

When people discuss cancer, often times they refer to it as the “fight against cancer”. Bob Samuels typifies that reference – he is the ultimate fighter against this disease.

His fight is not just his own battle against cancer, but also his continued efforts for so many other people in our community and beyond. After Bob was diagnosed with prostate cancer, he had no idea what it meant or how to respond.

“He asked what he could do to make a difference and immediately established a support group and a series of sessions to educate men about prostate cancer. I never saw such a drive and focus in pursuing a goal, and this was close to 20 years ago!” said Dr. Julio Pow-Sang, his urologist at that time.

He vowed to make sure that no other men would experience the lack of knowledge that he endured. He lived up to his vow and established the Florida Prostate Cancer Network (FPCN), and went on to become one of the most active advocates in the fight against prostate cancer.

By partnering with FPCN, Moffitt and other institutions joined Bob in that journey to offer prostate cancer education, outreach, and advocacy. The partnership with FPCN included support for the African American Men’s Health Forum, an event designed to educate and screen Black men. Bob later joined the Moffitt Cancer Center Board and continued to serve the community through his efforts at Moffitt.

Bob took his fight nationally and became active in many national and regional boards, and task forces. Among his most laudable efforts was lobbying Congress for increasing funding for prostate cancer research. As a result of his tireless work, Bob’s has been recognized and honored, both locally and nationally, by organizations such as the US House of Representatives, the US Department of Health and Human Services, and the Hillsborough County Commission.

The Moffitt Cancer Center is very appreciative of the work that Bob has done in this fight against cancer. Our faculty and staff continue this fight everyday and benefit from partners like Bob who work tirelessly to help address this disease.

Bill Dalton
President & CEO
Moffitt Cancer Center