DIVERSE WORKFORCE

Roswell Park has achieved an increasingly diverse workforce through conscientious and proactive efforts, and we exceed both internal and external goals for workplace diversity. We remain dedicated to building and retaining a diverse workforce and to helping increase job opportunities for all Western New Yorkers.

Community Career Development Workshops

“I utilized Roswell Park’s resume-writing services and then applied for the IT Help Desk position. I am proud to say I obtained an interview and got the job!”

– Bertina Ferguson

33% of new hires in 2019 were people of color
33% of qualifying expenditures in 2019 were awarded to certified Minority- and Women-Owned Business Enterprises
33% of minority new hires in 2019 came to us through outreach programs, including job fairs and job-training events in underserved communities
69% of our workforce is female, as of May 2019


COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

Roswell Park is deeply committed to diversity and inclusion, and we are proud of the people, programs and processes that have enabled us to meet and exceed our goals. Here are just a few ways we are helping change the community!

Community relations are central to Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center’s vision, values and mission. We direct partnerships, educational programs and employee and volunteer efforts to benefit the local communities we serve.

- Buffalo/Niagara Witness Project is a church- and community-based program to increase awareness of breast and cervical cancer in black women
- Minorities Allied for the Need to Understand Prostate Cancer (MANUP) is a prostate cancer education program for men of color
- Esperanza y Vida is a program to increase breast and cervical cancer screening in Latinas
- Witness CARES offers information on colorectal cancer and screening. (716) 845-3383
- Diversity & Inclusion Luncheons invite employees to attend free celebrations and lunches for various holidays, including: Chinese New Year, Festival of Light, Martin Luther King, Jr./Black History Month and Hispanic Heritage Month
- Roswell Park/Howard University Program enables Honors Biology sophomores from Howard University to deeply explore an interest in cancer research under the mentorship of researchers at Roswell Park
- Tapestry Charter School Learning Expedition partners Roswell Park with Tapestry Charter School, a school with a high minority population, to help students meet their goal of spreading cancer awareness in their communities
- Health Sciences Charter School works with Roswell Park to provide work-based learning internships to minority students and on-site visits for career development
- The Eva M. Noles Scholarship is awarded in tribute to the first African-American nurse to train in Buffalo
- Interfaith Recognitions. Roswell Park recognizes Muslim, Hindu, Jewish and Christian traditions through luncheons, prayer services, worship and employee education.
CLINICAL OUTREACH

Roswell Park’s diverse team of physicians and researchers understands the importance of solving cancer health disparities. As part of Roswell Park’s overall mission, our faculty is dedicated to reducing cancer cases among minority and underserved populations — not only in the Western New York community, but nationally and internationally as well.

Reducing cancer’s impact on Native communities

A vital collaboration between the Indian Health Service of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and Roswell Park that focuses on American Indian and Alaska Native communities around the country.

“The agreement will strengthen our relationships with Native American communities and help us to ensure that culturally appropriate cancer education, research and services are accessible to everyone.”

– Rodney Haring, PhD, MSW
Assistant Professor of Oncology
Office of Community Outreach and Engagement
Department of Cancer Prevention and Control
Enrolled Member, Seneca Nation

Investigating breast cancer in African-American women by examining obesity

Roswell Park and Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey received a $5.7 million grant from the National Institutes of Health to investigate breast cancer in African-American women by examining obesity.

“This is largely uncharted territory. We see a real opportunity to gain insights that will positively impact women with breast cancer.”

– Chi-Chen Hong, PhD
Associate Professor of Oncology
Associate Member
Department of Cancer Prevention and Control

Increasing breast cancer screening among women of underserved communities

The National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers (NAPBC) Patient Navigation Project is one of a number of programs that are part of New York State Governor Cuomo’s statewide initiative to increase breast cancer screening by 10% over the next five years.

“This project proactively reaches underserved women who are most in need of greater access to screening services, providing a critical link to local resources that will improve their quality of life and potentially save their life.”

– Ermelinda Bonaccio, MD
Chair of Diagnostic Radiology
Assistant Professor of Oncology

International collaboration with the Center for Molecular Immunology in Havana, Cuba

Through an historic partnership with Cuba’s Centro de Inmunologia Molecular, or CIM, Roswell Park is helping to develop several innovative and potentially life-saving cancer therapies. The first of these new approaches to be available to U.S. patients is CIMAvax-EGF®, an immunotherapy for lung cancer. We are the only facility in the country that offers this groundbreaking treatment.

“Lung cancer patients, especially those at high risk, have good reason to be excited about Roswell Park’s partnership with the CIM.”

– Kelvin Lee, MD
Professor
Chair, Department of Immunology
The Jacobs Family Chair in Immunology
Senior Vice President, Basic Science

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The Jacobs Family Chair in Immunology
Senior Vice President, Basic Science
David Scott: A Champion of Diversity

We’re thrilled to have the leadership and expertise of David Scott, Director of the Roswell Park Office of Diversity and Inclusion. During David’s tenure at Roswell Park, he has consistently made our employees proud to work for such an inclusive institution. Take a look at some of his accomplishments!

- David serves the Buffalo community as chair of the Health Sciences Charter School Internship Advisory Board, secretary to the Pride Center of WNY/Evergreen Health Services Board of Directors and is a member of the UB Educational Opportunity Center Advisory Board

- He has helped 353 minority high school and college students secure paid internships at Roswell Park

- Appreciation Award from the Developmental Disability Alliance of Western New York for his dedication to working with people with disabilities, October 2018

- Lighthouse of Partners Award, Fruitbelt Coalition, June 2018, and received a Certificate of Recognition from the New York State Senate

- Honored in February 2017 with a Global Diversity Leadership Award by the World HRD Congress in Mumbai, India

- Recognized in April 2015 by the Mary B. Talbert Civic and Cultural Club for "Taking Care of Community," and received a State of New York Legislative Resolution for this accomplishment

- Recipient of the "Friend of the EOC" award from the Educational Opportunity Center (EOC) at the University at Buffalo in May 2015

- David was honored in December 2015 with the Men of Integrity Diversity Leadership award from Utopian Euphoria

- Selected to speak at a National Diversity Conference in 2015

- 2012 Black Achiever Award Honoree, given by 1490 Enterprises Inc., and received a certificate of merit from the Erie County Legislature

To learn more, visit www.RoswellPark.org/Diversity