



Ms. Linda Hayes is a health advocate and outreach coordinator for Alabama's Department of Public Health, an Operation Wipe Out partner.

WIPE OUT

cervical cancer
ALABAMA

Bringing together community partners to eliminate cervical cancer in Alabama

Mortality rates from cervical cancer - which is preventable through HPV vaccination, screening, and preventive treatment - are nearly 50% higher in Alabama than the rest of the country, at 3.2 deaths per 100,000 women.

Operation Wipe Out aims to eliminate cervical cancer as a public health problem in Alabama by raising awareness about HPV and cervical cancer prevention and facilitating access to vaccination, screening, follow-up, and treatment.

Here is a snapshot of the program's achievements to date:

November 2021: Operation Wipe Out **launches in Chambers County** due to its exceptionally high burden of cervical cancer. In collaboration with the Rotary Clubs of LaFayette and Birmingham, Wipe Out partners regularly engage with leaders and educators to expand awareness and access to high-quality, affordable services in the community.

October 2022: Operation Wipe Out partners organize a two-day **Cervical Cancer Summit**, convening 65 primary care providers and public health leaders from across the State. The Summit provides a space for practical, evidence-based discussions that form the basis for a statewide plan to expand access to lifesaving cervical cancer prevention for women and girls in Alabama.

May 2023: Operation Wipe Out partners, led by the Alabama Department of Public Health, formally launch a **statewide action plan to eliminate cervical cancer** as a public health problem in Alabama, the first such plan in the United States.

October 2023 - February 2024: Wipe Out organizes **six regional meetings** in South Alabama encouraging physicians and their clinic staff to join our efforts in eliminating cancer statewide.



Operation Wipe Out Partners

- Alabama Department of Public Health
- American Cancer Society
- Auburn University
- Chambers County School District
- Circle of Life
- Quality of Life Health Services
- Rotary Club of LaFayette, AL
- Rotary Club of Birmingham, AL
- Russell Medical Cancer Center
- TogetHER for Health
- University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
- UAB O'Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center
- University of South Alabama Mitchell Cancer Institute

“Operation Wipe Out symbolizes what’s best about our state: community-based organizations joining forces to ensure that every woman and child has the opportunity to access critical information and services to prevent HPV and HPV-related cancers, including cervical cancer.”

- Nancy Wright, MPH, Director, Cancer Prevention and Control Division, Alabama Department of Public Health

What’s next for Operation Wipe Out?

Operation Wipe Out will continue to roll out priority activities across the State in 2024.

- Partners will continue to boost HPV vaccination rates in Alabama through continued collaboration with school system superintendents and training high school students as HPV vaccine ambassadors in their schools and communities.
- Additional in-service training for nurses on colposcopy will enhance point-of-care screening and timely follow up across Alabama to improve health outcomes.
- Operation Wipe Out will enroll additional providers in the Alabama Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program.
- Operation Wipe Out will be featured in a new version of the powerful Conquering Cancer documentary sharing the stories of programs combating cervical cancer in the United States.



State Medical Officer, Dr. Scott Harris (second from left), formally launches the Strategic Action Plan for Cervical Cancer in the State of Alabama, alongside Operation Wipe Out partners.

Operation Wipe Out’s collective goal is to make Alabama a champion – and ultimately a model – for the elimination of cervical cancer as a public health problem for both the nation and the world.

Help us end cervical cancer as a public health problem in Alabama!

Visit www.operationwipeout.org to:

- Learn about no-cost, available services in the State of Alabama including HPV vaccination and cervical cancer screening.
- Be connected to UAB staff who can address your questions and assist you in scheduling an appointment if needed.
- Support Operation Wipe Out with a donation.

Learn more at www.operationwipeout.org