

Community Outreach, Engagement, and Equity



Quarterly Newsletter



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Stakeholder Spotlight



ALLISON TAYLOR

COEE Steering Committee Member

Allison Taylor is a 3rd-year internal medicine resident at the Duke University Hospital, Durham Regional Hospital, and the Durham VA Medical Center. The focus of her clinical training includes general medicine, cardiology, hematology-oncology, nephrology, gastroenterology, infectious disease, rheumatology, and pulmonary/critical care.

What inspires you in your work?

The intellectual stimulation, problem-solving, and seeing interventions make patients better are extremely rewarding and a large part of why I went into medicine.

What initiatives do you lead?

I'm a member of the Advocacy in Clinical Leadership Track in the residency program. This program involves patient advocacy at the local and national levels that promote equitable cancer care.

What inspired you to join the DCI COEE Steering Committee?

I am interested in inequities and disparities in outcomes in patients with blood cancers from under-represented backgrounds. I recently completed a qualitative study where I interviewed Black patients with newly diagnosed acute myeloid leukemia (AML) to evaluate the facilitators and barriers to care experienced following their diagnoses. It prompted a desire for greater engagement with the Durham community. Joining the DCI COEE steering committee has provided a wonderful opportunity in line with this goal, by engaging with community leaders and other stakeholders, and providing input on initiatives from a trainee perspective.

Fun fact about yourself/an interest you have outside of work

I enjoy going to the gym, Orange Theory. The combination of strength training and cardio in a group environment is such a great sense of community and gives such a fulfilling workout. Not to mention trying to get my heart rate high up in the red zone as I see people around me do it, fuels my competitive side.



Announcements

INTRODUCING...



Kimberly Bradsher is our newest patient navigator for the DCI COEE team. Kimberly graduated from NC A&T State University with a Bachelor's in Laboratory Animal Science. Kimberly looks forward to collaborating with community leaders to increase individuals' access to care and cancer navigation services. Kimberly Bradsher has been working at Duke for 25 years and previously worked for the department of neurosurgery at Duke Medical Center.



Emily Rosario, is a Senior Clinical Research Specialist. She conducts qualitative interviews in Spanish and English, facilitates in IRB submissions, and assists in communication for DCI COEE. As an undergraduate she studied abroad in Asia, studying environmental and public health issues. She received her bachelor's degree in Global Studies concentrated in Global Health and Environment from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.



New Lecture Series

Cancer Health Disparity and Equity Lecture

The Cancer Health Disparities & Equity lecture series is a collaboration between DCI's Disparities SPORE and COEE.

The series will host distinguished speakers to present innovative research that seek to reduce cancer health disparities and promote cancer health equity.

The first webinar was held in March 2023 featuring Dr. Lourdes Baezconde-Garbanati who presented on a talk titled "Addressing Cancer and other Health Disparities via Edutainment and Engagement in Vulnerable Communities."

This webinar series will be held quarterly going forward.

Recording of the lecture is available [here!](#)

Sponsored by DCI Disparities SPORE and COEE

ADDRESSING CANCER AND OTHER HEALTH DISPARITIES VIA EDUTAINMENT AND ENGAGEMENT IN VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES



Tuesday, March 28, 2023
12-1 P.M.
via zoom

[REGISTER LINK HERE](#)

DR. LOURDES BAEZCONDE-GARBANATI

*Professor of Preventive Medicine
Associate Dean for Community Initiatives
Associate Director for Community Outreach and Engagement
Institute for Health Promotion & Disease Prevention
Keck School of Medicine, University of Southern California &
the Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center*

CONTACT US



dcicoe@dm.duke.edu



Register by emailing dcicoe@dm.duke.edu

COEE Foundational Training

The DCI is committed to promoting a clinical and research workforce that is educated and mobilized to achieve meaningful impact in reducing the burden of cancer in our catchment area.

To achieve this goal, the DCI COEE program has developed a foundational curriculum to educate all faculty, staff, and trainees on the principles, approaches, and considerations for respectful and impactful community engagement.

DCI programs that reach a 90% completion rate will receive \$10,000 in discretionary funds sponsored by Dr. Mike Kastan.



INTRODUCTION

Currently available via CITI

- Introduction to community-engaged & community-based participatory research
- Ethical and practical considerations in community-engaged research
- Questions change everything in community engagement (TEDx)

COMMUNICATION

Currently available via LMS

- Communicating Your Science to Everyone Else
- How do we share our research?

Speaker: Karl Bates, Executive Director, Research Communications

CASE STUDY #1

Currently available via LMS

- Advancing your science and impact with patient advocacy

Moderator: Dr. Jenny Freedman

HISTORY

Currently available on LMS

- Duke Hospital and the Durham Community
- A conversation about race and memory

Speakers for this module



Dr. Jeffrey Baker



Dr. Damon Tweedy

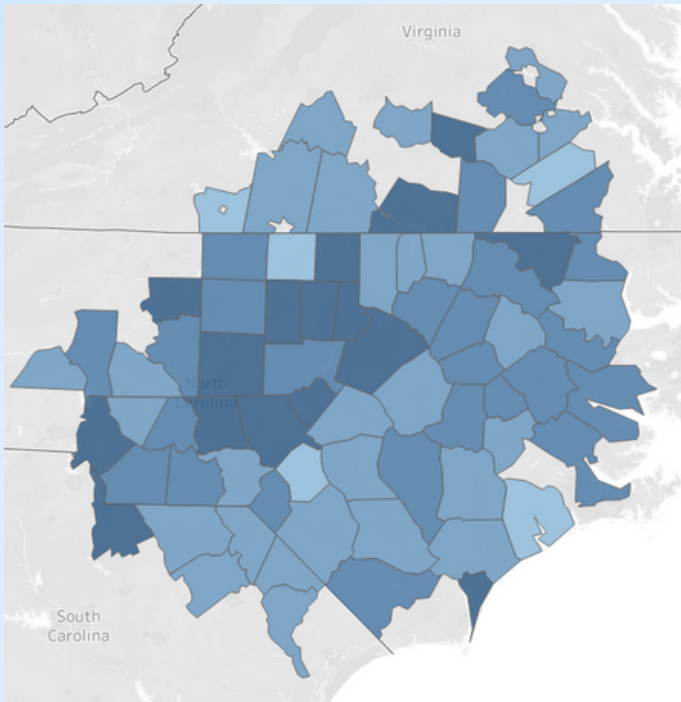
UPCOMING CASE STUDIES

- Community engaged clinical program
- Patient advocates in basic science research
- Co-developed behavioral interventions
- Partnering with Faith-based organizations
- Aligning research programs & community needs

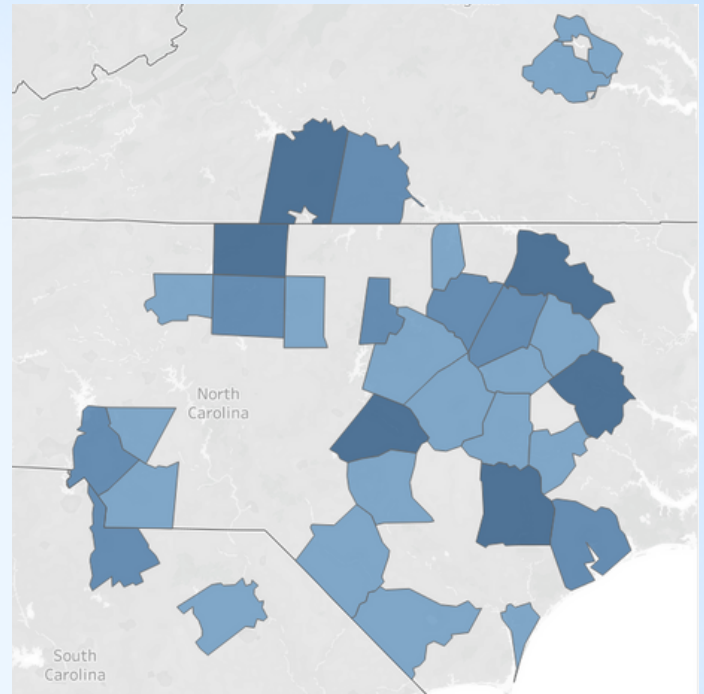
For more information and direct links to each training, please visit our website [here](#).



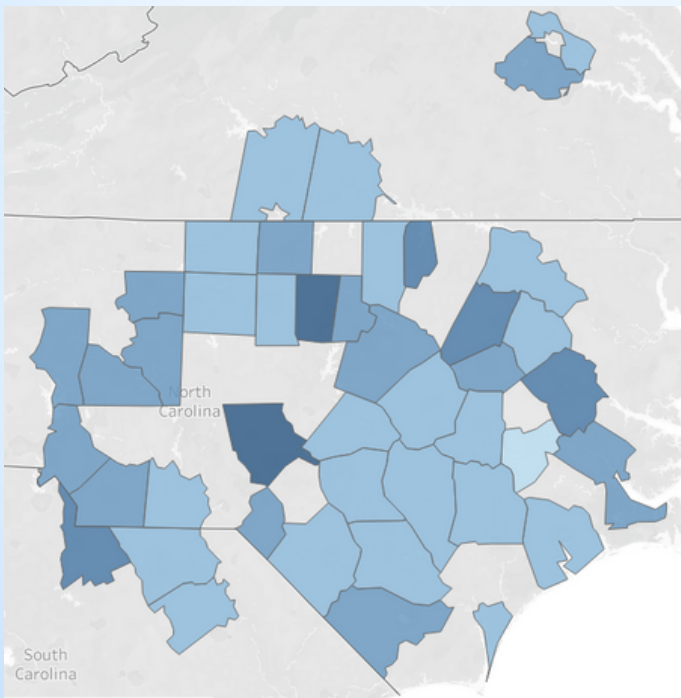
Breast, Colorectal, Lung, and Prostate Cancer Disparities in DCI Catchment Area



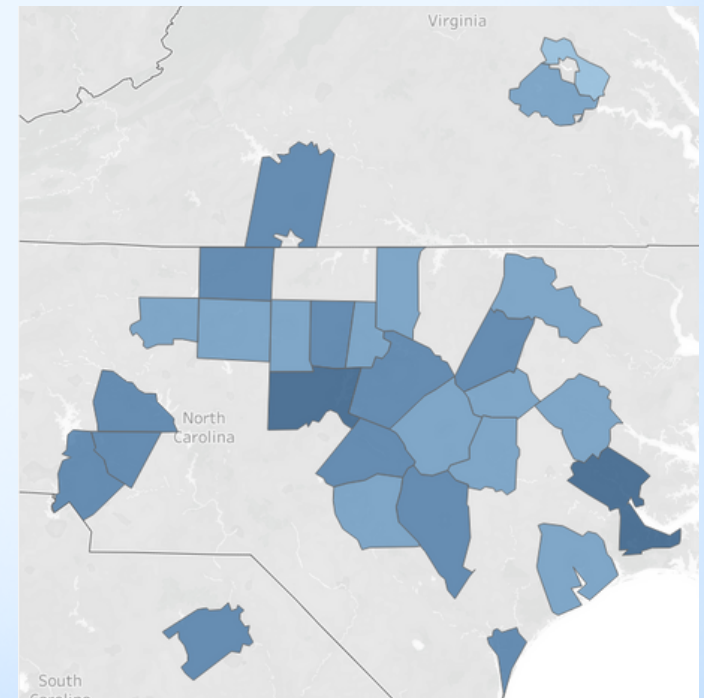
Lung Cancer is the top cause of cancer mortality in the DCI catchment area. Mortality rates are higher for Black vs. White patients in several counties (darker blue) e.g. Lee (45%) and Northampton county (32%)



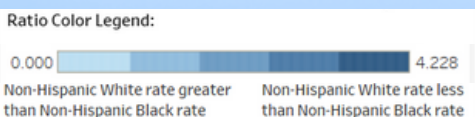
Breast Cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer in the DCI catchment area. Mortality rates are higher for Black vs. White patients in several counties, including Durham county (74%) and Rockingham county (150%)



Colorectal Cancer is the second most commonly diagnosed cancer in the DCI catchment area. Black patients have higher mortality than White patients in Orange county (223%) and Moore county (160%)



Prostate Cancer poses the highest racial disparity in the DCI catchment area. Black patients have higher mortality than White patients, including in Chatham county (323%) and Craven county (314%)





Community Outreach, Engagement, and Equity



What is a catchment area anyway?

Want to learn more about the DCI catchment area?

Looking for descriptive cancer data for your grants?

Need to identify communities at high risk for cancer?

The CREST Dashboard can help!

CREST

Center for Research to Reduce Disparities and Enhance Equity in cancer through Systematic and Transformative Change

The CREST Dashboard is a comprehensive, multilevel data warehouse that facilitates evaluation of the cancer burden and disparities in the DCI catchment area.

CREST enables DCI scientists to identify areas in need of targeted efforts to eliminate health disparities, advance cancer health equity and reduce the burden of cancer in our catchment area and beyond.

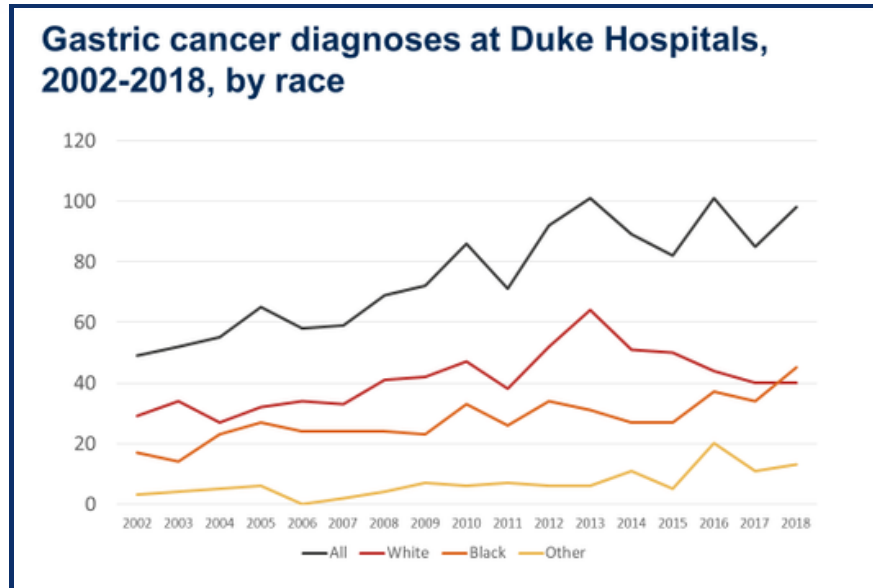


[Request Access](#)



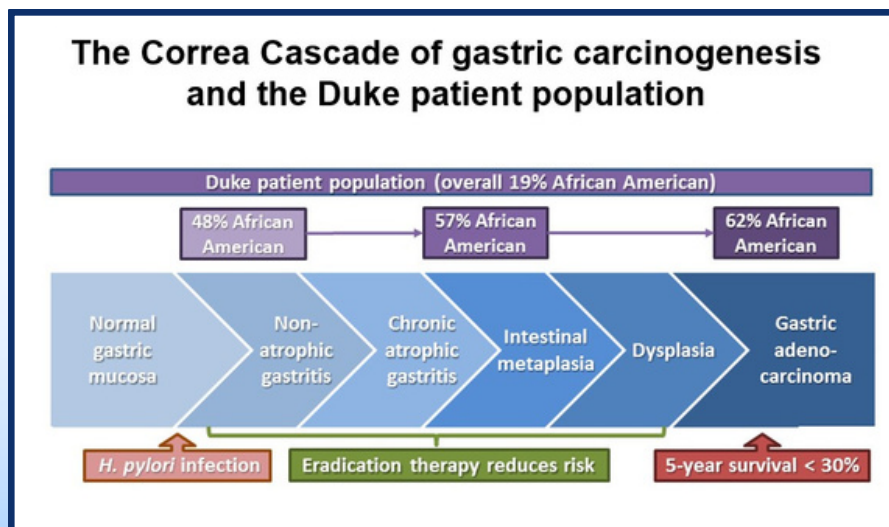
Gastric Cancer Epidemiology at DCI

Over the past 20 years, as Duke Hospitals have extended its geographic coverage, the number of gastric cancer cases have increased, especially among minorities. The greatest disparity in cancer death rates between non-Hispanic Black and White men and women in the United States currently is for gastric cancer (Rate Ratios of 2.51 and 2.31, respectively). In the DCI catchment area, there are 7 counties in which **Black Americans have 3-4 fold greater incidence of gastric cancer than White Americans.**



Infection with *Helicobacter pylori* causes gastritis, which may become chronic. This chronic inflammation leads to changes in the gastric epithelium transitioning from chronic atrophic gastritis to intestinal metaplasia, dysplasia, and, in 1-3% of *H. pylori*-infected individuals, to gastric cancer.

Presence of premalignant lesions such as the incomplete type of gastric intestinal metaplasia is associated with a 9-fold increase in risk of developing gastric cancer. The progression from superficial gastritis to adenocarcinoma is a lengthy process taking 15-20 years to move through a series of progressive histological steps termed the Correa Cascade.





MARY ANN BLACK LECTURE



MARY ANN BLACK DISTINGUISHED HEALTH EQUITY LECTURE

On February 9th 2023, DCI COEE held the inaugural Maryann Black Health Equity Lecture which was created in honor of the State Representative and Associate Vice President Maryann Black.

Dr. Marcella Nunez-Smith, MD, MHS--Associate Dean for Health Equity Research at Yale University gave a powerful presentation on health equity in action centering around lessons learned during COVID-19 and cancer equity. The event was attended by 270 individuals (100 in person and 170 via livestream) and attendees included relatives and friends of State Rep. Maryann Black.



Dr. Marcella Nunez-Smith



Ms. Barbara Faye Brooks and Chancellor Eugene Washington



DCI COEE team, Dr. Marcella Nunez-Smith, Barbara Faye Brooks and Allie Brooks.

Read more and access the lecture [here](#)



WOMEN'S HEALTH AWARENESS DAY 2023

On Saturday, April 14, the 2023 Women's Health Awareness Conference, sponsored by NIEHS, was held at North Carolina Central University campus

Women's Health Awareness 2023
Transforming Communities by Enhancing Women's Health

Saturday, April 15, 2023
 North Carolina Central University

Activities of the Day
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. EDT
 Mary Townes Science Building
 1900 Concord St., Durham, NC 27707

A Women's Wellness Conference
FREE health screenings, health education sessions, healthy living sessions, and health resources.
What you learn could save your life!

Registration is free.
 Register early for a courtesy lunch sponsored by Duke University Hospital. Early registration ends March 15, 2023. On-site registration available day of event. Register at <https://niehs.nih.gov/womenshealthawareness>.

Visit our website for newsletters, health videos, resources, and webinars.

For more information, email WHA@niehs.nih.gov or call 919-541-3852.

 Sign language interpreting and CART services will be available upon request to participate in this event.



Lead Sponsor: National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), Clinical Research Branch, Office of Human Research and Community Engagement
 Co-Sponsors: Durham Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., Durham Alumnae Delta House Inc., and North Carolina Central University Department of Public Health Education



DCI COEE Dalia Antunez (L) and Tahmeko McDonald (R) are pictured here welcoming women at the screening room.

DCI COEE, DCI Breast Oncology, and other organizations provided informational sessions on healthy living, breast health, cancer screenings, colorectal cancer assessments, diabetes, tobacco use/prevention/cessation/exposure assessments, patient navigation, and healthcare barrier assessments. The DCI COEE team was able to make screenings available to over 80 women attending the event.

The Women's Health Awareness Day Conferences hopes to continue in the future years to bring awareness to the importance of women's health.

Learn more [HERE!](#)

2023 Men's Health Screening



Encourage the men
in your life to get screened!

Saturday, June 3 | 8 a.m. - noon

Lincoln Community Health Center
1301 Fayetteville St
Durham, NC 27707

Sunday, June 4 | noon - 4 p.m.

Duke Primary Care Croasdaile
1821 Hillandale Rd
Durham, NC 27705



FREE
Health
Screenings

Prostate cancer is one of the leading causes of death in men. When caught early, it is almost always treatable. Please come and get your FREE onsite health screenings including:

- Prostate cancer screening
- Colon cancer screening
- Blood pressure checks
- Diabetes risk assessments
- Tobacco cessation counseling, including vaping
- Other screenings such as skin cancer screenings and nutrition/healthy eating counseling will be available depending on the location

You are welcome to complete as many screenings as you choose.

No appointment necessary.
For more information,
call 919-684-0409 or visit
DukeCancerInstitute.org/MHS

*This program is brought you by Lincoln
Community Health Center, Duke Cancer
Institute and Duke Primary Care.*



Around the Catchment



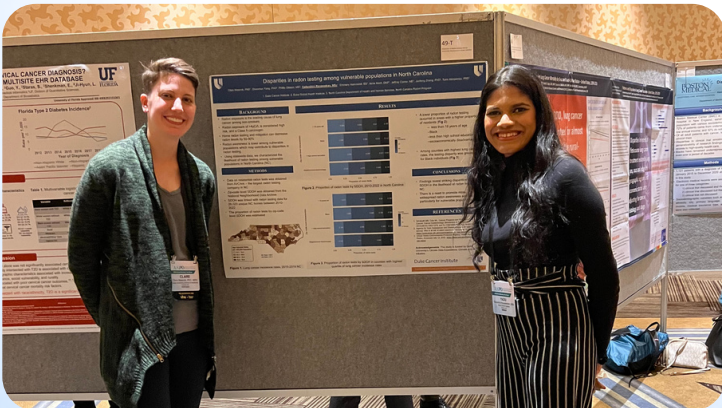
From L to R: Tomi Akinjemiju (DCI), Charlene Hunt (Wake Forest), Stephanie Wheeler (UNC), Rachel Denlinger (Wake Forest), and Ronny Bell (UNC) are pictured here presenting on SAICEP collaboration at the NC American Indian Unity Conference on March 10th in Raleigh, NC.



On March 22nd, DCI COEE and El Centro Hispano hosted a Community Table in Raleigh, NC with community leaders and Dr. Scott Antonia (IO) to discuss issues pertaining to cancer prevention in the Hispanic/Latinx communities.



On Mar 21st, the DCI team (David Nalepinski, Tomi Akinjemiju, and Yadurshini Raveendran) met with Durham Senator Natalie Murdock at the NC State Capitol to connect on DCI's research initiatives, outreach and engagement efforts, and impact in communities across the state.



Clare Meernik and Yadurshini Raveendran from the DCI COEE team recently presented their work on the CLOVER project at the American Society of Preventative Oncology Annual Meeting 2023 in San Diego in mid-March.



Associate Director of DCI COEE, Tomi Akinjemiju, recently gave the opening plenary at the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) 2023 Annual meeting in Orlando, Florida.



Upcoming Events

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June 2023

- Men's Health Screening (Lincoln Community Health Center; June 3 | Duke Primary Care Croasdaile; June 4)
- Survivorship Day (June 7)
- LLS Health Fair (Raleigh, June 10)
- PHEN Prostate Program (June 10)
- Fatherhood Conference (Jun 17)

Past Events

February 2023

- Mary Ann Black Health Equity Lecture (Durham, NC; Feb 9)

March 2023

- 2023 NC Indian Unity Conference (Mar 9-11)
- NC Colorectal Cancer Roundtable March Meeting (Mar 15)
- LUNGe Forward Walk & Celebration (Mar 25)
- Cancer Disparities and Equity Lecture (Online; Mar 28)

April 2023

- NCCU First Lady's Walk and Health Fair (Apr 1)
- Chinese Christian Mission Church/Asian Community Health Fair (Apr 2)
- Durham Branch of the NAACP and the Durham Committee on the Affairs of Back People Meeting (Durham leaders gather to tackle gun violence) (Apr 6)
- Women's Health Awareness Conference (Durham, NC; Apr 15)
- National Dialogue on the intersection of Racism and HIV as a Public Health Crisis (Apr 18)
- LiveLung Conference (Apr 19)
- Sisters Network of the Triangle April Monthly Meeting (Apr 27)
- 1911 Cycle Fest; Smithfield Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. (Apr 29)

May 2023

- SAICEP Webinar (Virtual; May 3)

***Thank you to everyone who was able to attend and volunteer!
Stay up to date with all our latest events via social media!***



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