

# CREST

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## Welcome

### Welcome to CREST Community!

A quarterly newsletter by the Integrating Underrepresented Populations in Research (IUPR) Team at Tufts Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI).

CREST (Collaboration for Research Equity, Sustainability, and Trust) is comprised of organizations and individuals committed to improving the health and welfare of Black and Brown communities in Boston.

Together, we will foster interactions between community-academic partners who share an interest in improving public health.

[Learn more about us](#)

[Apply to be a CREST Member](#)

### Coming Soon:

#### Community Participation in Research

The IUPR & Professional Education (PE) Team at Tufts CTSI have been working together to create a new I LEARN video called "Community Participation in Research". It is set to release at the end of April 2023.

### Let's Celebrate:

#### Happy MLK Day!

The IUPR Team hopes everyone enjoyed MLK Day. As we move into the month of February, also known as Black History Month, we would like to remember Dr. King's enduring philosophy and methodology of nonviolence and creating the beloved community.

### Coming Soon:

#### Memory Loss & Dialogue

Over the last few months, CREST has been meeting with the Massachusetts Alzheimer's Disease Research Center (MADRC) to plan a community event that elevates dialogue on the topic of memory loss, especially as it relates to caregivers. Stay tuned!

# News

## CREST - 2022 Reflections

At the end of 2022, IUPR Staff reached out to CREST community partners and asked them if they would be willing to engage in individual check-ins and the completion of a feedback form. We had a 100% response rate and we were thrilled by the results.

In 2022, we learned that CREST community partners are grateful for the coalition because of the networking, the resources, the healthcare connections, leadership, and participation. We also learned that CREST community partners need more capacity-building and a more defined framing of the coalition.

In 2022, many of our CREST community partners achieved a network, an enhanced skillset, the growth of their target markets, established clinical trials, and organizational awareness. Moving forward, CREST community partners would be delighted to see more field work, the rollout of a project, an expanded budget, the presence of CREST in the community, more actions, general expansion of the coalition, marketing, togetherness, and strength.

Overall, our CREST community partners rated their overall CREST experience as a 4.8 out of 5 stars. They also rated the coalition's trustworthiness as a 4.6 out of 5 stars. Once again, thank you to all of our CREST community partners for your time, commitment, ideation, and insights. We would be nothing without you all!

## I LEARN - "How To" Access I LEARN

Are you interested in learning more about the translational science process? Click [here](#) to check out our I LEARN course catalog. If you are new to ILEARN all you have to do is 1) Create an Account, 2) Go to the courses tab and search for learning opportunities, 3) Add/Enroll in one or more courses, and 4) Go to "My Courses" to access content after receiving an enrollment confirmation message. Voilà! You are ready for ILEARN.

## Community Events

Over the last few months, there have been one event that CREST community partners, specifically the Authentic Caribbean Foundation, have hosted that we would like to highlight:

**Andrew Sharpe**, Executive Director of the Authentic Caribbean Foundation (ACF), hosted their 10th Annual Celebration at the Residence Inn in Fenway, Boston on December 9th. The purpose of the event was to raise capital funding and increase the awareness of the organization. In the end, the event achieved networking, donations, and connecting with their partners. In its 11th year, ACF is looking forward to settling into their new space in the Caribbean American Center.

# Upcoming Events

## ADAPT-CREST Quarterly Co-Learning Sessions

In December, members of ADAPT and CREST met, once again, to discuss community interests and desired outcomes related to advocacy. Do you have to be a subject matter expert to be an advocate? What skill set does advocacy require? These are the types of questions that we will be discussing further during our next quarterly co-learning session in March.

## Book Talk with Lisa Braxton

Lisa Braxton is the President of our community partner organization, the National Council of Negro Women. She will be giving a talk on her new book, "The Talking Drum." The book touches upon the topics of urban development, small business ownership, and personal transformation.

For more information, please click [here](#).

## The Afro-Caribbean Black History Gala & Awards

On February 25th, Andrew Sharpe will be hosting this charitable event in concert with his organization, the Authentic Caribbean Foundation. The goal of the event is to recognize Caribbean American people in the state of Massachusetts that have contributed to the development of the Caribbean Diaspora Community.

For more information, please click [here](#).

## Quote of the Month:

"There is always a light, if only we're brave enough to see it.

If only we're brave enough to be it."

-Amanda Gorman

## More at Tufts CTSI:

### RECOVER

Our CREST Partners have assisted with the recruitment of participants in the RECOVER study. An NIH-funded, national study that aims to learn more about long COVID, why people get it, and how people recover. Check out their latest newsletter [here](#).

### Congrats Bob Sege!

The Co-Director of the Stakeholder & Community Engagement Team at Tufts CTSI, Bob Sege, has been re-appointed by Governor Charlie Baker for a new term on the Board of Directors of The Children's Trust. Kudos to you Bob!

We Want Your  
FEEDBACK

