



LEARN WITH LUNGEVITY AND MARY CROWLEY CANCER RESEARCH

AGENDA

12:00 PM CT	Welcome Katie Brown, OPN-CG <i>LUNGEvity Foundation</i>
12:10 PM CT	“The Clinical Trial Experience” Panel Discussion Ntombizodwa “Zoey” Sayi, MSN, RN, AGPCNP-BC <i>Mary Crowley Cancer Research</i> Jackeline Castillo, LCSW <i>Mary Crowley Cancer Research</i> Jose Perez <i>Lung Cancer Survivor</i>
12:40 PM CT	Panel Q&A
12:50 PM CT	LUNGEvity Resources & Closing Remarks Katie Brown, OPN-CG <i>LUNGEvity Foundation</i>

SPEAKERS



Katie Brown, OPN-CG
Senior Vice President, Survivorship and Support Programs
LUNGevity Foundation

Katie Brown has worked in nonprofit and patient advocacy for over 15 years. Her transition from the corporate world to nonprofit happened in November of 2002 shortly after her father's small cell lung cancer diagnosis.

Katie is the founder and co-creator of Lung Cancer Support Community (LCSC). That message board was the first of its kind to provide active forums and an online lung cancer support network for lung cancer patients and their family members. Today it holds over 413,000 posts and is a service of LUNGevity.

She is the event founder of Breathe Deep Dallas-Ft Worth, founded DFW's first in-person lung cancer support group at the Arlington Cancer Center Trophy Club, lobbied with Smoke Free Texas and for CPRIT, and has been a local and national delegate for Livestrong 2006-2010. Katie is on the editorial board of Conquer Cancer Magazine and the Community Engagement Chair of the North TX chapter of AONN.

She is the author of the books *Co-Surviving Cancer* and *Navigating Advocacy*. Katie shares a home in Texas with her husband, two children, and their dogs.



Ntombizodwa "Zoey" Sayi, MSN, RN, AGPCNP-BC
Nurse Practitioner
Mary Crowley Cancer Research

Ntombizodwa "Zoey" Sayi is an Adult Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner certified by American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC). She graduated from University of Texas at Arlington with both her bachelor's and Master's of Science in Nursing. As an Oncology Certified Nurse (OCN) through Oncology Nursing Society (ONS), she has dedicated her career to the care of oncology patients and has worked with cancer patients for over a decade in the Dallas Metroplex Area. Zoey served as an integral team member on the gynecologic oncology unit at Parkland Hospital Systems for over a decade while playing an instrumental role in mentorship and preceptorship. She was extensively involved in patient care administering chemotherapy, biotherapy, symptom management and developing treatment plans. Her position as a Hospice palliative nurse with Seasons Hospice and Palliative allowed her to focus on the physical, emotional and spiritual needs for patients and family members. To improve the overall care of patients, Zoey served on nursing peer review committees and is currently a member of North Texas Nurse Practitioner Association.

SPEAKERS



Jackeline Castillo, LCSW
Social Worker
Mary Crowley Cancer Research

Jackeline Castillo, LCSW, is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker at Mary Crowley Cancer Research. Jackie is bi-lingual and has over 15 years of experience in a variety of settings and with diverse clients including adults in various forms of crisis. In her current role she works with patients and their family to help address any barriers or concerns they may face during their cancer diagnosis.

Jackie is passionate about educating/informing people about their rights as patients that will allow them to make the most informed decision.



Jose Perez
Lung Cancer Survivor

Jose has over 45 years' experience in active ministry. Ministry experience includes Christian Education, Youth Pastor, Associate Pastor, Praise & Worship Leader, Lead Pastor, Music Ministry. Pastor Perez now travels as guest speaker in Conferences and Evangelistic services as requested. He has also traveled to several South & Central American countries preaching &

teaching in churches and conferences.

Jose is married to Yolanda Balderas Perez. Together they have 5 daughters, one son, 17 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

Jose's Cancer Story

Jose Perez is a man whose life is guided by Jesus Christ. He was a faithful employee of TXU Energy for the last fourteen years but before that, he worked as an ordained minister with the Assemblies of God Church for 35 years. In their spare time, Jose and his wife, Yolanda, traveled around the country ministering to people and conducting bible study classes. He was an avid golfer and when he was not preaching, he was on the links. Then 18 months ago, Jose was diagnosed with Stage IV lung cancer that had metastasized to his lymph nodes, pelvis, and a cancerous lesion on his spine. Fortunately, for Jose, his doctor was Jairo Olivares who, in addition to seeing patients in his practice, also works at Mary Crowley Cancer Research.

Given the advanced stage of Jose's cancer, Dr. Olivares immediately prescribed an aggressive line of treatment: Six months of chemotherapy and immunotherapy followed by six weeks of radiation treatments. Jose would spend three days straight at the hospital receiving a double dose of chemotherapy fluid through an IV and immunotherapy. He would then rest 21 days after which he would repeat the treatment. After the chemotherapy treatments, Jose underwent radiation treatments and another round of immunotherapy.

After months of chemotherapy, immunotherapy, and radiation treatments, the cancer in his lymph nodes was eradicated and the lesion on his spine went dormant. The tumors in his lung and pelvic cancer shrunk 40%, but the side effects of the treatments were harsh. Jose was bloated, weak and he lost his hair. Unfortunately,

after three months Jose's tumors began to grow again. Dr. Olivares was familiar with trial 19-09 at Mary Crowley that was testing a new immunotherapy drug and referred Jose to see if he qualified.

Jose came to Mary Crowley for a screening, and within two weeks, he enrolled. He began treatments of CTX-471, a drug that stimulates the immune system to attack cancer cells. The treatments helped prevent his cancer from metastasizing and shrank his lung tumor. In December, after three months of treatment, his tumor had reduced by 15%, with minimal side effects. His most recent scan in March 2021 showed his tumor had shrunk an additional 15%, again with minimal side effects. Jose Perez faced cancer with seemingly inexhaustible energy and optimism. He credits his faith, his wonderful wife, Yolanda, and their blended family for giving him the strength to fight. Jose expressed his gratitude to Dr. Olivares and all of the nurses at Mary Crowley saying, "I thank God every day for Mary Crowley Cancer Research. The doctors, the nurses, the staff, all of them have been so wonderful to me."

He is still on the trial and his life is starting to get back to normal. He and Yolanda have started traveling around the country again, ministering to people. He retired from TXU Energy so he has time to conduct Bible study through Zoom meetings. He is blessed with six children, 17 grandchildren, and 4 great-grandchildren who they visit as often as they can.

He does have one more goal in mind. "I have not been able to play golf because of pain in my pelvis", he says, "I want to get back playing regularly. I'm 66 now and I want to shoot my age."
