

One Month, One City: Three Hundred Fifty At-risk Women Served

One of America's largest, most diverse metropolitan areas, Houston is home to millions of women with different cultural backgrounds, financial circumstances, and levels of health insurance. The state of Texas has one of the highest uninsured rates in the country and alarming rates of cervical cancer.

Within Houston's vibrant and diverse neighborhoods, barriers prevent large populations from receiving regular cervical and breast cancer screenings. The results can be devastating.

The CAP Foundation is proud to reach nearly 350 Houston-area women with potentially life-saving diagnoses, and we are also proud of the evidence-based model that makes it possible to get same-day results.

This October, See Test & Treat® banded together three pathologist-led teams at Houston-area health centers, each with the goal of delivering free cervical and breast cancer screenings to 100 women.

Kyle L. Eskue, MD, FCAP, was the first pathologist leader up to the challenge on October 1. He helped organize a See, Test & Treat program at Lone Star Family Health Center that reached nearly 100 women with both English- and Spanish-language resources.

Dr. Eskue is no rookie when it comes to leading a humanitarian team. He's led two previous See, Test & Treat events that have reached more than 200 women.

"It's truly a community event where entire families can come and learn about healthy living and the importance of preventative care," Dr. Eskue said.

"Patients not only receive free Pap tests and mammograms, but they also have access to HPV screening, vision screening, flu shots, and many fun and educational activities."

Next up were Donna M. Coffey, MD, FCAP, and Patricia Chevez-Barrios, MD, FCAP, a pair of determined pathologists at Houston Methodist Hospital. They worked side by side with CAP Foundation Board members, Sonia C. Robazetti, MD, and Joseph Lucci, MD, on October 8 to bring See, Test & Treat to Sunnyside Health Center, a clinic that serves a neighborhood where many lack health insurance.



Donna M. Coffey, MD, FCAP, and the pathology team from Houston Methodist Hospital deliver essential care to women in need at one of three Texas See, Test & Treat events in October.

High levels of patient care showed that the program was direly needed. Several women required same-day colposcopy, some augmented with LEEP procedures.

The third wave was delivered by Jing Liu, MD, FCAP, and her team at the UT Physicians Bayshore Multispecialty Clinic, with Pap specimens processed at UT Health Sciences Center in Houston. The October 29 program aimed for the same targets as the previous two, also serving 100 at-risk women.

Breast and cervical cancers are expected to take the lives of nearly 3,400 women in Texas this year. With persistent leaders and compassionate donors, the CAP Foundation can expand the number of life-saving diagnoses we deliver.

This success offers hope for every underserved community. Dr. Robazetti said, "I think my colleagues set a great example—with more efforts like this one, we can expect great results for women across the country."



Patricia Chevez-Barrios, MD, FCAP, and Paloma Monroig-Bosque, MD, both with Houston Methodist Hospital, meet with a patient at Sunnyside Health Center See, Test & Treat.