Theory of Change

LATINO CANCER COLLABORATIVE of Contra Costa

Target Population

Spanish-speaking women living in central and east Contra Costa County, esp. those with cancer

Problem/Issue

- Disparity in late diagnosis of cancer among population
- Linguistic, cultural, economic, geographic and other barriers to access to and utilization of healthcare
- Lack of information about cancer and knowledge of resources for cancer screening diagnosis, treatment and support
- Lack of culturally competent services

Evidence and Theoretical Assumptions

- Early detection and access to treatment are key factors to survival from cancer
- Too many Spanish-speaking women are diagnosed late due to lack of screening
- Availability of early detection, treatment services and support must be increased for population
- Barriers to access and utilization of healthcare must be reduced including language, cultural, knowledge, economic and geographic barriers
- Culturally and linguistically appropriate outreach, information, and education, services and support are essential to positive health outcomes and acceptance of clients
- Interagency, public-private collaboration among providers can facilitate a continuum of care, prevent duplication of services and institutionalize culturally appropriate services

Strategies

1. Continuum of coordinated, culturally and linguistically competent services and programs for cancer awareness, education and support

   - Community outreach & education
   - Cancer Screening
   - Navigation of health care systems
   - Insurance enrollment
   - Care Coordination/Management
   - Cancer Treatment Education
   - Therapeutic Support Groups
   - Home visits
   - Practical support
   - End of Life Support

2. Collaboration of public/private providers

3. Advocacy and community education

4. Systems change efforts

Outcomes

- Reduced risk of late diagnosis of cancer in population
- Increased access to and utilization of screening
- Increased community knowledge of cancer and early detection and available services
- Improved access to culturally appropriate medical care and coordinated support services for women with cancer
- Improved quality of life and health outcomes for those diagnosed
- Institutionalized interagency continuum of care
- Influence broader systems of care
- Increased cultural competency of participating organizations

Environmental Context Factors

- Availability of low/no cost treatment and diagnostic services
- Trust of the community in the services of the Initiative and systems
- Availability and utilization of other programs and services
- Availability of transportation
- Availability of qualified culturally and linguistically competent staff and volunteers
- Funding for programs/Economy