

2004 ADVISORY GROUPS

The NJCCR has been fortunate in being able to work with a large number of health professionals, researchers, policy makers, and advocates from throughout New Jersey as part of its Advisory Group structure. Many people have given generously of their time and expertise to contribute to the work of the Commission.

ADVISORY GROUP HIGHLIGHTS

- The **Basic Research Advisory Group** to the NJCCR continues to develop innovative strategies for communicating the value of basic research with the public. A program implemented in 2002, “Sharing Perspectives in Biomedical Research”, provided outstanding high school students to experience an actual scientific symposium, similar to those attended by active investigators.
- The **Breast Cancer Research Advisory Group** is busy planning and implementing the 2003 Advances in Breast Cancer Research Symposium that will be held as part of the 2003 Annual Retreat on Cancer Research, June 11, 2003 at the Princeton Westin. Dr. Joe Gray, University of California, San Francisco, Dr. Mina Bissell, Lawrence Berkley Laboratory, California, and Dr. Harry Bear, Medical College of Virginia are scheduled to speak. In addition, the Breast Cancer Advisory Group, along with New Jersey artists, created educational Breast Cancer Note Cards and is working towards publishing a 2004 Breast Cancer Research Calendar.
- The **Cancer Control and Prevention Advisory Group** embarked on a project that addresses the role of nutrition and cancer. This study will provide the baseline information needed to coordinate efforts in this area and develop more efficient statewide nutrition and cancer programs by identifying overlapping services and underserved populations.
- The **IMPACT NJ Advisory Group** seeks to reduce the barriers to enrollment in cancer clinical trials by addressing myths and building trust within communities. They will work with community leaders, research institutions, voluntary health care organizations and faith based groups to develop and implement a major educational initiative that will increase the amount of eligible patients to be enrolled in clinical trials. A particular focus will be in minority and medically underserved populations.
- The **New Jersey Pediatric Hematology Oncology Network (NJPHON)** is focusing on cancer survivorship and long-term effects of childhood cancers. Dr. Beverly Ryan chaired a roundtable on reproductive/sexuality problems in young adult survivors of childhood cancer in 2002. A report for primary care physicians was mailed to doctors throughout NJ explaining the findings from the event. Additional roundtables are planned for the future.
- The **Joint Psychosocial & Nursing Advisory Group** hosted a very successful conference in 2002 called “*Demystifying Oncology Research: The Journey from Clinician to Educated Research Consumer and on to Investigator.*”

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