



**Spring Virtual 2024 Family Cancer Retreat
ALL ABOUT OUR
Speakers and Panel Members**

Frances Alba, MD

UNM Comprehensive Cancer Center

Dr. Alba is an Associate Professor in the Division of Urology at the University of New Mexico. She currently practices at UNM Hospital, UNM Cancer Center and Sandoval Regional Medical Center. Dr. Alba received her medical degree from the University of New Mexico School of Medicine. She completed urology residency training at University of Texas, Houston Medical School and M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. She is very committed to resident education and is the Urology Program Director. Her clinical practice interests encompass all aspects of general urology, with a particular expertise in bladder, kidney, penile and testis cancer.

Carmel Sanchez-Busby

President, Cancer Services of New Mexico Foundation

Carmel and her husband, Ross live in Albuquerque with their 2 daughters, Kathryn and Julia. Carmel is a Learning and Development Facilitator for Wells Fargo. Carmel is 8 years from her breast cancer diagnosis, 8 years post treatment, and was confirmed 8 years' cancer-free. Since 2016, she has been a Committee Member for the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer events in Albuquerque, and Honorary Survivor for the 2016 Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Fundraising campaigns. She is Board of Director for the Deputy James McGrane Office Street Survival Training Fund.

Shashank Cingam, MD

UNM Comprehensive Cancer Center

Dr. Cingam is an assistant professor in the Division of Hematology/Oncology at the University of New Mexico Comprehensive Cancer Center (UNMCCC). He is a clinician and clinical investigator with a focus on cellular therapies and Hematopoietic stem transplant in Hematological disorders. He completed his medical degree in India. and subsequently completed his internal medicine residency at LSU, Hematology Oncology fellowship at UNMCCC and transplant/cell therapy fellowship at Stanford University. He is board certified in Internal Medicine, Hematology and Medical Oncology. His primary clinical interests include diagnosis and treatment of multiple myeloma and aggressive B-Cell lymphomas including cellular therapies. He is the clinical myeloma lead at UNMCCC and focused on building a comprehensive myeloma program at UNMCCC to improve access to cellular therapies and clinical trials to patients in New Mexico.

Amaranta Craig, MD

Presbyterian Health Services

Dr. Craig is originally from Texas and completed undergraduate studies at the University of Texas in Austin. She worked in public health prior to completing medical school and obstetrics/gynecology residency at the University of California, San Francisco, and she went on to complete fellowship in gynecologic oncology at the joint Fox Chase Cancer Center/ Temple University program in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Dr. Craig joined Presbyterian Cancer Center in 2022, and specializes in the comprehensive diagnosis and treatment of women with gynecologic malignancies. She focuses on the surgical and medical treatment of women diagnosed with ovarian, uterine, cervical, vulvar or vaginal cancers. She additionally cares for patients who need complex pelvic surgery for benign conditions as well as patients with genetic mutation that predispose them to gynecologic cancers. She employs open and minimally invasive surgical techniques, including robotic surgery, to care for her patients. Dr. Craig is an active member in the Society of Gynecologic Oncology and American

Society of Clinical Oncology with a special interest in real world application of clinical trials and clinical care for underserved populations. She reviews for the Journal of Clinical Oncology, Obstetrics & Gynecology, and the International Journal of Gynecologic Oncology. During her free time, she loves spending time with her husband and daughters and visiting relatives in northern New Mexico.

Kelly Dunn RDN, CSO, CNSC, LD
UNM Comprehensive Cancer Center

Hello! I am Kelly Dunn. I am a dietitian, mom, wife, and a board certified specialist in oncology and nutrition support. I believe in healthy eating and helping others to nourish their body under stress. What I love most about what I do is the ability to customize nutrition and think outside the box to optimize nutrition for those on their cancer journey. I believe very strongly that I am a vital piece of the medical team and work hard to make the team, patients, and families aware that I am here to help keep them strong and fighting before, during, and after their diagnosis and cancer treatments. When I am not working diligently to help patients, I most enjoy spending time with my girls and husband at home. We have several cats and a dog at home that we are always looking for new ways to entertain and laugh with during playtime. I also enjoy reading every day, getting fresh air outside on the trails of New Mexico, and playing board and card games with friends and my family. I believe some of the best medicine is the ability to find laughter and joy in each day, both at home and in my work. I am not native to New Mexico; however, we have come to call it our home. "Let Food Be Thy Medicine and Let Medicine be thy food" -Hippocrates

J. Scott Fowler, MA, LPCC
MMC Cancer Center

J. Scott Fowler was raised in New Mexico and received his Master's Degree in Counseling and Educational Psychology in 1993. He has worked in the counseling/social services field with Head Start, as a community mental health counselor in Roswell, college career counselor at NMSU-Alamogordo, geriatric counselor in Las Cruces at the MMC Heritage Program, and currently works with cancer patients as the Oncology Services Coordinator at the MMC Cancer Center in Las Cruces. Scott has worked in cancer services for the past 12 years and is a member of the NM Counseling Association and the affiliated Assoc. for Spiritual & Religious Values in Counseling. In the past, he has participated in community and statewide cancer services/support organizations like the NM Patient Navigation Network, Cancer Support Now, and Cowboys for Cancer Research.

Gregg Franklin, MD, PhD
New Mexico Cancer Center

Dr. Franklin, a board-certified radiation oncologist, has been working at the New Mexico Cancer Center, a multi-specialty group practice, since 2005 after completing his residency at the Mallinkrodt Institute at Washington University/Barnes Jewish Hospital in St. Louis, MO. He is currently medical director in the radiation oncology department. Prior to his MD degree, Dr. Franklin earned a Ph.D. in condensed matter physics at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He was also a postdoctoral fellow at Harvard University and a scientist with Sandia Labs in Albuquerque, NM.

Angela Futch
Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC)

Angela has been with Aging and Long Services Department for 20 years and has extensive experience in Medicaid, Medicare, and community resources. She further manages the Medbank program which helps with Prescription Drug cost and manages the Information and Assistance (Web Chat) and the ADRC databases for resources and Medicaid constituents. Currently, Angela is a SHIP Coordinator for the metro region, upon which she educates the NM population on Medicare, conducts Medicare trainings, provides technical assistance, manages constituent referrals, and empowers New Mexicans with information and resources.

Deborah Garcia, DNP, FNP-BC

New Mexico Cancer Center

Dr. Deborah Garcia graduated from the University of New Mexico, College of Nursing, then went on to obtain a Master's of Science in Nursing- Family Nurse Practitioner from the University of St. Francis. Dr. Garcia then completed her education with a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP). She worked at the University of New Mexico for 32 years. Additionally, she has been certifying New Mexico patients for the medical cannabis program for 12 years and is passionate about the use of medical cannabis for symptom management. She recently accepted a position at the New Mexico Cancer Center certifying patients for medical cannabis. Deborah was born in San Diego, CA and has lived in San Francisco, Seattle, and Albuquerque. She is well traveled but always remembers that Albuquerque is her home. Deborah has a son, two cats, and an adorable boxer. She loves to travel and scrapbook.

Ramesh Gopal, MD, PhD

Associate Professor, University of New Mexico Comprehensive Cancer Center

Dr. Gopal received his medical degree from Grant Medical College, Mumbai, India and a PhD in Molecular Pharmacology and Biological Chemistry from Northwestern University in Chicago. He completed a residency in Radiation Oncology at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston. Dr. Gopal is board certified in Radiation Oncology. He was at the Kaseman Hospital campus location in Albuquerque for the New Mexico MD Anderson Radiation Treatment Centers at Presbyterian, prior to moving to the UNM Comprehensive Cancer Center in 2023 as an associate professor.

Lisa Gulotta, MS

Yoga Therapist

Lisa Gulotta is a Yoga Therapist, Yoga Teacher, Personal Trainer, Cancer Exercise Specialist, Yoga for Scoliosis Trainer, and Feldenkrais Authorized Trainee in Santa Fe, NM. She teaches yoga and movement classes online, privately, and in small in-person classes in her studio. She is currently studying the Feldenkrais method.

Jude Khatib, MD

UNM Comprehensive Cancer Center

Dr. Jude Khatib received her medical degree from the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland where she graduated with honors. She then went on to complete her Internal Medicine residency and was selected to be Chief Resident at Case Western Reserve University/University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center. She subsequently completed her fellowship and Chief Fellowship in Hematology and Oncology at the University of Texas Southwestern in Dallas. Dr. Khatib is currently an Assistant Professor in Department of Internal Medicine, Division of Hematology Oncology and a board certified, practicing medical oncologist at the University of New Mexico Cancer Comprehensive Center (UNM CCC). Her clinical interest lies in the treatment of solid tumors with a focus on GU malignancies and GI malignancies. Dr. Khatib is passionate about patient care, health care disparities and clinical research in GU oncology.

Kathleen Kreider

Cancer Services of New Mexico

Kathleen Kreider is President of Cancer Services of New Mexico (CSNM) and oversees the day-to-day operations of the organization as a volunteer. Before becoming President, she also served as the Vice-President and Grants Director, coordinating Cancer Services of New Mexico's grant writing activities and outreach activities. She became involved with the organization when she attended the Fall 2003 Family Cancer Retreat with her sisters. She started out as a volunteer as the Photography Team Leader for the Family Cancer Retreats from 2004 until 2010, and has been a CSNM Board

Member since 2007. Kathy is a New Mexico native and is employed by a Federal Government agency.

Sonya Pierce

Cancer Services of New Mexico

Sonya Pierce is the Program Manager for Cancer Services of New Mexico's Legal, Insurance, and Paperwork Assistance (LIPA) Program. She brings 26+ years of experience from the Human Services Department. She was a caseworker with Income Support Division and interviewed clients for eligibility related to SNAP, CASH and Medicaid. She transitioned to lead worker and then supervisor of the Institutional Care/ Waiver Unit in Bernalillo County. She held that position for 10 years supervising up to 10 employees and acting as Officer in Charge of the NW Bernalillo ISD office when needed. She was promoted to a Staff Manager at Medical Assistance Division where she oversaw the Disabled and Elderly Medicaid Programs which included policy revisions, answering questions from the ISD Field Offices. She partnered with Federal and sister agencies to maintain a great working relationship. She recently retired from the State of NM and comes to Cancer Services of NM with a wealth of knowledge.

Dulcinea Quintana, MD

UNM Comprehensive Cancer Center

Dr. Quintana was born and raised in New Mexico. She earned her medical degree from the University of New Mexico and did her residency in Internal Medicine as well as her fellowship in Hematology/Oncology at UNM. Dr. Quintana has a special interest in hematologic malignancies and is the adult physician for the Ted R. Montoya Hemophilia Program.

Janet Quintana-Cook

Cancer Services of New Mexico Foundation

Janet Quintana-Cook is the Development Director of the Cancer Services of New Mexico Foundation and raises funds to support CSNM's programs. Before becoming the Development Director, she was the Program Manager of the Family Cancer Retreats and served as a member of the Cancer Services of New Mexico Board of Directors from 2005-2018.

Outside of her work with Cancer Services of New Mexico, Janet dedicates her time and energy toward other philanthropic causes, many of which are cancer related. She served on the Board of Directors for Breast Cancer Resource Center. She is a Co-Chair of the New Mexico Cancer Council's Native American Workgroup. She volunteered her time as a co-facilitator for the NMDOH's Breast and Cervical Cancer Awareness program. She is a facilitator for the CLIMB Program (Children's Lives Include Moments of Bravery) which helps children cope with a loved one's cancer diagnosis. She is also a current member of the New Mexico Museum of Natural History Foundation Board of Directors and once served as the Foundation's Chairman.

Janet is a tribal member of both Santo Domingo (Kewa) and Ohkay Owingeh pueblos. She lives in Albuquerque with her husband, Steve; two children - Jonah and Sterling; 3 dogs and a beta fish.

Jess Quiring, CN-BA, OPN-CG (She/Her)

Executive Chair, New Mexico Cancer Council

Jess has an extensive history working in cancer care developing navigation programming, developing and facilitating cancer support programming for patients and their families, being an advocate for patients, oncology navigation, and care coordination through effective policy change. She is the Senior Program Coordinator and Facilitator in New Mexico for CLIMB®, a program open to any cancer family in the community, providing support and education for children and teens who have a significant adult in their life diagnosed with cancer. Jess's community partnerships and collaborative activities include development and facilitation of the teen engagement program of the Cancer Services of New Mexico Family Cancer Retreat, Leadership, of the Oncology Patient

Navigator- Virtual Network, a Local Navigation Network of the Academy of Oncology Nurse and Patient Navigators, Member of the National Navigation Roundtable's Policy Committee, and a national speaker on collaborative partnerships in cancer care and patient experience and engagement.

Vinay Rai, MD

UNM Department of Surgery

Dr. Rai is an Associate Professor of Surgery and Chief of Colon and Rectal Surgery at UNM. His clinical interests include Colorectal cancers and other benign Colorectal disease. He specializes in laparoscopic resection for colon and rectum cancers and benign diseases. Dr. Rai completed his medical school training at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences. He went on to perform his Surgery residency at the University of Texas Health Sciences Center in San Antonio. His specialty training in colorectal surgery was completed at Cook County and University of Illinois Hospitals in Chicago, IL

Genna Reeves, Ph.D.

Heartlight Center

Genna Reeves is a grief coach, Certified Grief Educator, and INELDA-trained death doula practicing privately through Invictus Grief and Loss Services in Northern New Mexico. She is also the New Mexico Community Liaison for HeartLight Center (a grief support and education non-profit). Genna has a diverse background in education, research, and support work with a large portion of her career spent as an award-winning educator and researcher in the field of fashion studies. Her specialization in historic and cultural dress included the study of how dress and textiles are used for memorialization. She holds four degrees, including a doctorate, in fashion studies and educational leadership, and has been a faculty member at Oregon State University and Kansas State University. Genna is a member of the National End-of-Life Doula Alliance and a founding member/Chair of the Grief Networking Alliance of New Mexico. Her expertise in the grief space lies in group facilitation, program development, creative expressions of grief, community education, LGBTQ+ grief support, and sudden & traumatic loss grief support. She also works with clients on end-of-life planning, funeral planning, providing celebrant services, and the creation of legacy projects.

Katherine Sanchez, MD

New Mexico Cancer Center

Katherine Sanchez is a breast oncologist at New Mexico Cancer Center. She is a native New Mexican who moved back home in 2022 to serve women in the Albuquerque and Gallup communities. Dr. Sanchez received her undergraduate degree, attended medical school, and completed a post-sophomore fellowship in pathology at the University of New Mexico and completed her Internal medicine residency at Providence Portland Medical Center in Portland, OR. She completed an immuno-oncology fellowship at Providence Cancer Institute, where she focused on the development of testing to predict response to immunotherapy in early-stage breast cancer, research she continues today. She then completed fellowship in Hematology/Oncology and a breast fellowship at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston Texas. At New Mexico Cancer Center, she joined a team of female-physicians who treat breast cancer. She is working to bring clinical trials to NM that provide early access to medications. Beyond clinical work she is partnering with local resources to bring care and community into the cancer center and create an environment of support for breast cancer patients.

Robert “Bob” Scanlon, BSE, MBA

Roadrunner Hospice

Bob was born and raised right here in New Mexico. He attended college at Arizona State University where he received his Bachelor's in Engineering and Master's in Business Administration. He spent the first part of his career in Engineering and Finance before gravitating to Healthcare. In 2007, Bob took a job with Presbyterian as a Manager at the Cancer Center at Presbyterian. He also worked as Admissions Director with HealthSouth Rehab Hospital and held a Physician Relations role with Humana. He is currently working as a Grief Counselor and Caregiver Advocate in the Hospice setting. Bob's wife Heather was diagnosed in 2008 with Stage IV Metastatic Breast Cancer. Her battle with cancer ended in 2014. Today, Bob and his two daughters are standing strong and always looking for ways to give back to the Cancer and Oncology Communities.

Thomas M. Schroeder, MD

UNM Comprehensive Cancer Center, Dept. of Radiation Oncology

Dr. Schroeder is a radiation oncologist at UNM, and currently serves as the Medical Director of Radiation Oncology. He completed his residency at the Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas. One focus of his studies was advanced radiation techniques for treating prostate cancer after prostatectomy. He also completed a fellowship sponsored by the American Brachytherapy Society to study radioactive seed implantation at the Seattle Prostate Institute. His interests include image guided radiation therapy and stereotactic body radiation therapy. Dr. Schroeder grew up in Santa Fe, and attended UNM medical school where he also completed an internship in internal medicine. Prior to medical school he earned a bachelor in physics at the Colorado College and a master's degree in aerospace engineering from Stanford University. He and his family, including twin daughters & a son, are thrilled to live in New Mexico where they occasionally get to enjoy hiking, camping, and fly fishing.

Linda Ann Smith, MD

Breast Surgery Associates of New Mexico

Dr. Linda Smith wanted to be a physician since childhood. She began studying a pre-medical curriculum in high school and qualified for a six-year medical program at Northwestern University. Following graduation from Northwestern, Dr. Smith attended a 5-year General Surgery Residency and then completed a one-year Burn and Trauma Fellowship at the University of New Mexico. She entered private practice in New Mexico in 1984 and began her career as a General Surgeon. From the beginning of her practice, Dr. Smith has concentrated on breast care and in 1994, she elected to sub-specialize in the treatment of breast disorders. Since 1994 her practice has been 100% dedicated to the treatment of breast disease.

Bernard Tawfik, MD

UNM Comprehensive Cancer Center

Bernard Tawfik is board certified in medical oncology and hematology. He completed medical school at the Wake Forest University in North Carolina before staying there for internal medicine residency. He completed his medical oncology and hematology fellowship at University of Texas Southwestern in Dallas, Texas before moving to Albuquerque to join the UNM Comprehensive Cancer Center. He specializes in breast cancer patients and his research focuses included cancer care delivery, quality improvement and clinical trials. He strives to achieve the best outcomes with the lowest toxicity in a way that is accessible to all patients. He lives with his wife, also a physician at UNM, and their two young boys. They all enjoy hiking and going to the aquarium.

Debra Winkeljohn, RN, MSN, AOCN, CNS

New Mexico Cancer Center

Debra received her Bachelor Science of Nursing in 1987 from the College of Nursing at the University of New Mexico. She completed her Masters Science of Nursing in 1996 from the College of Nursing also at the University of New Mexico. Since graduating from her BSN program she has worked solely in oncology. Currently she is working with New Mexico Cancer Center. She has her

advanced certification in oncology and has been working in this field for 35 years. She is involved in national organizations in oncology. She loves to read, enjoy her dog and her goats.