



2015

2016

KAUFMAN CANCER CENTER
ONCOLOGY ANNUAL REPORT



INFORMATION ON THE KAUFMAN CANCER CENTER AT UM UPPER CHESAPEAKE MEDICAL CENTER
AN AFFILIATE OF THE UM MARLENE AND STEWART GREENEBAUM COMPREHENSIVE CANCER CENTER

CANCER COMMITTEE

PHYSICIANS

Philip Nivatpumin, MD
Chairman, Medical Oncology

Katherine Day, MD
Ear, Nose and Throat

Jack Hong, MD
Radiation Oncology

Meghan Milburn, MD
Breast Surgery

Amalia Seiguer, MD
Pathology

Sankari Sivasailam, MD
Medical Oncology

Scott Steinmetz, MD
Cancer Liaison, General Surgery

David Taylor, MD
Radiology

Alternates
Ashkan Bahrani, MD
Medical Oncology

Geoffrey Bloomfield, MD
General Surgery

V. Dixon King, MD
Pathology

Mark Mishra, MD
Radiation Oncology

Brian Monroe, MD
Radiology

Angela Poppe Ries, MD
Palliative Medicine

TEAM MEMBERS

Diane Fitzgerald
Executive Director, Oncology

Patsy Astarita, LCSW-C, OSW-C
Psychosocial Care

Vickie Bands, RN
Community Outreach

Steve Clayton
Upper Chesapeake Hematology Oncology

Beverly Dean-Crabtree
Hospice Care

Kira Eyring
American Cancer Society

Laurie Fitzgerald, RN
Director, Clinical Services, Lung Cancer Care

Jennifer Goldsborough, ARNP
Palliative Care

Julia Heckrotte
Cancer Registry

Angela Kaitis, RPhD
Pharmacy

Natalie Lucas-Teter, RN, BSN, MS
Clinical Research

Christine Lutes, RD
Oncology Dietitian

Jessica Mazzone, NP
Lung Cancer Care

Colleen Meegan, CCRP
Quality Improvement

Peyton Neilson, MSN, OCN
Infusion Center Nursing

Kim Peacher, RN
Oncology Nurse Manager

Christina Pedini, MSPT, GCS
Rehabilitation

Jessica Scott, MCG, CGC
Genetic Counseling

Pat Wallace, CTR
Cancer Registry, Cancer Conference

LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN



Dear Colleagues:

We are entering our fourth year of operation at the Kaufman Cancer Center and celebrating the 10th anniversary of Cancer LifeNet, our award-winning program of support and navigation services for patients and families struggling with a cancer diagnosis. Our success is centered on our dedicated team of caring nurses, doctors, social workers, volunteers and administrators who are singularly focused on improving patients' outcomes and experiences. Cancer LifeNet is a unique and critical component to our multidisciplinary and holistic approach to cancer care and we are extremely proud of all the people who have helped build this program over the past decade. The program provides over five thousand patient encounters a year and is supported entirely through community fundraising. It is a testament to the love and care of our Harford and Cecil county friends and neighbors.

Our number one priority at the Kaufman Cancer Center is to continually improve our care and exceed the best national practices and standards in oncology. In this report, you will see our many regional and national awards and accreditations, including our nationally accredited Breast Center, our CEO Cancer Gold Standard recognizing our commitment to the health of our employees and our Association of Community Cancer Centers (ACCC) Innovator Award for our palliative care program. As you read about our nationally recognized palliative care initiative, you will learn about the dedicated and passionate people who are committed to easing pain and suffering in our patients and their families.

Another major focus for us is community wellness, prevention and the early detection of cancer. Through Cancer LifeNet and our community outreach, we try to identify social, economic, lifestyle and prevention strategies that can decrease the burden of cancer in Harford and Cecil counties. What if we could influence everyone to quit smoking, eat cleaner, exercise and manage stress? With our collaboration with the Maryland University of Integrative Health, we are taking a holistic approach in an attempt to tackle the root causes of stress, illness and disease.

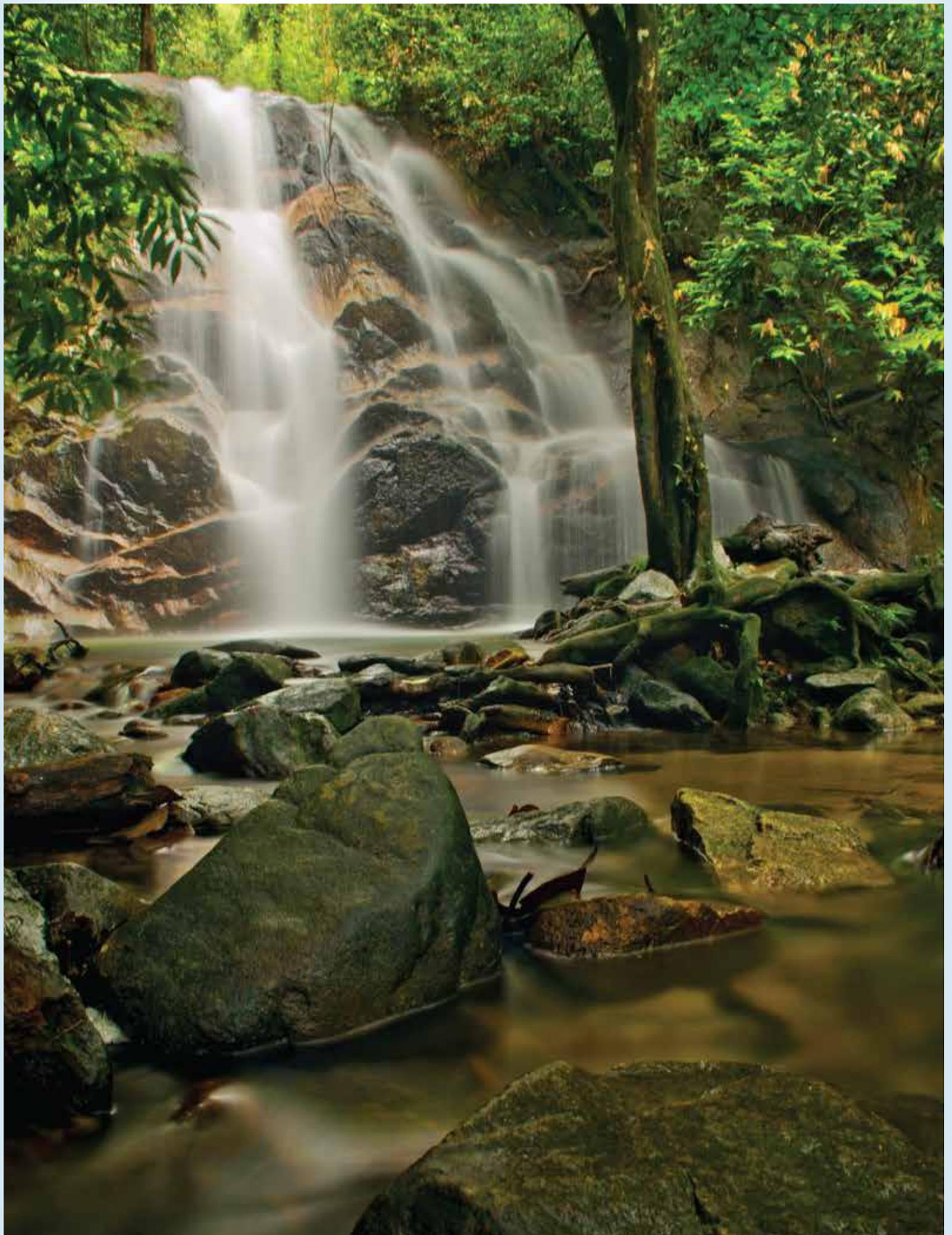
Finally, the Kaufman Cancer Center is affiliated with the University of Maryland Marlene and Stewart Greenebaum Cancer Center, one of a select group of National Cancer Institute (NCI) designated Comprehensive Cancer Centers. This successful partnership allows access to some of the world's best surgical and oncologic care, while at the same time enabling that care to be delivered close to home. It also allows access to radiation oncology experts at University of Maryland's state-of-the-art Maryland Proton Treatment Center. We are able to provide truly coordinated cancer treatment with real-time multidisciplinary tumor boards, genetic counseling, subspecialty surgical care and access to cutting-edge clinical research.

We encourage primary care providers to join us either in person or remotely during one of our multidisciplinary tumor board conferences if a patient of yours is in our care. It truly takes a team to bring hope and healing close to home. Please call 443-643-3003 with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Philip Nivatpumin'.

Philip Nivatpumin, MD
Medical Director
Patricia D. and M. Scot Kaufman Cancer Center
University of Maryland Upper Chesapeake Medical Center



AWARDS AND ACCREDITATIONS

| | |
|---|---|
|  | <p>The cancer programs at UM Upper Chesapeake Health are accredited by the American College of Surgeons. The accreditation means that a cancer center meets a national quality standard, establishes a framework for quality and improves patient care. UM Upper Chesapeake Medical Center is a comprehensive community cancer program and UM HMH is a community cancer program.</p> |
|  | <p>The American College of Surgeons accreditation by the National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers (NAPBC) is granted only to those centers that are voluntarily committed to providing the best possible care to patients with diseases of the breast. Each breast center must undergo a rigorous evaluation and review of its performance and compliance with NAPBC standards and, once accredited, must undergo an onsite review every three years.</p> |
|  | <p>The Breast Imaging Center at UM Upper Chesapeake Medical Center has been designated a Center of Excellence by the American College of Radiology. This designation signifies that our center provides breast imaging services to the community at the highest standards of the radiology profession.</p> |
|  | <p>NQMBC emphasizes processes, performance, specific metrics and patient satisfaction across diagnostics and multiple treatment disciplines, including outcomes. It identifies quality care measures, provides access to information submitted by other participants and allows breast centers to compare their performance with other centers across the country. The breast center at UM Upper Chesapeake Medical Center is a certified quality breast center.</p> |
|  | <p>This accreditation certifies that UM Upper Chesapeake Health is committed to providing a high quality lung cancer screening program that includes compliance with national standards on the most up-to-date practices for managing screening quality, radiation dose and diagnostic procedures. Our lung cancer screening program has been a center of excellence since 2014.</p> |
|  | <p>The lung cancer screening program at the Kaufman Cancer Center has been designated as a Lung Cancer Screening Center by the American College of Radiology. To receive this elite distinction, facilities must be accredited by the ACR in computed tomography in the chest module, as well as undergo a rigorous assessment of its lung cancer screening protocol and infrastructure.</p> |
|  | <p>UM Upper Chesapeake Health received the CEO Cancer Gold Standard accreditation, recognizing the organization's extraordinary commitment to the health of its employees and their families. To earn the Gold Standard accreditation, an organization must establish programs to reduce cancer risks by prohibiting tobacco use in the workplace, encouraging physical activity, promoting healthy nutrition and screenings and providing access to quality care, including participation in cancer clinical trials.</p> |
|  | <p>The Association of Community Cancer Centers Innovator Award honors cancer programs and centers that have developed and implemented innovative strategies for the effective delivery of quality cancer care. The Kaufman Cancer Center has received this award in recognition of its palliative care program.</p> |
|  | <p>Accreditation by the CAP signifies the quality of patient safety by ensuring excellence in the practice of pathology and laboratory medicine. It advances the quality of a facility's pathology and laboratory services through education and standard setting and by ensuring laboratories meet or exceed regulatory requirements.</p> |
|  | <p>The SAVI Center of Excellence award honors cancer centers that have reached the highest levels of care in radiation oncology. SAVI is an advanced form of radiation therapy used in early stage breast cancer that allows physicians to precisely target treatment where it is needed most.</p> |

PALLIATIVE CARE

BUILDING A PROGRAM FROM THE INSIDE OUT

Early intervention with palliative care leads to better quality of life and, in some cases, longer life.

Palliative care is specialized medical care that focuses on providing relief from the symptoms and stress of a serious illness. Palliative care can occur at the same time as all other care and does not depend on the patient's progress. Pain and other symptoms can affect the patient's quality of life, causing stress that affects the whole family. The goal of palliative care is to improve quality of life for both the patient and his/her family.

Overview: Palliative care is an essential part of oncology care, particularly in patients with Stage III and IV cancers, co-morbidities or advancing disease despite treatment. Because palliative care resources were once limited within the Kaufman Cancer Center (KCC) and the priority of the inpatient palliative care service was to the inpatient/community need, a workgroup was formed with a goal of doing a better job at early intervention with palliative care in an outpatient setting—and with limited resources. In essence, the group wanted to shift the focus from being *reactive* in the Cancer Center to *proactive* where palliative care is concerned.

Once the workgroup did an inventory of what was already available in-house and what could be improved upon, it concluded that three things would need to be implemented, including:

1. weekly Palliative Care Conferences, which utilize the existing treatment team and identify patients in need of palliative intervention at an earlier stage;
2. earlier Goals of Care Meetings to allow patients to express their wishes, goals and needs; and
3. development of Palliative Care Leaders from within.

Results: This palliative care model of care has led to improved outcomes, including fewer emergency room visits, reduced ICU admissions and end-of-life chemotherapy, and an increase in timely referral to hospice.

Since the program started in October of 2014, we've been able to improve end of life data metrics. We reduced the number of patients receiving chemotherapy within the last 14 days of life from 13% to 1%. We also significantly reduced the percent of patients that had more than one ED visit in the last days of life moving from 14% in Jan-Mar 2015 to 2% by Jul-Sep.

| | % received chemo in last 14 days of life (5.6-6.4%) | % with more than 1 ED visit in last days of life (8-10%) | % admitted to ICU in the last 30 days of life (8-12%) | % admitted to hospice for less than 3 days (27-35%) | % NOT admitted to hospice (65-85%) | % had an Advance Care plan |
|----------------|---|--|---|---|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 2014 (Oct-Dec) | 13% | 7% | 4% | 12% | 55% | 35% |
| 2015 (Jan-Mar) | 3% | 14% | 11% | 12% | 38% | 46% |
| 2015 (Apr-Jun) | 4% | 0% | 2% | 35% | 45% | 87% |
| 2015 (Jul-Sep) | 1% | 2% | 6% | 6% | 53% | 70% |

Other metrics are tracked as well, including: the proportion of patients receiving chemotherapy in the last 14 days of life, proportion of patients admitted to hospice and those admitted to hospice for less than three days, as well as those patients who had documented advance care planning prior to death. While outcome data parallels national benchmarks, fluctuations in the data are continually monitored to identify areas for improvement.

Perhaps most importantly, the Palliative Care Conference that has emerged from this program has provided a mechanism for the team to reflect on appropriate care options and reevaluate the goals of the individual in light of the current status of his/her disease. This patient-centered model is a continuous review process that focuses on the patient's values, beliefs, and wishes for end-of-life care.

Future Plans: Expand parameters for palliative care referrals to the Palliative Care Conference to include patients at any stage of cancer diagnosis who have significant co-morbidities. The Palliative Care Specialist team will be defining competency metrics so it is best prepared to act as consultants and mentors and assist physicians and team members in Goals of Care meetings.

PALLIATIVE CARE SPECIALISTS



Angela Poppe Ries, MD

A board certified internist, Dr. Angela Poppe Ries is the director for palliative care services at UM Upper Chesapeake Medical Center. In her role, Dr. Poppe Ries focuses on symptom management and helping individuals best understand their condition and choices for medical care. She received her Doctor of Medicine degree in 2004 from Duke University School of Medicine in Durham, NC, where she also completed her Internship and Residency in Internal Medicine in 2007. In 2015 *The Daily Record* named Dr. Poppe Ries as a recipient of its Leading Women Award, a state-wide recognition that honors women 40 years of age or younger for the accomplishments they have made in their career.

Focusing on what is important to patients and their families by having important conversations is an often overlooked skill. By embracing this idea and all the ideas of palliative medicine, the Kaufman Cancer Center is making cancer care that is much better for our community.



Venkata Parsa, MD

Venkata Parsa, MD is board certified in hematology, medical oncology, internal medicine and palliative care medicine. He focuses on colon and genitourinary cancers. Dr. Parsa received his medical degree from the All India Institute of Medical Services in New Delhi, India and completed his residency at Michigan State University College of Human Medicine. Dr. Parsa was fellowship-trained in hematology and oncology at Wayne State University School of Medicine

Instead of talking about treatment, treatment, treatment, we look at people from a holistic aspect. What is it that you really want? We listen and the patient talks. The fact that someone is actually listening to them and that they are driving the ship makes a big difference.



Diane Fitzgerald

Diane is the executive director of the oncology service line at UM Upper Chesapeake Health. She has primary oversight and responsibility of program planning and development, quality control, community education and clinical services for the Patricia D. and M. Scot Kaufman Cancer Center. Prior to joining the leadership team at the Cancer Center, Diane worked as a director with oncology programs for JFK Medical Center, Lake Worth, FL and as a manager with a large hospice organization in West Palm Beach, FL. She is currently on the board for the Senator Bob Hooper Hospice House.

We established an oncology palliative care program because there are certain points during the treatment of cancer that we could veer from being on the same page as the patient and family. We know there are more and more treatments and advances in care that could be offered, but do those advances offer quality of life? Only the individual being treated can define that. Meeting as a palliative care team helps us check in with each other to be sure we still have the same goals.

PALLIATIVE CARE SPECIALISTS



Michelle Abramowski, CRNP

Michelle received both her Bachelor and Master of Science in Nursing from Johns Hopkins University in 2003. In 2007 she obtained her board certification as a Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner. Michelle has worked in pain management at Maryland General Hospital, genitourinary oncology at Johns Hopkins Hospital, and palliative care/hospice at GBMC. Her interests include disease prevention through nutrition and clean living as well as palliative care and symptom management.

We really grew our palliative care program from the inside out and it is very much a testament to how important this was to all of us.



Patsy Astarita, LCSW-C, OSW-C

Patsy received her undergraduate degree in psychology and social work from the University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC) and her Master of Social Work (MSW) from the University of Maryland School of Social Work. She has served oncology patients for over 20 years in multiple settings including outpatient clinics, inpatient acute care, home care, hospice, and with community-based health organizations. As a current member of the Association of Oncology Social Workers, Astarita is certified as an Oncology Social Worker (OSW-C) and is currently the manager of supportive care, integrative medicine and community services at the Kaufman Cancer Center.

We're trying to move away from people hearing the term 'palliative care' and equating that with death. It's about living.



Pam McLaughlin, PharmD, BCOP

Pam is a clinical oncology pharmacist at UM Upper Chesapeake Health. She received her undergraduate degree from Towson University and her Doctor of Pharmacy from University of Maryland School of Pharmacy in 2002. She has devoted over 10 years to the field of oncology in the inpatient and outpatient setting and became a board certified oncology pharmacist in 2012. Pam has been employed as a staff/clinical pharmacist at UM Upper Chesapeake Health for 15 years.

Palliative care is about taking care of the patient as a whole, not simply the disease. For me it's about helping the patients enjoy and experience the most they can out of life, even as they face a serious illness.



Michelle Byers, LCSW-C, OSW-C

Michelle received her undergraduate degree in social work from the University of Maryland Baltimore County and her Masters of Social Work (MSW) from the University of Maryland School of Social Work. She was introduced to oncology care during her graduate degree internship and has worked in the hospital setting for the past 13 years—the last eight of which have been with the Cancer LifeNet program. As a current member of the Association of Oncology Social Workers, Michelle is certified as an Oncology Social Worker (OSW-C) and is currently the lead social worker in the Cancer LifeNet Supportive Care Program at the Kaufman Cancer Center. She is working toward her certification as an advanced certified hospice and palliative social worker.

It's so important for our patients and families to understand that palliative care does not mean they are giving up...but allowing them to remain in control of their care by making informed, well-educated decisions.

PALLIATIVE CARE

THE INNOVATOR AWARD AND WHAT IT MEANS

The Kaufman Cancer Center's submission, *Building a Palliative Care Program from the Inside Out*, which outlined the Center's shift from reactive to proactive palliative care, was selected as a 2016 Association of Community Cancer Centers (ACCC) Innovator Award winner. Recipients of this award include those that have developed and implemented innovative strategies for the effective delivery of cancer care. Our focus has always been providing comfort and pain relief and remembering that palliative care is about living.

Learn more by visiting umuch.org/palliative.



HARFORD AWARD

In September 2016, the Kaufman Cancer Center (KCC) received the Harford Award, Harford County Chamber of Commerce's most notable and respected honor. The Harford Award is given to organizations in recognition of their vision, values and determination to enhance the services available to people living in our community.

Statistically, nearly 1,250 Harford County residents are diagnosed with cancer each year—the second leading cause of death in the county—with the most common forms being prostate, lung, breast and colorectal. Even more alarming, the American Cancer Society estimates the number of cancer patients in Harford County will increase 28 percent by 2017. The typical cancer patient makes more than 100 visits for health care services in the first year after diagnosis.



Through our commitment to “hope and healing close to home,” people with cancer no longer need to travel hours away from home en route to medical oncology appointments or radiation treatments. Improved surgical options are available locally, as well, with a fellowship-trained breast surgeon, thoracic surgeon, GYN oncologist and other specialists from University of Maryland Greenebaum Comprehensive Cancer Center. The Kaufman Cancer Center and its team of physicians and caregivers brings this care closer to home by offering the most advanced cancer therapies, state-of-the-art technology and enhanced supportive care services in one centralized location.



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hope and close t

1. Breast cancer support group | 2. Cancer LifeNet team | 3.
4. Head & neck cancer awareness | 5. Halloween at KCC | 6. F
8. Cancer Survivors Day | 9. Kids fo



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healing o home

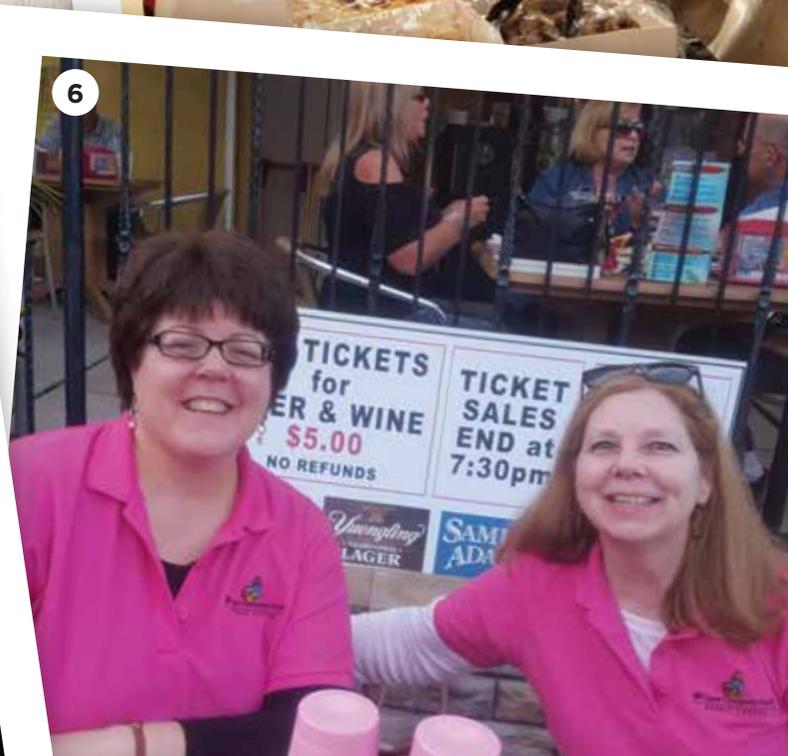
Breast cancer awareness at Clark United Methodist Church
First Fridays in Bel Air | 7. Gardening at Red Dress Pink Ribbon
for Hope | 10. Red Dress Pink Ribbon



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CANCER LIFENET

Sometimes the unknown can be the biggest fear for individuals when they receive a cancer diagnosis. And navigating the health care system while facing a serious illness can be an even bigger challenge. That's why the Cancer LifeNet program was developed. Launched in 2006, the Cancer LifeNet team provides patients and their families with the support they need to fight the disease, rather than wasting energy "fighting the system." Our team of professionals has an in-depth knowledge of cancer treatment and the emotional and financial resources available for people right here in our community. Supportive care services are offered free to all individuals with a cancer diagnosis, regardless of where they receive treatment.

A MILESTONE YEAR

The Chesapeake Cancer Alliance, in partnership with The Upper Chesapeake Health Foundation, founded Cancer LifeNet in 2006 and nurtured its growth to help patients and their families find the services needed to balance work, family and cancer treatment. In 2016, Cancer LifeNet celebrated its 10 year anniversary. Through support groups, educational programs or just being nearby to talk, listen and provide comfort, it is an incredible group of experts that makes a difference in the lives of our patients every day.



Cancer LifeNet team

A LIFELINE OF SUPPORT

Our Cancer LifeNet team cares not only for the patients, but for their families, as well. We are here to support you at diagnosis and during treatment. Our services continue during long-term survivorship or at end of life... wherever your journey leads you.

Patsy Astarita, LCSW-C, OSW-C, Manager of Supportive Care and Community Services

The dedicated volunteers of the Chesapeake Cancer Alliance are committed to supporting the services and programs of Cancer LifeNet. This one-of-a-kind organization in the state of Maryland—Cancer LifeNet—provides invaluable assistance to our community cancer patients and their families.

Sandy Guzewich, Board of Directors, The Upper Chesapeake Health Foundation, and President, Chesapeake Cancer Alliance

Cancer LifeNet is a safety net for cancer patients and their loved ones. It provides much needed support through a journey that, unless you've been a cancer patient, you don't realize how deeply will affect you. Cancer LifeNet is the helping hand to take you through that journey.

Kitty Pickett, Cancer Survivor and Founding Chesapeake Cancer Alliance President

CANCER LIFENET

CANCER LIFENET OFFERINGS

Support Groups:

- Blood Cancer
- Breast Cancer
- CLIMB® - Children's Lives Include Moments of Bravery
- Head and Neck Cancer
- Healing Through Support
- Prostate Cancer

Educational Programs:

- Fresh + Local = Health
- Health and Wellness for the Newly Diagnosed Breast Cancer Patient
- Healing Through Support
- Laugh Club
- Look Good, Feel Better
- Meditation Classes
- Mindfulness-based Stress Reduction
- Stay Fit and Active Through Your Cancer Journey
- Tobacco Cessation
- Zentangles



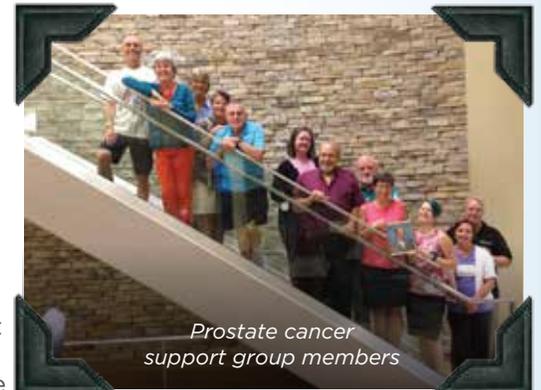
Support group paint night

Cancer LifeNet services are sponsored by The Upper Chesapeake Health Foundation, the Chesapeake Cancer Alliance and private donations from our community. Our goal is to encourage our community to keep Cancer LifeNet funded today and well into the future. To make a gift, visit uchfoundation.org.

PROSTATE CANCER

After skin cancer, prostate cancer is the most frequently diagnosed cancer among men. It often shows no warning signs or symptoms and screenings are generally the only way to detect it in its earliest stages. In many instances it can be successfully treated, with over two million men in the U.S. able to proudly say they are prostate cancer survivors.

Celebrating its 10th year in existence, the monthly prostate cancer support group at the Kaufman Cancer Center boasts a steady and robust attendance. Considered a 'couples disease,' prostate cancer and its side effects can have a profound impact on a couple's relationship; therefore, meetings are open to both men and their partners. What the group does best is embrace newly diagnosed men who are still making decisions about their treatment options. It also offers a safe place for newcomers to share what they are experiencing and hear how others have managed the disease and its treatments.



Prostate cancer support group members

In July 2016, the group saw one of its members enroll in a hospice facility. It was the first time one of their own required end of life care. The close-knit group came together and set up a schedule to visit their friend, sent him notes and cards, and even created a 'thinking of you' video message. The camaraderie in the group is real.

MUIH PARTNERSHIP

The Kaufman Cancer Center (KCC) is proud that its patient-centered care model emphasizes a holistic approach to cancer treatment. Holistic care links the body, mind and spirit together and strives to achieve optimal health. Through our partnership with Maryland University of Integrative Health (MUIH), an academic institute for integrative health and natural medicine, our patients have access to alternative or complementary treatments such as acupuncture, yoga, supportive nutritional counseling and relaxation techniques.



The innovative collaboration allows MUIH graduate student interns to practice with physicians, nurses and other health providers at UM Upper Chesapeake Health to develop and offer an integrative medical standard. Patients at the KCC have the opportunity to experience a wide range of natural approaches to health and healing in which the individual is at the very center of his or her healing experience with increased choices for care.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH EVENTS

The Kaufman Cancer Center provides multidisciplinary cancer care, integrative therapies, state-of-the-art technology, a highly trained group of physicians and clinical experts all in a close-to-home setting. That said, the KCC team knows that cancer and cancer care don't just happen inside of a building. They take place in our community, too. We hold many community outreach events throughout the year and are never far from those who need our support.

Cancer Community Outreach events include:

- SMART Girls – teaching young girls ways to stay healthy and help prevent cancer
- Red Dress Pink Ribbon – a community event educating women on heart disease and breast cancer prevention
- ‘What is the Environmental Impact on Cancer Risk?’ – presented by Philip Nivatpumin, MD, medical director at the KCC
- National Cancer Prevention Awareness week at UM Upper Chesapeake Health’s two hospitals
- Colorectal Cancer Awareness Education and Screenings at Harford County Senior Centers
- Breast Cancer Survivor Retreat
- Oral Cancer Screenings
- Amanda Hichkad Chesapeake Cancer Alliance Celebration Walk
- There Goes My Hero – a bone marrow donation drive
- ‘The Changing Face of Head and Neck Cancer’ – presented by V. Dixon King, MD, chair of pathology at UM Upper Chesapeake Health
- Skin Cancer Screenings
- ‘Here Comes the Sun: The Importance of Sun Safety and Vitamin D’ – presented by Sankari Sivasailam, MD, medical director of women’s oncology services
- American Cancer Society Relay for Life
- National Cancer Survivors Day
- Community Health Fairs
- Kids for Hope – the ultimate obstacle where kids can get muddy and raise money for Cancer LifeNet
- Cruise for a Cause – a motorcycle fundraising in support of Cancer LifeNet
- Healthy Harford Day
- Breast Cancer Awareness month at UM Upper Chesapeake Health’s two hospitals
- Aberdeen Think Pink 5K Run/Ride
- Health and Skin Cancer Screenings at Cedar Lane Park
- Lung Cancer Awareness Education

UM MARLENE AND STEWART GREENEBAUM COMPREHENSIVE CANCER CENTER

The Kaufman Cancer Center's formal affiliation with the Marlene and Stewart Greenebaum Comprehensive Cancer Center (UMGCCC) means local access to clinical trials, the highest quality radiation oncology program, genetic testing and counseling and our joint Tumor Board. This level of collaboration provides recommendations on treatment based on consensus opinions with consultation from colleagues in other specialty areas. When a patient requires more complex care and coordination, our partnership with UMGCCC means faster access to that care. The vision has always been to provide a community-based, healing environment that fully integrates the high quality clinical and research programs of our partners at UMGCCC.



CLINICAL TRIALS

Another significant benefit to the KCC's affiliation with the Greenebaum Comprehensive Cancer Center is the local access to clinical trials it affords our patients. Clinical trials may test new drugs, new approaches to using existing treatments or newly developed methods of treatment. Physicians and the clinical team conduct clinical trials to determine:

- whether a newly developed treatment is safe and effective for cancer patients,
- how the new treatment is best administered, and
- whether the new treatment is better than other treatments.

Our research team carefully screens all new oncology patients and attends tumor board meetings to identify individuals who may potentially benefit from a study.

From head and neck, colon and breast cancer to cancers of the lung, lymph nodes and prostate, the number of clinical trials available at our Center continues to grow. For an updated status, contact our clinical research nurse at 443-643-1029.

RADIATION ONCOLOGY

Providing comprehensive care for patients, while advancing the future of cancer treatment.

At some point during cancer treatment, nearly two-thirds of patients will receive radiation therapy, either alone or combined with chemotherapy or surgery. Thanks to exciting advancements in technology, the level of precision with which a tumor can be treated by radiation has increased dramatically. Newer stereotactic treatment delivery methods can take much less time, as concentrated high-dose radiation is delivered directly to the tumor with extreme precision.

UM MARLENE AND STEWART GREENEBAUM COMPREHENSIVE CANCER CENTER

Even very tiny tumors can be treated with much less damage to the surrounding normal tissue, causing fewer side effects for patients.

The radiation oncology program at the KCC is directed by highly trained experts from the University of Maryland Department of Radiation Oncology. These specialists have actually helped to develop much of the technology used in the Center, allowing our team to handle even the most advanced or complex cases. Our experts work as part of a multidisciplinary team, along with medical, surgical and other oncology specialists, to deliver a comprehensive and customized treatment plan for every patient. This coordinated team approach gives individuals access to the widest possible range of treatment options, including the most advanced, state-of-the-art radiation therapies, and the best chance for a successful outcome.

Radiation Oncology Research: Congratulations to Mark Mishra, MD

The American Society for Radiation Oncology (ASTRO) Comparative Effectiveness Research Award provides \$50,000 annually for two years to two researchers who will conduct comparative effectiveness research examining radiation oncology treatment. Dr. Mark Mishra, Assistant Professor of Radiation Oncology at UM School of Medicine in Baltimore and the Kaufman Cancer Center in Bel Air, has been selected as one of the two awardees. Dr. Mishra will compare patient reported outcomes to determine if the use of IMRT compared to 3D CRT can result in a reduction in patient-relevant side effects after prostate radiation. ASTRO selects seven leading physician-researchers to receive a total of \$675,000 in awards and grants to advance radiation oncology research. The seven funding grants support studies in radiation and cancer biology, radiation physics, translational research, health services research, and comparative effectiveness research as it pertains to radiation oncology.



Radiation oncology therapist team

GENETIC TESTING

The UM Marlene and Stewart Greenebaum Comprehensive Cancer Center supports our program with certified genetic counselors who have extensive experience in their field. Their specialized training allows them to assist patients and their families with decisions regarding testing and how to best manage the results. Certified genetic counselors are available at the KCC in person and by video teleconference.

Genetic testing is generally recommended if the patient has:

- multiple relatives with breast, ovarian, colorectal, pancreatic and/or uterine cancer,
- family members with cancer diagnosed at an early age, generally before age 50,
- one or more relatives with a gene mutation identified by genetic testing,
- family history of rare cancers, such as male breast cancer, or
- a history of breast or ovarian cancer with an Eastern European Jewish (Ashkenazi) ancestry.

Comprehensive Cancer Center: Recognizing Strides in Cancer Care

The KCC is proud to be affiliated with the University of Maryland Marlene and Stewart Greenebaum Comprehensive Cancer Center (UMGCCC). UMGCCC is one of fewer than 50 cancer centers in the country to be designated a “Comprehensive Cancer Center” by the National Cancer Institute. The prestigious distinction recognizes the cancer center’s high caliber of scientific leadership and robust programs in basic, clinical and population science research, placing it in the top tier of cancer centers nationwide.

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE AN NCI-DESIGNATED COMPREHENSIVE CANCER CENTER

- Ability to offer leading-edge cancer treatments, some of which are only available through the UM Cancer Network
- Some of the world’s leading cancer researchers and physicians, some of whom have invented or discovered new treatments
- New and improved therapies, including a growing group of immunotherapy options
- More clinical trials to give patients access to treatment options they would not otherwise have
- Continuous advancements and discoveries leading to better cancer prevention and care

Through our affiliation with UMGCCC, our patients have access to national experts, the latest treatments, frontline technologies and promising clinical trials – Hope and Healing, Close to Home.

PATIENT AND FAMILY ADVISORY COUNCIL

Reflections On Our Beginning

The Kaufman Cancer Center (KCC) Patient and Family Advisory Council (PFAC) was established in September 2015 to help ensure quality care and improved communications between health care professionals and patients and their families. It is a working committee that meets regularly and assists with addressing suggestions and concerns promptly. The PFAC is fully dedicated to the patient and family experience.

Activities And Events

PFAC members are involved in many annual events:

- Presentations to Cancer LifeNet support groups
- Support of the Festival of Trees event during the holidays
- Holiday Spirit project: visited patients and family members in the KCC
- Participation in community events and fundraisers
- Sharing in the annual Remembrance Ceremony

The Council addresses a variety of topics from housekeeping to parking and additional convenience services for KCC patients and families.

Evaluation And Looking Ahead

The Council's efforts and progress over the year have been significant. New member recruitment and new special projects will be a focus as it continues to help provide an environment where hope and healing are close to home. It is with much appreciation and gratitude that we recognize the Council members and KCC team members for their participation and contributions.

Council Members:

John Anthony
Joseph Bankert
Julie Chmura
Patrick Curran
Sandy Franz
Tom Frendak
Debbie Heath
Pat Kaufman
Robert Malloy
Bonnie Naef
Esther Showalter



PFAC members

KCC Team Members:

Diane Fitzgerald, Executive Director
Patsy Astarita, Manager, Supportive Care and Community Services
Linda Pytel, Administrative Assistant

HOPE AND HEALING CLOSE TO HOME

Through the combined efforts of The Upper Chesapeake Health Foundation and its Chesapeake Cancer Alliance (CCA) volunteers, Cancer LifeNet was founded in 2006 to provide nurse navigation and supportive care programs and services to individuals diagnosed with cancer and their loved ones. In 2016, more than 1500 patients and their families and friends will be served by this critical program.

The programs offered by Cancer LifeNet are fully funded by charitable gifts made to The Upper Chesapeake Health Foundation. Through the gratitude, love and generosity of individuals, organizations, community partners, fundraising events and the continued support of the CCA volunteers, Cancer LifeNet provides care, comfort and hope to patients and their loved ones in the fight against cancer.

Each year The Upper Chesapeake Health Foundation raises hundreds of thousands of dollars to provide these vital services free of charge. Donors and their families often choose to support Cancer LifeNet through restricted gifts made to The Foundation's Annual Giving Campaign or by joining The Archer Society, a planned giving society. All gifts are tax-deductible and support UM Upper Chesapeake Health's community health care mission.

Several annual fundraising activities held throughout the year encourage grateful patients, families, Kaufman Cancer Center team members, physicians and the community at large to celebrate Cancer LifeNet while raising funds for its existence.

Highlighted community fundraising events include:

- Starnight, The Foundation's biennial gala, which celebrated the 10th anniversary of Cancer LifeNet on October 1. Attended by 850 guests, Starnight raised more than \$1 million in support of cancer care right here in our community.
- The third annual Amanda Hichkad CCA Celebration Walk held on April 30 raised \$125,000 from the efforts of more than 2,000 participants.
- The fourth annual Kids For Hope mud run and obstacle course held on September 10 hosted over 700 local kids ages 7 to 18 at the Arena Club in Bel Air, raising \$45,000 for Cancer LifeNet.
- Community partners continue to embrace Paint the Town Pink, a county-wide cancer awareness and fundraising campaign held each October.



"I am amazed at how many of our fundraising goals were surpassed this year. Gratitude, love and generosity are the hallmarks of a great community and we have those in abundance."

Jay Young, Esq., Chairman, Board of Directors, The Upper Chesapeake Health Foundation



Kitty Pickett, founding President of CCA, receives an award for her visionary leadership from Lyle Sheldon, President and CEO of UM Upper Chesapeake Health at the 2016 Starnight Gala.



Team captains of the third annual Amanda Hichkad CCA Celebration Walk come together for a group photo.



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