

Arkansas Cervical Cancer Task Force
Regular Meeting (virtual)
July 17, 2025
Approved Minutes

Attending Task Force Members:

Dr. Sam Greenfield, AMDPA; Rhonda Brown, ADH – Cancer Prevention & Control Program; Krista Kirksey Thomas, ACS; Cindy Crump, AHA, Rhelinda McFadden, AFMC; Kenya Eddings, AMHC; Kim Wilmot, DHS Division of Medical Services; Dr. Amanda Deel, AAFP.

Absent Task Force Members:

Dr. Mike Riddell, AMS;

Other Meeting Attendees:

Miriam Karanja, ACC. Misty Smith, ADH – Cancer Prevention & Control Program

Welcome and Introductions

Dr. Sam Greenfield called to order the Arkansas Cervical Cancer Task Force (CCTF) quarterly meeting at 4:32pm. Dr. Greenfield recognized that there was a quorum to approve the April, July, October 2024 and January, April 2025 meetings' minutes. CCTF members voted to approve of all previous minutes that had not been approved.

Vacant Member Positions

The task force is actively seeking to fill vacant positions including a cervical cancer survivor, and representatives from the insurance industry, medical industry, and UAMS' College of Public Health.

- **Misty Smith** proposed Brittany Rose for the survivor representative role. Misty will draft a letter of invitation and reach out to Brittany to see if she would be willing to serve on the CCTF.
- **William Greenfield** will reach out to contacts at the College of Public Health to find a representative for the task force.
- **Rhelinda McFadden** will reach out to a couple of insurance carriers to find a representative to participate in the task force.

Member Updates

- **Dr. Greenfield** presented updates on cervical cancer screening, noting the draft recommendations from the U.S. Preventative Services Task Force that prioritize HPV vaccination over cytology. He also mentioned the introduction of self-swabbing tests for cervical cancer screening. Amanda Deel emphasized the importance of addressing follow-up care for patients with abnormal results, suggesting that future discussions should focus on this issue. Dr. Greenfield also informed the group about Dr. Lisa Bazette-Montabelli joining the Gynecology-Oncology division at UAMS, which will help alleviate the workload of existing faculty. Dr. Greenfield discussed the status of Operation Wipeout and plans for a meeting once Portia Knowles returns from leave. He highlighted conversations with Dr. Monique Spillman about the delays patients face in accessing care due to a shortage of

gynecology oncologists, emphasizing the need for insights from providers to improve outcomes.

- **Rhelinda McFadden** shared insights from a national webinar on cervical cancer measures stating that there are gaps in the data because gender misidentification is contributing to inadequate counting.
- **Kenya Eddings** reported on the AMHC's efforts in promoting HPV vaccination during events such as the UAMS Cancer Institute townhall meetings and back-to-school events. She also announced a radio education campaign in partnership with Dr. Marlene Battle of the Arkansas Pharmacy Association.
- **Kim Wilmont** mentioned that they are working on various maternal health projects including providing training for doulas and community health workers, focused on providing lactation support and education on high blood pressure.
- **Rhonda Brown** announced the successful awarding of a federal grant for the Arkansas Breast Care Program, which will enhance cervical cancer screening and diagnosis.
- **Krista Kirksey Thomas** shared that the ACS has released a social media toolkit for HPV awareness, which includes monthly content and is available in Spanish and English. She will share those materials and participants can use the materials without needing to credit the ACS.
- **Cindy Crump** mentioned the availability of newsletters for promoting cervical cancer initiatives. Cindy also announced a maternal round table on August 6th, co-hosted with a perinatal group, to discuss general maternal health.
- **Amanda Deel** highlighted her work with the Delta Population Health Institute, focusing on community engagement and healthy relationships for K-12 students. Amanda also mentioned their work partnering with family crisis centers.
- **Miriam Karanja** will send out a brief survey to poll interest in in-person meetings.

Agenda Items for October 2025:

- Approve July 2025 minutes.
- Updates on the Immunization Summit.
- Portia Knowlton will report on the progress of organizing a strategy meeting and an agenda for planning the Arkansas Wipe Out Program.
- An update on the latest cervical cancer data will be provided.
- Invite Dr. Monique Spellman to discuss how we can work together.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30pm. The next meeting is October 16, 2025, at 4:30pm via Zoom.

Cervical Cancer Task Force upcoming meeting dates for 2026 (3rd Thursday in January, April, July, and October).