

Cancer Services Program Sustainability Plan (Jan 2012)
From the American Cancer Society and Coalition to Save Cancer Screenings
EVERYTHING YOU DO SUPPORTS “THE ASK”

It is very important that everyone involved in CSP sustainability be aware of the political landscape in which we are operating. We should all understand who is in charge and how to interact with various members of the Legislature and other stakeholders.

CSP staff/partners create the opportunity for advocates to make the “ask” (i.e. set up the meetings, identify media opportunities, write letters, cultivate clients for personal testimonials). CSP staff/partners are responsible for establishing an awareness of the Program with elected officials and other stakeholders and instilling a sense of urgency about the Program’s need in the community.

Advocates are responsible for delivering the “ask”, whether it be in the context of a legislative visit, signing off on a pre-written letter to the editor, working to prepare a client to deliver the “ask”, or in an interview with the media. The “ask” is the legislative request around Program funding.

Sustainability Messages for CSP Staff and Partners:

#1 - Cancer Screening saves lives. Detecting cancer early increases the chances of successful treatment and improves survival rates.

#2 - The CSP works diligently in this community to provide screening and early detection of breast, cervical and colorectal cancer to women and men in need.

#3 - Even with the passing of the ACA, New Yorkers will still need to be made aware of and assisted with obtaining high quality cancer screening, diagnostic and treatment services if we are to continue to have an impact on the high burden of cancer.

The “Ask”

We support the Governor’s proposed funding level of \$26.7 million for the Cancer Services Program in the FY12 Executive Budget Proposal.

The CSP needs adequate funding for recruitment, outreach, and case management in order to reach uninsured New Yorkers who are in greatest need of cancer screening.

Political Environment:

In 2012, Republicans hold a slim majority in the NYS Senate (Dems control the Assembly). Leadership and Chairs of committees that have particular interest in our issue are key stakeholders in our efforts.

Partners must educate themselves about the committees their legislators sit on, and what role they have on those committees (i.e. chair, ranker, etc). You should also familiarize yourselves with those in leadership posts.

NYS Budget Timeline:

Nov-Dec 2011: It is our job to instill a sense of urgency about the need for sustained CSP funding NOW so that our services are held harmless as the Legislature and Governor attempt to resolve the budget deficit.

JANUARY 2012: Governor Cuomo introduced Executive Budget Proposal on January 17, The Legislature will begin to negotiate the budget shortly thereafter. Sustainability meetings should continue.

FEBRUARY: Health Budget hearings are held, the Legislature and Governor continue negotiations. Sustainability activities should continue. District visits with all state legislators should be occurring.

MARCH: In order to achieve on-time budget, both Houses must issue “budget resolutions” by mid-month. These resolutions indicate each chamber’s position on funding items. District visits and communication with legislators must continue through March.

APRIL 1: FY 2011-12 budget is due.

For more information, refer to the CSP Sustainability Guide or your Regional Manager. Updates on the Sustainability campaign are posted at www.acscan.org/ny.