

THE FOREFRONT

Putting People First

The UVA Cancer Center Quarterly DEI Newsletter

A message from the Cancer Center Associate Director for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Dear Colleagues,

Summer is well underway, and a change in seasons brings exciting opportunities also to elevate and continue fostering change. “The Forefront” The UVA Cancer Center Quarterly DEI Newsletter is in its fourth issue. In the last year alone, Cancer Center DEI efforts have not only increased but have also found a home as an official Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion on the 4th floor of the West Complex, in the Davis Wing (Suite 4275).

The Cancer Center **DEI task forces** continue to grow and have contributed significantly to developing tools to gather **real-time feedback**, a **host of celebrations** to foster inclusion, and curating **a year of DEI resources** so individuals and teams can enhance DEI education continuously. Inclusion, among other things, helps to ensure voices are heard. Please help the task forces **determine what to prioritize over the next year**.

The Cancer Center Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion is launching programs and initiatives this fall to support emerging Cancer Center leaders, enhance recruitment and retention best practices, mentorship, training, pathway programs, and monitoring.

I extend my sincerest gratitude to you for taking the time to complete the Cancer Center Workplace Climate Survey. In the coming month, you will receive communication regarding the results and the steps forward. This annual survey helps us identify essential feedback that aids us in our ongoing commitment to fostering a diverse, equitable, and inclusive workplace.

UVA Cancer Center is committed to promoting inclusion and equity by creating an environment that supports and enables the success of a diverse

community. We hope that your experiences at the Cancer Center reflect this commitment.

Thank you for all you do!

All my very best,



Marquita Taylor, PhD, MPH, MBA
UVACCC Associate Director for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
Assistant Professor of Public Health Sciences
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DEI EVENTS

ELEVATE: Cancer Center StaffFEST
Pinn Hall
Friday, July 19

Identical sessions are offered to accommodate staff schedules:
Session 1: 8:30 a.m.-noon
Session 2: 12:30 p.m.- 3 p.m.

Team members are encouraged to join us in person, but if that's not possible, we're pleased to welcome you virtually via the Zoom link below.

Zoom Link
Meeting ID: 963 3693 3389
Passcode: 465175

Annual Celebrating Diversity Through Food and Music
Quayle Conference Room
Battle Building
Friday, September 6
3-6 p.m.
Registration and sign-up coming soon!

OBSERVANCES AND AWARENESS

JULY

BIPOC Mental Health Awareness Month: Aims to bring awareness to the mental health challenges faced by Black, Indigenous, and other people of color (BIPOC) in the United States

Disability Pride Month: Celebrates and honors the achievements and contributions of people with disabilities. It raises awareness about disability rights, promotes inclusivity, and advocates for equal opportunities for individuals with disabilities.

AUGUST

Blood Cancer Awareness Month: Aims to raise awareness about blood cancers, including leukemia, lymphoma, and myeloma to educate about these diseases, promote early detection, and support research for better treatments and cures

Childhood Cancer Awareness Month: Aims to raise awareness about cancers that affect children, support families dealing with childhood cancer, and promote research for more effective treatments and cures

National Sickle Cell Awareness Month: Aims to raise awareness of sickle cell disease (SCD) and sickle cell trait and to highlight the need for research and better treatments

Prostate Cancer Awareness Month: Aims to raise awareness about prostate cancer, promote early detection and screening, and support research for better treatments and potential cures

Women's Equality Day (August 26): Passed in 1974 by Congress, this day honors women's rights to vote under the 19th Amendment which prohibits discrimination in voting based on sex.

SEPTEMBER

Hispanic Heritage Month/Latino Heritage Month: (September 15-October 15): Celebrates the histories, cultures, and contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central and South America

Please do not reply directly to this email. If you have questions, comments or concerns, please email Dr. Taylor at ksm3rt@uvahealth.org.

Our Commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

UVA Cancer Center is committed to promoting inclusion and equity among its internal and external communities by creating an environment that supports and enables the success of a diverse community.