
2017 Citizen of the Year



Pedro José Greer, M.D.,

*Associate Dean for Community Engagement
Florida International University's
Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine*

Dr. Pedro José Greer, the associate dean for community engagement at Florida International University's Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine, has spent decades delivering medical care to Florida's homeless and developing the next generation of culturally competent physicians. He is also a professor and the founding chair of FIU's Department of Humanities, Health and Society.

At FIU, Dr. Greer oversees a unique educational program that develops highly-skilled doctors who are also socially accountable to their communities. Greer, a gastroenterologist and hepatologist, is the founder of Camillus Health, a private, not-for-profit organization that provides comprehensive health care, behavioral health and social services to the homeless and poor in Miami-Dade County. He is also the founder of the St. John Bosco Clinic, which has helped to meet the health care needs of undocumented immigrants in the Miami area for more than 20 years.

Dr. Greer has advised Presidents George H.W. Bush and Bill Clinton on health care and poverty and has been honored by several U.S. presidents with some of the nation's highest honors, including the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2009. Additionally, he has received three Papal Medals and was a 1993 recipient of the prestigious MacArthur Foundation "genius grant."

His autobiography, *Waking Up in America: How One Doctor Brings Hope to Those Who Need it Most*, co-written with FIU alumna and Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Liz Balmaseda, details his early years as a physician delivering care to patients living under highway overpasses in Miami. His story has been featured on ABC, CBS, NBC and HBO, among others.
