

Process of Plan Development

The Connecticut Cancer Plan represents the efforts of dedicated Partnership members, subject matter experts, and stakeholders from across the state who worked together through a period of Partnership infrastructure transition to develop a forward-looking cancer control framework to address the needs of the people of Connecticut. Over a period of two years, interrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic, meetings were held to help identify priority needs and strategies. Partnership members were polled for their suggestions and stakeholders were interviewed. Respondents included local public health officials, physicians, nurses, community advocates, patient navigators, social workers, and survivors from all regions of the state, representing small towns as well as our largest cities. The following emerged from the interviews, surveys, and meetings as recommendations for the Partnership moving forward:

- Increase diversity of members and leaders involved in Partnership work
- Communicate with stakeholders, including policy makers, regarding disparities, cancer control strategies, prevalence rates, and advocacy opportunities
- Concentrate efforts to reduce disparities among populations of focus, including racial, ethnic, and rural communities and uninsured, undocumented, and LGBTQ persons
- Address barriers to screening utilizing culturally appropriate strategies
- Support and promote awareness of survivorship programs and easy-to-use care plans
- Support expansion of health navigation and community health worker programs
- Increase education for providers and patients on palliative care and pain management, including non-opioid strategies

