IHPR’s national Latino cancer research network gets $5.6M federal grant

After a decade of success reducing Latino cancer through research, training and education, locally based Redes En Acción: The National Hispanic/Latino Cancer Research Network has received a new $5.6 million grant from the National Cancer Institute (NCI) to bolster and expand its cancer-fighting efforts.

Redes En Acción, launched in 2000, is led by the Institute for Health Promotion Research (IHPR) at The UT Health Science Center at San Antonio.

Redes has regional sites in Miami, New York, San Diego and San Francisco along with an online network of more than 1,800 researchers and advocates.

In 10 years, Redes has successfully tested novel interventions to improve access to cancer care and screening, trained the next generation of Latino cancer researchers and raised public and scientist awareness of Latino cancer issues.

The new grant will bolster Redes’ efforts through 2015 and pave way for two new studies: a large-scale study to test novel strategies to improve Latino cancer survivors’ quality of life and a pilot study of an Internet-based tobacco cessation service.

You can join Redes, too—just enter your e-mail address.

Continued on Page 10
From IHPR Director
Dr. Amelie G. Ramirez

Given the growing importance of cancer prevention and survivorship, it gave me great pleasure to recently join a prestigious Council of Experts to help achieve the goals of the National Call to Action (NCTA) on Cancer Prevention and Survivorship.

The NCTA was unveiled in 2008 by cyclist and activist Lance Armstrong and four former U.S. Surgeon Generals—Drs. Antonia Novello, Joycelyn Elders, David Satcher and Richard Carmona—to outline a plan to fight cancer. The NCTA is a roadmap for survivors, health professionals, policy-makers, employers, educators and insurers to identify cancer prevention and survivorship strategies.

The new NCTA Council of Experts will provide strategic guidance to the NCTA Community, a collective of individuals and groups who share the mission of advancing the NCTA through activities that improve people's health along the cancer continuum.

My fellow Council of Experts member Dr. Steven R. Patierno summed it up when he said, “The NCTA Council of Experts will assist the NCTA Community in sustaining the effort to eliminate the barriers that interfere with access to quality cancer treatment, cancer prevention and control, utilization of available screenings, access to and utilization of support services, and long-term survivorship. The task is enormous, but our collective resources and determination will have a significant impact on the fight against cancer.”

I agree that this council will be able to make great strides in preventing cancer and increasing access to screening, diagnosis, treatment and survivorship resources.

I will be sure to keep you apprised of our progress.

Dr. Amelie G. Ramirez
Director, IHPR

IHPR Staff Profile: Cliff Despres

Explosé of overcrowded animal shelters.

Feuds between cities and land developers.

Even a look into Napoleon Bonaparte’s true cause of death.

Cliff Despres has covered these issues and more as a reporter at a Dallas Morning News suburban newspaper, and translated scientific studies into easy-to-read news stories as a public relations specialist at UT Southwestern Medical Center.

Despres now uses this experience to develop, manage and improve print and electronic communications at the Institute for Health Promotion Research (IHPR) at The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio.

“I’m excited to be able to promote the IHPR’s innovative research and culturally relevant health messages,” said Despres, a 2001 graduate of UT Austin’s journalism program, brought his news and PR know-how to the IHPR in 2007. He oversees the IHPR’s material development. His tasks include: editing grant proposals and journal articles; writing news releases and other materials; and creating and managing PowerPoint presentations, Web sites, fact sheets and brochures.

He writes the IHPR’s quarterly Noticias E-newsletter and a monthly E-alert and quarterly E-newsletter for Salud Americana!, a national Latino childhood obesity prevention network.

He also writes the SaludToday blog and updates its Facebook and Twitter.

“I hope to increase the IHPR visibility,” he said, “by spreading our study results and innovative health messages that inspire positive behavior changes in people.”

Fun Facts

Hometown: San Antonio, Texas.

Family: Wife, Veronica; Children, Aidenne and Joscelyn

Hobbies: Family time, playing/watching sports, exercising

Favorite food(s): French fries

Favorite movie(s): Labyrinth; The Shawshank Redemption; Donnie Darko; Memento

Favorite book(s): It
‘Insider’ training program to increase number of Latino cancer researchers

**QUESTION:** Who has insider info on Latinos that could pave way for new studies of cultural, linguistic and socioeconomic issues to reduce the Latino cancer burden?

**ANSWER:** A cancer researcher who also is a Latino.

To that end, the new Latino Training Program for Cancer Control Research (LTPCCR) aims to motivate Latinos to get doctoral degrees and become “insider researchers” in cancer control among Latinos, thanks to the Institute for Health Promotion Research (IHPR) and its five-year, $1.57-million grant from the National Cancer Institute.

Right now, few Latinos pursue doctoral degrees or cancer research careers, causing a gap in the amount of researchers examining Latino cancer issues.

The LTPCCR will develop and organize a summer training institute, paid research internships, doctoral application support and mentoring to encourage Latino master’s-level students and professionals—from Texas, Oklahoma, Arizona, New Mexico and Nevada—to complete doctoral programs and start careers in cancer control.

“We hope that training new Latino researchers will increase the proportion of Latinos in cancer research, which in turn will boost the amount of work being done to reduce cancer health inequalities among Latinos,” said IHPR Director Dr. Amelie G. Ramirez.

The LTPCCR is modeled after a California evidence-based training program, the Minority-

### IHPR Articles and Presentations

#### Articles:
- Bastani, R., Mojica, C., Berman, B., & Ganz, P. (2010). Low income women with abnormal breast findings: results of a randomized trial to increase rates of diagnostic resolution. *Cancer Epidemiology, Biomarkers & Prevention*, 19, 8, 1927-36.

#### Presentations:
IHPR’s PSAs win awards for raising awareness of cancer screening among Latinos

Two of the Institute for Health Promotion Research’s public service announcements (PSAs) that urge Latinos to get screened for cancer have won prestigious “Public Service” Awards at the 31st Annual Telly Awards.

The winning PSAs, “I Admire Them” and “Now You Know,” are 30-second TV spots produced through the IHPR-led Redes En Acción: The National Hispanic/Latino Cancer Research Network, a National Cancer Institute initiative to combat Latino cancer.

These two PSAs and four others were released in late 2009 by Redes to encourage Latinos to learn more about screening tests for breast, cervical and colorectal cancers by calling the NCI’s toll-free number (1-800-4CANCER).

“We’re extremely excited by the Telly Award recognition for our PSAs,” said IHPR Director and Redes Principal Investigator Dr. Amelie G. Ramirez. “Latinos are at a disadvantage when it comes to being in good health, so these PSAs are helping Latinos around the country learn more about cancer screening and prompt preventive action.”

All 6 PSAs are airing on TV stations across the nation and can be viewed in English and Spanish on YouTube, SaludToday or Redes.

To request broadcast-quality PSAs, e-mail saludtoday@uthscsa.edu.

IHPR News Briefs

IHPR’s Ramirez helping groups explore breast cancer risks

IHPR Director Dr. Amelie G. Ramirez is serving as liaison between Susan G. Komen for the Cure and the Institute of Medicine (IOM) for their new review of the effect of chemicals and the environment in breast cancer risk. Komen is investing more than $1.25 million for the IOM to assess the strength of the science on possible links between breast cancer and the environment and also consider evidence-based preventive actions women might take to reduce their risk. Ramirez, elected to the IOM in 2007 and also a member of Komen’s Scientific Advisory Board, is liaison for the IOM’s new expert committee that meets periodically on the topic.

IHPR’s Ramirez discusses Latino child obesity challenges

IHPR Director Dr. Amelie G. Ramirez discussed challenges and solutions to Latino childhood obesity as a guest on “Conversations on Health Care,” a weekly radio show airing in Connecticut, Minnesota and Michigan. The show features experts in health care innovation and reform. Listen to the episode or read the full transcript.
San Antonio leaders approve smoke-free ordinance; IHPR helped set stage

The San Antonio City Council recently approved a smoke-free ordinance, thanks in part to awareness and research efforts by a local coalition, which included the Institute for Health Promotion Research (IHPR) at The UT Health Science Center at San Antonio.

The ordinance qualifies San Antonio as a smoke-free city and “closes exemptions that have allowed smoking in bars, pool and bingo halls, comedy clubs and restaurants with enclosed smoking areas,” according to the San Antonio Express-News.


The need for the ordinance was demonstrated by the San Antonio Tobacco Prevention & Control Coalition (SA-TPCC), a multi-group partnership dedicated to a smoke-free city.

The IHPR is part of the SA-TPCC.

The IHPR developed a Community-Based Needs Assessment for the SA-TPCC to assess the baseline situation, short- and long-term goals and community change related to tobacco prevention in San Antonio.

The IHPR also conducted a GIS analysis of the impact of a potential smoking prohibition in San Antonio bars and restaurants. The analysis found that, if San Antonio went smoke-free, the city’s restaurants and bars aren’t likely to lose patrons to the few and geographically separated establishments outside the city limits that allow smoking.

Other studies have shown that comprehensive smoke-free ordinances reduce non-smokers’ exposure to secondhand smoke, reduce adult smokers’ average daily cigarette consumption and increase their quit attempts.

For those who are interested in quitting smoking, the IHPR has a magazine, ¡Buena Vida! A Guide to Help You Quit Smoking, to provide Latinos with tools and tips for quitting smoking in English or Spanish.

San Antonio’s smoking ordinance
San Antonio’s new smoking ordinance will take effect on Aug. 19, 2011 — one year from the council vote. The council has outlined its new ordinance where smoking will be prohibited and where it will be allowed. Here are the most significant elements of the new policy:

**Smoking will be prohibited in:**
- Bars
- Restaurants
- Bingo parlors
- Pool halls
- Comedy clubs
- Playgrounds and pavilions at city parks
- Public transportation stations
- San Antonio Zoo
- In and within 20 feet of outdoor public transportation stations

**Smoking will be allowed in:**
- Outdoors, except in places that are expressly prohibited
- Outdoor portion of bars and restaurants
- Main Plaza
- Alamo Plaza
- The River Walk
- Outdoor service lines
- City parks (except for under pavilions and in playgrounds)
- Private clubs such as VFWs and American Legions
- Private residences, except when used as a child care, adult day care or health care facility
- Retail tobacco stores

**Fines for Violation:**
- No more than $200 on first offense
- No more than $500 on second offense
- No more than $2,000 on third and subsequent offenses

From the San Antonio Express-News

IHPR News Briefs

IHPR’s Esparza expands role as community advocate for minority child health

Laura Esparza, an IHPR researcher who already works with several community groups to identify innovative ways to help Latina girls in San Antonio get physically active, is taking an expanded role as a community advocate for minority child health. Esparza has joined the Shared Use Coalition for the city’s Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities initiative, which aims to plan and implement strategies to increase opportunities for physical activity and access to healthy food in San Antonio’s Westside community. The coalition is trying to develop shared use agreements that allow schools, churches and city facilities to be used after hours for exercise and play. Esparza also is a member of the Steering Committee that is setting up the city’s Active Living Council, which will create and implement a multi-year master plan to promote active living, reduce sedentary behaviors and increase physical activity in Bexar County. For the past four years, Esparza also has served on the Methodist Healthcare System’s Community Board.

![Laura Esparza](image)

Salud America! grantee to lead $12 million minority child obesity project

Shari Barkin, a Vanderbilt University pediatrician and grantee of Salud America! The RWJF Research Network to Prevent Obesity Among Latino Children, which is led by the IHPR, is the principal investigator on a new project that just received a $12 million, seven-year grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The project is called “Growing Right Onto Wellness (GROW): Changing Early Body Mass Index.” Dr. Barkin will bring together Vanderbilt’s Department of Pediatrics with Metro Nashville Parks and Recreation to bring 600 families to their neighborhood park and recreation and provide a health curriculum specially designed to fit a variety of ethnic groups.

![Shari Barkin](image)
UT Health Science Center students teach ‘Healthy Choices for Kids’

About 20 middle-school students from the Good Samaritan Community Center Summer Day Camp recently went to a farmer’s market on San Antonio’s largely Latino West Side to learn about healthy food choices from medical students as part of a program at The UT Health Science Center at San Antonio.

The program, Healthy Choices for Kids, for children ages 10-14 from low-income families, doubles as an inter-professional elective course for university nursing and medical students. The students design a health curriculum and teach it at Good Samaritan Community Center and Krueger Middle School.

The students’ curriculum teaches kids how to make healthy decisions on fitness, nutrition and healthy relationships to reduce obesity, diabetes, violence and teen pregnancy.

The camp includes positive youth development, exercise, healthy lifestyle choices, goal setting, bullying/anger management and sexual abstinence.

At the farmer’s market, children learned that eating more fresh fruits and vegetables can combat childhood obesity, and that fresh produce is available for a reasonable price in their area of town. The children were each given $2 to buy fruit.

“They purchased some fruit and then went back to the center and made healthy smoothies to demonstrate different ways fruits can be used in the diet,” said Dr. Adelita G. Cantu, assistant professor of chronic nursing care, who teaches the elective course with Dr. Ruth Berggren, director of the Center for Medical Humanities & Ethics at the Health Science Center.

UT Health Science Center’s School of Medicine ranks 7th in diversity survey

The School of Medicine at the UT Health Science Center at San Antonio is ranked seventh among the more than 130 U.S. medical schools in the “Best Schools for Diversity” survey in the September 2010 issue of Hispanic Business magazine. Hispanic Business evaluated the nation’s medical schools in their success at drawing Hispanic students and their effectiveness in supporting them academically through the rigorous four-year medical school education process.

The magazine listed the Health Science Center’s School of Medicine as having: 150 Hispanic students out of 884 total enrollment—17%; and 173 full-time Hispanic faculty out of 839 total full-time faculty—21%. “Our goal is to educate and train physicians who will serve the cities and communities of South Texas for many years to come,” said Dr. Francisco Gonzalez-Scarano, dean of the School of Medicine. “This commitment is exemplified in pipeline programs for high school students, our holistic interview process, financial aid and scholarships, and student mentoring programs with faculty and residents.” UT Southwestern Medical Center, UT Health Science Center Houston and UT Medical Branch at Galveston also are ranked in the magazine’s Top 10.

Francisco Gonzalez-Scarano

Texas professors honored for scientific achievements

The Society for Advancement of Chicanos/Latinos and Native Americans in Science (SACNAS), a non-profit group that aims to diversify the scientific workforce, named two Texas professors among its four recipients of 2010 SACNAS Distinguished Awards. The award commends the individuals for their exemplary scientific achievement, teaching, and mentorship of underrepresented minority students. Dr. Ramon Lopez, a professor of physics at UT Arlington, won the 2010 SACNAS Distinguished Scientist Award. Dr. George Perry, dean of the College of Sciences and professor of biology at UT San Antonio, won the 2010 SACNAS Distinguished Professional Mentor Award.

1 in 4 Latino and black families lives in poverty

Latino and black households nationwide have the lowest median annual income of racial groups and saw the largest number of people who fell into poverty in 2009, Census Bureau figures show, mySanAntonio.com reports. About one in four Latino and black families was living in poverty.

Middle-school students Ruth Silva, Brooke Torres and Fatima Turrubiates show off the watermelon they bought at a local farmer’s market, while behind them UT Health Science Center at San Antonio nursing student Emiko Dudley and Good Samaritan Day Camp counselor Alexis Perez look on.
Latinas diagnosed with breast cancer at younger age

Latinas are diagnosed with breast cancer at a significantly younger age than white women, according to UT M.D. Anderson Cancer Center researchers.

The researchers, according to the Houston Chronicle, surveyed 122 women in Hispanic neighborhoods in Houston and found nearly half of those with breast cancer were diagnosed before age 50, about 10 years earlier than the national average for all women.

“This study shows the need to consider all populations when developing prevention and screening strategies,” Dr. Melissa Bondy, an M.D. Anderson epidemiologist and the study’s senior corresponding author, told the Chronicle. “The problem is there simply haven’t been enough studies of minority populations to develop strong risk assessment models necessary for optimal screening strategies.”

The study, published online in the journal Cancer, suggests a huge number of breast cancer cases wouldn’t be caught at early stages under new screening guidelines [screening at age 50, not 40] issued last year.

News Briefs

Latinos have less access to health care, even after changes

Latinos are far more likely than people in other racial/ethnic groups to be unable to afford health care coverage or get care when they need it, Newsweek reports. The Affordable Care Act is expected to make health insurance more accessible and affordable to nine million Latinos. However, the 8 percent of U.S. residents that the Congressional Budget Office estimates will remain uninsured once health reform is implemented will still be disproportionately Latino.

As parents lose jobs, kids—especially Latinos—lose out on health care

When Americans become unemployed, their children often lose health care coverage, according to a new study, HealthDay reports. The study in Health Affairs analyzed national data and found that 29.4% of white children, 30.4% of black children and just over 40% of Latino children became uninsured when their parents lost their jobs.

Hispanics, blacks less likely to get immediate ER care

Hispanic and black patients who seek care for chest pain in U.S. emergency rooms (ERs) are less likely to be classified as needing immediate care than white patients with similar symptoms, new research shows, HealthDay reports. The findings were published in a recent issue of the journal Academic Emergency Medicine.

At hospitals, new methods with a focus on diversity

As immigrants crowd its waiting rooms, Elmhurst Hospital Center in Queens is joining a growing number of hospitals in New York and across the country that are going beyond hiring interpreters and offering translated paperwork and are adopting practices intended to improve care for an increasingly diverse patient population, the New York Times reports.

Latinas have lower breast cancer incidence, higher mortality

Latinas have a lower incidence of breast cancer but a higher breast cancer-related mortality rate compared with white women, according to a new study in Oncologist. An increasing amount of data exists pointing to significant differences in the genetics and biology of breast cancer in Latinas as a significant contributor to the higher mortality. Other social and environmental factors likely play a significant role as well.

Breast cancer risk factors differ in Latinas

A recent study found that established breast cancer risk factors among white women had less influence on Latinas’ breast cancer risk. Among whites, an estimated 62-75% of breast cancers were attributed to evaluated risk factors, compared with 7-36% in Latinas, according to research published in Cancer.

Latinos least likely to get screened for colon cancer

Latinos, adults ages 50-59, and persons with lower income, less than a high school education, and without health insurance were least likely to have been screened for colorectal cancer, according to new CDC figures. Overall, however, the percentage of adults ages 50-75 who had undergone screening for colorectal cancer rose from 51.9 to 62.9%.

Darker skin doesn’t mean melanoma immunity

Melanoma is on the rise among certain groups of dark-skinned Floridians, a new study shows, Reuters reports. The study sends a message: “Just because you have darker skin pigmentation, whether you’re Hispanic or black, does not make you immune to skin cancer.” Non-whites with melanoma are diagnosed later and are more likely to die from the disease.

U.S. Latinos, blacks more obese

The highest U.S. obesity prevalence by race/ethnicity was among blacks (36.8%) and Latinas (30.7%), according to a CDC Vital Signs report. The report also indicates that the number of states with an obesity prevalence of 30% or more has tripled in two years.

Latino childhood obesity rate levels off

For the first time in more than three decades, obesity rates for white and Asian children are falling in California, and have leveled off for Latino kids—all good signs that public health campaigns aimed at keeping young people away from unhealthful sweets and fatty foods are starting to work, according to a new study, the San Francisco Chronicle reports.

Latino women who are obese before conceiving more likely to have obese kids

Hispanic preschoolers born to overweight or obese mothers were twice as likely to be overweight or obese compared to their peers who were born to Hispanic moms with healthy pre-pregnancy weights, according to a new study, HealthDay reports.
Lance Armstrong visits with cancer patients, researchers

IHPR, LIVESTRONG raise Latinos’ cancer awareness

Cyclist and cancer prevention activist Lance Armstrong visited patients and met with researchers to discuss the Latino cancer burden in San Francisco on Sept. 21, 2010, in an event facilitated in part by Sandra San Miguel, a research instructor at the Institute for Health Promotion Research (IHPR) at The UT Health Science Center at San Antonio.

Armstrong met with the researchers from the northwest site of the IHPR’s Latino cancer research network, Redes En Acción, including Drs. Eliseo Pérez-Stable and Anna Nápoles and promotora Marynieves Diaz-Mendez.

Armstrong called his Redes meeting “incredible” and lauded the Redes/LIVESTRONG National Promotores Education and Outreach project.

The project’s bilingual, bicultural promotores are identifying Latino cancer survivors, referring them to LIVESTRONG SurvivorCare and providing cancer education and outreach to communities in New York, California, Florida and South Texas.

The project, led by the IHPR’s Dr. Amelie G. Ramirez with coordination by San Miguel, gives promotores a key role in community health. Promotores have been proven to: improve health care access and outcomes; strengthen health care teams; and enhance quality of life, according to new research in Health Affairs.

Armstrong, meanwhile, also toured San Francisco General Hospital, where breast cancer patients were receiving treatment.

“There is a great need for resources that improve the quality of life for Hispanic and Latino cancer survivors and San Francisco’s community groups and medical professionals are working to fill that need,” Armstrong said in a statement. “LIVESTRONG is proud to be a part of the effort to provide Hispanic families affected by cancer with customized tools and support they need to live life on their own terms.”

Cancer is the second-leading cause of death among Latinos and cancer rates for Latinos are projected to increase by 142% by 2030.

Latinos, who as a demographic tend to have less income, education and insurance, have lower survival rates for most cancers, which may reflect less access to timely, quality treatment.

In response, LIVESTRONG, with the aid of the IHPR’s San Miguel, recently expanded its outreach and added new Spanish-language resources, including a revamped LIVESTRONG Web site.

The IHPR also helped raise cancer awareness for LIVESTRONG Day on Oct. 2, 2010, which commemorates Armstrong’s cancer diagnosis date.

IHPR staff distributed LIVESTRONG materials and wristbands to patients at the Cancer Therapy and Research Center in San Antonio; conducted a LIVESTRONG survivorship lunch event on Oct. 2; and distributed educational materials at the Binational Health Fair at the Consulate General of Mexico on Oct. 1 in San Antonio.

Promotores with the Redes/LIVESTRONG National Promotores Education and Outreach project also distributed educational materials and/or spoke about cancer and survivorship at health fairs, conferences, support groups and community groups.

“The IHPR and LIVESTRONG are dedicated to reducing Latino cancer,” San Miguel said. “We want to ensure that Latinos get access to timely, high-quality cancer treatment, and go on to live long, fruitful lives.”
Spanish initiative: Child vaccinations

A new public awareness initiative, Vaccine a Sus Hijos Adolescentes (Get Your Teens Vaccinated), is designed to inform parents of the importance of child vaccinations. Also, a Texas hospital has adapted its book, Vaccine-Preventable Disease: The Forgotten Story, into Spanish.

Spanish initiative: Gynecologic cancers

The CDC’s Inside Knowledge: Get the Facts about Gynecologic Cancer campaign has launched in English and Spanish to educate the public about the different types of gynecologic cancer, warning signs, etc.

Spanish initiative: Quality of care

Given that about one-sixth of the U.S. population speaks a language other than English at home, the RWJF’s Aligning Forces for Quality Initiative is helping hospitals overcome language barriers.

Spanish initiative: Child education

The Hispanic Scholarship Fund recently launched an ad campaign in English and Spanish to encourage Latino parents to get more involved in their children’s education.

Info: Latino smoking

Latinos generally have lower rates of smoking than other racial/ethnic groups, but smoking remains a serious problem in the Latino community. The American Lung Association offers key facts about smoking among Latinos.

Info: Latino obesity and diabetes

A new study in a recent issue of Preventing Chronic Disease examines the high rates of Latino obesity and diabetes.

Info: Latino child obesity

Leadership for Healthy Communities has updated its bilingual fact sheet, Overweight and Obesity Among Latino Youths, in English and Spanish.

Info: Latino nutrition

The National Council of La Raza (NCLR) has introduced a new health series, Profiles of Latino Health: A Closer Look at Child Nutrition, to examine Latino child hunger, obesity and more.

Info: Latino cancer screening

View the six new PSAs touting Latino cancer screening in English or Spanish at the Institute for Health Promotion Research’s SaludToday Web site. To request broadcast-quality PSAs, e-mail us.

Info: Cancer clinical trials

To find available clinical trials across the nation, call the National Cancer Institute (NCI) at 1-800-4-CANCER or the American Cancer Society’s help line at 1-800-333-5691. If you live in South Texas, the Cancer Therapy and Research Center in San Antonio has information about local clinical trials at 210-450-5796.

Info: Chronic disease along the U.S.-México border

A new report, The Challenge of Chronic Diseases on the U.S.-México Border, examines health issues along the border region and innovative options for addressing challenges.

Info: Minority health

For all 50 states, statehealthfacts.org provides free, up-to-date health data on more than 700 health topics, including minority health.

Info: Health disparities

The American College of Physicians has issued recommendations to address racial/ethnic health disparities, including sitting face-to-face with patients and hiring an interpreter.

Funding

Basic cancer research in cancer health disparities

The National Cancer Institute (NCI) is inviting cooperative agreement research (U01) grant applications from investigators interested in conducting basic research on the causes and mechanisms of cancer health disparities. Applications are due Nov. 23, 2010.

Research on reducing health disparities

Applications are invited for the NIH research grant, Behavioral and Social Science Research on Understanding and Reducing Health Disparities (R01), which encourages behavioral and social science research on the causes and solutions to health and disabilities disparities. Letters of intent are due Dec. 11, 2010.

Grant Roundup

The following organizations have open research funding opportunities or funding lists:

- The U.S. Office of Minority Health
- Susan G. Komen for the Cure
- AACR
- NIH Obesity Grants
- NCCOR Obesity Grants
- RWJF
- CPRIT
- Live Smart Texas
IHPR’s national Latino cancer research network gets grant

Continued from Page 1

“We’re extremely excited that the NCI continues to support Redes and acknowledges the tremendous strides we are making to reduce Latino cancer,” said Dr. Amelie G. Ramirez, Redes principal investigator and IHPR director. “We believe our efforts will continue to help Latinos, who suffer higher incidence and/or lower survival for many cancers.”

The focal point of Redes’ new grant is the study on Latino cancer survivorship.

Given the limited knowledge of the cancer experience of Latinos, Redes researchers will test the effectiveness of using patient navigators in San Antonio and Miami to identify survivors and link them to the Lance Armstrong Foundation’s LIVESTRONG SurvivorCare program, which offers free, bilingual support to those affected by cancer.

The study hypothesizes that participants randomized to this patient navigation intervention, versus usual care, will show significantly greater navigation intervention, versus usual care, will show significantly greater

Redes research focuses on policy and organizational change and innovative interventions to reduce disparities. Redes investigators do groundbreaking Latino cancer research in: genetics; network analysis; innovative interventions to reduce disparities. Redes investigators do groundbreaking Latino cancer research in: genetics; network analysis;

Redes training activities have provided instruction or mentoring for more than 225 emerging cancer researchers from undergrads to junior faculty, building a national pipeline of Latino researchers and physicians.

IHPR director. “We believe our efforts will continue to help Latinos, who suffer higher incidence and/or lower survival for many cancers.”

Redes has reached communities and researchers nationally through: more than 2,000 cancer education events; bilingual education materials, screen, treatment and

Redes research in: genetics; network analysis; nutrition updates, health education and training, social work and more. Register by calling 1-800-982-8868.

Continuing education

The Teleconference Network of Texas at the UT Health Science Center at San Antonio has developed audio conferences on topics like blood banking, microbiology, nutrition updates, health education and training, social work and more. Register by calling 1-800-982-8868.

audio conferences on topics like blood banking, microbiology, nutrition updates, health education and training, social work and more. Register by calling 1-800-982-8868.

CancerCare workshops

CancerCare, in partnership with Redes En Acción, which is led by the Institute for Health Promotion Research (IHPR) at The UT Health Science Center at San Antonio, will offer free workshops coming up on a variety of issues.

Conference: Food, nutrition, physical activity and cancer


Redes also launched the careers of 18 NCI pilot investigators who leveraged $900,000 in NCI cancer research funding into $100 million in cancer and chronic disease research.

Redes education seeks to boost access to cancer screening, treatment and interventions. Redes has reached communities and researchers nationally through: more than 2,000 cancer education events; bilingual education materials, such as Buena Vida magazines and the Nuestras Historias book; a network website; monthly E-alert; quarterly E-newsletter; a Latino Cancer Expert’s Directory; and award-winning bilingual PSAs.

Redes recently celebrated its achievements and marked its 10th anniversary during a national meeting March 3-5, 2010, in San Antonio.

“We believe our ongoing research, training and education activities have helped decrease Latino cancer over the years, and our new grant gives us additional opportunities to raise the level of Latino health even more,” said Dr. Ramirez.