In January, we co-hosted the **Us vs. HPV webinar week** for the third year in a row, along with the American Medical Women’s Association (AMWA) and Indiana University Excellence in Women’s Health. As in the previous years, we were honored to have several national and international experts present at the event. We had nearly 500 registrants, the highest so far. The focus was on preventing HPV-cancers in the Covid-19 era.

**Us vs HPV 2020 Sponsors**

- American Cancer Society (ACS)
- Basic Health International (BHI)
- Conquering Cancer Campaign
- Duke University - Global Women’s Health Technologies
- Grounds for Health (GFR)
- International Papillomavirus Society (IPVS)
- Jhpiego
- Marie Stopes International (MSI)
- Moffitt Cancer Center - Center for Immunization and Infection Research In Cancer (CIIRC)
- PATH TogetHER
- Union for International Cancer Control (UICC)
- World Health Organization (WHO)

On February 4th, **World Cancer Day**, our students participated with great gusto:

On March 4th, International HPV Awareness Day (IHAD- hosted by the International Papillomavirus Society-IPVS), GIAHC was invited as a key partner to raise awareness about HPV worldwide. Dr. Krishnan was also invited to sit on IPVS’s Advocacy Campaign committee.

**HPV: A VIRUS WE ALL CAN BEAT**

In 2020, GIAHC Young Leaders partnered with the Kellogg Sisters on the Corona Quilt Project, which comprised several quilt squares woven together to reflect individual experiences of the Covid-19 pandemic. This project came to life in early 2021 in a diverse array of installations, scattered throughout Mumbai city. [Click here](#) to see a short video of the installations.
Curious about the topics being covered? Here is the agenda overview for Us vs HPV Week 2022:

Monday, January 24, 2022
HPV Vaccination: Roaring Back to Prevent Cancer

Tuesday, January 25, 2022
Conquering Cancer - Documentary

Wednesday, January 26, 2022
Cervical Cancer Action for Elimination: Marching Towards a Sustainable and Resilient Recovery

Thursday, January 27, 2022
HPV Head and Neck Cancers: What You Don’t Know CAN Hurt You

Friday, January 28, 2022
Champions of HPV and Cervical Cancer Awareness: You, the Media, Educational Campaigns and Young Leaders

Q and A session after each webinar

Another project that came to fruition was our collaboration with the Rwandan Government and the Clinton Health Initiative Access (CHAI) to showcase Rwanda’s great success with HPV vaccination and its path to be one of the first countries to eliminate cervical cancer.

We also took the time to update our website to make it more navigable and informative. We hope you like our new look!

In late summer of this year, we joined several partners in an advocacy effort to implement the updated WHO guidelines on cervical cancer screening and treatment- the beginning of a transition toward a more effective global effort to eliminate cervical cancer, a preventable public health problem. Letters were sent to leadership at PEPFAR, USAID, and the Global Fund by emphasizing HPV testing as the preferred method of screening.

We are now hard at work preparing for the 2022 Us vs. HPV Prevention week which will take place from January 23-29. Some of the highlights include discussions on various types of vaccine hesitancy, WHO’s latest guidelines on cervical cancer elimination and updates on HPV head and neck cancers. It is bound to be another very informative and impactful one where several experts in the field who will be participating. Registration to the event is free. In addition, we will also be screening the documentary Conquering Cancer with a question-and-answer session after the film.

2021 HPV and Cervical Cancer Champion Award

Rachel Anderson is a medical student at UMass Medical School (Class of 2022) who is passionate about improving access to care for underserved populations. As a medical student, she became interested in cervical cancer prevention when she learned that many of the patients at her local free medical programs had no access to HPV vaccination or cervical cancer screening. She now works within her own community to study barriers to cervical cancer screening among different populations and within the global community to promote awareness for prevention of HPV-related cancers. Her other areas
of focus within the medical field include combating human trafficking and healthcare policy reform. She plans to match into family medicine so that she can form trusting relationships with her patients, provide care across generations, and address the social, economic, and environmental factors that influence health within a community.

In 2021 the GYLs have been busy with initiatives, collaborations, and outreach events!

**January:** Our Committee Leaders presented during the Friday session of Us vs HPV Week Webinars: “Getting a Leg Up on Social Media.”

**February:** For World Cancer Day, the GYL social media team created a video with each team member sharing the reason that they’re passionate about eliminating HPV and cervical cancer.

**March:** Elise Vance and Rachel Anderson presented their research poster analyzing social media content regarding HPV and cervical cancer. For International HPV Awareness Day, our social media team created a video with fast facts about HPV.

**April:** World Immunization Week social media campaign including a Covid vaccine collage.

**May:** National Cancer Research Month social media campaign.

**June:** National Cancer Survivors Month social media collaboration with Cervivor to celebrate cervical cancer “cervivors.”

**July:** Utilized social media to share infographics addressing common questions about the changes to the ACS cervical cancer guidelines.

**August:** National Immunization Awareness Month social media campaign.

**September:** National Gynecologic Cancer Month social media campaign.

**October:** Welcomed new committee leaders, with past social media committee leader Elise Vance taking on the role as the Chair of the YL.

**November:** YL’s Creative Auction launched on November 17th, WHO Strategy for Elimination Anniversary, with donations going towards our Scholarship launch in January 2022.

**December:** Planning in progress for activities in 2022.

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**Support GIAHC**

If you would like to support our programs, you can do so by making a tax-deductible contribution in one of several ways at the GIAHC website. Thank you for your support!

We wish you and your family a safe and healthy Holiday season and a better and brighter 2021!