HPV Outreach: Program Impact

In review of data on the stage of cancer for multiple sites of head and neck cancer patients within our community, typically Marian Regional Medical Center demonstrated a higher percentage of Stage III or IV cases when compared to other Comprehensive Cancer Centers in the National Cancer Database (NCDB). Given the above, this year Mission Hope set an outreach goal of tackling the myths around the HPV vaccine and sharing HPV prevention education with young people in our communities. The effort included both HPV prevention symposiums as well as the collaboration of local high school students in the development of age-appropriate informational pamphlets to raise awareness on HPV and its link to cancer. Following this educational and material development phase, from June through October 2,300 of these youth-friendly HPV brochures were distributed to nine local community clinics where vaccines are regularly administered.

Number of HPV vaccines administered before and after the HPV brochure distribution

Outcomes from the outreach campaign demonstrate a definite increase with the number of HPV vaccines administered throughout the months of the brochure distribution. From January–May clinics only administered **692 HPV vaccines**, whereas from June–October there were **920 vaccines** administered. We recognize there are many factors that often impact outreach outputs; however, this clear relationship between increased information and increased usage is encouraging. Cancer prevention efforts—as related to HPV—are heading in the right direction.

The fastest growing group of oral cancer patients is young, nonsmokers due to the connection to the HPV virus. Mission Hope set a goal of raising awareness of this issue.



Brochures in English and Spanish were placed in local clinics to raise awareness on HPV and its link to cancer.





