

Florida Cancer Control &  
Research Advisory Council (CCRAB)  
2012 Annual Report



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**MESSAGE FROM THE  
FLORIDA CANCER CONTROL AND RESEARCH ADVISORY COUNCIL CHAIR**


The Florida Cancer Control and Research Advisory Council, also known as CCRAB, is the state council responsible for advising the Legislature, Governor and Surgeon General on how to reduce the cancer burden in Florida. We monitor cancer trends and disparities, evaluate and promote effective interventions to help in cancer prevention, screening and treatment. We also develop position papers on cancer-related legislation and state policy issues.

CCRAB was established in state statute in 1979, and is governed by Florida Statute 1004.435. The Council is housed at, and administratively supported by the H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute, but operates as an independent group. Individual members are leaders in health care, education, cancer research and treatment, and Florida government, many of whom are cancer survivors. Membership also represents the totality of cancer stakeholder organizations statewide. The Council meets at least twice a year, has membership that is appointed by the Governor, President of the Senate, and Speaker of the House (for the legislative members) and is overseen by a Chair and an Executive Committee.

We greatly appreciate Moffitt Cancer Center's continuing support for the Council's operations and for allowing the Council to function as an independent advisory board. Additionally, we would like to acknowledge the assistance of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, through the Department of Health, for funds and facilitation.

Updated information can be obtained online at our website [www.ccrab.org](http://www.ccrab.org). For additional copies of this report, or any additional information about CCRAB and its activities, please contact the Council office.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. George, Jr.', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Thomas J. George, Jr., MD, FACP  
Chair

## Membership

### *Chairman*

Thomas J. George, Jr., MD, FACP

### *Organization Represented*

University of Florida College of Medicine

### *Executive Committee*

Eric S. Sandler, MD

Brian M. Rivers, PhD

Susan Fleming, BSN, MPA

Lance F. Grenevicki, DDS, MD, FACS

Gerald J. Robbins, MD

Dorothy F. Parker, MHS

Honorable Marti Coley

Honorable Eleanor Sobel

Association of Pediatric Tumor Programs

Moffitt Cancer Center

Florida Department of Health

Florida Dental Association

American Cancer Society

University of Miami Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center

Florida House of Representatives

Florida Senate

### *General Members*

Robert Cassell, MD, PhD

Irene Sullivan, LCSW

Zenesha Barkely, DNP, MSN, RN, CNE

Joanne L. Bujnoski, DO

Rose Marie Cossick

Michael E. Bolin

Rosemary Irene Sullivan, LCSW

Helen Lewis, CTR

Naushira Pandya, MD

Ellen M. Daley, PhD, BA, MPH

Pascal Jean-Pierre, PhD, BA, MPH

Gregory A. Hale, MD

Sharmine Dipnarine, APRN, BC, LMHC

JoAnn Carrin

Rose Marie A. Cossick

Jeffrey A. Bubis, MD, DO, FACOI, FACP

Cynthia M. Harris, PhD

Benjamin Djulbegovic, MD, PhD

Elizabeth A. Shenkman, PhD

James G. Schwade, MD

Bonnie Donihi (*pending*)

Robert W. Holloway, MD (*pending*)

Open

Open

Open

Florida Society of Clinical Oncology

Florida Society of Oncology Social Workers

Florida Nurses Association

Florida Osteopathic Association

General Public/Consumer Advocate

Agency for Health Care Administration

Florida Society of Oncology Social Workers

Florida Tumor Registrars

Nova Southeastern College of Osteopathic Medicine

College of Public Health, University of South Florida

University of Miami Miller School of Medicine

Florida Pediatric Society

Florida Department of Corrections

Representative of the General Public Acting Consumer Advocate

Department of Family & Children's Services

Association of Community Cancer Centers

FAMU Institute of Public Health

College of Medicine, University of South Florida

University of Florida Shands Cancer Center

Florida Medical Association

Florida Ovarian Cancer Alliance Speaks

Florida Obstetric and Gynecological Association

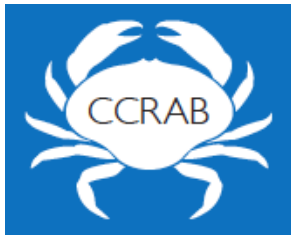
Florida Department of Education

Florida Hospital Association

American College of Surgeons

## **I. Executive Summary**

The Florida Cancer Control and Research Advisory Council (CCRAB) is the state Council responsible for advising the Legislature, Governor, and Surgeon General on cancer control issues. Those issues include, but are not limited to: preparing position statements on cancer-related policy, aiding in the development of grants and projects to reduce the cancer burden in Florida, and approving the Florida Cancer Plan. The Council is statutorily mandated to provide an annual report to the Governor, Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives and Florida Senate President. The following report will outline the happenings of the Council over the past year, including brief updates on legislation and budget allocations that were of importance to the all cancer stakeholders throughout the state, highlights from the activities of the Council's four Goal Committees, an outline for the Council's priorities for progressing forward in 2013, and a concise administrative update.











## **Summary of 2012 Accomplishments**

- Updated the State of Florida's Cancer Plan annual Priorities and Strategies. This document serves as an action plan for the Council's four goal committees.
- Supported the continuation of the Bankhead-Coley Research Initiative, which provides peer-reviewed research dollars to Florida cancer researchers, thus supporting and promoting cancer research advancements by state institutions and investigators for the benefit of all citizens.
- Continued ongoing communication with members of the Florida House and Senate in an effort to increase Council advisory role, while increasing the legislators' exposure to and knowledge of, cancer control issues facing Floridians.
- Supported legislation to expand the Florida Clean Indoor Air Act.
- Supported legislation to formalize the training and support community health workers (community cancer navigators).
- Supported legislation that increases awareness and education regarding ovarian cancer in Florida.
- Developed an active participation network between CCRAB and members of the Florida Cancer Plan Council (FCPC) to implement the prioritized goals and strategies of the 2010 Florida Cancer Plan.
- Increased communication efforts with Florida's Biomedical Advisory Council (BRAC) in order to build upon shared interest.
- Supported the Florida Cancer Data System expansion of patient outcomes reporting system into the ambulatory non-hospital based clinic environments.
- Facilitated letters of support to aid Florida cancer investigators and stakeholders on a variety of topics and policy.
- Provided the Surgeon General a CCRAB vision for a statewide infrastructure for clinical cancer care and research excellence, the Florida System of Cancer Care and Research (FSCCR).
- Convened General Council and Executive Committee Members on May 14, 2012 and October 15, 2012.
- Advised individual legislators, House and Senate healthcare committee members and staff, and the Surgeon General with regard to Florida's cancer burden and opportunities for improvements in prevention, screening, research, and survivorship within the State.

## II. Legislative Update

CCRAB supported the following legislative initiatives during the 2012 Legislative Session.

Bill/Sponsor	CCRAB Position on Policy	Bill Summary	Outcome
<p>HB 655/SB 616 Relating to Biomedical Research</p> <p>Rep. Marti Coley Sen. Anitere Flores</p>		<p>The bill adjusts membership appointment terms, amends statute language, and allows flexibility to BRAC for solicitation of any of the three types of grants each funding cycle. The bill deletes the public records and public meeting requirements. The bill consolidates duplicative annual progress reports produced by the King Program and Bankhead-Coley Program into one report. The bill requires that the progress report include: the state ranking received from the National Institutes of Health and recommendations to further the programs mission.</p>	<p>Approved by Governor on 3/23/12</p>
<p>HB 1073/SB 1350 Relating to Cancer Control</p> <p>(CCRAB Statute Revision)</p> <p>Rep. Marti Coley Sen. Eleanor Sobel</p>		<p>The bill proposed changing the name to cancer control and resource advisory council; provided a nominating committee to make recommendations for gubernatorial appointments to the council; amended and expanded membership by including categories of stakeholders; included administrative updates; continued approval and collaboration of Florida Cancer Plan.</p>	<p>HB 1073: Never heard in committee</p> <p>SB 1350: Died in budget *Bill was amended on to SB 1646, but died in Senate Budget.</p>
<p>HB 143/SB 746 Relating to Florida Clean Indoor Act</p> <p>Rep. Kathleen Passidomo Sen. Alan Hays</p>		<p>The bill proposed that municipalities and counties could authorize restriction of smoking on certain properties.</p>	<p>HB 143: Died in Community and Military Affairs Subcommittee</p> <p>SB 746: Died in Community Affairs (2<sup>nd</sup> stop)</p>
<p>HB 723/SB 886 Relating to Community Health Workers</p> <p>Rep. Geraldine Thompson Sen. Dennis Jones</p>		<p>The bill proposed specific duties and activities of community health workers; created a community health worker task force within a state college or university; required the Florida Department of Health to provide administrative support; outlined membership and duties of the task force.</p>	<p>HB 723: Died in Health and Human Services Access Subcommittee</p> <p>SB 886: Died in Health Regulation</p>

Bill/Sponsor	CCRAB Position on Policy	Bill Summary	Outcome
<p>HB 623/SB 1066 Relating to Cancer Chemotherapy Treatment Parity</p> <p>Rep. Jeannette Nunez Sen. Rene Garcia</p>		<p>The bill proposed that individual or group insurance policies and health maintenance contracts are required to provide coverage for cancer chemotherapy treatment to provide at least equally favorable coverage for prescribed, orally administered anti cancer medications. The bill also specified that compliance with requirement may not be achieved by increasing policy or contract copayments, deductibles, or coinsurance amounts applicable to intravenously administered or injected anti cancer medications.</p>	<p>HB 623: Died in Health and Human Services Quality Subcommittee</p> <p>SB 1066: Died in Banking and Insurance</p>
<p>HB 1043/SB 1044 Relating to Tanning Bed Facilities</p> <p>Rep. Elaine Schwartz Sen. Eleanor Sobel</p>		<p>The bill would have required that operator or proprietor of tanning facilities witness signing of written consent by parent or legal guardian of minor before the minor is allowed to use the tanning facility.</p>	<p>HB 1043: Died in Business and Consumer Affairs</p> <p>SB 1044: Died in Health Regulation</p>
<p>HB 1049/SB 1842 Relating to Surcharge on Cigarettes</p> <p>Rep. James Waldman Sen. Jeremy Ring</p>		<p>The bill would have increased surcharge rates applicable to packs of cigarettes containing various quantities of cigarettes of specified weights and lengths, and also would have required for certain amounts of the surcharge to be allocated into specified trust funds.</p>	<p>HB 1049: Died in Finance and Tax</p> <p>SB 1842: Died in Regulated Industries</p>
<p>HB 1051/SB 1116 Relating to Human Papillomavirus</p> <p>Rep. Charles Van Zant Sen. Thad Altman</p>		<p>The bill would have required DOH to add HPV to the list of communicable diseases for which immunizations are recommended; additionally requiring that schools provide parents or guardians of junior high ages public school students information regarding availability of HPV vaccine.</p>	<p>HB 1055: Died in Health and Human Services Quality</p> <p>SB 1116: Died in Budget</p>



## Funding Allocations for Cancer Control and Biomedical Efforts

The Florida Legislature allocated the following designations to cancer control and biomedical research efforts during the 2012 Legislative Session for FY12-13:

<b>King Biomedical Research Program</b>	<b>\$7,150,000</b>
<b>Bankhead-Coley Biomedical Research Program</b>	<b>5,000,000</b>
<b>UF Shands Cancer Hospital</b>	<b>7,500,000</b>
<b>UM Sylvester Cancer Center</b>	<b>7,500,000</b>
<b>Moffitt Cancer Center</b>	<b>5,000,000</b>
<b>Sanford-Burnham</b>	<b>3,000,000</b>
<b>Comprehensive Statewide Tobacco Prevention and Education</b>	<b>64,289,944</b>
<b>Mary Brogan Breast and Cervical Cancer Program</b>	<b>1,236,436</b>
<b>Minority Health</b>	<b>3,134,044</b>
<b>Rural Primary Care Residency Expansion</b>	<b>3,000,000</b>
<b>La Liga (League Against Cancer)</b>	<b>117,173</b>
<b>UF McKnight Brain Institute</b>	<b>500,000</b>
<b>TOTAL CANCER-RELATED ISSUES AND ACS PRIORITIES FUNDED</b>	<b>\$107,427,597</b>

### III. Goal Committee Update

The following will outline activities of the Council's four goal committees: 1.) Maintain Infrastructure and System Capacity, 2.) Prevention, 3.) Treatment and Access to Care, and 4.) Survivorship, during 2012 and planned activities for 2013. Each goal committee is representative of CCRAB, FCPC, and cancer collaborative network membership from throughout the state.

#### a. Goal I: Maintain Infrastructure & System Capacity

Goal I is a coordinated approach among public and private cancer control stakeholders to implement cancer activities statewide. The primary objective of this committee is to organize and improve statewide cancer care and research system capacity through integration of stakeholder infrastructure. As a start, reconfiguring the two major cancer councils in Florida, CCRAB and the Florida Cancer Plan Council (FCPC), into one united network of stakeholders and volunteers has been the early emphasis, however, with the development of the Florida System of Cancer Care and Research (FSCCR), new efforts are ongoing (see below).

In 2012 Goal I updated the priorities and strategies of the Florida Cancer Plan, to reflect strategies and priorities for 2012 – 2013. The committee also supported a statute revision for improved inclusivity of cancer stakeholders from throughout the State of Florida. Additionally, the committee considered an update to the bylaws to improve council function pending statute revision. In an effort to become more proactive with all participating stakeholders, the committee created an online form called, "How Can CCRAB Help Your Organization?" The intent of the form is to encourage organizations to reach out to CCRAB for support and recommendations. The committee developed a vetting process and rapid response system for provision of requests.

Moving forward in 2013, the Goal I Committee plans to develop a one page, district specific cancer report for members of Florida's Legislature, through coordination with the Florida Cancer Plan Council. The committee will be working with FCDS and DOH for final approval and format consistency with plans to deliver the one page document to Legislators for tailored district reporting of cancer cases and recommended interventions/policies. Additionally, the committee plans to support to and distribute information on FCDS Ambulatory Update and Webinars through the CCRAB website, FLASCO, FMA, FSGO, Cancer Collaborative Networks website, Florida Prostate Cancer Advisory Council, urologists, and dermatologists throughout the state. Moreover, the committee will invite a member from the VA to

participate for non-voting representation on CCRAB, invite a member from each of the six collaborative networks to participate in CCRAB meetings, and also invite leadership from BRAC to participate on CCRAB in order to ensure linkages between separate council goals/priorities.

**b. Goal II: Prevention**

The Goal II Committee has been active over the past year in cultivating a network of involved stakeholders from throughout Florida, who are dedicated to encouraging Floridians to practice healthy behaviors associated with reducing their cancer. The committee is focused on strengthening links with partner organizations to reduce the burden of tobacco, promote healthy weight, increase vaccination rates to prevent certain cancers, and continue to emphasize the danger of UV exposure in Florida.

Regarding tobacco efforts, letters were sent to all colleges and universities commending their tobacco free campus policies with associated press releases disseminated in cooperation with the Tobacco Program. Tobacco Grantees are working with their county Tobacco Free Partnerships to deliver the letter to university leaders despite the Tobacco-Free College and University Initiative no longer serving as a work plan option for tobacco grantees.

The committee has made strides in supporting the need for all middle school aged boys and girls to receive the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine. The committee has created a partnership with Merck, the Florida Pediatric Society, and Bureau of Immunizations in order to promote this message. This new relationship with the Florida Pediatric Society and Merck has provided an opportunity to support and identify opportunities for five regional physician leaders to educate on vaccine to both lay people and healthcare providers. In addition, the committee was able to promote HPV vaccination along with the back-to-school vaccine campaign with the Bureau of Immunizations and Office of Communications.

With regards to skin and sun safety, the committee worked to help Moffitt's Mole Patrol in 2012, by helping to identify volunteer healthcare providers to participate in Mole Patrol efforts. Additionally, the committee supported legislation that would have prohibited tanning bed use by minors under a certain age. In 2012, the committee focus on healthy weight included the Green Ribbon Schools initiative, US Health School Challenge, and CATCH/SPARK training for teachers.

Moving forward in 2013 the prevention committee will be splitting into four subcommittees representing tobacco, HPV, sun safety, and healthy weight. These subcommittees will meet monthly, while the entire committee will convene via conference call quarterly to continue to maintain momentum and coordinated efforts.

**c. Goal III: Treatment and Access to Care**

The overarching goal of Goal III is to collaboratively establish and maintain an infrastructure for Floridians to have access to appropriate health information and effective health services for the timely detection, diagnosis, and treatment of cancer. Moreover, the Committee is dedicated to improved cancer resource awareness and access for minority and disparate populations, and also increased cancer patient awareness of and participation in clinical trials. The primary objectives guiding the achievement of these goals include: a) improving access to care for minority populations through the utilization of Community Health Workers and Cancer Navigators; and b) promote measures to increase cancer screening for early detection.

Certain population groups in Florida bear a disproportionate burden of cancer incidence and mortality. Notable examples of cancer health disparities include the fact that Hispanic women are twice as likely to contract cervical cancer as non-Hispanic White women; and African men are twice as likely to die of prostate cancer as White men.; and African American women are least likely to be diagnosed with breast cancer, but more likely to die of this disease. Disparities exist in incidence and outcomes for many other cancer disease sites for specific population groups, which can be classified by gender, ethnicity, education, income, geographic location, or other factors.

Socio-economic inequalities in access to medical care account for a portion of this problem, as do cultural barriers to seeking screening services and follow-up care. However, since disparities in survival rates have persisted in many cases where screening rates had measurably improved, it is clear that other factors

need to be examined. Increasing the participation of minority populations in clinical trials is critical to examining possible genetic links, which may contribute to differences in cancer disease progression and development, as well as differences in response to treatment, among different populations.

With the aforementioned factors in mind, the Committee has been dedicated to addressing these issues. Through the priorities and stakeholders invested in this Committee, activities this past year included: a) support of the Florida Community Health Worker Coalition, b) identification of key stakeholders integral to the assessment and development of the capacity to develop a state Cancer Navigation Workgroup, and 3) support of the Regional Comprehensive Cancer Control Collaboratives. The next steps for the Committee include synthesis of the scientific evidence regarding patient navigation, development of a resource map for patient navigation, and examine tenets of sustainability of this model in clinical and community-based settings.

**d. Goal IV: Survivorship**

The Goal IV Survivorship Committee focuses on cancer control efforts to address survivorship. The committee members focused on several initiatives. In addition, the committee revised the prior goal strategies for 2012 -2013 to be:

- Improve record keeping systems and raise awareness of resources for cancer survivors;
- Promote the provision of treatment summaries and follow-up care plans

The committee designed and then later pilot tested a web-based software application that enables a cancer patient to request cancer treatment data through their respective treating facility. This project was implemented as an effort to address the 2012 American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer (CoC) standards will require the accredited cancer center to prepare a treatment summary for the patient; this standard must be met by 2015 for the cancer center to sustain their accreditation. This

initiative was spearheaded by the state's cancer registry, the Florida Cancer Data System in collaboration with Nemours Children's Hospital in Jacksonville. The results from this pilot project will be instrumental in assessing the feasibility of replicating these efforts in another cancer center.

The second initiative was to develop a cancer survivor brochure to help educate survivors and their loved ones, and to raise awareness on the importance of treatment summaries and follow up care plans. In March, the committee created "What Every Cancer Survivor Should Know" brochure which is readily available to institutions, organizations, and patients. Five sample copies of the survivorship brochure was disseminated to each of the state's 74 CoC accredited cancer centers accompanied by a cover letter signed by the Survivorship Committee chair and the CCRAB chair.

Thirdly, the Survivorship Committee held the Second Annual Survivorship meeting on May 15th, 2012 in Tampa, at the H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center. The meeting was facilitated by Ann Willis, Director of Survivorship Programs at the George Washington Cancer Institute. Speakers included Katherine Sharpe, National Managing Director for Prevention and Survivorship at the American Cancer Society who provided an update on the national efforts, Dr. Jill MacKinnon, Epidemiologist and Project Director at the Florida Cancer Data System who provided an update on the electronic medical record pilot project, and Dr Bogner and Dr Mary-Ann Morgan from Moffitt's Survivorship clinic on their efforts. This workshop included participants from across the state.

Lastly, the Survivorship Committee is identifying subject matter experts on survivorship and quality of life issues to be included in a statewide speaker bureau database for ongoing educational efforts.

## IV. CCRAB in 2013: Moving Forward

### a. Priorities

CCRAB is committed to helping Florida become a world-class destination for cancer care and biomedical research. CCRAB believes capitalizing on the major strengths already present in the state including world-class academic and private cancer research partners, a large population of patients desiring of state of the art cancer care, and cancer providers distributed throughout the state. By investing in statewide infrastructures which allows for high quality clinical cancer care and cutting edge biomedical research to synergize with the strengths already in Florida, we are confident that the burden of cancer can be reduced for all Floridians while simultaneously providing a foundation for scientific advancements that will benefit patients across the globe.

CCRAB recommends integration into the Florida System of Cancer Care and Research (FSCCR) by providing a collective vision that is inclusive, progressive, and deliberate in the pursuit to rid the state of cancer. The three primary ingredients required for FSCCR success are:

- 1. Cutting edge high quality cancer treatment across the state with publicly available outcomes**
- 2. Innovative high-priority cancer clinical research to rapidly advance beyond current standards**
- 3. Nationally recognized education and training for clinical and biomedical cancer workforce**

The emphasis of this vision relates to a robust statewide cancer care and biomedical research infrastructure upon which clinical outcomes will be measured and any relevant scientific question can be systematically tested and answered. When adequately organized and resourced, these ingredients will establish the State of Florida as a national model and international destination for cancer care and innovative biomedical research.

## b. Strategies

To meet this ambitious goal, the Florida Cancer Control and Research Advisory Council (CCRAB) recommends in relation to the ingredients required for FSCCR success:

### 1. **Cutting edge high quality cancer treatment across the state with publicly available outcomes:**

All Floridians throughout the state deserve the opportunity to achieve the best outcomes possible for their cancer. This includes not just survival, but also other important variables such as morbidity, quality of life, economic, disability and survivorship. In order for outcomes for patients to be optimized, adoption of best practice is required with ongoing and constant monitoring for achieving success relative to national benchmarks. CCRAB recommends that “**Cancer Clinical Centers of Excellence**” (CCCOE) be identified and defined as meeting each of the following key criteria:

- Fully compliant with national accreditation standards for cancer care including, but not limited to, the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer Accreditation.
- Active participation in therapeutic or prevention clinical trials (defined as having these available for patients and demonstrating active patient enrollment).
- Active participation in community cancer linkage through navigators and outreach efforts with particular emphasis on reducing cancer disparities in their local communities.
- Active reporting of all inpatient and outpatient cancer patient outcomes and longitudinal data collection through the Florida Cancer Data System.
- Active participation in a formal relationship between all CCCOE’s for further shared data collection and reporting/communications.

CCRAB recommends statewide acceptance and advocacy of therapeutic standards of care as defined by national cancer organizations including the National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN) and the Children’s Oncology Group (COG).



## 2. Innovative high-priority cancer clinical research to rapidly advance beyond current standards:

Florida can become a national destination for outstanding biomedical cancer research given the clinical infrastructure assembled through the FSCCR as well as the already established research programs within the state. The Biomedical Research Advisory Council (BRAC) currently serves as a non-partisan scientific group to identify outstanding science. Through the use of the BRAC, state cancer research priorities can be identified using requests for applications (RFA) on specific topics, themes, or subjects, including a focus on helping to develop the careers of promising young investigators. Quality science and innovation should continue to be supported, but with clear expectations of how it will foster further state growth or recognition as a cancer research destination. RFAs should prioritize state cancer needs in line with the Florida Cancer Plan, with particular attention to cancer therapy and infrastructure development at first, followed by cancer prevention and education. Linkage of the current academic clinical trial networks with additional regional clinical trial systems can significantly expand the communities into which clinical research can be applied and the number of Floridians whom can participate. Core facilities and infrastructure to conduct translational research can develop quickly in this fertile environment with the potential for shared data collection amongst the CCCOEs with statewide cancer tissue biorepositories annotated with clinical data. Such a statewide resource would provide tremendous leverage for acquisition of federal research funds, private/public partnerships, and new discoveries that would benefit Floridians before anyone else in the country. Such a resource and infrastructure would also serve as a catalyst for non-cancer related biomedical research into other diseases afflicting Floridians. CCRAB recommends that **“Cancer Research Centers of Excellence”** (CRCOE) be identified and defined as meeting each of the following key criteria:

- Institutions/facilities capable of providing translational research cancer discovery to the degree of supporting “core” biomedical research infrastructure for the FSCCR.
- Institutions/facilities capable of providing clinical trial organizational support as research network “hubs.”
- Active participation in novel cancer clinical trial development, deployment, analysis and reporting.
- Active demonstration of peer-reviewed biomedical research grant funding from federal or private industry collaboration.
- Active participation and fostering of master contractual affiliation agreements, central regulatory review board determinations, remote data safety and monitoring systems, and shared, non-competitive core biomedical resources to promote development of true statewide clinical trial network
- Active participation in a formal relationship between all CRCOE’s for further shared research data collection and reporting/communications

**3. Nationally recognized education and training for clinical and biomedical cancer workforce:**

The next generation of clinical providers and biomedical researchers is a key component of FSCCR longitudinal success and sustainability. The presence of several well-established nationally recognized academic teaching universities along with a robust state university and community college system allows the opportunity to organize and prioritize educational training. With a focus on STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) curriculum in the public school system, continued vocational development of these individuals to further foster the innovative goals of the FSCCR is not improbable. Partnerships with other health care professional service organizations including nursing, social work, public health, and dentistry can provide robust

educational opportunities in truly interdisciplinary training to meet the needs of our state patient diversity and tackle the complexities of cancer biomedical progress. CCRAAB recommends the following:

- Recruitment and retention of biomedical cancer research leaders/innovators.
- Establish educational standards and certification requirements for cancer navigators and non-credentialed research staff.
- Align FSCCR manpower needs with STEM Programs in the Florida College and University System.
- Communicate and distribute educational materials, standards, and professional life-long learning through the FSCCR network to maintain competencies and quality care.

Florida is uniquely poised to organize current care systems, collaborative partnerships and expertise in a statewide effort to provide excellence in clinical care delivery and biomedical research. By establishing a priority and infrastructure of resources for the FSCCR, the State of Florida will be a national model and international destination for cancer care and innovative biomedical research.

## V. Administrative Update

### **CCRAB Statute:**

No changes were made to the Council statute (Section 1004.435).

### **Membership:**

#### Officers:

- Thomas J. George, Jr., MD, of the University of Florida College of Medicine, CCRAB Chair
- Kimberly Buccini, CCRAB Coordinator and Administration
- Luke Ihnen, MS, CCRAB Liaison to Moffitt Cancer Center and the Florida Department of Health

#### Executive Committee Members:

- Thomas J. George, Jr., MD, Chair
- Honorable Marti Coley
- Honorable Eleanor Sobel
- Gerald Robbins, MD
- Eric S. Sandler, MD
- Lance Grenevicki, MD, DDS, FACS
- Brian Rivers, PhD
- Susan Fleming, RN, BSN, MPA
- Dorothy Parker, MHS

#### Goal Committee Leads:

- Goal I: Thomas J. George, Jr., MD, Chair
- Goal II: Susan Fleming, RN, BSN, MPA
- Goal III: Brian Rivers, PhD
- Goal IV: Eric Sandler, MD

### **Meetings:**

The entire CCRAB membership met on May 14, 2012, and October 15, 2012. The Executive Committee met the first Tuesday of every month over conference call. Goals I, II, and IV Committees meet regularly throughout the year.

## **VI. Conclusion**

The Florida Cancer Control and Research Advisory Council (CCRAB) is poised to lead Florida in the continual fight against cancer. Our staff and members are committed to a cancer-free state. With leadership from the Legislature, Governor Rick Scott, and the Florida Department of Health, CCRAB will work to achieve our strategic goals as part of the Florida System of Cancer Care and Research.

We greatly appreciate Moffitt Cancer Center's continuing support for the Council's operations and for allowing the Council to function as an independent advisory board. Additionally, we would like to acknowledge the assistance of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, through the Department of Health for funds and facilitation. Updated information can be obtained online at our website [www.ccrab.org](http://www.ccrab.org). For additional copies of this report, or any additional information about CCRAB and its activities, please contact the Council office.