



## **“Teal for Two” Middle Tennessee Efforts to Eliminate Cervical Cancer**



The TN Breast and Cervical Screening Program, Breast and Cervical Regional Coordinators from South Central (Kim Carter), Upper Cumberland (Roberta Mitchell), and Mid-Cumberland (Kyla Webb) Regions and Metro Davidson County (Thoris Campbell), TN Immunization Program and the Middle Tennessee Region Cancer Coalition hosted the first educational program about Pap tests, HPV vaccine uptake and efforts to address the issue on Thursday, May 30, 2013 during a two-hour training session, “Teal for Two”, held at Vanderbilt 100 Oaks. Teal and white are the national colors for cervical cancer awareness.

This was the first event targeting health care professionals about cervical cancer elimination through the appropriate use of Pap tests and the HPV vaccine as a strategy for primary prevention. The event was a success with over 40 health care professionals attending from across the regions. Cindy Chafin (TN Cancer Coalition), Mary Jane Dewey and Dr. Kelly Moore (TDH), Dr. Marta Crispens (Vanderbilt), and Dr. Gwinnett Ladson (Meharry) and Navita Gunter (survivor) presented information about the topics and answered questions.

According to survey data, participants showed a 28.7% improvement in knowledge. At the pre-test assessment, most participants either agreed or strongly agreed with each question, indicating they felt knowledgeable on the topic of HPV and Pap testing prior to the session. After participating in the “Teal for Two” event, nearly all participants strongly agreed post-test assessment, that the event was successful and that their knowledge was increased.

Participants shared the following comments:

- The lectures by the gynecologists were amazing. I learned a lot about new guidelines for screening for cervical cancer.
- Very well put together. Speakers were knowledgeable and it was a topic that never needs to grow cold discussing.
- Great presentation; very informative.
- Great workshop and it was good to see all of the major players coming out to brainstorm to reduce the burden of cancer.
- This is very valuable information.
- Workshops such as these should be held more frequently and be available to the wider community. Excellent presentations! Thanks you.

The overall message was that no one should die from cervical cancer. Together, we can end or substantially reduce cervical cancer in Middle Tennessee.

The partners in this group are available to provide event planning information and consult with others who want to plan a similar event in their region. For more information, go to the women’s health action team in Middle TN website [www.middletec2.org](http://www.middletec2.org) or visit the state website at



Dr. Kelly Moore, Director TN Immunization Program & Co-Chair, Cervical Cancer Free TN  
Mary Jane Dewey, Director TN Breast & Cervical Screening Program



Regional Program Coordinators, TN Breast & Cervical Screening Program:  
Left to Right: Kim Carter (South Central Region), Kyla Webb (Mid-Cumberland Region)  
Roberta Mitchell (Upper Cumberland Region) & Thoris Campbell (Metro Davidson County).



Cindy Chafin,  
TN Cancer Coalition  
Middle TN Lead State Coordinator



Dr. Gwinnett Ladson, Interim Chairman & Professor  
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology  
Residency Program Director  
Director of Centering Pregnancy, Meharry Medical College



Dr. Marta A. Crispens, Associate Professor and Director,  
Division of Gynecologic Oncology, Vanderbilt University Medical Center



Navita Gunter (President, Cervical Cancer Coalition TN)  
Karen Lewis (Nurse Consultant, TBCSP)



"Teal for Two" participants

