

FARE Neighborhoods Day 2025!

Celebrating Our Collective Wins

October 30–31
Washington, D.C.



FARE

Neighborhoods Initiative™

A Letter From the CEO of FARE



Welcome! The whole team at FARE (Food Allergy Research & Education) is excited that you have joined us for FARE Neighborhoods Day, an integral part of our annual OctoberFARE celebration.

More than 33 million people in the U.S. have food allergy, which can cause life-threatening allergic reactions. FARE is committed to helping improve the quality of life and health for this community through transformative research, education, and advocacy. We are pursuing a future free from food allergy—by prioritizing not only management and treatment, but prevention and, ultimately, a cure.

Our dedication to food allergy prevention is why FARE continues to advocate for language requiring the inclusion of peanut-containing foods in infant food packages under the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), to foster early introduction of potentially allergenic foods. More than 311,000 cases of child peanut allergy could potentially be prevented over the next decade once Congress takes action on this cost-effective, evidence-based policy change.

FARE understands: the food allergy community cannot wait. We are driving innovation, creating change, and raising awareness and compassion, and we can't do it without you. Thank you for being part of OctoberFARE, and I look forward to the conversations to come.

We Are FARE,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sung Poblete". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Sung Poblete, PhD, RN
CEO of FARE

Hosted at the Rotunda of the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center in Washington, D.C.

Graphic Recording: Rio Holaday, MPH





About FARE Neighborhoods Day

We are ensuring the best outcomes for all neighborhoods through building community support and partnerships for those affected by food allergy.

FARE Neighborhoods Day brings together over 85+ participants from across the country, including patients, caregivers, researchers, dietitians, community health workers, and local organizations, to celebrate progress, share best practices, and strategize for the future.

We gather to celebrate our ability to make positive progress and impact for individuals and families managing and preventing food allergy across differing cultures and nutritional needs, regardless of access levels, and to strategize ways to continue the momentum.

**This year's FARE
Neighborhoods Day is
supported by**

Genentech
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**Speaker bios and
headshots, as well as any
late-breaking updates to
the agenda, can be found
online. Please use the QR
code to download the Cvent
OctoberFARE event app!**



Agenda

Thursday, October 30

All events take place in the Rotunda unless otherwise indicated.

8:00 AM–9:00 AM

Sign-in & Breakfast

9:00 AM–9:30 AM

Welcome & Recap: What's Fueling Our Direction?

Welcome from Sung Poblete, PhD, RN, CEO of FARE

Review of 2024 highlights & overview of the event

Speakers:

- Edith A. Pérez, MD, Professor Emeritus, Mayo Clinic, FARE Board of Directors, FARE Neighborhoods Day Co-Chair
 - Andrea Pappalardo Wlochowicz, MD, Associate Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics, University of Illinois Chicago College of Medicine, FARE Neighborhoods Day Co-Chair
 - Elizabeth Bradford, MS, Assistant Director of Community Health and Analysis, FARE
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9:30 AM–10:45 AM

Keynote: The State of Food Allergy

A data-driven, narrative-rich discussion on prevalence, disparities, emerging trends, and the national landscape across diverse communities.

Speaker:

- Carla M. Davis, MD, Professor of Pediatrics, Howard University College of Medicine
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10:45 AM–11:00 AM

Break & Refreshments

11:00 AM–12:15 PM

Food Is Medicine: Community & Clinical Solutions to Food Insecurity and Food Allergy

Exploring how clinical care and community-based initiatives intersect to address the dual challenges of food insecurity and food allergy.

Moderator: Dariush Mozaffarian, MD, DrPH, Director, Food is Medicine Institute at Tufts University

Speakers:

- Amy Scurlock, MD, Professor of Pediatrics, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Associate Director, Arkansas Children's Food Allergy Program
 - Emily Brown, CEO, Attane Health
 - Marie Malloy, Senior Director of Education & Community Engagement, FARE
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12:15 PM–1:00 PM

Lunch

1:00 PM–1:45 PM

“Squiggle Bird Warm-Up!” – Rio Holaday, MPH

Speed Networking: Voices Across the Table

A guided networking session with rotating prompts that encourage participants to share personal experiences, resources, and insights while building meaningful connections.

Facilitator: Jeanne Hisle, Senior Grants Manager, FARE



1:45 PM–2:45 PM

Community Partnerships in Action

From schools and clinics to corner stores and churches, community partnerships are the backbone of sustainable food allergy support. In this session, local leaders and national partners will highlight how cross-sector collaboration can break down barriers, build trust, and deliver real impact. Attendees will walk away with replicable strategies for engaging partners in meaningful, equity-driven work.

Moderator: Aisha Brownlee-Williams, MSN, APRN-ANP, AOCNP, Food Allergy Advocate, Don't Feed My Kido Founder

Speakers:

- Victoria Enciso, Community Health Worker, FARE/Mobile Care Chicago
- Oscar Contreras, Program Director, Back of the Yards Neighborhood Council

2:45 PM–3:15 PM

Break

3:15 PM–4:30 PM

Town Hall: Ripping the Band-Aid Off – Voices from the Neighborhoods

Exploring how schools, communities, and households foster safe, inclusive environments. Includes best practices, lived experiences, and culturally responsive safety planning.

Moderator: Carla M. Davis, MD, Professor of Pediatrics, Howard University College of Medicine

Speakers:

- Andrea Pappalardo Wlochowicz, MD, Associate Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics, University of Illinois Chicago College of Medicine, FARE Neighborhoods Day Co-Chair



- Charisse Wilson, Community Health Worker, FARE
- Ruchi Gupta, MD, MPH, Professor of Pediatrics and Medicine, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine
- PA State Rep. Gina H. Curry (District 164, Delaware County)

4:30 PM–4:45 PM

Reflections

Facilitator: Rio Holaday, MPH

4:45 PM–5:00 PM

Closing Remarks

Speaker:

- Edith A. Pérez, MD, Professor Emeritus, Mayo Clinic, FARE Board of Directors, FARE Neighborhoods Day Co-Chair
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5:00 PM–9:00 PM | Pavilion/Pavilion Foyer

A Joint Dinner in Celebration of FARE Neighborhoods Day (FND) & Clinical Development Day (CDD)

Cocktail Reception

Remarks from Sung Poblete, PhD, RN, CEO of FARE

“Won’t You Be My Neighbor? Fostering Community Among All Food Allergy Voices”

Ben Zoldan, Founder, Storyleaders

Dinner



Agenda

Friday, October 31

8:00 AM–8:45 AM | Pavilion/Pavilion Foyer
FND & CDD Breakfast & Recap with Ben Zoldan

9:00 AM–10:00 AM
Youth Perspectives on Food Allergy

Students share their experiences navigating school, social life, and identity. Includes Q&A.

Moderator: Melissa Engel, PhD, Lead Teen Programmer at FARE, Psychology Postdoctoral Fellow, Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago

Speakers:

- Devin Sailer, Youth Advocate, Founder and Director of Safe to Eat
 - Sonia Marwaha, President and Founder of Teen Food Allergy Network
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FND Workshops (Concurrent)

10:00 AM–12:00 PM | Meridian C
From Kitchen to Clinic to Community: Integrating Culinary Medicine

Culinary medicine blends the art of cooking with the science of nutrition and clinical care—but how do you bring it into your own organization? This workshop will walk you through real-world examples of culinary medicine in action across different community settings, including a live cooking demo (and tasting!). Participants will explore culturally responsive curricula, and ways to engage families and patients. Come ready to reimagine food as a powerful tool for health.



Moderator: Chef Daniel Thomas, Celebrity Chef and Author, DWT Culinary Associates, LLC.

Instructors:

- Christina Badaracco, MPH, RDN, LDN, Nutrition and Culinary Medicine Expert and Thought Leader
- Marissa Love, MD, Assistant Professor of Allergy, Clinical Immunology, and Rheumatology, University of Kansas Health System

10:00 AM–12:00 PM

Art for All? Exploring Creativity, Culture, and Community in Food Allergy Work

How can you use art to make people feel seen and heard on our collective journey towards health equity? Join Rio Holaday for an introductory session to graphic recording, which is the real-time translation of conversation into text and pictures. In this hands-on workshop, you will learn about graphic recording in public health contexts, develop a personal icon library for food allergy terms, and try out graphic recording—in an intentional, reflective space where we're all beginners. No artistic experience required; just bring your curiosity and sense of wonder!

Instructor: Rio Holaday, MPH

12:00 PM–1:00 PM

FARE Neighborhoods Day Buffet Lunch



Ideas and Inspiration Points

With Thanks to FARE’s Platinum Partner





About the FARE Neighborhoods Initiative

FARE Neighborhoods Initiative milestones since 2022

- **11,000+** FARE Neighborhoods community members educated on food allergy
- **Increased** allergist visits and epinephrine prescriptions
- **Strengthened** cross-sector partnerships



In 2024, FARE collected key data in five FARE Neighborhoods

- **62%** of respondents received a prescription for epinephrine
- **38%** had access to unexpired epinephrine within 5 minutes all or most of the time
- **6 in 10** worried that their food would run out before they had money to buy more
- **More than half** visited a food bank in the previous 12 months
- **Nearly half** reported anxiety due to their child's food allergy



The FARE Neighborhoods Initiative is supported in part by Genentech, a member of the Roche Group, and South Ward Promise Neighborhood.



FARE (Food Allergy Research & Education) is the leading nonprofit organization that empowers the food allergy patient across their journey of managing the disease. FARE delivers innovation by focusing on three strategic pillars—research, education, and advocacy. FARE’s initiatives accelerate the future of food allergy through effective policies and legislation, novel strategies toward prevention, diagnosis, and treatment, and building awareness and community.

To learn more, visit [FoodAllergy.org](https://www.FoodAllergy.org).

Follow FARE on social media!

