

Your link to the latest news on research, treatment, prevention and education from the state's only National Cancer Institute - designated Comprehensive Cancer Center

The Cancer Institute of New Jersey (CINJ) Network of Hospitals Helps to Move Cancer Data Collection Standards Forward

Measuring up, managing data, and moving quality initiatives forward. Those key elements were the focus during the National Cancer Registrars Association 37th Annual Conference, a national meeting of experts who collect, manage and analyze cancer data. CINJ Network Director Molly Gabel, MD was invited by the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer (CoC) to share her expertise participants during the conference. With advancements in technology, healthcare professionals are engaging in more precise ways to utilize cancer data and to identify mechanisms to improve cancer care, while meeting the high quality standards for accreditation by the CoC. Helping to further shape nationwide data collection efforts and optimize how that information is used is CINJ's Network of hospitals. The CINJ Network was one of the lead entities invited by the CoC in 2009 to help steer a national initiative aimed at improving data collection on cancer treatment and creating a new quality assessment system entitled Rapid Quality Reporting System (RQRS) for use by health providers across the country. Dr. Gabel's presentation focused on how to utilize data to manage patient care and also improve care processes. And based on the CINJ Network model, she addressed how institutions can use such data to compare themselves to similar entities on local, regional and national levels so that they can identify areas for improvement.

The Cancer Institute of New Jersey Seeks Local Houses of Worship for Health Initiative

CINJ is inviting houses of worship in the greater New Brunswick area to take part in an expanded community health effort stemming from an initiative known as the Body & Soul program. Body & Soul 'Plus,' funded by a grant from Johnson & Johnson, focuses on unique ways to improve one's health through the promotion of nutrition and physical activity. CINJ has been working with the Body & Soul program since 2006 to provide important health information to local places of worship. Through the expanded program, CINJ will provide participating clergy with a tool kit designed to help them build awareness of healthier living within their congregations. Through regular meetings, these 'ambassadors' will be given resource materials, such as healthy recipes and exercise DVD's to share with congregants, in order to stress the benefits of increased fruit and vegetable intake and incorporating exercise into one's daily routine. Houses of worship also can receive technical assistance in designing a sustainable exercise program specifically tailored for the needs of their members. A healthy produce distribution program is also part of the effort, and participating congregations will be given information about locally-supported agriculture and the opportunity to bring fresh vegetables and fruit directly to the communities they serve. Houses of worship in the greater New Brunswick area that are interested in participating in the Body & Soul Plus program, can call the CINJ Office of Community Outreach at 732-235-9884.

Registration Open for Century for the Cure Bike Ride to Benefit CINJ

Registration is now open for the seventh-annual Century for the Cure bike ride, which takes place this year on September 10th at Camp Riverbend in Warren Township. Cyclists can choose the 100-mile, 80-mile or 40-mile route options or register as a "virtual rider." Virtual riders can collect donations and show their support without physically taking part in the one-day ride. Century for the Cure grew out of a passion for cycling held by Scott Glickman, who was treated at CINJ for stage four non-Hodgkin's lymphoma more than a decade ago. As a way of "giving back" to CINJ, Glickman gathered together a few friends and began the event in 2005. Since the ride's inception, more than \$625,000 has been raised for cutting-edge research at CINJ. Participants, virtual riders and volunteers can register online at www.centuryforthecure.com.