



# The Bay Beat

The Newsletter of the Tampa Bay Community Cancer Network

July 2006

We want to hear from you!

If you have any suggestions for stories for the next edition of "The Bay Beat" please email them to: [DossettND@Moffitt.usf.edu](mailto:DossettND@Moffitt.usf.edu) or call 1-866-84-TBCCN

Health and intellect are the two blessings of life.

~Menander

Welcome to the inaugural edition of the TBCCN's newsletter! Here you will find important updates about our community partners' events, grant opportunities, TBCCN activities and information for cancer education, prevention and treatment. The TBCCN is a partnership of the Moffitt Cancer Cen-

ter & Research Institute and several diverse local organizations including community-based nonprofit, grassroots, faith-based, adult education and clinical service organizations. We have partnered together to work on reducing cancer health disparities affecting people in the communities we serve.



TBCCN poster from the 5th Biennial Cancer, Culture and Literacy Conference (May 2006)

## Toll-free Number

Now you can reach us toll-free! Call 1-866-84-TBCCN (82226)

## Mission Statement

We invite you to submit your ideas for a mission statement for the TBCCN. We encourage everyone to think about possible ideas and we will discuss them at the next Community Partners Meeting.

## Tampa Haitian Flag Day Celebration

The Haitian American Alliance, Inc., in collaboration with Motown Maurice Productions and other community partners hosted the third annual Tampa Haitian Flag Day Celebration on May 13, 2006 at Lowry Park. Approximately 1000 people attended the event, which was to promote Haitian culture and community relations in the Bay area. The event also held a community health component, and Moffitt and

TBCCN partners took part with educational information and screenings. Local Haitian American physicians collaborated with the event's health components, serving as medical resources to Haitian community members with health questions. Andy Numa, Director of the Haitian American Alliance said, "We were very satisfied with the

turnout. In this third year, our attendance tripled from last year's event. The partnership with Moffitt and other community partners was really key in making this event a continued success and positively impact the Haitian American community." The day was rounded out with live Haitian music, food and fun for attendees of all ages.



## African American Women's Cancer Retreat



Women register for their mammograms as part of the San Jose Mission's health fair held on March 29, 2006.

The weekend of May 12-14, the Faces of Courage Foundation held their second annual African American Women's Cancer Retreat at the Rotary Camp Florida in Brandon. The camp was open to women of color whose lives have been touched by any type of cancer. This year 67 women attended the retreat. Holding true to the foundation's motto, "Cancer is serious, camp is serious fun," the camp was held in true Faces of Courage

style featuring music, dancing, arts and crafts, spa treatments and a "death by chocolate" party. The camp also included many points of cancer education throughout the weekend, including the "straight talk about cancer" discussion.

This retreat was created in an effort to address the growing need to bring African American women together for fun-filled weekend where they can learn from one another.

Faces of Courage founder and CEO, Peggie Sherry says, "Survivors can tell you the ins and outs [of cancer] in lay language that books can't tell you, because they have been there."

Faces of Courage was the first organization in the nation to do an African American women's retreat like this. Sherry says, "The true testimony of the camp is that women tell each other. Everyone who attended the camp last year told someone."

## Celebration of Community and Health



Community members line up for health screenings at the "Celebration of Community and Health" in Pasco County. This event was held on March 18th and was co-sponsored by TBCCN, Farmworker Self Help and Premier Community HealthCare Group.

The Tampa Bay Community Cancer Network would like to congratulate everyone on a job well done at the health fair in Pasco County on Saturday, March 18th. We would like to thank Farmworkers Self Help, Inc. for hosting the event and Premier Community HealthCare Group, Inc. for their assistance in providing the

health screening services, including paps, PSAs, blood pressure, total cholesterol, diabetes, and BMI. We would also like to acknowledge the staff at Lifetime Cancer Screening Center for providing the mobile mammography services at the event. A total of 27 women received mammograms during the health fair and because there

were so many more women who were interested in being screened, we were able to schedule another full day of mammograms on Wednesday, June 14<sup>th</sup>. "A Celebration of Community and Health" helped families in the community enjoy a beautiful day at the park listening to great music, enjoying tasty foods and participating in fun, health-promoting activities!

## Upcoming Events

September 8: Women's Oncology Weekend, Faces of Courage, Inc.

September 30: FACTors 19th Annual Breast Cancer Education Conference at Tampa Waterside Marriott, 8am-4pm

September 30: FORCE event to raise awareness about the link between breast cancer and ovarian cancer. 5pm-8:30pm at Cotanchobee Park (next to Marriott Waterside)