

THE NETWORK: TOWARDS UNITY  
FOR HEALTH & FACULTAD DE MEDICINA,  
UNAM, PRESENT



THE NETWORK  
TOWARDS UNITY FOR HEALTH



Facultad de Medicina



# TUFH2020 MEXICO

VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

"PRIMARY HEALTH CARE: A PATH  
TOWARDS SOCIAL JUSTICE"

SYSTEMS AND COMMUNITY BASED  
RESPONSES TO COVID-19

SEPTEMBER 23-25, 2020

#TUFH2020  
TUFH2020.COM



## TUFH 2020 Abstracts

|                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| <b>Title</b>                  | <b>Community Outreach for Improved Breast Health for Rural Haitian Women</b>                   |
| <b>Type</b>                   | Oral Presentation<br><i>Working with Underserved Populations towards Community Empowerment</i> |
| <b>Presenting Author</b>      | Judy Lewis   |
| <b>Co-Authors</b>             | Bette Gebrian  |
| <b>Country</b>                | United States  |
| <b>Abstract N<sup>o</sup></b> | TUFH93   |

### Content

Globally 2.1 million women have breast cancer annually resulting in 627,000 deaths in 2018 (WHO, 2018). LMICs have increasing rates and greatest mortality due to late presentation and lack of treatment (Anderson, 2007). The estimated annual incidence of breast cancer (BCA) in Haiti was 4.4/100,000 with a 50% mortality rate (Sharma, 2013). The Grand'Anse Health & Development (GAHDA) Special Women's Program developed from a BCA screening program initiated in 2013. Over 2,500 women have been screened and received clinical breast exams (CBE) and self-breast exam education (SBE). 40% received ultrasounds, with most having fibroadenomas. 71 biopsies were performed and identified BCA type and stage. BCA patients are offered surgery and/or referral for chemotherapy and are followed by the program. Because most of these cancers were identified at a very late stage, community outreach through faith-based institutions was identified as a priority. A small grant from Cross Catholic Outreach provides support for working with over 1000 churches (Catholic, Protestant and traditional) in the Grand'Anse Department of Haiti. Training in CBE and SBE was provided to 36 rural doctors and nurses, who became trainers for 100 church nurses in December of 2019. This training will continue with all churches in the Grand'Anse for two more years. Those trained are provided breast models and mirrors for use in their communities. As a result of this training community awareness has increased and referrals for biopsy and treatment are also increasing. This model can be adapted for other non-communicable diseases in LMICS.