


Assessing the needs of low-income African-American cancer survivors and caregivers:
Using Photovoice Methodology

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Presenter Disclosures

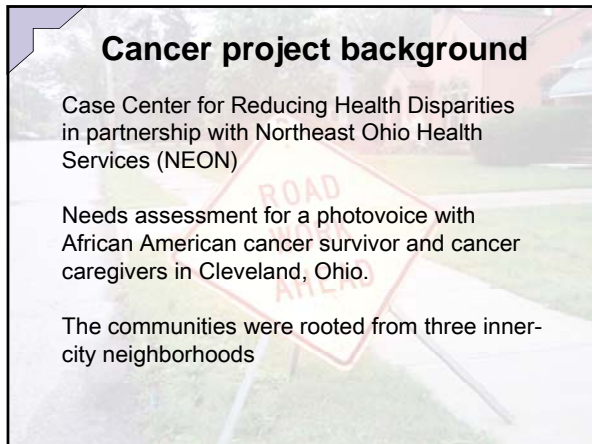
Meia Jones

(1) The following personal financial relationships with commercial interests relevant to this presentation existed during the past 12 months:

No relationships to disclose

Project Investigators

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Cancer project background

Case Center for Reducing Health Disparities in partnership with Northeast Ohio Health Services (NEON)

Needs assessment for a photovoice with African American cancer survivor and cancer caregivers in Cleveland, Ohio.

The communities were rooted from three inner-city neighborhoods



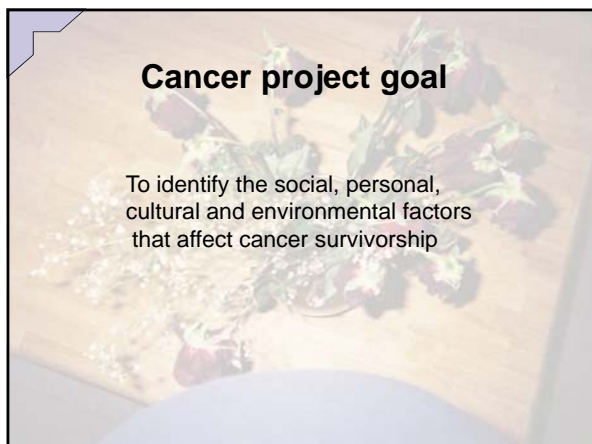
Who are the “Photographers” in Photovoice?

20 cancer survivors (7) and caregivers (13)

Cleveland African-American men and women

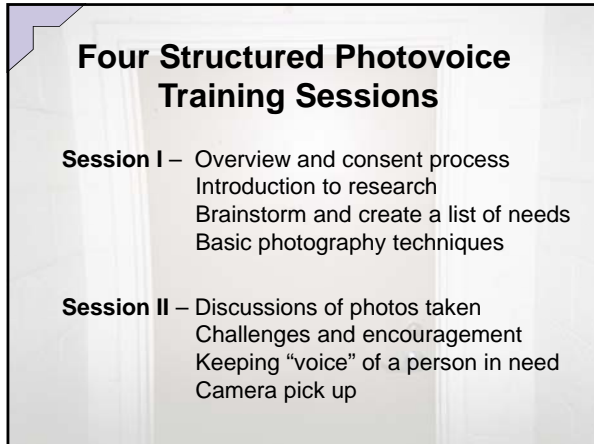
Recruited by community partners and cancer survivors telling other cancer survivors

Ages range from 23 years to 60 years



Cancer project goal

To identify the social, personal, cultural and environmental factors that affect cancer survivorship



Four Structured Photovoice Training Sessions

Session I – Overview and consent process
Introduction to research
Brainstorm and create a list of needs
Basic photography techniques

Session II – Discussions of photos taken
Challenges and encouragement
Keeping “voice” of a person in need
Camera pick up



Photovoice Training Sessions

Session III – Picture categorization
Discussion to interpret needs

Session IV – Complete individual interpretations
Discussion of Photo Exhibition
Verified clarity of the “voice”



Photovoice Challenges after first training session

Assignment
Shoot 10 pictures and discuss

Hurdles early on
Time
Motivation
Sites
Ideas
Comfort level

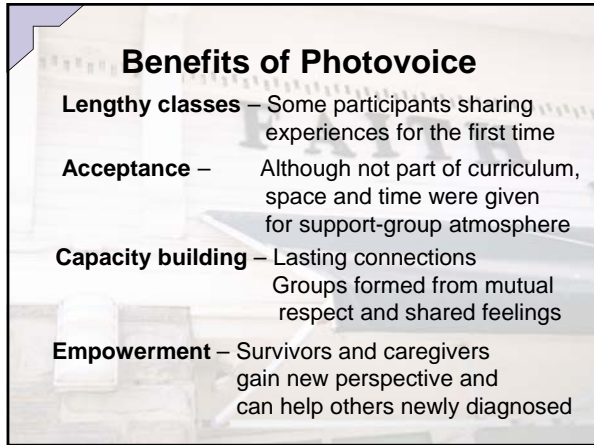


Reflections of a Lens

Needs identified - Lack of social support
Lack of resources
Lack of support services for children of survivors

Concerns - Services are not culturally specific in locations of need

Health Care relations - Delivery of diagnosis
Options aren't explained in a sensitive manner.



Benefits of Photovoice

Lengthy classes - Some participants sharing experiences for the first time

Acceptance - Although not part of curriculum, space and time were given for support-group atmosphere

Capacity building - Lasting connections
Groups formed from mutual respect and shared feelings

Empowerment - Survivors and caregivers gain new perspective and can help others newly diagnosed



Photo Exhibition

90 photos crafted with headlines and narratives
Full program hosted in public forum at hospital
Video culminating the experience with living witnesses.

Audience attendees - Local media outlets (radio and television),
Area newspapers,
Policy makers,
Cancer survivors
Cancer caregivers
Professionals in health-related fields

Sustainability


Survivors on a Mission – Community group formed and committed to making a difference in the areas with the most needs

Participant activism – Many participants continue to participate in research while assisting the newly diagnosed with resources and general human care



Prevention Gaps

GRAVE MISTAKES




There are programs for Science and Math, but they should set up something for younger people to understand about diseases. Educate them. The programs should bring out what the children are facing.

Elkanah T.

Changed Perception

HAIRY SITUATION



After chemotherapy I had the awkward task of choosing my "new" look while not feeling My best. Nothing looked or felt right. Wigs have to have something to hold on to. I clearly Didn't have the hair necessary. The experience was overwhelming.

Bernadette S.

Cancer Chaos

INSIDE OUT



Cancer attacked my household and turned everything upside down. My fiancé had aggressive throat cancer. It erased not only our future but his life. It's like you will never be right-side up again.

Cecira D.

Spirituality

RAY OF HOPE



This picture is from my apartment. I meet God every morning and I fellowship with God in meditation in his word. That sunshine represents the light of God and the light of him in my life.

Michelle H.

Acknowledgements

- Center for Reducing Health Disparities
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- Lance Armstrong Foundation
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- NEON
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- Caregivers
- Cancer Professional Advisory Group
