



CANCER CONSORTIUM

FRED HUTCH • UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON • SEATTLE CHILDREN'S

Office of Community Outreach & Engagement

2024 Year in Review

Community Action Network of Eastern Washington (CANEW)



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What Is CANEW?

The Community Action Network of Eastern Washington (CANEW) is a group of individuals representing community-based organizations working together to improve cancer health outcomes for residents in Eastern Washington. CANEW is facilitated by the Fred Hutch/University of Washington/Seattle Children's Cancer Consortium's (Consortium) Office of Community Outreach and Engagement (OCOE), based in Spokane.

CANEW members provide insight from their lived experiences and organizational roles to facilitate understanding of community-specific cancer prevention and control needs. As a group, CANEW highlights community feedback and priorities, shares resources, collaborates on projects to support sustainable health and cancer care programs, and builds capacity for community-driven research collaborations.

In 2024, CANEW met six times and welcomed eight presenters, including community members, community-based organizations, health organizations and agencies across Washington state. Read more about the presenters in the appendix at the end of this report.

If you are new to CANEW, welcome. We look forward to seeing you at a future meeting. If you have been part of this integral work this year, thank you!

Organizations that Participated in 2024 CANEW Meetings

Amend Health	Institute of Translational Health Sciences (ITHS) at the University of Washington
ASAP Translations	Lincoln County Health Department
Asians for Collective Liberation (ACL) Spokane	Manzanita House
Better Health Together	MultiCare Health System
Cancer Can't	NAACP Spokane
Cancer Pathways	Providence Health
Cancer Survivorship & Supportive Care Professionals Network (CSPN)	Rural Resources Community Action
Childhood Cancer Coalition	Southeast Washington Alliance for Health (SEWAAH)
Community Health Association of Spokane (CHAS)	Special Mobility Services (SMS)
Coordinated Care	Spokane Regional Health District (SRHD)
Eastern Washington Area Health Education Center (EWAHEC)	University of Washington (UW)
Feast World Kitchen	WA DOH Breast, Cervical and Colon Health Program
Genentech	WA DOH Comprehensive Cancer Control Plan
Gonzaga University	Whitman County Public Health
Greater Spokane Incorporated (GSI)	Washington State University Health Sciences
Innovia Foundation	YMCA Livestrong Program

2025 Meeting Schedule

In 2025, CANEW will meet four times a year on the fourth Thursday of the meeting month. See the schedule below. Meetings are hybrid, held in-person in the Spokane area and on Zoom. We also host an additional in-person networking event in July.

Our newly formed steering committee helps set the quarterly meeting agendas, calls attention to community priorities and supports projects for the broader group. The steering committee holds an additional planning meeting each quarter.

Join us! 2025 meeting dates:

- February 27, 10–11:30 a.m.
- May 22, 10–11:30 a.m.
- July 24, 10–11:30 a.m. (in-person event)
- August 28, 10–11:30 a.m.
- November 13, 10–11:30 a.m.



*Latina Health Symposium; Cooking with Mely Activity –
Spokane WA (October 2024)*

For more information

Send us an email, sign up for our monthly newsletter or check out our social media accounts:

✉ EndDisparities@FredHutch.org

🦋 [Enddisparities.bsky.social](https://enddisparities.bsky.social)

📄 [Bit.ly/OCOENewsletter](https://bit.ly/OCOENewsletter)

📷 [@EndDisparities](https://www.instagram.com/EndDisparities)

📘 [@FHUWOCOE](https://www.facebook.com/FHUWOCOE)

🎤 [Cancerhealthequitynow.libsyn.com](https://cancerhealthequitynow.libsyn.com)

Meet the OCOE Team

The Office of Community Outreach and Engagement (OCOE) works to improve health outcomes through authentic relationships, advocacy and collaboration. This includes facilitating community-based research, resource support and cancer prevention education informed by community-determined needs. The OCOE team works to build community partnerships across Washington state with offices in Spokane, Sunnyside and Seattle.

The Spokane OCOE office opened in 2022. We understand that communities know what they need and have the knowledge and expertise to implement solutions to address health inequities. Through the work of two community health educators, OCOE started bringing organizations together to talk about cancer prevention and improving health outcome strategies in Eastern Washington.



Daniel Padron

(he/him)

Community Health Educator,
Spokane, WA



Jessica Lopez-Ramirez

(she/her)

Community Health Educator,
Spokane, WA



Liz Tallent

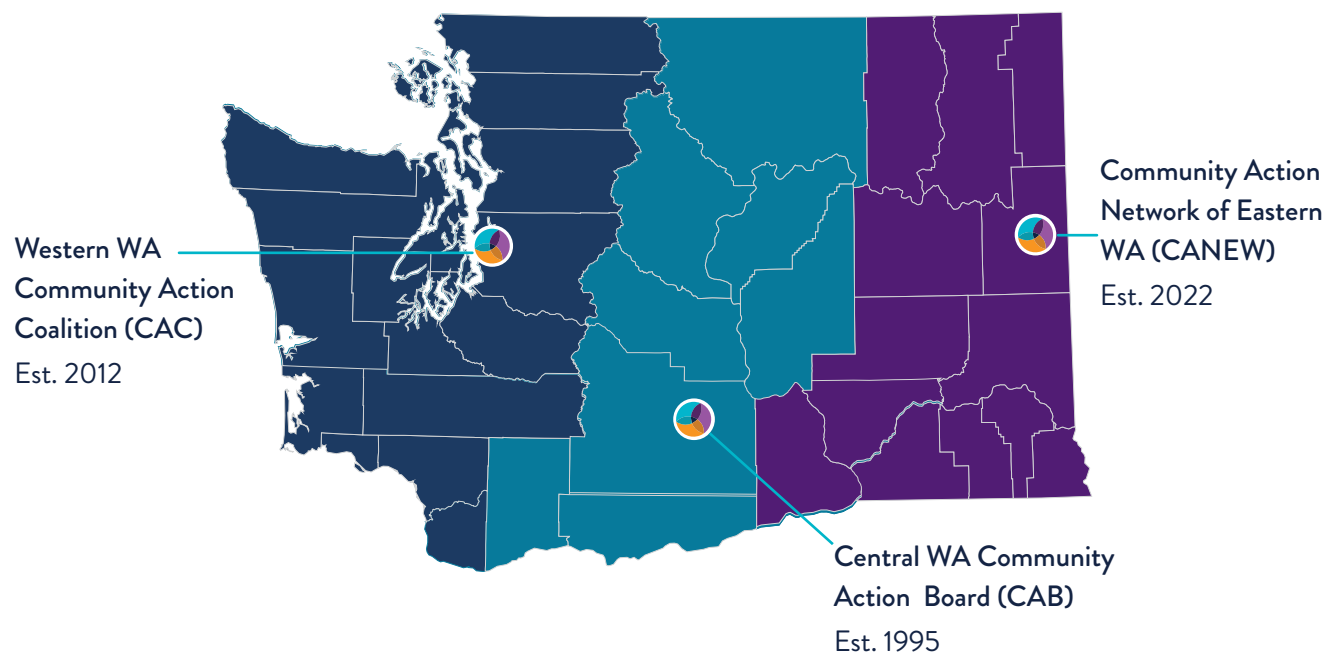
(she/her)

Community Health
Education Manager

Why CANEW?

CANEW provides a forum to share space, resources and knowledge to help move forward the work in our communities. It is also an opportunity to inform and advise the Consortium by highlighting and sharing priorities and feedback from eastern Washington.

CANEW is modeled after two other OCOE-facilitated regional coalitions, one in central Washington (Sunnyside, started in 1995) and one in western Washington (Seattle, started in 2012). When we come together, we find collaborative solutions and renewed energy to address the most important health issues facing our communities.



Latinos En Spokane 'Activa Salud' Cancer Session –
Spokane WA (February 2024)



SRHD Health Equity Team at CANEW event –
Spokane WA (July 2024)

CANEW Approach & Priorities



We aim to:

1. Build successful collaborations through community partnerships.
2. Create an environment where we can share space and knowledge.
3. Identify commonality of purpose while being critical, intentional and purposeful.

Our Approach

CANEW aims to be inclusive, authentic and transparent. We convene individuals and groups to share their experiences and insights on topics around health and cancer control and prevention.

We collaborate as partner organizations, working toward efforts that are community-driven, bidirectional and that center including everyone's voices.

Priorities Identified in 2024

- Learning about research with community engagement and input
- Identifying resources for cancer prevention and screening
- Supporting programming and events to advance health equity in our communities
- Sharing and using data and Health Assessments to inform programming

2024 CANEW Accomplishments

- Provided a consistent space for community members and community organizations to collaborate and share current work
- Identified CANEW member and community priorities for 2025
- Shared resources, events and collaboration opportunities, including an in-person resource-sharing event
- Provided community perspectives and interviews for the Consortium's 2025 Community Health Assessment report
- Asked questions and learned about research, including ways to be involved in research as a community-based organization or individual
- Established a CANEW Steering Committee

2024 Timeline

January

Presenters

- Spokane United We Stand
- Feast World Kitchen

Group Discussion: Identifying community priorities

May

Presenters

- Whitman County Public Health
- Better Health Together, Community Health Worker Program

Group Discussion: Asking questions about research and representation in clinical trials

September

Presenter

- Fred Hutch, Recruitment and Retention Shared Resources

Group Discussion: Engaging in research from a community-based perspective; factors affecting colorectal cancer screening; and treatment and outcomes in Northeastern Washington

March

Presenters

- Rural Resources Community Action
- Lincoln County Health Department

Group Discussion: Upcoming events and collaboration opportunities

July

- In-person resource sharing event at The HIVE
- Tours through CRAIG the Colon

November

Presenter

- Fred Hutch OCOE, Community Health Assessment

Group Discussion: Strengths, barriers and resources impacting health in Eastern Washington communities



Unity in the Community – Spokane WA
(August 2024)



Latina Health Symposium; Navigating Health
Systems Panel – Spokane WA (October 2024)



Rural Resources at CANEW event –
Spokane WA (July 2024)



NW Sarcoma Foundation Dragon Slayer Walk to
end Sarcoma – Spokane WA (September 2024)



WSHPA Conference CHE Dinner –
Yakima, WA (October 2024)



The NATIVE Project; Trunk or Treat –
Spokane WA (October 2024)

Appendix: Presenter Information



Carey Gohlke-Falk is the director of community collaboration for the Lincoln County Health Department. She received her BA at Whitworth University and her MA in organizational leadership and communication at Gonzaga University in Spokane. Carey found her niche in health care communications and spent 13 years at Lincoln Hospital and Clinics as their director of communications. After working closely with the Lincoln County Health Department, she jumped at the opportunity to serve her community from a more global prevention perspective and joined their team in January 2023. Her work involves community outreach, partner collaboration, prevention programs and assessment.

Lincoln County Health Department supports the health and well-being of Lincoln County community members through public health efforts. They focus on education to empower community members to make the best decisions for their health. They also provide resources, connection, support and services, which furthers this focus. They are located in Davenport, Washington, and serve all of Lincoln County. You can learn more at co.lincoln.wa.us/public-health.



Carrie Nass, MPH, is the Fred Hutch community benefit manager, having started in this role in September 2024. Nass brings a passion and wealth of experience in community engagement, strategic leadership and operational management alongside a vast background in public and community health research and interventions. She has successfully led large teams through critical transitions and developed innovative solutions for public service delivery. Nass will be working closely with teams throughout Fred Hutch and the community to drive initiatives that track and improve health access and decrease health disparities. Having previously worked at Fred Hutch earlier in her career,

Nass chose to rejoin Fred Hutch for its dedication to health care innovation, strong sense of community and collaborative environment.

Community Benefits is part of Fred Hutch Cancer Center's Office of Community Outreach and Engagement. As a tax-exempt nonprofit hospital, Fred Hutch is required to report community benefit activities and related expenses to the IRS and Washington State Department of Health every year, create and share Community Benefit Annual Reports, and develop Community Health Assessments and corresponding Community Benefit Implementation Plans every three years. A community benefit is a program, service or activity that addresses an identified health-related community need, and meets at least one of these objectives:

- Improves access to health services
- Enhances the health of the community
- Advances medical or health knowledge through education or research
- Relieves or reduces the burden of government or other tax-exempt organizations to improve health

You can learn more at fredhutch.org/en/about/about-the-hutch/community-benefit.html.



Cheri Petersen (Previously with Rural Resources) has been a champion for health improvement for more than fifteen years. She is passionate about advancing health equity, individual empowerment, and rural health improvement through education and client-centered strategies. Cheri has a proven track record of building successful community-based teams that collaborate and innovate across fluid environments to create partnerships that bridging culture and language in rural and marginalized communities. She has deep experience in program development, program management, and integrative thinking. She participates in multiple local, regional and global projects

focused on social and environmental justice, public health, chronic health conditions, maternal and child health and community empowerment.

Rural Resources Community Action is a private 501(c)(3), nonprofit organization established in 1965. From our Colville headquarters and multiple field locations we offer programs and services that provide opportunities to community members to help identify and overcome economic barriers. RRCA works throughout Eastern Washington to improve the lives of low-income people through providing a variety of programs to assist where needed in each individual community. RRCA offers services to individuals and families in several areas including energy assistance programs, rental assistance, nutrition services, homeownership services, homeless assistance, medicine management, senior in-home care services and case management, transportation services, early childhood education, services to victims of crime, protective payee services, and more.



Corrin McMichael is a cross-functional public health leader who focuses on leading organizations to promote health and wellness, drawing on experience working at the intersection of public health, education and communication.

Whitman County Public Health works to help individuals, children and families thrive. They work to prevent illness and injury. They work to build healthier places to live, learn, work and play in our community. You can learn more at whitmancountypublichealth.org.



Elizabeth Carosso is a program administrator for research operations with the Office of Community Outreach & Engagement (OCOE) at Fred Hutch Cancer Center, where she has worked for nearly 20 years. She oversees a range of research projects initiated or supported by OCOE, all centered on decreasing health disparities. Elizabeth also manages the Recruitment & Retention Shared Resource (R&RR), which provides support to researchers interested in collaborating with community organizations and clinics. Elizabeth primarily focuses on fostering community-investigator relationships, promoting community-engaged research and increasing participation of underrepresented populations in research and clinical trials.



Jean McDougall, PhD, is the director of the Recruitment & Retention Shared Resource and a staff scientist in the Office of Community Outreach & Engagement at Fred Hutch Cancer Center. She is an epidemiologist and cancer care delivery researcher committed to recognizing people as experts in their own lives. Dr. McDougall's research focuses on addressing social needs in cancer care and supporting communities to identify and leverage successful strategies for cancer prevention.

The Recruitment & Retention Shared Resource Services (R&RR), based in the Office of Community Outreach & Engagement at Fred Hutch, offers assistance to Consortium members with projects addressing cancer health inequities in Washington. They facilitate community-academic partnerships to encourage community and patient input at all stages of research through culturally centered research support, connections between community and researchers, and technical assistance.

After an R&RR request is submitted, an initial consultation will be scheduled to assess scope of work and timeline. If the level of support requires more than light involvement or dedicated staff effort, an estimate for services will be provided to the researcher after the initial consultation. You can learn more at fredhutch.org/en/research/institutes-networks-ircs/ocoe/ocoe-research.html.



Kim Wilson works for Better Health Together as the community-based worker (CBW) workforce development program manager. She supports both the HRSA Community Health Worker (CHW) training program and Eastern WA CHW Network. Providing continuous support for a skilled, diverse CHW workforce has remained a passion for Wilson since taking the CHW training in 2016. Wilson has worked at local, regional, state and national levels to advocate for CHWs.

Better Health Together is Eastern Washington's ACH (Accountable Community of Health). They believe everyone deserves a fair shot at being healthy. To make this happen, they work with more than 100 organizations across seven counties to promote practical solutions that meet the needs of the people and communities they serve. BHT was founded on the principle that when we step back and let local community lead, we find the best and most sustainable solutions to some of our most complex problems. You can find more online at betterhealthtogether.org/community-health-workers.



Leslie Heron, RN, MN, APRN, has over 40 years of direct patient care experience. Through her nursing career, she has provided care in private practice, community and public health settings, hospitals and oncology centers.

Board-certified in family practice and as a nurse coach, Leslie currently focuses much of her work in the fields of cancer survivorship, patient advocacy and health care provider wellness as a nurse entrepreneur. Leslie speaks nationally for professional and patient groups as well as being the co-author of multiple articles and textbook chapters. She is the founding director of The Cancer Survivorship Provider Network (CSPN), which provides peer support and education for professionals working with cancer survivors.

The Cancer Survivorship & Supportive Care Professionals Network (CSPN) is a grassroots nonprofit organization connecting, educating and advocating for cancer survivorship providers across the care continuum. This provider-facing, peer-support community empowers health care, research and advocacy professionals of all types to provide high-quality, accessible, equitable, relevant and sustainable care to cancer survivors. You can find more online at thecspn.org.



Robin Pringle is a community resource navigator at Feast World Kitchen in a program called Table Time. Table Time provides practical support for Spokane's immigrant and former refugee communities as individuals and families are navigating life in their new homes. We have worked alongside hundreds of community members helping them find jobs, housing, health care and English practice and offering connection and hospitality in our restaurant. Table Time is taking walk-ins and appointments Tuesdays through Saturdays.

Feast World Kitchen elevates and empowers immigrants and former refugees as leaders. Feast World Kitchen uses international cuisine as a platform for economic resilience, holistic growth and culture-sharing. Feast World Kitchen holds two convictions: first, that Spokane should welcome former refugees and immigrants, weaving them into the fabric of civic life. Another is that food has a wonderful way of bringing people together and breaking down barriers. You can learn more at feastworldkitchen.org.



Victoria García Tamayo works with Contacto Consulting, LLC, and supports the Fred Hutch Community Health Assessment (CHA) with secondary and primary data collection, data analysis and the writing of the CHA report. García Tamayo is the owner/principal community consultant of Contacto Consulting, a Washington state-certified woman- and minority-owned business that brings together people and organizations to foster equitable communities and belonging.

Contacto Consulting, LLC, is committed to elevating community voices and centering Black, Indigenous and people of color, immigrants, refugees and other groups whose brilliance has been marginalized because of their race, ethnicity, language, accent, immigration status, disability, economic level, sexual orientation or gender identity. Contacto Consulting has designed and led multiple statewide assessments and strategic planning and implementation processes using a variety of methods, including community conversations, photo-storytelling and interactive priority setting. You can learn more at contactoconsulting.com.



CANEW Resource Event — Spokane WA (July 2024)



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