



# FLORIDA-CALIFORNIA HEALTH EQUITY CENTER

COMMUNITY OUTREACH CORE (COC)

WINTER 2025 | ISSUE #16



## COMMUNITY REPORT

### A SNEAK PEEK INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Winter Greetings!

The CaRE<sup>2</sup> 2025 Winter Community Report highlights CaRE<sup>2</sup>'s Community Outreach Core accomplishments. In this issue we capture previous community events, announcements and center news.

**“Winter is a season of recovery and preparation.”**  
– Paul Theroux

- DEDICATION TO MARS ROBLES
- EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS
  - FREE CANCER EDUCATION MATERIALS
- PAST EVENTS
  - MEXICAN CONSULATE HEALTH FAIR
  - HARAMBEE FESTIVAL
  - ORLANDO MAGIC GAME
  - UF CANCER RESEARCH SHOWCASE
- COC HIGHLIGHTS
  - CANCER WELLNESS POP-UP HUBS
  - BUILDING BRIDGES THROUGH HEALTH AND WELLNESS
  - COURAGE & CARE PROSTATE CANCER ADVOCACY
  - CARE<sup>2</sup> EDITORIALS
  - FEATURED MEMBER



# FLORIDA-CALIFORNIA HEALTH EQUITY CENTER

## INDEX

The Community Outreach Core works to share important information about cancer prevention and research, helping our communities stay informed and empowering members to become advocates. Our goal is to reduce cancer-related health differences in Black and Hispanic communities by partnering with local organizations and cancer advocates. We're excited to share the latest updates and news from our programs!

---

	<u>Page #</u>
Dedication to Mars Robles.....	1
FREE Printable Educational Materials.....	2
COC Past Events: .....	3-7
COC Upcoming Events.....	8
CaRE Editorials.....	9
Contact Registry Information.....	10
RadTox Test Information.....	11
COC Highlights Featured CaRE <sup>2</sup> Members.....	12
Community Outreach Core Team.....	13
CaRE <sup>2</sup> Center Website & Social Media Handles.....	14

# THIS NEWSLETTER IS DEDICATED TO THE LOVING MEMORY OF **MARS ROBLES**

---



A devoted cancer patient advocate and valued member of the CaRE<sup>2</sup> Community Advisory Board. Mars shared his wisdom, insight, and patient perspective to help engage and educate the community, always with deep compassion and unwavering courage. We are profoundly grateful to have known him and for his dedication to supporting others on their cancer journeys. May his memory be a blessing, inspiring and motivating us in our continued efforts to reduce the burden of cancer.

# Free Cancer Education Materials!

Free printable brochures on prostate, pancreatic, and lung cancer are now available on our website.

Download and share vital information today!

Check our Brochure

Check our Brochure

Check our Brochure

*"Understanding Prostate Cancer"*

*"Understanding Lung Cancer"*

*"Understanding Pancreatic Cancer"*



English Brochure

English Brochure

English Brochure

Spanish Brochure

Spanish Brochure

Spanish Brochure

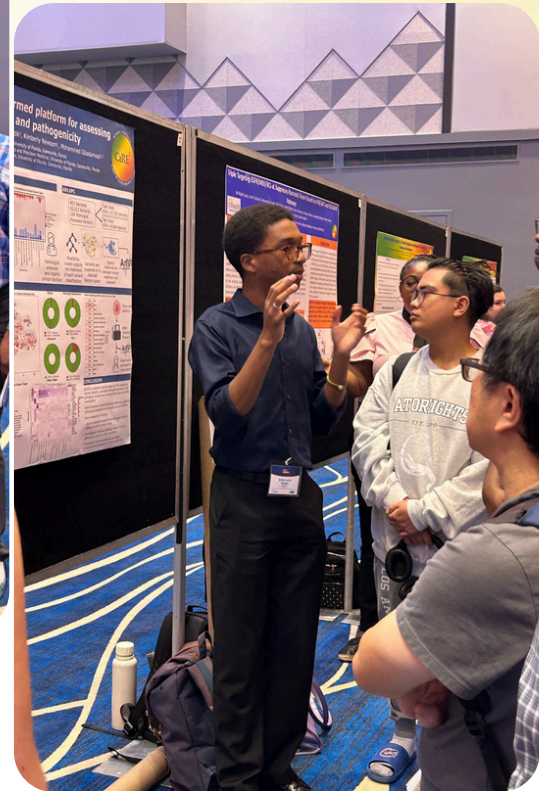
Scan the QR Code to access **NEW** educational materials





# COC PAST EVENT

On February 12, 2025, CaRE<sup>2</sup>'s Community Outreach Core and trainees participated in the University of Florida Health Cancer Center Annual Research Showcase in Gainesville, FL. Our team presented how we prevent fraudulent entries from entering our contact registry and RadTox testing.





# COC PAST EVENT

On Saturday, February 15th, 2025, our Community Outreach Core team participated in the 8th Annual Head for the Cure 5K in Orlando, FL. The team distributed information on CaRE<sup>2</sup> upcoming projects and informed the attendees of our contact registry. The event attracted over 600 community members, volunteers, and supporters, of whom 35 stopped to visit our table and 3 signed up for our contact registry!





# COC PAST EVENT

On Saturday, February 21st, 2025, our Community Outreach Core team participated in the Orlando Magic vs. Memphis Grizzlies basketball game in Orlando, FL. The team distributed information on CaRE<sup>2</sup>, our contact registry, and the RadTox test. The game attracted multiple individuals from diverse ethnic communities, along with volunteers and supporters. A total of 26 people stopped by our table, and 9 signed up for our contact registry!



# COC PAST EVENT

On Saturday, February 22, 2025, CaRE<sup>2</sup> graduate research assistant, Abria McNeill, and DrPH volunteer participated in the Harambee Festival in Tallahassee, Florida (Leon County). Over 50 individuals received information regarding cancer prevention, and the importance of participating in research. The Contact Registry form was completed by 40 individuals.





# COC PAST EVENT

On Thursday, March 6, 2025, CaRE<sup>2</sup>'s COC members Dr. Carolina Aristizabal and Eduardo Ibarra participated in the Feria de Salud at the Consulate of Mexico in Los Angeles. Over 30 community members received cancer prevention information and resources. Three attendees signed up for the Contact Registry.





# UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

NAME	DATE	TIME
<b>Cancer Wellness Pop-up Hub YMCA East</b> <b>Los Angeles, California</b>	<b>Monday, April 7th, 2025</b>	<b>9 AM- 12:00 PM</b> <b>PST</b>
<b>Building Bridges through Health and Wellness</b> <b>Los Angeles, Californi</b>	<b>Tuesday, April 8th, 2025</b>	<b>9 AM-1:00 PM</b> <b>PST</b>
<b>Cancer Wellness Pop-up Hub YMCA</b> <b>Koreatown</b> <b>Los Angeles, California</b>	<b>Saturday, April 19th, 2025</b>	<b>9 AM- 12:00 PM</b> <b>PST</b>
<b>Minority Health Month Hurricane/Disaster Preparedness</b> <b>Quincy, Florida</b>	<b>Saturday, April 19th, 2025</b>	<b>9 AM- 12:00 PM</b> <b>EST</b>
<b>Courage and Care Prostate Cancer Advocacy</b> <b>Gainesville, Florida</b>	<b>Saturday, April 26th, 2025</b>	<b>10 AM- 2:00 PM</b> <b>EST</b>

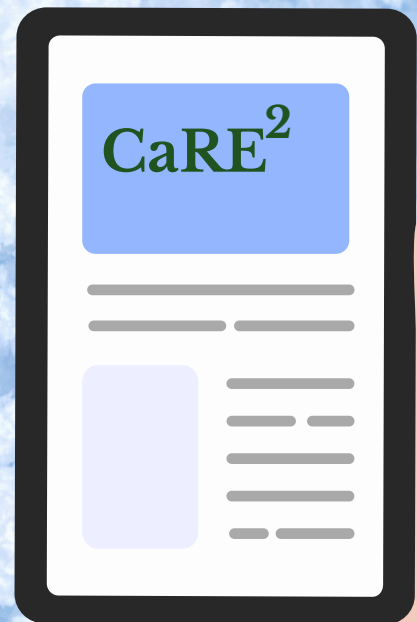


# CaRE<sup>2</sup> Editorials

## THE JACKSONVILLE FREE PRESS

CaRE<sup>2</sup> has been working in close collaboration with the Jacksonville Free Press to promote our cancer advocacy trainings. Click on the links below to access past editorials

- [Pancreatic Cancer Advocacy Training 11.20.24](#)
- [6th Annual Cancer in the Community Virtual Conference: Improving Patient Outcomes Through Clinical Studies 12.14.24](#)
- [3rd Annual CaRE2 Connects with Our Community 1.22.25](#)
- [Prostate Cancer Advocacy Training 2.13.25](#)





# Every Voice, Every Action Counts: Support CaRE<sup>2</sup> Researchers in Advancing Cancer Treatments. Join our CaRE<sup>2</sup> Contact Registry today!

**RESEARCH  
SAVES LIVES**



## CONTACT REGISTRY

The purpose of the Contact Registry is to create a list of individuals who are interested in hearing about future research projects led by the CaRE2 Health Equity Center that focuses on learning more about preventing and eliminating cancer.

The CaRE2 Center is a tri-institutional partnership with Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU), the University of Southern California (USC), and the University of Florida (UF).

If you agree to join the registry you will be required to share your contact information, such as your address, email address, home phone number, cell phone number, and your research participation preferences.

While joining the registry is voluntary, should you agree to be added, you will be required to sign a Privacy Authorization Form.

Community Health Educator:  
Ileana Guzman  
University of Florida, CaRE2  
(407)313-7041  
ileana.guzman@ufl.edu

### Location

- The contact registry will be electronic and take no more than 5 minutes to complete.

### Are you eligible?

- 18+ years old
- African American/Black or African
- Hispanic/Latino
- Interested in learning more about cancer research.

For more information on how to become involved please visit our website.



**SCAN  
ME**

[care2healthequitycenter.org](https://care2healthequitycenter.org)





# RadTox™ Test



## What is the RadTox™ test?

The **RadTox™** test measures your blood to see how the tumor is responding to cancer treatment, helping doctors know if the treatment is working.



### How can the test help me?

- The RadTox™ test shows how the tumor is responding to cancer treatment.
- It helps your doctor know if the treatment is working.



### What does the test measure?

- The RadTox™ Test measures tumor DNA (cfDNA) in your blood after treatment.
- A decrease in cfDNA suggests the tumor is shrinking.



### Why is this test important?

- The test helps you and your doctor quickly decide on continuing or changing treatment.
- It shows if the cancer treatment is working in real-time.



### What steps can I take ?

1. Ask your doctor if the RadTox™ test is right for you
2. Get a blood test (covered by insurance)
3. Contact us to get more information about a RadTox™ test



**CONTACT US**

**352-713-0488**

**UFHealth**  
CANCER CENTER





# PUBLICATION

## Spotlight



**Dr. Sandra Suther**

In honor of **Cervical Cancer** Awareness Month, delve into this recent publication on cervical cancer trends, co-authored by Drs. Sandra Suther and Ukamaka Smith. You can access this insightful work for free by visiting: <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/38921292/>

# COMMUNITY OUTREACH CORE

The goal of the CaRE<sup>2</sup> Community Outreach Core (COC) is to address the unequal impact of prostate, lung and pancreatic cancers on Black and Latinx communities. We aim to achieve this through meaningful engagement with these communities, collaborating with core leaders and project investigators to incorporate community feedback and share scientific information, and using proven, evidence-based cancer education materials for outreach efforts.



**Lourdes Baezconde-Garbanati**



**John Luque**



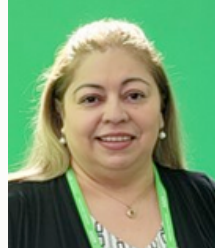
**Sandra Suther**



**Fern Webb**



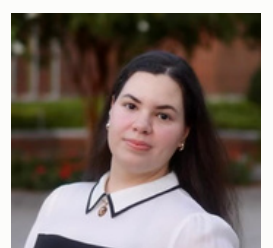
**Carolina Aristizabal**



**Rosa Barahona  
Rosa Barahona**



**Ileana Guzman**



**Nazleen Del Rio**



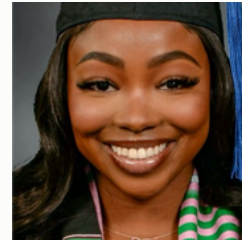
**Brooke Vintilla**



**Eduardo Ibarra**



**Fayettea Justin**



**Abria McNeill**



**Janet Rodriguez**





# CaRE<sup>2</sup>



@CaRE2HEC



@CaRE2healthequitycenter



@CaRE2healthequitycenter



CaRE2 Health Equity Center