

**Redes En Acción**

The National Latino Cancer Research Network



Report On

The Seventh Annual *Redes En Acción*

**National Steering Committee Meeting**

Amplifying the  
**Redes Ripple Effect**

August 1-3, 2007 San Antonio, Texas

[www.redesenaccion.org](http://www.redesenaccion.org)





Report on  
The 7th Annual  
**Redes En Acción** National Steering Committee Meeting  
August 1-3, 2007 • San Antonio, Texas

**R**edes En Acción: The National Latino Cancer Research Network is a major Community Networks Program initiative supported by the National Cancer Institute's Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities. The primary purpose is to create a national and regional infrastructure for collaboration among grassroots leaders, local communities, researchers and public health professionals to stimulate cancer control research, training and awareness. Through network activities, *Redes En Acción* is establishing training and research opportunities for Latino students and researchers, generating research projects on key cancer issues impacting Latinos and supporting cancer awareness activities.

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*Redes En Acción*: The National Latino Cancer Research Network is a Community Networks Program initiative of the National Cancer Institute.  
NCI Grant No. 1 UO1 CA114657-01



# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## Enhancing the Redes 'ripple effect'

The image of a pebble dropping into still water is the perfect symbol of a ripple effect – ever-widening circles get larger, touch more, and reach out into the surrounding area. What better icon than the ripple to portray *Redes En Acción's* far-reaching impact on stimulating cancer control research, training, and awareness to reduce cancer health disparities?

As the theme of the 2007 National Steering Committee meeting, the *Redes* ripple effect was illustrated dozens of ways, from our strong national and regional infrastructure to collaboration with grass roots leaders, researchers, public health professionals, and national partners, and, finally and maybe most importantly, reaching the people and communities we serve.

Dr. Francisco Cigarroa, president of The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, sent a welcome message to the conference, stating, "It is through collaboration and meetings such as these that we can continue to identify and reach our goals in making educational and health care disparities a thing of the past."

From our regional centers and pilot



investigators, we heard unique perspectives as to what the *Redes* ripple effect means to them. From our partners at private foundations and public universities, we learned how *Redes'* resources have helped them meet

communication goals – getting the word out to communities to give them the best access to materials and information to improve quality of care.

Dr. Leonel Vela gave a vivid portrait of the accomplishments of the Regional Academic Health Centers and their work in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. Dr. Eduardo Sanchez presented compelling reasons why now, more than ever, we must stand up, speak out, and get involved.

Meeting participants were introduced to an exciting new project called the Hispanic Community Health Study/Study of Latinos (SOL), the largest long-term epidemiological study of health and disease in the Hispanic/Latino populations ever funded by the National Institutes of Health.

And, back by popular demand, the *Redes* town hall meeting opened the floor to brainstorming and suggestions from members. As always, you asked questions, posed challenges, and articulated lively and thought-provoking ideas.

Challenges, as ever, abound: We have fewer Latinos going into the health professions. We have fewer federal dollars to support those who do. Our communities traditionally are uninsured or underinsured with lower education and income levels. Even at a time when the minorities are the majority in the U.S., it is a struggle to generate reliable data and essential research. All of these elements make it imperative for us to think creatively, create synergy, and build a better safety net for everyone.

To that end, a single pebble in quiet waters is only the beginning. As one member commented, "Maybe all of these ripples will come together to form a tsunami." It's a magnificent and powerful image, and one that we can use to inspire us as we work together to wipe out cancer health disparities.

Amelie G. Ramirez, DrPH  
Principal Investigator  
*Redes En Acción*

## 7th Annual Redes En Acción National Steering Committee Meeting

### Wednesday, August 1

6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Reception & Registration. Victoria's House (Compliments of the Marriott Plaza San Antonio Hotel)

### Thursday, August 2

8:00 – 8:30 a.m.

Continental Breakfast, Hidalgo B & C Ballrooms

8:30 – 9:00 a.m.

#### Welcome/Meeting Overview/Introductions

Amelie G. Ramirez, DrPH

Principal Investigator, *Redes En Acción*

9:00 – 9:15 a.m.

#### Community Networks Program (CNP) Update

Speaker: Roland Garcia, PhD, Program Officer, Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities, NCI

9:15 – 9:45 a.m.

#### Welcome (taped)

Speaker: Francisco Cigarroa, MD, President, University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio

#### Case Study: South Texas Initiative

Speaker: Leonel Vela, MD, Regional Dean, Regional Academic Health Centers, University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio

9:45 – 10:00 a.m.

#### Redes Report Card

Amelie G. Ramirez, DrPH, Principal Investigator, *Redes En Acción*

10:00 – 10:15 a.m. Break

10:15 – 10:45 a.m.

#### From the Field: The Regional Ripple Effect

Panel Participants:

Gregory A. Talavera, MD, MPH

Eliseo J. Pérez-Stable, MD

Maria E. Fernandez, PhD

J. Emilio Carrillo, MD, MPH

Frank J. Penedo, PhD

10:45 – 11:45 a.m.

Panel: **The Redes Ripple Effect: Research & Training**

Moderator: Eliseo J. Pérez-Stable, MD

Panel Participants: Success Stories

Anna Nápoles-Springer, PhD

Concepción Díaz-Arrastía, MD

Wendy Lorizio, MD, MPH, for Elad Ziv, MD

11:45 – 12:15 p.m. Group Photo

12:15 – 1:45 p.m. Lunch, Hidalgo A Ballroom

#### Policy Challenges

Moderator: Tim Mahony, Associate Director Government Affairs, National Hispanic Medical Association

Moderator: Elena Rios, MD, President & Founder, National Hispanic Medical Association

2:00 – 3:15 p.m.

#### Panel: The Redes Effect: Public Education

##### Dissemination

Moderator: Maria E. Fernandez, PhD

Panel Participants:

Susan Brown, MS, RN, Manager of Health Education, Susan G. Komen for the Cure

Bret Shaw, PhD – Assistant Scientist, Centers of Excellence in Cancer Communications Research, University of Wisconsin - Madison

Guillermo Tortolero-Luna, MD, PhD, Director Cancer Control and Population Sciences, University of Puerto Rico, Comprehensive Cancer Center

Robert L. Russell, PhD, Self Reliance Foundation

3:15 – 3:30 p.m. Break

3:30 – 4:45 p.m.

#### Panel: New Directions in Latino Health Research & Advocacy

Moderator: Amelie G. Ramirez, DrPH

NCI Panel Participants:

Shobha Srinivasan, PhD, Health Disparities Research Coordinator Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences, NCI

Jorge Gomez, MD, PhD, Chief, Organ Systems Branch, National Cancer Institute

NHLBI Panel Participants:

Paul D. Sorlie, PhD, Chief, Epidemiology Branch, National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute

Greg Talavera, MD, MPH, Principal Investigator Hispanic Community Health Study, San Diego Field Center

Frank J. Penedo, PhD, Investigator, Hispanic Community Health Study – Miami Field Center

4:45 – 5:00 p.m. Review of Day 1

Preview of Day 2

### Friday, August 3

7:30 – 8:30 a.m.

Continental Breakfast, Hidalgo B & C Ballrooms

8:30 – 9:15 a.m.

#### National Policy Impacting Latino Health Disparities

Moderator: Amelie G. Ramirez, DrPH

Speaker: Eduardo J. Sanchez, MD, Director, Institute for Health Policy, UT School of Public Health at Houston

9:15 – 10:45 a.m.

#### Panel: Different Perspectives in Cancer Research

Moderator: Amelie G. Ramirez, DrPH

Panel Participants:

Holly Howe, PhD – Executive Director, North American Association of Central Cancer Registries

J. Emilio Carrillo, MD, MPH, New York-Presbyterian Community Health Plan, New York Weill Cornell Medical Center

Andy Miller, MHSE, CHES, Director of Survivorship, Lance Armstrong Foundation

10:45 – 11:00 a.m. Break

11:00 – 11:30 a.m. Town Hall Meeting: **The Future of**

#### Latino Cancer Policy Research

Co-Moderators: Eliseo J. Pérez-Stable, MD and

Robert O. Valdez, PhD, MHSA

11:30 – noon

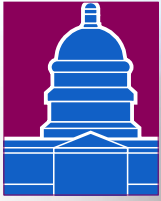
Meeting summary

Meeting evaluation

Noon

Adjournment





# NATIONAL RIPPLES

*National panel highlights new ways to broaden scope*

Representatives from the National Cancer Institute and National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute offered insight into future directions in Latino research, including the new Hispanic Community Health Study/Study of Latinos (SOL), in a two-part panel, "New Directions in Latino Health Research & Advocacy."

SOL is an exciting research program in San Diego, Chicago, the Bronx, and Miami designed to "identify the prevalence of and risk factors for disease, disorders, and conditions in the Hispanic Latino population," said Paul D. Sorlie, PhD, Chief, Epidemiology Branch, NHLBI.

"The major significance in this study is that we are going to have a very large sample size, and multiple assessments of risk factors of different conditions," said Frank J. Penedo, PhD, Investigator in the study's Miami Field Center. "The information we gather from this is really going to be instrumental in guiding primary and secondary production efforts in the Hispanic community across the United States."

Added Greg Talavera, MD, MPH, Investigator in the study's San Diego Field Center: "It's time right now to network with any of the principal investigators or the co-investigators at any of these sites to work your idea through the



(L-R) Drs. Shobha Srinivasan, Frank J. Penedo, Paul D. Sorlie, Amelie G. Ramirez, Greg Talavera and Jorge Gomez

system. In that same vein we hope to promote career development along the way."

NCI working groups are another way to impact research, said Jorge Gomez, MD, PhD, Chief, Organ Systems Branch, NCI. "The clinical trials working group and a translational research working group are two big programs that are going to embrace all of the different divisions of the NCI," he said. "You can contribute tremendously by providing not only the expertise but the potential to contribute in the actual behavioral research."

Also, more grants are needed for cancer survivorship, not just prevention, said Shobha Srinivasan, PhD, Health Disparities Research Coordinator, Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences, NCI.

"I would like to see more in survivorship, because we don't know too much about quality of life," Dr. Srinivasan said. "How do we follow up with that group? We need a database to use existing prevention and intervention strategies to be used in similar populations, and an analysis of data beyond race and ethnicity."

## Making ripples in the public arena

Like all good ripples, *Redes* ripples extend into places where they can do the most good, such as education for families, communities, and organizations. The examples presented in the panel, "The *Redes* Effect: Public Education Dissemination," do just that.

Take, for instance, the use of *Redes*' public service announcements in the Puerto Rican government's new Comprehensive Cancer Center. The center provides access to high-quality, research-based medical care and seeks to increase awareness of clinical trials, said Guillermo Tortolero-Luna, PhD, Director, Cancer Control and Population Sciences, University of Puerto Rico, Comprehensive Cancer Center. "We are using four public service announcements developed by *Redes En Acción*, changing their voice to a more native Puerto Rican voice," he said. "We hope next time we will have some results, to see if we are able to impact participating in clinical trials."

*Redes* also helps the Hispanic Latina Advisory Council direct the development of initiatives to reduce disparities in breast cancer mortality and morbidity, said Susan Brown, MS, RN, Manager of Health Education, Susan G. Komen for the Cure. The council, led by chair Dr. Amelie Ramirez since its inception in 2001, has promoted Komen at media events, conferences and meetings. "This year we are again calling upon *Redes En Acción* to assist us in increasing participation in race events and in public policy efforts," Mrs. Brown said.

The Self Reliance Foundation, which received "significant funding" for its Human Genome Project at the National Institutes of Health and invaluable advice from Dr. Ramirez and Kip Gallion of *Redes*, has a new



(L-R) Dr. Guillermo Tortolero-Luna, Susan Brown, Bret Shaw, moderator Dr. Maria Fernandez, and Dr. Robert L. Russell

ripple, said Robert L. Russell, PhD, Self Reliance Foundation. *Consciencia* is a weekly set of science and health stories for media distribution that Dr. Russell said creates a "rich environment for the learning of science for kids from all directions – activities, role models, exciting stories."

*Redes* ripple effects even extend into cyberspace. CHES (Comprehensive Health Enhancement Support Systems), a research-based Internet system designed to help individuals cope with their diagnoses, showcased its new Spanish-language Web site, *Conviviendo con el Cáncer de Seno*. "*Redes En Acción* kindly agreed to let us use *Nuestras Historias* for our online support group," said Bret Shaw, PhD, assistant scientist at the Centers of Excellence in Cancer Communications Research at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. "It was a good way to direct traffic between the two sites."



# REGIONAL RIPPLES

## Regional centers expand their reach

The ripples being generated at each of *Redes'* regional coordinating centers are experiencing greater and great impacts, according to five of the principal investigators who offered reports in the panel, "From the Field: The Regional Ripple Effect."

"Our Southwest region has had a tremendous impact on individuals and cancer centers throughout the area," said Gregory Talavera, MD, MPH. He spoke about several individuals and their projects at San Diego State University, including former mentee Dr. Monica Yepes-Rios, who did qualitative studies of colorectal cancer screening and, from that pilot work, received funding. She is now applying for a faculty spot at the University of Hawaii, "so one of our ripples has crossed the South Pacific," Dr. Talavera said.

Eliseo J. Pérez-Stable, MD, reported on the ripple effects of his center's research activities in Northern California. He described an innovative booklet directed to diverse populations to "actually promote the value of research" and lauded Dr. René Salazar's video intervention for colorectal cancer screening targeted to Latinos.

Maria Fernandez, PhD,

highlighted the ripple effects in training, awareness, and research in the South Central region. She said Tu Salud Si Cuenta, a program in collaboration with the UT School of Public Health, "builds on a lot of the experience and lessons learned from the *Redes* team and previous A Su Salud programs."

Emilio Carrillo, MD, MPH, lauded the ripple effects made by the Northeast team. He noted that Dr. Ana Natale-Pereira, the team's first junior faculty, utilized collaborations with other *Redes* faculty and leadership to "put together a \$1 million primary care training program grant that is now training other Latino physicians and professionals."

Frank J. Penedo, PhD, outlined *Redes'* ripple effect on training in the Southeast region.

"It's really outstanding, not only across multiple levels of academia," he said, "but also the impact these individuals have on research environments, community based environments, in publications, at NIH, and on private foundation grants."



Dr. Greg Talavera

Dr. Eliseo J. Pérez-Stable

Dr. Maria Fernandez

Dr. Emilio Carrillo

Dr. Frank J. Penedo

## Individuals create their own ripples

Several former *Redes* pilot investigators showcased their own research and training successes in a panel that also helped answer what a *Redes* ripple actually looks like.

"You're looking at one," said Anna Nápoles-Springer, PhD, University of California, San Francisco. "I can't say enough about the *Redes* team, what they've done, and how they've influenced my life." Beginning with her early days of working on physician-patient communication among Latinos, Dr. Nápoles-Springer went on to describe Circulo de Vida, "the most comprehensive Spanish-language program in the area," developed by Dr. Carmen Ortiz. "The funding from *Redes* gave Carmen an opportunity to start thinking about research," she said, "and how she could build an evidence base to show that what she was doing was really working."

Dr. Wendy Lorizio, MD, MPH, University of California, San Francisco, reported for Elad Ziv about the La Madre study, a pilot project on mammographic density and genetic admixture among Latinas. "We wanted to study the association between mammographic density and

breast cancer risk, and we also wanted to study if ethnicity can be a predictor of mammographic density," she said. Future goals include replicating the study in Mexican women in collaboration with the National Institute of Public Health in Mexico.

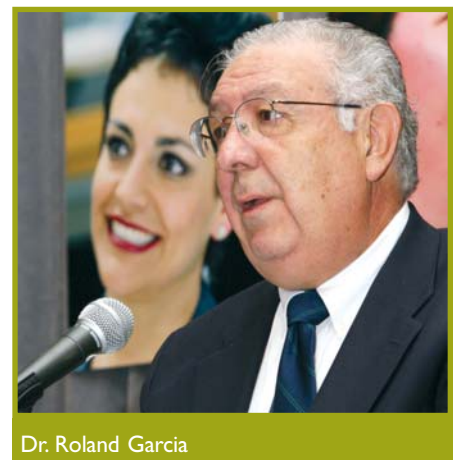
Concepción Diaz-Arrastia, MD, University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, said she experienced a personal *Redes* ripple effect that helped her emerge from humble beginnings to a high degree of credibility and respect.

"With *Redes*, research obstacles turned into research support at many levels," Dr. Diaz-Arrastia said. "I was successful in getting funding for various projects, which I call the '*Redes* Relative Funding Unit.' The first one is a K-22 grant I got to look at the molecular signature of early cervical cancer, and it had a RRFU of 9x."

Earlier in the NSC meeting, Dr. Roland Garcia of the National Cancer Institute, during his Community Networks Program update, had this advice for *Redes* researchers: "The next steps are continued research on developing interventions and the pilots. Finish them. If you get a pilot, if you're mentoring a pilot, finish it."



(L-R) Drs. Wendy Lorizio, Concepción Diaz-Arrastia, Anna Nápoles-Springer, and moderator Eliseo J. Pérez-Stable



Dr. Roland Garcia





# GUEST SPEAKERS

## Dr. Vela: Transforming a region's health status

Leonel Vela, MD, Regional Dean, Regional Academic Health Centers, The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio.

Dr. Leonel Vela began his presentation, "Case Study: A South Texas Initiative," with a heartfelt narrative of the healthcare challenges of the Rio Grande Valley of Texas and the role of the Regional Academic Health Center (RAHC) in addressing those challenges.

He explained that the center's focus is on medical education programs to address the significant physician shortage in the area and the diseases that disproportionately affect this community, including birth defects, obesity and other chronic maladies.

With the primarily Hispanic population doubling about every 30 years, Dr. Vela said, "We also have some of the highest rates of chronic infectious diseases in the country." About 70 percent of the adult population is overweight or obese, and mortality from liver and cervical

cancer is significantly higher than the state rate.

Adding to the issue is the fact that the Valley region has the highest rate of *colonias* – poor regulated border subdivisions that have insufficient infrastructure for fresh water, wastewater, drainage systems, and electricity – in the nation.

"As one who believes dearly in public health, I chose that area to be the unique aspect of our training," Dr. Vela said. "I feel very strongly that we need to prepare our future physicians in the areas of public health, epidemiology, and environmental medicine."

"At times in our professional careers, we are blessed with opportunities that help to bring clarity to our purpose in life," he said.

Dr. Vela is optimistic that the RAHC will be a "catalyst in ushering in a new era, a new hope, for healthcare in this area."



Dr. Leonel Vela

## Dr. Sanchez: Get mad, and do something about it

Eduardo J. Sanchez, MD, Director, Institute for Health Policy, UT School of Public Health at Houston

Dr. Eduardo Sanchez challenged the NSC audience with a famous movie line.

Like *Network*, a 1976 film, "I'm going to try to convince you that we should be mad as hell and we're not going to take it anymore," Dr. Sanchez said. "As Martin Luther King Jr. once said, 'Of all the forms of inequality, injustice in healthcare is the



Dr. Eduardo J. Sanchez

most shocking and inhumane."

Dr. Sanchez' presentation, "National Policy Impacting Latino Health Disparities," addressed three main issues affecting inequality in Latino health policy: immigration, insurance, and educational attainment.

"Our country is not going down the tubes because undocumented residents are living in our nation," he said. "Immigration tries to characterize this a biosecurity issue, and that is just nonsense."

As for insurance, "Latinos are less likely to be able to access care that they're eligible for, and when they do, they are less likely to get the care they're supposed to be getting," he said.

Finally, "Latinos are the least likely subpopulation to graduate from high school," he said. "When Latinos don't graduate, they are not becoming the researchers, the physicians, the commissioners of health, and the surgeon generals that we need them to be."

"Providing assistance is not a sign of weakness, it is a way of empowering," Dr. Sanchez said. "I hope you figure out ways that we can not only be mad as hell, but also make a difference."

## Mr. Mahony: Supporting health disparity bills

Tim Mahony, Associate Director Government Affairs, National Hispanic Medical Association

Standing in for National Hispanic Medical Association president and CEO Dr. Elena Rios, NHMA coordinator Tim Mahony gave the luncheon speech at this year's NSC meeting, "Policy Challenges," with an overview of the various legislative bills being proposed in Congress to address Hispanic health care.

Hispanics have an obvious need for legislative changes.

"Hispanics have the most uninsured, more than one-third," Mr. Mahony said. "And they have the most problems with disparities."

Mr. Mahony cited several beneficial bills, including The Health Equity

and Accountability Act Section 505: Cancer Prevention and Treatment Demonstration for Ethnic and Racial Minorities that "will conduct demonstration projects to reduce health disparities, improve clinical outcomes, quality of life, and use of Medicare, eliminate disparities in cancer screening, and promote cultural and linguistic competency."

Also, he said, the Cancer Testing, Education, Screening, and Treatment Act, introduced by Rep. Maxine Waters, is designed to "establish a program to provide screenings and treatment for cancer to minority or underserved populations."



Tim Mahony



# FUTURE IMPACT

*New realms in cancer research*



(L-R) Dr. Holly Howe, Andy Miller, and Amelie G. Ramirez (not shown Dr. J. Emilio Carrillo)

Redes En Acción *is always looking for new and unique research strategies. A panel, "Different Perspectives in Cancer Research," offered their thoughts.*

The appropriate shift in terminology from cultural competency should be to cultural and linguistic competence, said J. Emilio Carrillo, MD, MPH, New York-Presbyterian Community Health Plan, New York Weill Cornell Medical Center. "Without the language issue, you cannot address the cultural issue. This is in line with our mission, and something that we need to further embrace."

Holly Howe, PhD, Executive Director, North American Association of Central Cancer Registries, is working hard to encourage the use of cancer registry data in Latina cancer research.

"I'm leading a very small group at NAACCR to look at whether we can define homogeneous ethnic specific populations based on county data," she said.

Andy Miller, MHSE, CHES, Director of Survivorship, Lance Armstrong Foundation, said his foundation has partnered with the NCI to create an adolescent and young adult oncology progress review group.

"We know very little about the long-term and late effects of cancer on this group of survivors," he said. "We're hoping that future research could include additional studies of disease progression and outcome difference based on race and ethnicity."

## Redes looks to the future

### What is next for Redes En Acción?

A town hall panel at the conclusion of the NSC meeting began with these two questions: Robert O. Valdez, PhD, asked, "Clearly *Redes* is a jewel, a wonderful experience, but how do we make it better?" and Eliseo J. Pérez-Stable, MD, asked, "As a network, we've been focused on cancer and cancer control. Should we expand to other chronic diseases?"

NSC members answered.

"Get community advocates to sit on your review boards, and educate them to tell legislators and policymakers about important issues. That makes an impact."

"We need to find a way to bring exceptional researchers into the arena, even if they aren't doing Latino research. We need to integrate ourselves into mainstream science."

"We should have a representative from the DOD at these conferences, because we need to encourage Latinos to look into more research from them."

Town hall participants certainly envisioned *Redes* making more, even larger, ripples.

"There are important disparities between African Americans and white, but all the shades in between get ignored, over and over. I think *Redes* has the potential to figure out how we can become more visible and more powerful as a voice."



(L-R) Drs. Eliseo J. Pérez-Stable and Robert O. Valdez





## National Steering Committee Members and Invited Guests

**Lourdes Baezconde-Garbanati, PhD**  
USC - Norris  
Comprehensive Cancer  
Center and IPR

**Maria Castillo-Couch, MPA**  
City of Las Vegas,  
Neighborhood Initiatives

**Linda Civalero, MPH, CHES**  
MD Anderson Cancer  
Center

**Angelina Esparza, RN**  
American Cancer Society

**M. Claudia Espinel**  
Seguros Bolivar

**Estevan T. Flores, PhD**  
University of Colorado at  
Denver & Health Science  
Center

**Roland A. Garcia, PhD**  
National Cancer Institute

**Venus Gines, MA**  
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**Thomas J. Glynn, PhD**  
American Cancer Society

**Alicia Gonzales, MSSW**  
National Center for  
Farmworker Health, Inc.

**Igor Gorlach**  
The University of Texas  
School of Public Health

**Carolyn Gotay, PhD**  
Cancer Research Center of  
Hawaii

**Jennifer Hernandez**  
Robert Wood Johnson  
Foundation

**Daniel C. Hughes, PhD**  
The University of Texas  
M.D. Anderson Cancer  
Center

**Karina Hurley**  
Self Reliance Foundation

**Diana D. Jeffery, PhD**  
National Cancer Institute

**Diana Jimeno-Ingrum**  
University of Notre Dame

**Felicja Manciu**  
El Paso, TX

**Marian Manciu**  
University of Texas at El  
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**Maria Elena Martinez,  
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Arizona Cancer Center

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**Rena J. Pasick, DrPH**  
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**Armin D. Weinberg, PhD**  
Baylor College of Medicine

**Edward Zuroweste, MD**  
Migrant Clinicians Network

### **SPEAKERS**

**Susan Brown, MS, RN**  
Susan G. Komen for the  
Cure

**Jorge Gomez, MD, PhD**  
National Cancer Institute

**Holly L. Howe, PhD**  
North American  
Association of Central  
Cancer Registries

**Andy Miller, MHSE, CHES**  
Lance Armstrong  
Foundation

**Robert L. Russell, PhD**  
Self Reliance Foundation

**Eduardo J. Sanchez, MD,  
MPH**  
The University of Texas  
School of Public Health

**Bret Shaw, PhD**  
University of Wisconsin -  
Madison

**Paul D. Sorlie, PhD**  
National Heart, Lung, and  
Blood Institute

**Shobha Srinivasan, PhD**  
National Cancer Institute

**Guillermo Tortolero-Luna,  
MD, PhD**  
University of Puerto Rico

**Leonel Vela, MD, MPH**  
University of Texas Health  
Science Center at San  
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**Francisco J. Penedo, PhD**  
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**Eliseo J. Pérez-Stable, MD**  
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**Elena V. Rios, MD, MSPH**  
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**Gregory A. Talavera, MD,  
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The University of Texas  
Houston Health Science  
Center

**Lucina Suarez, PhD**  
Texas Department of State  
Health Services

### **TRAINEES**

**Concepción Diaz-  
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University of Texas Medical  
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**Ana Maria Lopez, MD,  
MPH, FACP**  
University of Arizona

**Wendy Lorizio, MD, MPH**  
University of California,  
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