

The SPOT Team

Thomas Smith, Ph.D., LMHC, LMFT, MCAP

Director of Behavioral Health Services at Care Resource

Dr. Smith oversees Care Resource's Behavioral Health Services for Broward and Miami-Dade counties that includes individual, couple, group, and family therapy for mental health and substance abuse counseling. He established Care Resource's Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) treatment program to address opioid use and alcohol use disorders, combining medication with counseling to provide a patient-centered approach to treatment. Dr. Smith co-founded and oversees The SPOT mobile medical clinic and the syringe services program addressing the overwhelming need in Broward County for those living with substance use disorders.

Dr. Smith received his Ph.D. in counseling with a specialization in Marriage and Family Therapy and his MS in Marriage and Family Therapy and Mental Health Counseling from Barry University. Dr. Smith has worked in a variety of clinical settings with a diverse client population. He currently serves as an Adjunct Professor at Nova Southeastern University at the Center of Psychological Studies. He has also served as an Adjunct Professor at Barry University in Miami-Dade County for the Graduate Marriage and Family and Mental Health Counseling Program.

Sheryl Zayas, D.O.

Medical Director & Primary Care Physician

Dr. Sheryl Zayas oversees medical services at Care Resource's Ft. Lauderdale health center and has served at Care Resource since 2013. She spearheaded the creation of a medical home for the trans community and assisted in the establishment of Medical Assisted Treatment for substance use disorder. Dr. Zayas co-founded The SPOT mobile medical clinic's syringe services program to further address the needs of patients living with opioid use disorders.

Dr. Zayas attended Nova Southeastern University and received a medical degree in Osteopathic Medicine. She completed her residency in Family Practice at the Lake Eric College of Osteopathic Medicine in Miami, Florida where she served as Chief Resident. She is a Board-Certified Family Physician. In 2014, she received the Trans Equality Award presented by The Pride Center in Fort Lauderdale.

Ron Ledain, MBA

Director of Marketing, Health Promotion and Linkage

Ron oversees all prevention, marketing, outreach, navigation, and linkage activities that recruit, engage, and retain new patients for Care Resource. For the past decade, Ron has

focused his work on prevention, specifically in the areas of youth, substance abuse and HIV. Ron's Health Promotion and Linkage teams work closely with The SPOT to provide testing and linkage services.

Ron received his MBA from Florida International University in 2012 and joined Care Resource the same year. He previously served four years as the Program Director for Drug-Free Youth in Town, and has a long tenure working with major development organizations in Haiti such as Plan International, the Inter-American Development Bank, and the United Nations Development Program.

Emelina “Emy” Martinez

Manager of Safe Syringe Exchange Services for The SPOT

Emy oversees the total operations of The SPOT and serves as its community liaison.

Ms. Martinez previously worked as the Mobile Outreach and Remote Supervisor of the IDEA Exchange Miami, and as outreach supervisor, she was the liaison between the IDEA Exchange and the community.

Motivated by the death of many of her close friends from HIV and AIDS, she strives to save as many people as she can—one person at a time. Since 1992, Emy has worked with vulnerable populations, especially those most at risk for HIV and HCV.

Her experience spans working with Care Resource, formerly known as Health Crisis Network, National Latino/a Lesbian and Gay Organization (LLEGÓ) in Washington DC, Union Positiva in Miami, Miami-Dade County Health Department (FDOH), and the University of Miami.

Twenty-nine years later, her passion and drive for her work as a harm reductionist brings her back to where it all began—Care Resource—where she will continue her work as an advocate for the community through compassion and tolerance.