

Detroit HealthLink for Equity in Cancer Care

Danny Inman, MA
HealthLink Specialist
dannyinman@lgbtdetroit.org
(313) 397-2127

Knoll Larkin, MPH
Project Manager
larkink@karmanos.org
(313) 576-9691

Hayley Thompson, PhD
Project Lead
thompsonh@karmanos.org
(313) 576-9734

Deirdre Shires, PhD
Project Co-Lead
shiresde@msu.edu
(517) 432-0087

Curtis Lipscomb
Community Co-Lead
curtislipscomb@lgbtdetroit.org
(313) 937-2127



What is **Detroit HealthLink** for Equity in Cancer Care?

Detroit HealthLink for Equity in Cancer Care is a region-wide coalition to address cancer-related needs in metropolitan Detroit. Started in 2016, Detroit HealthLink brings together community members, community-based organizations, and cancer researchers to develop research ideas as well as educational and service-based programs.

Why do we need **Detroit HealthLink**?

Cancer affects more people in the city of Detroit and Wayne County than most other parts of the state. This not only means that more people are diagnosed with cancer, but more people die from cancer. If community members and researchers work together, targeted research and programming can be developed to improve a wide range of cancer outcomes in our area.

Cancer Action Councils: The heart of **Detroit HealthLink**.

At the heart of Detroit HealthLink are the Cancer Action Councils: groups of community members and leaders who use their local knowledge to improve the lives of cancer patients, survivors, and caregivers. There are currently five councils, facilitated by our HealthLink specialist at four sites: 1) Voices of Detroit Initiative (VODI) Community Outreach Office (Conner Creek, Detroit); 2) Western Wayne Family Center (Inkster, MI); 3) Karmanos Cancer Institute (Midtown Detroit). 4) Arab American Community Center for Economic and Social Services-ACCESS (Dearborn, MI); 5) LGBT Detroit (Detroit, MI).

What do Cancer Action Council Members do?

Cancer Action Council members are asked to make a 6—24 month commitment and attend at least one Council meeting each month. During these meetings members will

- Learn more about the ways in which cancer affects Detroit communities.
- Gain skills in how to partner with cancer researchers to develop and fund projects and programs.
- Collaborate with cancer researchers on projects that can benefit Detroit communities.
- Set priorities for future cancer care research and funding.

There are two types of members: 1) core members who are fully involved in all meetings and activities over the entire period, and 2) associate members who may not be able to attend all activities but still want to be involved. **Core Cancer Action Council Members will receive a stipend for their time.**

How can I become a Cancer Action Council member?

Apply to join a Cancer Action Council by filling out an application available at: www.detroithealthlink.org.



CANCER INSTITUTE
Wayne State University

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