

## Duke University-Kannapolis leader honored with Service Above Self Award by Rotary Club of Cabarrus County

KANNAPOLIS, N.C.—Dec. 2, 2016—Perla Nunes, who leads community engagement and outreach efforts for Duke University’s MURDOCK Study and other research studies based in Kannapolis, received the Service Above Self Award on Thursday from the Rotary Club of Cabarrus County.



*Perla Nunes of Duke University-Kannapolis receives the Service Above Self Award from the Rotary Club of Cabarrus County, presented by Marie Dockery, executive director for the Cabarrus County Community Free Clinic and a member of the MURDOCK Study Advisory Board.*

The award is Rotary's highest honor and recognizes Rotarians who demonstrate Rotary's motto, “service above self,” by volunteering their time and talents to help others. The award is internationally competitive and is granted to no more than one Rotarian from each district, each year.

Nunes was selected because of her consistent investment in the health and future of Cabarrus County, the region and even the nation, said

Marie Dockery, executive director of the Cabarrus County Community Free Clinic, who presented the award.

“Perla is passionate about health and health research. She actively supports and invests in

many Cabarrus County nonprofits and special interests,” said Dockery, who serves on the MURDOCK Study Advisory Board. “One of her personal passions is outstanding advocacy and support of Alzheimer’s fundraising events in our region. She lives our ‘service above self’ mission every single day.”

Nunes, who lives in Concord and is a native of Ecuador, joined the Duke-Kannapolis team in September 2009. She oversees community outreach for several Duke University studies located in Kannapolis, as well as follow-up efforts for the MURDOCK Study, a community registry and biorepository consisting of more than 12,000 people who live in the Cabarrus County area.

“I am humbled to receive this award. I absolutely love being involved in the community, and I get back so much more than I give,” Nunes said. “I feel very fortunate to have the support of the Duke Clinical and Translational Science Institute, which manages the MURDOCK Study.”

Nunes served as co-chair for the 2015 and 2016 Rowan Cabarrus Walk to End Alzheimer’s and a member of the planning committee for the 2015 and 2016 Cabarrus County Chamber of Commerce’s Women’s Conference. She modeled for the 2016 CMC NE Foundation Fundraiser Fashion Show and danced in the 2016 Cabarrus Arts Council’s Dancing for the Arts event. Nunes serves on the boards of Community Free Clinic of Cabarrus County, Rotary Club of Cabarrus County, Cabarrus Arts Council and Camino Community Center.

She enjoys spending time at the beach and watching soccer with her husband, Tony, and her sons, Tony Jr. and Michael.

Duke-Kannapolis is part of the Duke Clinical & Translational Science Institute and is based in Kannapolis on the North Carolina Research Campus. The MURDOCK Study stands for the Measurement to Understand the Reclassification of Disease Of Cabarrus/Kannapolis. To learn more, visit [www.murdock-study.org](http://www.murdock-study.org) or contact the study at [murdock-study@duke.edu](mailto:murdock-study@duke.edu).

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