



The 2024 David "Coach" Koch Connecticut Policy Forum

Patient Navigation Through the Continuum of Cancer Control

Presented by ACS CAN and the
Connecticut Cancer Partnership

October 17, 2024 | 8 AM
Pond House Cafe, West Hartford



American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network

The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN) is the nation's leading cancer advocacy organization that is working every day to make cancer issues a national priority.

Many of the most important decisions about cancer are made outside of your doctor's office. Instead, they are made by your state legislature, in Congress and in the White House. ACS CAN empowers regular people to be part of the growing national movement that is fighting back against cancer.

ACS CAN, the nonprofit, nonpartisan advocacy affiliate of the American Cancer Society, is holding lawmakers accountable for their words and their actions. We demand our leaders not only talk about fighting cancer but take real steps toward decreasing the number of people suffering and dying from the disease.

TAKE ACTION!



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The stylized, iconic nature of our logo is purposeful: it's meant to guide the interpretation symbolically, with a balance of familiar form and relative abstraction.

In the simplest terms, you "get it" when you see it. But what you get depends on what you see, and different people see different things.

Most see a bridge. A bridge allows passage across gaps or barriers. It can also be a bridge of understanding. The Partnership, like a bridge, is characterized both by strength and flexibility. It serves as a bridge that draws ignorance closer to knowledge, isolation toward inclusion.

Some see human figures reaching out to and touching one another. It is about people drawn together by and for a common cause, for the good of humanity. The Partners are diverse individuals and organizations, reaching out and making contact with one another to bridge gaps in information and services for people with cancer, their loved ones, and those who can help them.

The bridge is also viewed as a continuum of care that spans the horizon of cancer. The towers of the bridge are the elements in the continuum—prevention, early detection, treatment, survivorship, and palliative and hospice care. The bridge serves as a conduit for new ideas and innovative approaches—a platform upon which a cure is sought and solutions are formulated.

Our logo is each of these things and all of these things, because it serves as a metaphor for the Connecticut Cancer Partnership, its constituent partners, and comprehensive cancer control, itself.

Agenda

WELCOME

Paul Hull, Ph.D.

Vice President, Regional Advocacy American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network Hope Region

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Tracy Battaglia, MD MPH

Associate Cancer Center Director, Cancer Care Equity, Yale Cancer Center

CONNECTICUT CANCER PARTNERSHIP PRESENTATION

Lucinda Hogarty, MPH

Executive Director Emerita, Connecticut Cancer Partnership

ACS CAN PRESENTATION

Gladys Arias, MPA

Principal for Health Equity Policy Analysis and Legislative Support, American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network

Agenda (continued)

PANEL DISCUSSION

Brenda Cartmel, Ph.D. - Moderator

Senior Research Scientist in and Lecturer in
Epidemiology (Chronic Diseases), Yale School of
Public Health

Nancy Borstelmann, Ph.D., MPH, LCSW

Chief of Family and Behavioral Health Services
(Hematology/Oncology), Yale Child Study Center;
Co-Director, Early Onset Cancer Program, Yale
Cancer Center and Smilow Cancer Hospital

Kimberly Silcox, J.D.

Manager, Cancer Community Outreach, Program
Director, CT Early Detection and Prevention, Hartford
HealthCare

Zarek Mena, OPN-CG

Financial Patient Navigator, SHARE Cancer Support

Amy Beer, MPA, RN

Director of Access and Navigation, Hartford
HealthCare Cancer Institute

Patricia Doykos, Ph.D.

Executive Director, Global Health Equity, Bristol
Myers Squibb

CLOSING REMARKS

Paul Hull, Ph.D.

Vice President, Regional Advocacy American Cancer
Society Cancer Action Network Hope Region

Speakers



Paul Hull, Ph.D.

Vice President, Regional Advocacy American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network Hope Region

Master of Ceremonies

Dr. Paul Hull is the regional head of the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network's Hope Region, which includes 25 states plus the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

Hull joined the American Cancer Society in 2002, serving for ten years as the Vice President for Advocacy and Public Policy for the former Florida Division prior to taking on multi-state, regional roles at ACS CAN. He has nearly 40 years of experience in the legislative, government relations, and public policy arenas. During his tenure with the organization, he has driven highly successful campaigns in the areas of smoke-free workplaces, tobacco prevention and education, tobacco taxes, breast cancer screening, and cancer research.

He gained extensive experience in government and public policy during his nearly 15 years as a legislative staffer, serving in committee analyst roles for several years and then as the chief policy aide for multiple members of Florida Senate leadership.



Brenda Cartmel, Ph.D.

Senior Research Scientist in and Lecturer in Epidemiology (Chronic Diseases) Yale School of Public Health

Panel Moderator

Dr. Cartmel's primary research interests are in the area of cancer prevention and cancer survivorship. She is involved in several diet and exercise intervention studies in cancer survivors and is also participating in a nationwide longitudinal quality of life study in cancer survivors in which she is studying communication of health information to long-term cancer survivors. Other interests include the use of a novel noninvasive assessment method of skin carotenoids and skin cancer etiology and prevention, including work on tanning addiction.

Keynote Speaker



Tracy Battaglia, MD, MPH

Associate Cancer Center Director,
Cancer Care Equity, Yale Cancer Center

Keynote Speaker

Dr. Battaglia is a physician-scientist internationally recognized for her collaborative and innovative approaches to addressing health disparities among communities historically marginalized. Dr. Battaglia completed her undergraduate and medical school training at Boston University and completed her Internal Medicine Residency training at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, returning to Boston University to complete a Primary Care Fellowship Program and Preventive Medicine Residency Program with a concentration in Women's Health.

She spent the next 23 years as a BU faculty member where she had served as a practicing primary care Clinician-Investigator at Boston Medical Center, the largest SafetyNet medical center in New England focusing on addressing health inequities by engaging the community as partners in action-oriented research. Rising to rank of Professor of Medicine and Community Health Sciences, she had served in multiple leadership roles including Director Women's Health Unit (a DHHS designated Center of Excellence), the Women's Health Interdisciplinary Research Center, Associate Director of Belkin Breast Health Center and most importantly Director for Community Engagement for the BU Clinical Translational Science Institute (CTSI) where she was responsible for creating programs, policies and training to support the use of community engaged methods in all aspects of translational science.

Her own research focused on designing, implementing and evaluating multi-level health system interventions in pursuit of equitable access to care for at-risk women, especially for cancer care. A pioneer in the development of oncology Patient Navigation programs that target under-resourced cancer patients, Dr. Battaglia has contributed to the scientific evidence solidifying the impact of navigation on reducing delays across the continuum of cancer care. As founding Chair of the National Navigation Roundtable, she partnered across diverse sectors in pursuit of a sustainable navigation workforce. Her own experience as a two-time cancer survivor fuels her passion for community-informed and action-oriented equity research.

She recently joined (2/26/24) Yale Cancer Center as the inaugural Associate Director for Cancer Care Equity.

Featured Speakers



Lucinda Hogarty, MPH

Executive Director Emerita, Connecticut Cancer Partnership

Featured Speaker

Lucinda earned her Master of Public Health degree from the Yale School of Public Health. Her primary professional interest has always been in health planning and promotion. Prior to working in the cancer control field, she worked in geriatric education at UConn, developed the elder care program at Day Kimball Hospital, was the Director of Health at the Northeastern District Dept of Health, and then served as a consultant on local public health emergency preparedness. She took on the role as director of the Connecticut Cancer Partnership in 2008. As the first Director of the Partnership, she has overseen the development and implementation of three multi-year state cancer plans including the current plan for the years 2021-2026. She has recently retired from that role but is committed to facilitating the continuity of the dedicated work of the Partnership's energetic workgroups and membership.



Gladys Arias, MPA

Principal for Health Equity Policy Analysis and Legislative Support, American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network

Featured Speaker

Gladys Arias, MPA is a Principal for Health Equity Policy Analysis and Legislative Support at the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN), the American Cancer Society's nonprofit, nonpartisan advocacy affiliate. In this role she works to advance public policy that will advance health equity across the cancer care continuum. Prior to ACS CAN, Gladys served as a Policy Advisor for the Mayor's Office of NYC. In this role, Gladys worked to improve health care delivery systems and implement governmental programs and initiatives with a focus on community-based care, health equity and behavioral health. Gladys received a Master of Public Administration from New York University as well as a Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Arts from the University of Pittsburgh.

Panel Speaker



Nancy Borstelmann, PhD, MPH, LCSW

Chief of Family and Behavioral Health Services (Hematology/Oncology), Yale Child Study Center; Co-Director, Early Onset Cancer Program, Yale Cancer Center and Smilow Cancer Hospital

Panelist

Nancy Borstelmann, PhD, MPH, LCSW is chief of family behavioral health services in hematology/oncology at the Yale Child Study Center and co-director of the Early Onset Cancer Program for Yale Cancer Center and Smilow Cancer Hospital. Prior to starting her position at Yale in June 2022, Dr. Borstelmann was the senior director of social work at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston and chief of the division of social work in the Department of Psychosocial Oncology and Palliative Care. She is a licensed clinical social worker with broad experience in interdisciplinary cancer and behavioral health care.

Dr. Borstelmann has focused her career on serving patients and families through direct clinical roles, program development, research, education, and leadership. Her professional commitment has been to wholistic patient and family care, given the wide-ranging mental health, emotional, social, and other key quality of life needs of patients and their families. Dr. Borstelmann has co-developed, implemented, and supported major institutional initiatives including patient navigation programs directed at reducing barriers to cancer screening (breast, cervical, and colorectal cancers) among historically marginalized populations, and psychosocial distress screening for all new patients across the Dana-Farber network. She has been an investigator on studies including early onset cancer caregivers' challenges, parenting with cancer, emotional well-being as a young cancer survivor, and communication in end-of-life care and bereavement among family members. Dr. Borstelmann serves on the advisory board of Infinite Strength, a community non-profit addressing the needs of single mothers with metastatic breast cancer.

Dr. Borstelmann received her BS in Biology from Tufts University, her MPH from the Yale School of Public Health with concentration in chronic disease epidemiology, her MSW with concentration in adult mental health from the University of North Carolina- Chapel Hill, and her PhD in social work from Simmons College Graduate School of Social Work.

Panel Speakers



Kim Silcox, J.D.

Manager, Cancer Community Outreach,
Program Director, CT Early Detection and
Prevention, Hartford Hospital

Panelist

Kimberly Armstrong Silcox, J.D. is the manager of the Hartford HealthCare Cancer Institute (HHCCI) Cancer Community Outreach program. Silcox is also the project director for the HHCCI CT Early Detection and Prevention Program (CEDPP). Silcox served as the inaugural director of the Center for Community Engagement at Eastern Connecticut State University and was awarded Emeritus status from ECSU. In addition to providing leadership to the CEDPP, Silcox oversees Cancer Institute community outreach initiatives and the Mobile Mammography program. She also provides support for Cancer Institute initiatives and community outreach grants. Silcox serves on boards and committees for several area non-profit organizations.



Zarek Mena, OPN-CG

Financial Patient Navigator, SHARE Cancer
Support

Panelist

Zarek Mena, OPN-CG, has extensive experience in the field of patient navigation. She was instrumental in the creation, program implementation and accreditation of the breast center at Norwalk Hospital Nuvance Health, including its numerous support programs. She is now the Financial Patient Navigator at SHARE | Support for Women's Cancers, a national organization that offers free online and in-person programs, helplines and support groups for women and families affected by women's cancers.

Panel Speaker



Amy Beer, MPA, RN

Director of Access and Navigation, Hartford HealthCare Cancer Institute

Panelist

Amy Beer is the Director of Access and Navigation at HHC Cancer Institute. She has twenty-five years of oncology nursing experience. After earning a BSN at Georgetown University, she began her career as a nurse at Memorial Sloan Kettering caring for malignant hematology patients in both inpatient and ambulatory care settings. Since then, she has focused on patient care at all service points. She was introduced to BMT Coordination at Medstar Georgetown University Hospital, then MSK, and helped launch a burgeoning transplant program at New York Presbyterian. Throughout this period, Amy took on increasing levels of leadership and appreciated the wider and deeper level of influence on patient care delivery. Amy earned a Master's in Public Administration from New York University and returned to MSK as the Clinical Director of the Patient Access Service. MSK's Patient Access Service was the first point of contact with patients, families, and referring providers from around the world. The team acted with compassion and clinical expertise to guide patients, often clinically complex, to the appropriate specialists.

Amy's focus at Harford Healthcare is to provide simple access to high quality care combined with on-going clinical navigation support. It is imperative to ease the burden on those who need cancer care. Amy also oversees the Nurse Navigation Program at HHC. This team provides patients with a single point of contact and acts as an advocate while providing education, care coordination, and referrals to support services and a myriad of resources. Amy is committed to leveraging evidenced based practice, data analytics, and innovation in the pursuit of continuous improvement and providing consistent, exceptional care.

Panel Speaker



Patricia Doykos, Ph.D.

Executive Director, Global Health Equity, Bristol Myers Squibb

Panelist

Patricia “Patti” Mae Doykos is the inaugural executive director for Global Health Equity at Bristol Myers Squibb. She has responsibility for the company’s \$150M Health Equity Commitment as well as a number of domestic and global health partnerships to address health disparities. Internally, she is part of the team that has developed the company’s global health equity strategy and goals and leads the business integration efforts supporting BMS teams to embed a health equity lens in their work for patients across the lifecycle and enterprise. Centering health equity is an opportunity for BMS to expand and improve the quality of the company’s science and the reach and impact of its innovative therapies on patients, particularly for medically underserved patient populations.

Patti has over 27 years of experience and leadership in transformative corporate philanthropy and corporate social responsibility, brand and strategic communications, policy advancement and health equity and social justice from her roles in the company and the Bristol Myers Squibb Foundation. She has developed and led numerous US and international grant-making and public-private partnership programs for global HIV/AIDS, women’s health, diabetes, cancer, serious mental illness, cardiovascular disease, immunology, and COVID19. Among her current service roles are inaugural chair of the board of the Center for Global Health Equity at Dartmouth-Geisel Medical School, Board of Advisors for Dartmouth-Geisel Medical School, Advisory Board for the Center for Global Health at Rutgers University, Board of Mercer County United Way, and advisor to the Global Solidarity Fund.

Patti received her BA for majors in Government and German from Dartmouth College, MA in German Literature & Language from the University of Virginia, and PhD in German Literature & Language with a Cultural Studies focus from New York University.



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The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN), the advocacy affiliate of the American Cancer Society, is the nation's leading cancer advocacy organization working every day to make cancer issues a national priority. ACS CAN empowers people – patients, survivors, family members, friends, and health professionals – to be part of the growing national movement that is fighting back against cancer.

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