

# The Florida Academic Cancer Center Alliance Funded by the Casey DeSantis Cancer Research Program

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# The Casey DeSantis Cancer Research Program

- Created by Florida Statute 381.915 to:
  - Enhance quality/competitiveness of cancer care at Florida based centers
  - Further statewide biomedical research in cancer
  - Capitalize on educational opportunities to create a robust talent pipeline
- Noting additional economic benefits:
  - Economic growth/return to Florida
  - Jobs (high-paying physicians, researchers)
  - Retain Floridians in-state for care and research







# The Florida Academic Cancer Center Alliance (FACCA)

#### • Consists of:

- Moffitt Cancer Center (Moffitt)
- University of Florida Health Cancer Center (UF Health)
- Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center (Sylvester) at the University of Miami

#### Formed in 2014 to:

- Build collaborations between Centers to accelerate innovation in cancer research and cancer care throughout the State of Florida
- Translate innovation into impact at the point of patient care, prevention, and diagnosis
- Maximize state investments in biomedical technology and research







# **NCI** Designation







A Cancer Center Designated by the National Cancer Institute

Primary goal of the Casey DeSantis Cancer Research Program was to provide support for UF Health and Sylvester to obtain an NCI designation and for Moffitt to sustain NCI Comprehensive designation

- Moffitt obtained NCI-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center in 2001, successfully renewed in 2021, and will undergo competitive renewal again in 2026
- Sylvester obtained NCI designation in July 2019, becoming the 71<sup>st</sup> designated Cancer Center, and will undergo competitive renewal in 2023
- UF Health submitted its competitive Cancer Center Support Grant (CCSG) application to NCI in October 2022 and is awaiting a determination on funding







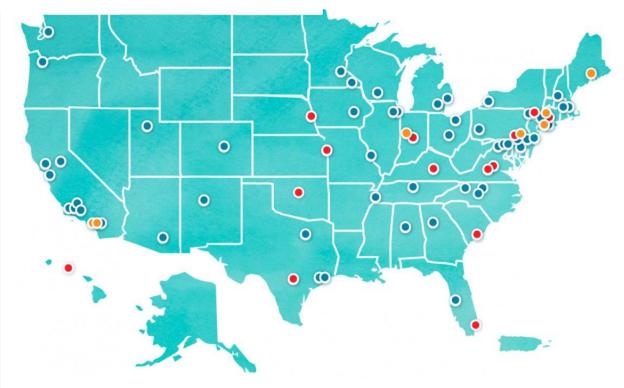
# **NCI** Designation

#### **PURPOSE**

"...intended to foster excellence in research across a broad spectrum of scientific and medical concerns relevant to cancer." - NCI

#### WHY IT IS SO IMPORTANT

- Highest level of research recognition in cancer
  - Hard to attain
  - Challenging to keep
- Recruitment magnet (Scientists & Physicians)
- Provision of tomorrow's standard of care today
- Better patient outcomes at Designated Centers



#### **Two Levels of NCI Designation**

- 71 "Cancer Centers" (includes basic science)
- 53 "Comprehensive Cancer Centers"







### Return on Investment of Center Collaborations

- 24 inter-institutional pilot projects awarded through the program since 2015 (\$2,850,000)
- Publications:
  - 75+ collaborative publications featuring members of at least two Centers in the past 3 years
  - 30 publications directly related to pilot projects
- Annual group retreats
- Quarterly meetings of Center Directors
- Monthly Administrators conference calls
- Research collaborations through conferences and workshops







### Return on Investment of Center Collaborations

Recognition of Sylvester as an NCI designated Cancer Center

### Patient Impact

- 199,825 newly diagnosed patients (reportable cases combined for FY17-FY22)
- 30,529 patients put on Investigator-initiated Clinical Trials (Interventional)

### Discovery

 Over \$822M in peer-reviewed funding awarded, including significant federal funding brought to Florida

### Education & Training

 82,977 Training experiences for current and future clinicians and scientists since inception of the Program







# **FACCA** Economic Impact

2022 FACCA Economic Report covering Fiscal Years 2016 - 2019













### Florida Academic Cancer Center Alliance

Moffitt Cancer Center Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center University of Florida Health Cancer Center

## Discussion





