



# Karmanos Cancer Institute Cancer Advocacy Program (KCAP)



CANCER CENTER

At the Detroit Medical Center

Presenter: Mr. McKinley Walker, Patient Advocate

## KCAP Mission

The Karmanos Cancer Advocacy Program (KCAP) at the Karmanos Cancer Institute in conjunction with Wayne State University is dedicated to the prevention and cure of cancer. Our goal is to develop and promote a formal means for active patient advocacy; to facilitate cancer clinical trials awareness and accrual throughout local and state communities; and finally to provide a forum for cancer education with regards to the state of cancer prevention, screening, treatment, research, clinical trials, and survivorship.

## KCAP Membership

- Under leadership of Dr. Elisabeth Heath, Director Prostate Cancer Research Team
- 25 community members, survivors and caregivers
- Clinicians: Oncology, social work, internal medicine
- Researchers: epidemiology, basic science, communication
- Patient education nurses and coordinators



## Prostate Cancer Symposium

- Annually for 10 years
- Has grown to over 300 attendees
- Advances in prostate cancer research
- Promotion of clinical trials
- Advocacy at multiple levels
- Survivorship issues for all those affected by prostate cancer including patients, families, partners and friends

## Prostate Cancer Advocacy Summit

- September, 2017: Inaugural Summit in Detroit, MI in conjunction with the KCI Prostate Cancer Symposium
- September, 2018: Summit took place in NYC through collaboration between KCI and Weill Cornell Medicine, NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital, Columbia University Irving Medical Center and Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center.

## Personal goals

One of my concerns as a cancer awareness and research advocate For Karmanos Cancer Institute is the disparities in communicating information that is so essential for cancer awareness, research and education in our communities. The information highway run through our communities at the speed of light but in our urban and rural communities on and exit ramps. Cancer researchers, medical professional and advocates should work together to find solutions to these disparities.



## Advocacy Events

- September 2018 – August 2019
- Monthly KCAP advocacy training program
  - September 2018 Cancer Symposium
  - December 2018 Day at the State Capitol
  - April 2019 Day at the State Capitol
  - August 2019 Prostate Awareness Baseball Game
  - August 2019 Cancer Awareness Day at Harley Davidson
  - Participation in community health fairs and events



## Scientist-Advocate Partnership

- Research training program
- Review lay abstracts for DOD grant submissions and provide feedback to scientists
- Five research groups, each with two advocate members
- Advocates provide input on the impact of research projects on patients
- Review patient materials (brochures, consent forms, etc.)
- Dr. Eggly's study



## Future Directions

- Continued community outreach which includes seeking novel approaches to connect with populations most at risk
- Collaboration with National Advocacy Groups
- Continued lay abstract review
- Participation in current research projects
- Expand focus to include other cancers in annual symposium

