one of the first pilot sites to receive funding through the National Comprehensive Cancer Control Program in 1998.

For over 25 years, the MCC has achieved significant milestones thanks to its partnerships and collaborative efforts. During this time, the MCC has:

- Created **four** Michigan Cancer Plans and **25** Annual Reports.
- Hosted **25** Annual Meetings.
- Partnered with over **100** member organizations.
- Engaged **1,350+** individuals in various MCC activities.

Nikki Hayes, the Comprehensive Cancer Control Branch Chief for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, joined the meeting to celebrate those accomplishments and the MCC's rich history.



To review a list of the MCC's many accomplishments over the last 25 years, visit the Accomplishments Page on the MCC website:

[CLICK TO VIEW THE MCC
WEBPAGE](#)



Call to Action for MCC Members

- Attend MCC membership meetings and engage in discussions with members on health equity and cancer control efforts.
- Seek out ways to partner with members on MCP priorities.
- Share partnership success stories through the MCC: [Spirit of Collaboration Spotlight](#).
- [Join and participate in priority workgroups and MCC committees](#). Click the link to complete a form if you are interested.
- Link the MCC Annual Report and [MCP](#) on your organization's website so more people can access it.
- Review the *MCC Quarterly Newsletter* for updates and news on cancer control.
- Visit [the MCC website](#) for more information and resources on Michigan's cancer burden, data reports, health equity, and other cancer control topics.

Call to Action for MCC Board Members

- Lead or organize presentations outside of board and membership meetings on MCP priorities.
- Help recruit a more diverse membership.
- Ensure meetings are interactive and accessible to encourage as many as possible to attend and participate.
- Support the work of MCC in workgroups and committees.
- Encourage all MCC committees and workgroups to include health equity in their annual workplans.



Acknowledgements

The MCC would like to thank our partners, supporters, and staff for their dedication and efforts to reducing the cancer burden across the state of Michigan. Individuals who make up the MCC have strived to help to improve the lives of those who are battling cancer, cancer survivors, and those who support them.

We would also like to give a special thanks to the [MCC Board of Directors](#) who continue to support cancer prevention and control efforts in Michigan as well as the activities and priorities of the MCC and its members.



This report was supported by the Grant or Cooperative Agreement Number, NU58DP007126 funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or the Department of Health and Human Services.