



VOLUME 6 ISSUE 2

SAVE THE DATE

COMING
UP



- ¡Salud! Serie de charlas:
 - October 10, 2019 (MCC)
 - November 15, 2019 (PHSU)



- The Bridge/El Puente:
 - April 24, 2020 (PHSU)
 - August 22, 2020 (MCC)

2020 Meeting of the Advisory Committee

- May, 2020 at Puerto Rico



Engaging Our Community

Event News

Hablemos de cáncer Educational Symposium

The 6th edition of *Hablemos de cancer* was held on Saturday, March 9, 2019 at Pontifical Catholic University in Ponce, PR.

Hablemos de cáncer is an educational symposium designed to provide cancer education and resources to the southern region of Puerto Rico. Physicians and researchers from PHSU and MCC held interactive sessions to discuss cancer prevention, early detection, physical health and nutrition.

The event focused on cancer education on precision medicine: cancer (skin, women's, colon, lung, prostate, head and neck cancer); emotional world around cancer; nutrition; and physical activity and health.

Over 300 participants attended the event, 108 of the community members enrolled in our CONTINUAR protocol to track the longer-term impact of educational activities on cancer prevention knowledge and behaviors.

General session speakers: Dr. Julie Dutil (Researcher); Dr. Hector Vélez (Oncologist); Dr. Jessica Irizarry (Epidemiologist & PR Health Department representative); Mrs. Carmen Vélez (Cancer survivor & Community Advisory Panel member).

Services provided on-site: mammograms; blood pressure screenings; glucose screening; physical exams; oral exams; vaccination and hemoglobin screenings.

Seven research exhibitors provided information and had the opportunity to enroll participants for their investigation.

306 participants received a cancer resource guide.



Hablemos de cáncer was sponsored by:

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|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| U54 Administrative Core | Café Yaucono | Royal Borinquen | Home Care & Hospicio San Lucas |
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| American Cancer Society | Pan Pepín Inc. | El Tuque Pharmacy | Radiation Treatment Center (CIRT) |

Partnership webpage: www.psm-moffitt.org
E-mail: psm-mcc.partnership@psm.edu
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¡Salud! Serie de charlas is a quarterly educational series for the Hispanic/Latino community in the southern region of Puerto Rico and the Tampa Bay area organized by the Outreach Core.

Salud! Serie de charlas in Puerto Rico

At the event held on **January 24, 2019** at Coamo, PR (rural area), two panelists discussed information on the art and science of positive thinking (Eida Castro, PsyD), as well as the support for the cancer survivor and caregiver (Jomar López, CHE). The event was carried out with a newly established collaboration; a community leader (Annie Ruiz) and the *Fundación Riojueyana Pro Pacientes de Cáncer, Inc.* (FURIPACA). Forty-nine community members attended the charla. Evaluations were highly positive. Importantly 8 community members interested in participating on the R21 Huracán María Project, from which 3 were recruited.

At the event held on **June 14, 2019** at Adjuntas, PR (high priority rural area), the Community Health Educator (CHE) (Jomar Lopez) discussed information about Nutrition and early detection screening. The event was carried out in collaboration with the American Cancer Society (ACS) (Mrs. Emma Torres). All participants who completed the evaluation strongly agreed (100%) that they learned something new at the event and felt motivated to speak to someone else about what they learned. Participants were oriented of the Puerto Rico BioBank Project (21), R21 Hurricane Maria Project, PHSU Family Medicine Program and the ACS.

Salud! Serie de charlas in Tampa, FL

The event was held on Saturday, **March 16, 2019** in collaboration with the Moffitt's Gastrointestinal (GI) Department and the Men's Health Forum at the USF Marshall Student Center. The event focused on colorectal cancer (CRC). Three panelists discussed screening and early detection (Luis Peña, MD), diagnosis and treatment (Christina Zambrano, RN), and survivorship (Luz Díez, RN). The GI Department set-up a referral table at the charla so participants can enroll in CRC screening. Three Spanish-preferring participants recorded their names for CRC screening at Moffitt Cancer Center. The GI department will follow-up with these individuals.

The *charla* held on **July 29, 2019** was on Breast Cancer at the Transfiguration Manor in St. Pete, FL. The CHE spoke to the community about the importance of early detection and well women check-ups. The CHE also spoke on male breast cancer and the prevalence among the Hispanic community. At this event we partnered with Khaliah Fleming of TBCCN who also gave a charla in English.

Salud carried out on **August 09, 2019** was on cancer prevention at the SouthShore Resource Community Center in Ruskin, FL. The CHE spoke to the community on how to reduce their risk factors for cancer and gave tips to incorporate healthier alternatives into their lives. For this event we collaborated with the Mole Patrol, LUNA, Moffitt M-Power, and TBCCN.

El Puente / The Bridge

The Bridge is an event that brings cancer investigators and community leaders together with the purpose to improve the understanding of cancer research and community participation.

On the Ponce site, the Bridge was carried out on **August 16, 2019** at PHSU. Topic was Precision medicine: Cancer and genetics. Three speakers discussed What is precision medicine? (Dr. Hector Velez; videoconference), genetic counseling (Dr. Julie Dutil) and Stress: a friend of cancer (Dr. Guillermo Armaiz); 59 attendees (22 researchers / 37 community). After presentations, all participants were divided into four groups to discuss and explore barriers, resources and best strategies to deliver precision medicine to the community.

On the Tampa site, the Bridge was held on **August 24, 2019** at Hillsborough Community College, Plant City. The topic was Patient and Survivor Experience. Three speakers discussed clinical trials (Dr. Viviam Sifontes), the needs of patients after Hurricane Maria (Dr. Brian Gonzalez) and survivorship among the Latino community (Dr. Dina Martinez-Tyson).

PHSU-MCC Partnership grants numbers:
U54CA163071 and
U54CA163068



Partnership webpage: www.psm-moffitt.org
E-mail: psm-mcc.partnership@psm.edu
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