



PRESS RELEASE

In the pursuit of cures that not only save patients but also improve their quality of life, The Pap Corps Champions for Cancer Research made a historic annual donation to Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center at the University of Miami Leonard M. Miller School of Medicine, continuing a remarkable partnership seven decades in the making.

Thanks to its members' ceaseless work in the past year, The Pap Corps presented a ceremonial check for \$8.4 million to Antonio Lavarone, M.D., the deputy director of Sylvester, during its annual president's meeting on May 18, 2023. The amount is the group's largest yearly donation to Sylvester, which is South Florida's only NCI-designated and nationally ranked cancer center

An Historic \$50 Million Pledge

The donation is part of The Pap Corps' landmark 2016 pledge of \$50 million to Sylvester, which named Sylvester at Deerfield Beach as The Pap Corps campus. A portion of this year's gift will be used for the construction of Sylvester's Transformational Cancer Research Building (TCRB), a 12-story, cutting-edge facility on the University of Miami medical campus that will double Sylvester's research footprint and change the face of cancer research in South Florida. The TCRB is scheduled to open in 2025.

"The Pap Corps allows our scholars to continue their groundbreaking cancer research, and to discover new treatments and cures to fight cancer," said Dr. Lavarone, a pediatric oncologist. "They are a testament to what can be accomplished by an unwavering determination to find solutions, and we couldn't be more grateful for their tireless support."

South Florida's Largest Volunteer Fundraising Organization

Named after Dr. George Papanicolaou, who introduced the Pap smear in 1928, The Pap Corps was started in 1952 by five visionary women who were driven by the lack of early detection and treatment of cancer. Today, it is South Florida's largest volunteer fundraising organization with more than 22,000 members and 52 chapters, and it has raised more than \$110 million for cancer research at Sylvester.

It is because of the strong partnership between The Pap Corps and Sylvester that UHealth has been able to open 10 locations throughout South Florida, including The Pap Corps campus in Deerfield Beach Florida.

"On behalf of everyone at Sylvester, we are extraordinarily grateful to The Pap Corps for their continued support, as well as their dedication to Sylvester, to our mission and to our community," said Stephen D. Nimer, M.D., the director of Sylvester, who is also the Oscar de la Renta Endowed Chair in Cancer Research, executive dean for research and professor of medicine, biochemistry and molecular biology at the Miller School. "Their impact on generations of residents is unmatched."

The Pap Corps Champions for Cancer Research recently celebrated its 70th anniversary as a longest-standing philanthropic partner of Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center.