

FAMU

CONVERSATIONS ON CANNABIS

EDUCATE. LEARN. TALK.

MMERI

mmeri.famu.edu

FAMU FLORIDA A&M UNIVERSITY
MEDICAL MARIJUANA EDUCATION
AND RESEARCH INITIATIVE

Accomplishments

April 1 – June 30, 2025

4Q

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

MMERI Succeeds by Creating Safe Spaces for Open Dialogue

To ensure the success of the Medical Marijuana Education and Research Initiative's (MMERI) mission, our team is committed to creating safe spaces for open dialogue about cannabis. We achieve this by developing easily accessible in-person and online educational resources, and by taking a personable and approachable stance in addressing questions and concerns about both the legal and illegal uses of marijuana in Florida.

During the fourth quarter of Fiscal Year 2024–2025 (April–June), we traveled across the state and hosted online forums aimed at strengthening MMERI's visibility and credibility as a trusted voice on cannabis, a topic still clouded by misinformation.

Tallahassee, MMERI's home base, proved to be fertile ground for fostering meaningful community engagement during this period. Our team participated in 12 events in the capital city, connecting with students from Florida A&M University (FAMU), state lawmakers, military veterans, parents, and others eager to learn more about our program.

On April 20 — widely recognized in cannabis culture as “4/20” — MMERI commemorated National Cannabis Awareness Month by visiting students in FAMU's School of Allied Health Sciences. Medical marijuana qualified physician Dr. Terel Newton joined members of the MMERI team for candid and informative discussions about the evolving role of cannabis in healthcare. (See story, page 17.)

Also on campus, summer freshman orientation, Set Market Fridays, and men's mental health events all offered valuable opportunities for our team to connect with young adults at pivotal moments in their personal and academic development.

We are especially proud of our participation in three major conferences across the state that helped elevate MMERI's profile among professional audiences. At the National Drug & Alcohol Screening Association Conference in Jacksonville, the MMERI team reaffirmed the program's commitment to “educate, inform, and engage Floridians about medical marijuana and the impact of the unlawful use of marijuana.”

MMERI team members also attended the Florida Medical Cannabis Conference & Exhibition and the Association of Pretrial Professionals of Florida Training Conference, both held in Orlando.

At all these engagements — whether with students mapping their futures, residents in rural communities, or professionals in specialized fields — we encountered a recurring theme: curiosity. Everywhere we went, people expressed a genuine interest in MMERI's work.

It's that curiosity, along with the candid conversations it inspires, that reassures us we're on the right path — creating safe, welcoming spaces where people feel free to talk openly about cannabis.

MMERI PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University (FAMU) is ranked the number one public Historically Black College and University (HBCU) in the nation by U.S. News and World Report.

FAMU’s historic academic legacy is also evidenced in the following honors:

- Ranked in the Top 100 National Public Universities (U.S. News and World Report)
 - No. 81 out of 1,625 public institutions across the country
 - Ranked in the top 4% of all public universities in the United States
- Top Producer of African American Degrees in Architecture, Engineering, Pharmacy/Pharmaceutical Sciences (Diverse Issues)
- Top HBCU Producer of African American Baccalaureate Degrees (Diverse Issues)
- Highly-Ranked as One of the Most Affordable Colleges in Florida (College Choice)
- Fulbright HBCU Institutional Leader (U.S. Department of State)
- Among the Top HBCUs for STEM Majors (TheHundred-Seven.org)
- Highly-Ranked Most Innovative School (U.S. News & World Report)
- Nationally Ranked for Online Excellence (Affordable College Online)

Given the University’s historical role in educating students, FAMU is uniquely positioned to educate Floridians about medical marijuana in accordance with its legislative mandate.

MISSION

To educate, inform, and engage Floridians about medical marijuana and the impact of the unlawful use of marijuana.

VISION

Florida A&M University (FAMU) is the catalyst for statewide education and outreach efforts that ensure Florida’s communities are knowledgeable about medical marijuana and the impact of the unlawful use of marijuana.



MMERI PROGRAM COMPONENTS



EDUCATION

Historically, FAMU has played an outstanding role in educating students. Therefore, it is in a unique position to educate Florida’s populations about medical marijuana and the impact of the unlawful use of marijuana while developing and delivering curriculum and certified training programs to increase knowledge and understanding of these subjects.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community engagement and education are integral parts of this initiative. To reach target populations, MMERI initiates activities, builds and expands relationships and partnerships, and collaborates with leaders, community groups, faith-based organizations, educational institutions, and others.



COMMUNICATIONS

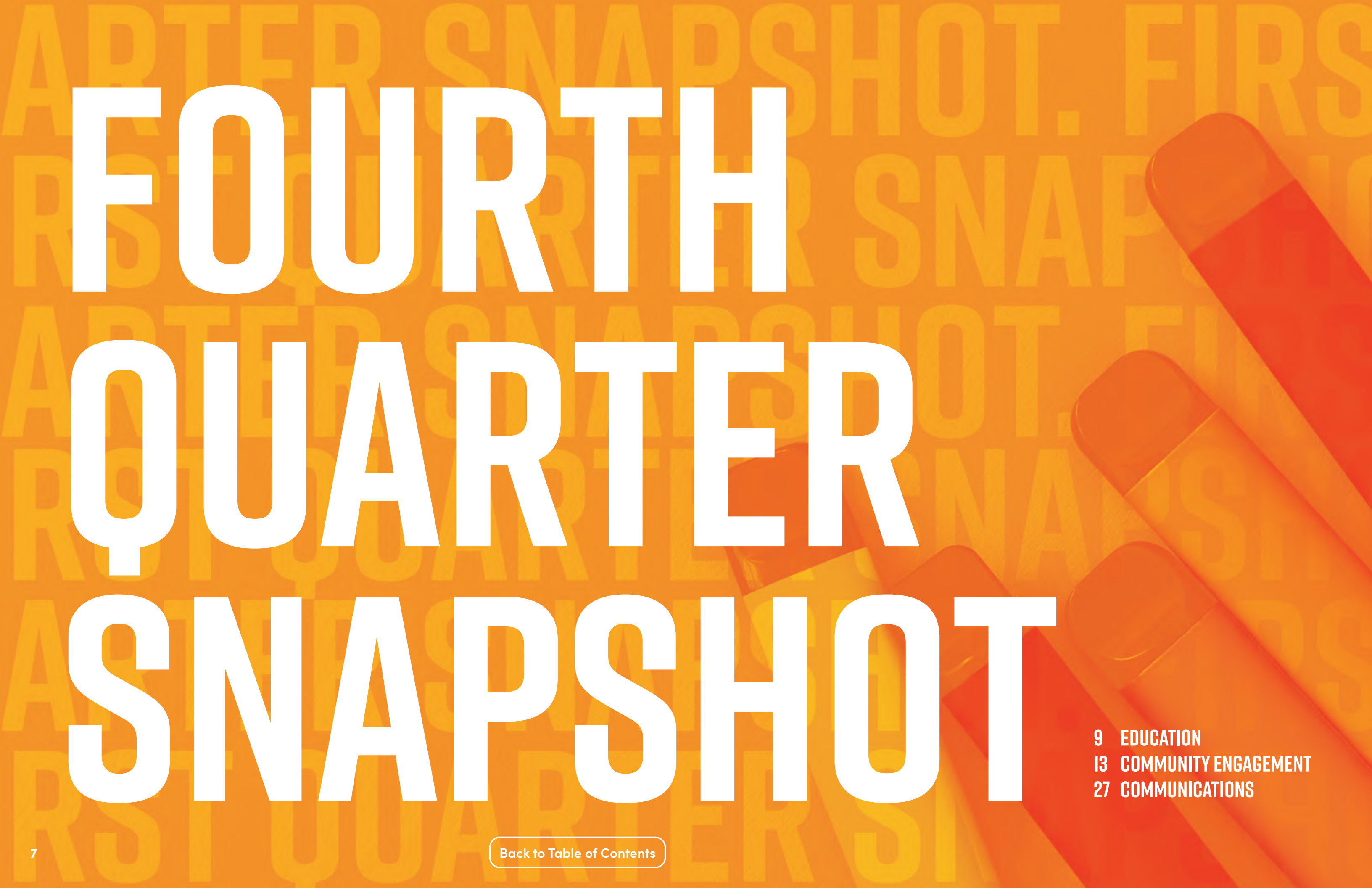
Partnerships and collaborations with broadcast outlets and other media generate timely delivery and dissemination of relevant information to communities across Florida. A statewide messaging campaign includes various digital, audio, visual, print, virtual and in-person platforms to educate key audiences and stakeholders.

GOALS

Educate Florida’s communities about medical marijuana and the impact of the unlawful use of marijuana

Increase the body of research that promotes and advances knowledge about medical marijuana and the impact of the unlawful use of marijuana

Conduct ongoing assessment and evaluation of the effectiveness and impact of the MMERI program



FOURTH QUARTER SNAPSHOT

- 9 EDUCATION
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- 27 COMMUNICATIONS

4Q

EDUCATION

Florida A&M University is nationally recognized for its outstanding role in educating students. Through the Medical Marijuana Education and Research Initiative, the University plays a significant part in educating Floridians about medical marijuana and the impact of the unlawful use of marijuana.

The following pages show notable public education initiatives from the fourth quarter of Fiscal Year 2024-2025.

MMERI BY THE NUMBERS

April 1 - June 30, 2025



55,000

MMERI PUBLIC EDUCATION

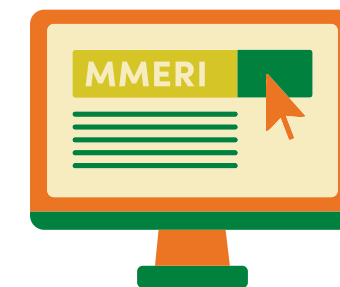
WEBSITE VISITORS



Individuals who visited the Medical Marijuana Education and Research Initiative website from April through June

17,300 MMERI ON-DEMAND SITE VISITORS

Individuals who visited the online and interactive public education platform from April through June



96 MMERI ON-DEMAND SUBSCRIBER VIEWS

Number of views by MMERI On-Demand subscribers who visited MMERI's online and interactive public education platform modules from April through June

8 MMERI ON-DEMAND SUBSCRIBERS

Individuals who visited and registered to MMERI's online and interactive public education platform from April through June



Students Are ‘Highly Engaged’ in MMERI’s ‘Get the 411 on 420’ Forum

On April 20 — widely recognized as “4/20” in cannabis culture — the MMERI team engaged FAMU students in conversations about the legal and illegal uses of marijuana in Florida. For the fourth consecutive year, MMERI hosted “Get the 411 on 420” on campus, this time visiting a class led by Dr. Willie Williams, Assistant Professor in the School of Allied Health Sciences.

Guest lecturer Dr. Terel Newton, a medical marijuana qualified physician and the Florida medical director for national cannabis company Trulieve, guided students through discussions on the medicinal properties of legal cannabis and responded to their questions and concerns. Joining him in the “411 on 420” conversations were MMERI’s Michelle Wilson, Interim Deputy Executive Director, and Anthony Washington, Statewide Program Outreach Coordinator.



Dr. Williams described his students as “highly engaged” in MMERI’s “411” forum, saying, “I know this presentation broadened their understanding of medical marijuana as a legitimate and research-driven component of modern health practice.” He added that Dr. Newton “offered valuable insights into clinical applications and his experiences working with patients.”

Furthermore, he credited the MMERI-led program for opening his students’ eyes “to the real-world impact of medical marijuana in healthcare and the growing opportunities for future health professionals.”

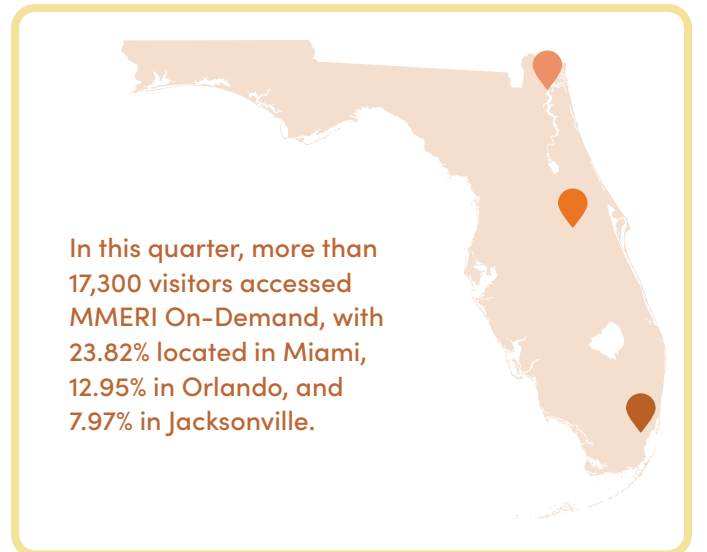
MMERI On-Demand Highlights

This quarter, one new On-Demand module was added to the platform, educating the public on the challenges of banking for the cannabis industry in Florida.

More than 50 modules cover a range of topics to educate Floridians and others interested in learning about cannabis.

New Module Added This Quarter

- Banking and the Cannabis Industry



Overview of the Florida Medical Marijuana Industry

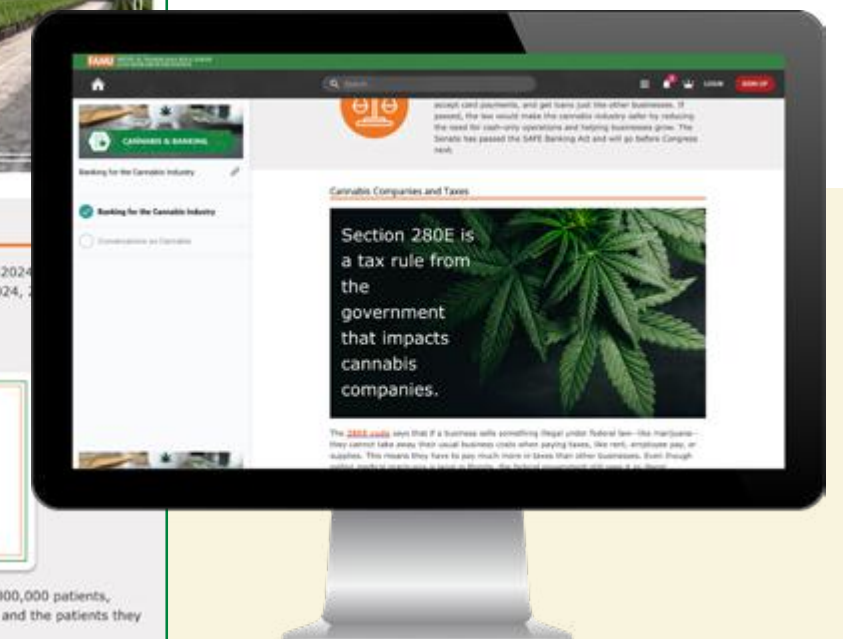
The medical marijuana industry in Florida is a \$2 billion industry. As of mid-2024, active licenses for companies to grow and sell medical marijuana. In late 2024, approved, for a total of 47 licensed companies at the beginning of 2025.

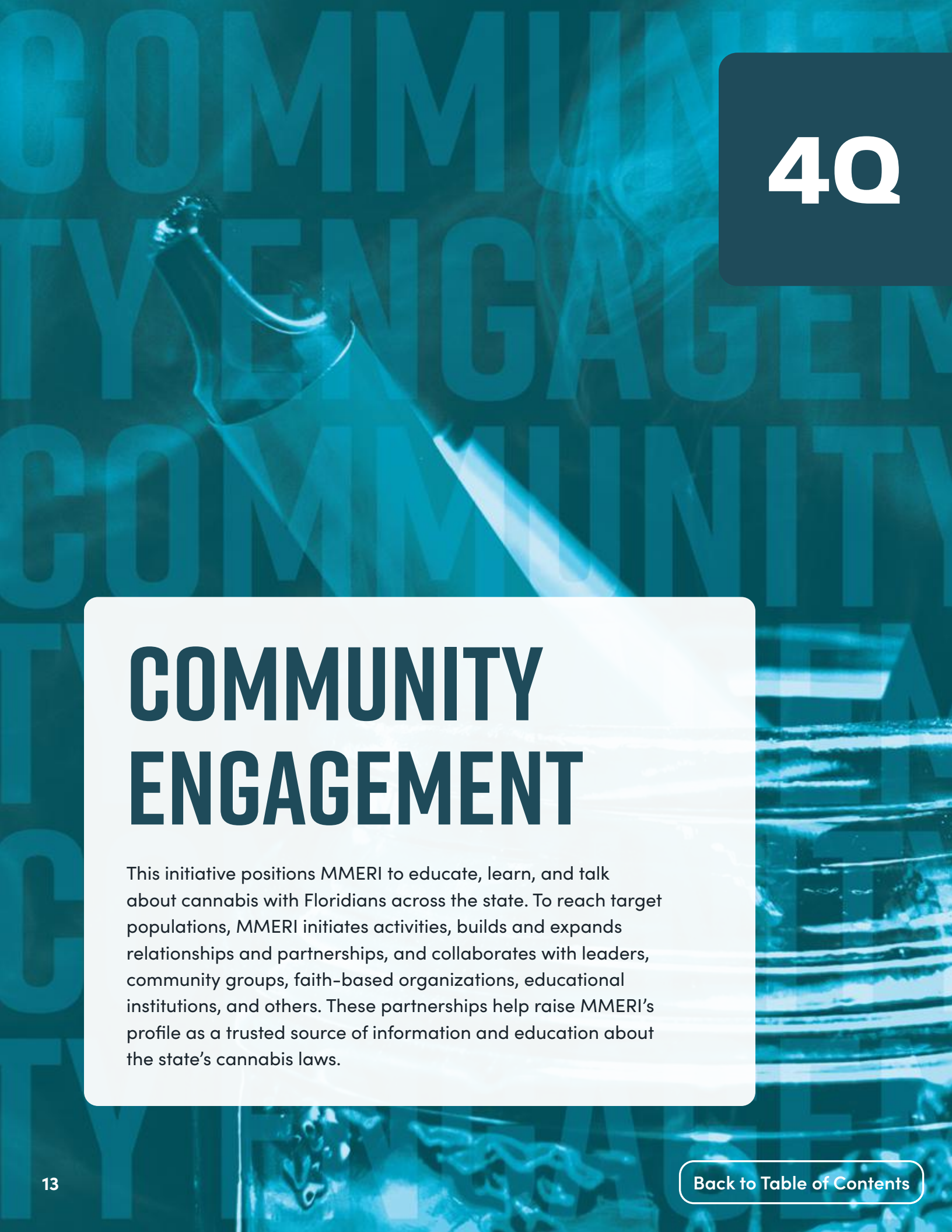
Flip the cards to reveal the answers below.

How many licensed medical marijuana dispensaries are in Florida?

Over 800,000 patients (as of 3/2025)

These numbers highlight the scale of a \$2 billion industry that serves over 800,000 patients, underscoring the relevance of access to proper banking for both companies and the patients they support.





4Q

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

This initiative positions MMERI to educate, learn, and talk about cannabis with Floridians across the state. To reach target populations, MMERI initiates activities, builds and expands relationships and partnerships, and collaborates with leaders, community groups, faith-based organizations, educational institutions, and others. These partnerships help raise MMERI’s profile as a trusted source of information and education about the state’s cannabis laws.

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MMERI BY THE NUMBERS

April 1 - June 30, 2025



1 MILLION
ATTENDEES

At community events and group meetings in cities and neighborhoods across the state



27
OUTREACH
EVENTS

854 TOTAL
VIEWS

3 CONVERSATIONS ON CANNABIS
VIRTUAL FORUMS



Streamed live, these virtual forums reach audiences across Florida and engage them in discussions about medical marijuana and the impact of the unlawful use of marijuana

34,305
PARTICIPANTS

53 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENTS
In collaboration with community partners and organizations



OUTREACH EVENTS

MMERI On The Move

During the fourth quarter, the MMERI team leveraged partnerships with community-based organizations, business and industry associations, and the largest multimedia company in the United States to participate in events and programs that reached thousands of attendees. During these in-person and virtual events, team members engaged audience members and facilitated conversations about cannabis.

April 1-4 • Jacksonville
National Drug & Alcohol Screening Association Conference

The MMERI team attended the 2025 National Drug & Alcohol Screening Association (NDASA) Conference, connecting with more than 700 professionals from across the country and abroad. Known for advancing best practices in drug and alcohol screening, the conference brought together representatives from leading labs across the country. MMERI hosted a vendor table during the four-day event, engaging attendees in conversations about the intersection of cannabis education and workplace safety. Educational materials, program resources and insights into MMERI’s mission helped spark meaningful dialogue with stakeholders in the public and private sectors. A highlight of the conference was when MMERI Executive Director GP Mendie, as a featured speaker, addressed an international audience on the evolving role of cannabis education in public health. His speech reinforced MMERI’s growing influence in conversations about drug education and prevention, while also spotlighting the program’s ongoing commitment to outreach, advocacy, and community health.



April 9 • Tallahassee
Home, Hope & Promise

“Home, Hope, & Promise,” hosted by Family Promise of the Big Bend, celebrated veterans and showcased the region’s only renovated family shelter. More than 100 people attended the event, including local leaders and advocates supporting unhoused individuals. MMERI was recognized for its support of underserved communities through collaboration, education, and meaningful engagement.



April 9 • Tallahassee
FAMU Day at the Capitol

MMERI participated in FAMU Day at the Capitol, engaging over 450 attendees, including alumni, students, and state leaders. Following a lively performance by FAMU’s Marching 100 and cheerleaders, MMERI joined other campus programs in showcasing student research and educational initiatives. Held during the legislative session, the event highlighted FAMU’s impact on Florida’s economy and workforce. Lawmakers, legislative staff, and visitors to the Capitol visited MMERI’s booth to collect educational materials and learn more about the importance of our mission to educate Floridians on the legal use of medical marijuana and illicit marijuana use, as well as the program’s value as a trusted statewide resource.



MMERI Multilingual Street Teams Engage Floridians Where They Are

MMERI’s media and community outreach partners shared information about the MMERI program with populations across Florida.

Trained, multilingual street teams reached key audiences by visiting local establishments, including bars, clubs, churches, malls, train/bus stations, festivals, sports venues, and community events. At these venues, team members discussed legal and illegal marijuana uses with people from African American, Caribbean, Hispanic, American Indian/ Native American, and Asian communities.

OUTREACH LOCATIONS

During this quarter, the street teams toured:

- | | |
|---------------|------------------|
| • Tallahassee | • Indian River |
| • Madison | • Port St. Lucie |
| • Perry | • Fort Pierce |
| • Live Oak | • Fort Myers |
| • Lake City | • Port Charlotte |
| • Stuart | • Cape Coral |

April 10 • Miami
Fifth Annual Cannabis
and Psychedelics Symposium

The Fifth Annual Cannabis and Psychedelics Symposium at the Schwartz Center for Nursing and Health Studies in Miami attracted nearly 100 nursing school students and healthcare professionals, who participated in discussions with subject matter experts. The MMERI team was invited to the event to speak with attendees about Florida cannabis laws and to learn about student-led research on marijuana.



April 10 • Tallahassee
Title I Parent & Community Meeting

The MMERI team participated in a Title I Parent & Community meeting at Havana Magnet School, engaging about 60 attendees, including parents, students, and local stakeholders. Under the theme “Soaring into Action,” the event highlighted critical student resources like mental health support and transportation access. MMERI shared educational materials and answered questions, helping bridge the knowledge gap about medical marijuana in North/Central Florida. Our participation supported the community’s goal of building stronger schools and families through informed, healthy choices as we emphasized MMERI’s role as a trusted statewide resource for cannabis education.



April 11-25 • Tallahassee
FAMU Set Market Fridays

The MMERI team attended FAMU’s Set Market Fridays, using this end-of-the-week campus tradition to engage students in open conversations about medical marijuana. Known for its energetic atmosphere, the event attracts large crowds and encourages student involvement in campus life. Set Market Fridays provided an ideal opportunity for MMERI to reinforce our mission to educate young adults on the safe and lawful use of cannabis in Florida.



April 20 • Tallahassee
4/20 Classroom Visit

To mark 4/20, a date widely recognized in cannabis culture, MMERI engaged about 20 students in FAMU’s School of Allied Health Sciences in a discussion on marijuana. MMERI’s signature annual event, “Get the 411 on 4/20”, featured Dr. Terel Newton, a highly regarded medical marijuana qualified physician, who led a discussion on the uses of cannabis in healthcare and also addressed the health and safety risks of using illegal marijuana. This session helped promote MMERI’s mission to equip students with facts about marijuana use.



April 24 • Miami
Lexus Corporate Run

The MMERI team joined the Lexus Corporate Run in downtown Miami, engaging with thousands of professionals from across South Florida. With more than 18,000 participants from 751 companies, the event was a high-energy platform for connecting with local corporate and wellness communities. Throughout the evening, the team hosted an outreach table stocked with educational materials and resources about cannabis laws in Florida. Attendees stopped by to ask questions, share experiences, and learn more about our mission to educate the public on the legal and unlawful uses of marijuana. The event enabled MMERI to expand its presence in South Florida, foster meaningful dialogue, and leave a lasting impression by distributing printed resources to attendees.



May 3 • Belleview
Belleview Founder’s Day

MMERI attended Belleview’s 140th Founder’s Day celebration, highlighting the city’s history in the state. Around 2,500 participants visited Lake Lillian for the family-friendly event, which featured live entertainment and activities, including face painting, cookie decorating, and culinary options, as well as exhibits, more than 50 vendors, artisans, and nonprofit organizations offering their services. The MMERI team was on hand to engage with attendees by sharing information about medical marijuana and the consequences of illicit use while strengthening our community connections within this historic city.



May 16-17 • Tallahassee
Veterans Stand Down

The MMERI team provided information on medical cannabis and answered questions from attendees at the 12th annual North Florida Stand Down. More than 500 attended the two-day event that offered resources to at-risk and unhoused military veterans,



May 17 • Brooksville
Florida Emancipation Day

The MMERI team conducted community outreach at the Florida Emancipation Day: A Family Reunion & FAMU Farm Fest celebration held at the Chinsegut Hill Historic Site. The event commemorated May 20, 1865, the day when Union troops marched into Tallahassee to announce that slaves had been freed under President Lincoln’s Emancipation Proclamation of 1863. It also spotlighted Black history, cultural pride, and educational opportunities. MMERI distributed educational materials and participated in conversations with attendees, reinforcing the program’s mission to inform the public about safe and lawful cannabis use.



May 30-June 1• Orlando
Florida Medical Cannabis Conference & Exhibition

MMERI was a sponsor and exhibitor at the Florida Medical Cannabis Conference & Exhibition, one of the largest gatherings of its kind in the nation. The conference attracted more than 500 visitors, physicians, researchers, legal experts, and professionals from across the cannabis and healthcare industries, all committed to advancing evidence-based cannabinoid medicine. MMERI hosted an educational booth, engaging with medical professionals interested in the latest science behind cannabis use and its therapeutic applications. The team provided attendees with printed resources and engaged them in conversations about public education, cannabis policy, and MMERI’s statewide outreach initiatives. The event’s focus on functional clinical applications made it the perfect strategic setting for MMERI to reinforce its role as a trusted voice in cannabis education.



June 7 • Tallahassee
Women Veterans Conference

The Florida Department of Veterans’ Affairs Women Veterans Conference was held at FAMU’s Alfred Lawson Jr. Multipurpose Center. The event brought together veterans, community leaders, and service providers for conversations on wellness, empowerment, and support for women who served in the military. MMERI’s presence provided a trusted space for open dialogue about medical marijuana and its use to help manage conditions like post-traumatic stress disorder, Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), and chronic pain. By distributing educational materials and gathering feedback, MMERI fosters connections and shapes future efforts to meet the unique needs of Florida’s veteran community.



June 12 • Tallahassee
FAMU Freshman Orientation

During FAMU’s summer freshman orientation sessions, MMERI connected with dozens of incoming students to share important information about cannabis use and its health risks, and campus policies regarding marijuana. As students prepared for college life, MMERI’s presence underscored the importance of making informed decisions and understanding the legal landscape surrounding cannabis at the university and in Florida.



June 12-13 • Tallahassee
FAMU’s Men’s Health Month

Florida A&M University hosted its second annual Men’s Health Month focused on wellness and support for brotherhood. Themed “Celebrating My Brother with My Brothers,” the event featured a candlelight vigil and a luncheon that promoted personal connections and open conversations about men’s health. Various campus and community partners provided health screenings and wellness resources. MMERI engaged with the audience of students, faculty, and community members through educational materials and discussions on both the medicinal benefits of medical marijuana and the health risks linked to illicit cannabis use. Over 80 attendees participated in health screenings, received educational materials, and enjoyed a networking reception.



June 14 • Tallahassee
15th Annual What Women Want Expo

The 15th annual What Women Want Expo drew an estimated 1,500 people to the North Florida Fairgrounds, providing MMERI with access to a diverse and engaged audience interested in learning more about Florida’s marijuana laws. The event featured a variety of health resources, wellness tips, and live entertainment. Attendees who visited the MMERI booth had the opportunity to pick up materials on our public education programs and other credible resources about cannabis.



June 14 • Tallahassee
Juneteenth Unity Festival at Cascades Park

MMERI participated in this year’s Juneteenth Unity Festival at Cascades Park, which drew a large crowd of community members. The event featured over 100 vendors, including food trucks and booths operated by Black-owned businesses, as well as live music. During the festival, the MMERI team engaged with attendees to discuss Florida’s medical marijuana policies and laws related to illicit cannabis use. Visitors to the MMERI booth received educational materials designed to make conversations about cannabis more approachable, less taboo, and easier to understand.



June 16-17 • Orlando
Association of Pretrial Professionals of Florida Training Conference

The MMERI team hosted an interactive training session on the lawful and unlawful uses of cannabis at the Association of Pretrial Professionals of Florida’s (APPF) annual training conference. The APPF’s members represent courts, sheriff offices, and probation departments with a focus on equipping professionals to expand and educate pretrial programs that support Florida’s justice system. The presentation was attended by 52 law enforcement and pretrial experts across the state. MMERI provided an overview of Florida’s medical marijuana law, addressed common misconceptions of cannabis, and explored the practical challenges marijuana presents officers in the field.



June 28 • Tallahassee
Men’s Health Summit

The Men’s Health Summit at FAMU’s College of Pharmacy was a gathering of around 50 attendees focused on promoting the mental and physical wellness of men through education. Speakers highlighted the need to build a more open and supportive space where men feel encouraged to seek help for mental challenges like post-traumatic stress disorder and other psychological issues. GP Mendie, MMERI’s executive director, joined a panel discussion addressing the historical reluctance among Black men to seek mental health services while also acknowledging the positive strides made in recent years. Participants were interested in knowing more about the MMERI program, and they asked questions on how to recognize and treat the symptoms of mental illness and combat the stigma it fosters.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

MMERI’s Partner Network Educates Floridians Where They Are

Organizations in communities across the state recognize MMERI as a trusted leader in providing public education and information about cannabis. Through its expanding partner network, MMERI participated in or provided educational resources for the following engagements during the quarter.

April 5 • Monticello, FL	200 Participants	
19th Annual Day of Dialogue on Community Health in Jefferson County 2025		
April 10 • Miami Gardens, FL	20 Participants	
Transparent Conversations Class Presentation and Discussion at Florida Memorial University		
April 14 • Miami Gardens, FL	8 Participants	
Transparent Conversations Class Presentation and Discussion at Florida Memorial University		
April 15 • Miami Gardens, FL	65 Participants	
Transparent Conversations Class Presentation and Discussion at Florida Memorial University		

April 16 • Miami Gardens, FL	21 Participants	
Transparent Conversations Class Presentation and Discussion at Florida Memorial University		
April 17 - Miami Gardens, FL	375 Participants	
FMU Roar Day Wellness Day Fair at Florida Memorial University		
April 19 • Live Oak, FL	25 Participants	
Live Oaks Makers Market		
April 21 • Miami Gardens, FL	29 Participants	
Transparent Conversations Class Presentations and Discussion at Florida Memorial University		
April 22 • Miami Gardens, FL	22 Participants	
Transparent Conversations Class Presentations and Discussion at Florida Memorial University		
April 23 • Miami Gardens, FL	26 Participants	
Transparent Conversations Class Presentation and Discussion at Florida Memorial University		

May 1 • Monticello, FL	100 Participants	
Stroke Awareness Resource Event		
May 1 • Miami Gardens, FL	94 Participants	
Transparent Conversations Class Presentation and Discussion at Florida Memorial University		
May 1 • Miami Gardens, FL	50 Participants	
Graduate Research Conference at Florida Memorial University		
May 3 • Dixie, FL	200 Participants	
2nd Annual Cowboy Country Festival		
May 3 • Suwannee, FL	100 Participants	
Healthy Families Community Health Expo		
May 9 • Suwannee, FL	100 Participants	
Job & Vendor Fair During Cowboying for a Cause Rodeo		
May 16 - 17 • Tallahassee, FL	1,000 Participants	
Stand Down Days		
May 20 • Jefferson, FL	100 Participants	
Happy Emancipation Day		

May 23 • Madison, FL	100 Participants	
NWF Connects Resource Expo		
May 24 • Madison, FL	100 Participants	
Walk, Run, Roll Health Festival		
June 3 • Monticello, FL	50 Participants	
Building a Better You		
June 14 • Tallahassee, FL	250 Participants	
What Women Want		
June 21 • Hamilton, FL	60 Participants	
Hamilton County Blackberry Festival		
June 28 • Gadsden, FL	45 Participants	
DJ Trucker Seafood & Field Party		

VIRTUAL FORUMS

Conversations on Cannabis
Virtual Forum (April, May, June)

Conversations on Cannabis virtual forums invite viewers to engage program guests in discussions on medical marijuana and the impact of the unlawful use of marijuana. Livestreamed on Facebook and YouTube, each program features experts in fields such as health care, business, law enforcement, theology, and other professions.

854 viewers tuned in to the
Conversations on Cannabis Virtual
Forums on MMERI’s Facebook and
YouTube pages this quarter.

April 24, 2025
Cannabis and Menopause

The onset of menopause as women pass through their 40s and 50s can usher in a number of disruptive symptoms in their lives. Irritability, hot flashes, night sweats, anxiety, stress, insomnia, depression, body aches, weight gain, and pain during sex are some of the common physical discomforts that menopausal women cope with. Hormone replacement therapy can help treat some symptoms of menopause, but for women who don’t want to take hormones, Dr. Genester Wilson-King recommends cannabis as an alternative treatment. Dr. Wilson-King is a board-certified obstetrician and gynecologist and medical marijuana qualified physician whose practice, Victory Rejuvenation Center, is located in Lake Mary, Fla. “If I see a patient who is very fearful of taking hormones, I’ll offer them cannabis,” she says. Menopause is not listed as a qualifying condition for medical cannabis treatment in Florida, but its symptoms are comparable to medical conditions that are treatable, such as Crohn’s disease, post-traumatic stress disorder, and HIV/AIDS. Therefore, menopausal women may seek treatment under the care of a qualified physician, she said.

Live on April 24, at Noon

CONVERSATIONS ON CANNABIS

Can MEDICAL MARIJUANA Help With MENOPAUSE SYMPTOMS?
Risks and Real Talk on Potential Relief

FAMU MEDICAL MARIJUANA EDUCATION AND RESEARCH INITIATIVE

“Great presentation.”

Viewer feedback on YouTube

May 29, 2025
What You Need to Know About
New Vaping Trends

The e-cigarette trend has spawned a creative side business of vaping devices that are meant to conceal their intended use. They may look like car key fobs, magic markers, ChapStick tubes, or other ordinary products, but they’re really vape pens that may contain flavored nicotine-infused aerosols or possibly marijuana or another drug. These intentionally deceptive products are raising challenges to preventing substance abuse among adolescents, a demographic that has gravitated toward vaping. “They’ve really latched onto vaping and then quickly discovered, ‘Oh, look, you can buy [vaping] cartridges that contain drugs, and nobody will know I’m smoking drugs because it’s just a vape pen.’ And that’s the real problem,” said Bobby Betros, CEO of SwabTek, the maker of drug-testing kits that can detect cannabis and other drugs in vaping devices and edibles.

Live on May 29, at Noon

CONVERSATIONS ON CANNABIS

HIDDEN IN PLAIN SIGHT
WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT NEW VAPING TRENDS

FAMU MEDICAL MARIJUANA EDUCATION AND RESEARCH INITIATIVE

“This topic is educational. A lot of people should hear of this!”

Viewer feedback on YouTube

June 26, 2025
What Adults and Minors Need to
Know About Cannabis-Related
Arrests and Offenses

Possession of marijuana is illegal in Florida, but enforcement of the offense depends on a number of factors. Possession of up to 20 grams of marijuana is a first-degree misdemeanor when it’s not being sold, punishable by a year in jail, a \$1,000 fine, and a mandatory six-month driver’s license suspension. Possession of more than 20 grams is elevated to a felony, with penalties increasing based on the quantity. It is also a felony to possess, sell, or deliver marijuana within 1,000 feet of schools, parks, colleges, or other specified areas. Cannabis legal experts Mutaqee Akbar, founder of Akbar Thomas Law Firm in Tallahassee, and David Cannady, senior partner at Cannady & Associates in South Florida, both advised against smoking pot or medical marijuana in vehicles, as the odor could draw the attention of police.

Live on June 26 at Noon

CONVERSATIONS ON CANNABIS

CAUGHT with Cannabis?
What Every Adult and Minor Should Know About Cannabis-Related Arrests and Legal Risks

FAMU MEDICAL MARIJUANA EDUCATION AND RESEARCH INITIATIVE

“I teach young Black men how to talk to the police. ‘Yes officer, you do smell it. I have to use my medicine at my home. My mamma won’t let me smoke in the house. I have to get in my car to medicate.’”

Viewer feedback on YouTube

4Q

COMMUNICATIONS

MMERI leverages multiple media platforms to provide Floridians with factual information on the state's medical marijuana law and the potential consequences of the unlawful use of marijuana. A comprehensive communications strategy supports and promotes MMERI's education and community engagement activities. This holistic approach to public education has established Florida A&M University as a leading authority on medical marijuana and a trusted resource on the legal and illegal uses of marijuana.

MMERI BY THE NUMBERS

April 1 - June 30, 2025



10.7 MILLION RADIO SPOTS
Aired in 10 major media markets

88.6
MILLION
IMPRESSIONS



23,656 TELEVISION SPOTS
Aired in 10 major media markets

7.9
MILLION
IMPRESSIONS

4.8 MILLION
IMPRESSIONS

9 E-NEWSLETTERS
(ENGLISH/SPANISH)

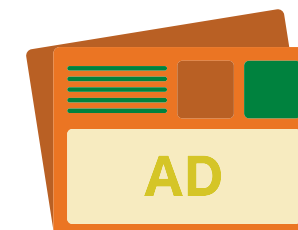
Sent monthly to provide
timely information about
MMERI programs and
initiatives



4.1 MILLION
IMPRESSIONS

109 PRINT
ADVERTISEMENTS

Published in
22 Media News
& Magazine Outlets



4.1 MILLION
IMPRESSIONS

67 NEWS ARTICLE PLACEMENTS

Published in
22 Media Print
Newspapers



1 MILLION+
PROMO ITEMS

Distributed by MMERI partners and
street teams at events across Florida

3
STATEWIDE
CAMPAIGNS

Addressed various
cannabis-related
topics with subject
matter experts and
Florida communities



MMERI Campaigns Get Floridians Talking and Learning About Cannabis

During the fourth quarter, MMERI launched three new campaigns about marijuana use — a topic many people are reluctant to discuss in public. These campaigns began with the monthly *Conversations on Cannabis* live virtual forums that prompted an open dialogue about medical cannabis as a treatment for multiple sclerosis and menopause and vaping devices that conceal marijuana. Forum discussions featured knowledgeable guests and interactions with virtual audience members.

MMERI expanded the campaigns’ reach by leveraging partnerships with large media groups and media outlets across the state. These partners used multiple media channels—traditional, digital, and social media—to deliver information and resources to Floridians in English, Spanish, and Haitian Creole.

The following are summaries of the campaigns and information on marijuana education shared by subject matter experts.



APRIL

Medical Cannabis Offers Relief from MS Symptoms

It can serve as a rescue treatment for many patients, the doctor says

In the April campaign, Dr. Terel Newton addressed the use of medical marijuana to relieve some of the painful symptoms caused by multiple sclerosis (MS). Listed as a qualifying condition for medical cannabis treatment in Florida, MS is a chronic disease that affects the central nervous system, causing such symptoms as blurred vision, balance and coordination problems, cognitive impairments, muscle weakness, bowel and bladder issues, fatigue, and numbness and tingling. Its cause is unknown. Dr. Newton is a board-certified physician specializing in anesthesiology and interventional pain management, as well as a medical marijuana qualified physician. He is also the Florida medical director of Trulieve, a leading cannabis business.

MS patient Natasha Acoff said the information Dr. Newton shared helped educate her about how cannabis could alleviate some of the symptoms she experiences, such as trouble sleeping. Since being diagnosed with MS, she has devoted herself to raising awareness of the disease and helping people afflicted with it. She is a National Multiple Sclerosis Society ambassador and the founder and president of On My Nerves Inc., a Tallahassee-based nonprofit organization that supports individuals with MS through advocacy, education, community outreach, and fundraising efforts.

“[Medical cannabis] is definitely something that I’d think about or will think about for my spasms, for potentially sleeping, or for even pain.”

Natasha Acoff
MS Patient and Founder of On My Nerves, Inc.



“By using cannabis as an anti-inflammatory and to supplement our body’s cannabis, it can help regulate the immune system and improve the symptoms and potentially slow the progression of the disease.”

Dr. Terel Newton
Medical Marijuana Qualified Physician





MAY

A ‘Wonderful Plant’ Can Help Relieve Menopause Symptoms

Medical marijuana is recommended as an alternative to hormone therapy

Women experiencing menopause often cope with physical and mental symptoms that can disrupt the normal ebb and flow of their lives. Caused by a decline in the body’s production of estrogen and progesterone, two hormones made by the ovaries, and the end of menstrual periods, the onset of menopause usually occurs as women pass through their 40s and 50s. Irritability, hot flashes, night sweats, anxiety, stress, insomnia, depression, body aches, weight gain, and pain during sex are some of the common physical discomforts that menopausal women cope with.

While menopause is not listed as a qualifying condition for medical marijuana treatment in Florida, its symptoms are comparable to medical conditions that are treatable, such as Crohn’s disease, post-traumatic stress disorder, and HIV/AIDS, Dr. Genester Wilson-King explained in the May campaign. Dr. Wilson-King, a board-certified obstetrician and gynecologist, has been a practicing physician qualified to recommend medical marijuana in Florida since 2017. She added that hormone replacement therapy can help prevent bone loss and treat some other symptoms of menopause, but for women who don’t want to take hormones, she recommended cannabis as an alternative treatment.

“ Cannabis can relieve joint pain, can relieve anxiety and depression, and mood swings. ”

Dr. Genester Wilson-King
Board-Certified Obstetrician and Gynecologist, Medical Marijuana Qualified Physician





JUNE

Vaping Devices that Conceal Cannabis Use Set Off Alarms


Products disguising their intended purpose target teen market

Vaping products that look like something other than what they were made for are raising concerns about adolescents using them to conceal drug use. Vape pens that resemble car key fobs, ChapStick tubes, magic markers, and other everyday items are meant to disguise their intended purpose, vaping flavored nicotine-infused aerosols marketed with conventional e-cigarette brands. But there’s growing evidence that teens in particular are using these impersonator devices to vape marijuana and other drugs.

The June campaign featured an expert in this new vaping trend, Bobby Betros, CEO of SwabTek, the maker of drug-testing kits that can detect cannabis and other drugs in vaping devices and edibles. More than 1,200 schools across the country use SwabTek kits to determine if vape devices and suspicious-looking candies confiscated from students contain illicit drugs. Teens vaping e-cigarettes have raised health concerns, as the inhalation of vapors can cause lung damage. But just as worrisome are the risks teens face if they vape cannabis to achieve a stronger buzz, said Mr. Betros. The frequent use of marijuana, particularly among young people, has been found to cause cognitive impairments, such as memory loss and difficulties with paying attention, learning, and problem-solving.

“ They’ve really latched onto vaping and then quickly discovered, ‘Oh, look, you can buy [vaping] cartridges that contain drugs, and nobody will know I’m smoking drugs because it’s just a vape pen.’ And that’s the real problem. ”

Bobby Betros
CEO of SwabTek



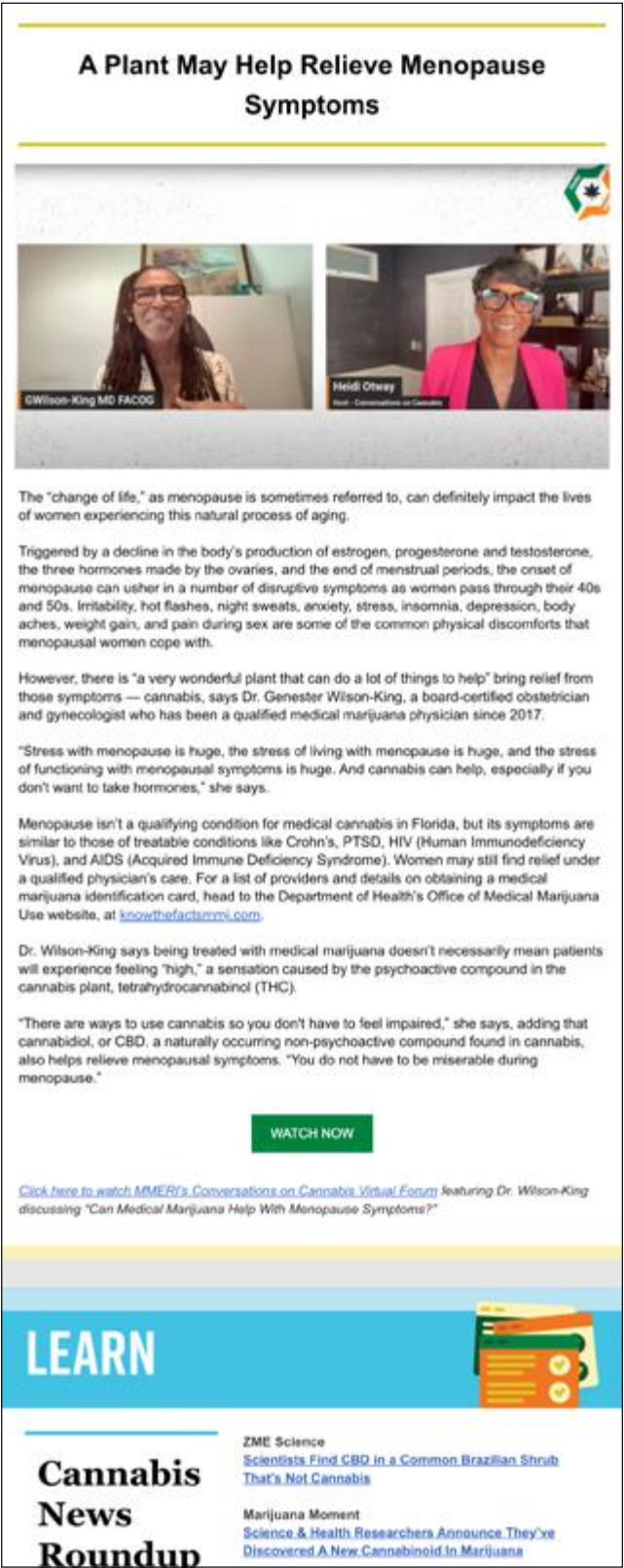


The following media and communications channels delivered campaign information and public education to Floridians statewide.

E-NEWSLETTERS

Maintaining Constant Contact with Audiences Through News on Marijuana in Florida and Across the Country

Consumer-focused e-newsletters and e-blasts with educational information about cannabis are distributed monthly in English and Spanish. *Conversations on Cannabis* e-newsletters highlight monthly campaign subject matter expert(s) talking about an issue or concern, feature the latest marijuana news in Florida and across the country, and include sections on Florida’s cannabis laws and how to obtain a medical marijuana card legally. MMERI has recorded increased e-newsletter recipients, noticeable audience engagement, and positive feedback from stakeholders.



RADIO

Radio commercials on mainstream stations*

MMERI coordinated the placement of paid content and advertisements on mainstream radio stations. Several stations in cities across Florida also aired audio recordings of the Conversations on Cannabis virtual forums.

This quarter, radio advertisements and the monthly forums were played on the following stations:

RADIO AUDIENCE DEMOGRAPHICS

A horizontal bar chart titled 'RADIO AUDIENCE DEMOGRAPHICS' showing the percentage of the radio audience for different ethnicities. The bars are colored in shades of purple and blue. The data is as follows:

Ethnicity	Percentage
Black	44.31%
Hispanic	32.98%
Asian	0.94%
Other/Mixed	21.77%

Black 44.31%

Hispanic	32.98%
----------	--------

Asian 0.94%

Other/Mixed 21.77%

*Map is an illustration of Florida's 10 major media markets



Radio Broadcast Schedule for *Conversations on Cannabis* Forums

Saturday

6 a.m. - 6:30 a.m.	West Palm Beach and the Treasure Coast WZZR-FM (Real Radio)
6 a.m. - 7 a.m.	Orlando WTKS-FM HD2 (104.5 The Beat)
7 a.m. - 7:30 a.m.	Tallahassee-Panama City WTLY-AM (Throwback 96.5 FM)
7 a.m. - 8 a.m.	West Palm Beach WZZR-FM HD2 (The New 93.3)
10 a.m. - 11 a.m.	Punta Gorda WCCF-AM (News Radio 1580)
6 p.m. - 7 p.m.	Melbourne-Titusville-Cocoa WMMB-AM (92.7 FM and 1240 AM and 1350 AM)

Sunday

1 a.m. – 2 a.m.	Miami WMIB-FM HD2 (Throwback 105.5)
6 a.m. – 7 a.m.	Jacksonville WFXJ-AM (930 Talk-Spanish)
6 a.m. – 7 a.m.	Jacksonville WKSL-FM HD2 (97.3 Talk-Spanish)
11 a.m. – 12 p.m.	West Palm Beach and the Treasure Coast WZZR-FM (92.1 Real Radio)
7 a.m. – 12 p.m.	Treasure Coast WCZR-FM (101.7 Real Radio)

“Best of MMERI Radio” shows also air on the following stations:

- WBTP-FM (95.7 The Beat) in Tampa-St. Petersburg
- WBTT-FM (105.5 The Beat) in Fort Myers
- WSDV-FM (103.9 Kiss FM) in Sarasota

MMERI PODCASTS

MMERI Radio Forums *Conversations on Cannabis* videocasts and virtual forums are featured as podcasts on web and mobile devices.

Download the Podcasts

MMERI Website: <https://mmeri.famu.edu/podcasts/>

MMERI Radio Forums *Conversations on Cannabis* videocasts and virtual forums are featured as podcasts on web and mobile devices.

Download the Podcasts

MMERI Website: <https://mmeri.famu.edu/podcasts/>

PRINT ADS & NEWS ARTICLES

Newspaper Outreach

To promote its public education programs and monthly campaigns, MMERI coordinates the placement of paid content and advertisements in newspapers targeting Black and Hispanic communities. This quarter, ads and editorial content were published in printed newspapers, posted on their news websites and social media platforms, and shared with their e-newsletter subscribers.

PRINT AUDIENCE IMPRESSIONS*

Black	68.93%
Hispanic	29.68%
Asian	1.39%

*Data Sources: Circulation estimates provided by the newspaper publishers and staff

¿SABÍAS QUE?

“Marihuana” incluye todas las partes de la planta de Cannabis, desde las semillas hasta la resina. Esto también se aplica a los productos con bajo contenido de THC, que pueden proporcionar beneficios médicos sin causar un subidón.

Fuente: 2024 Estatutos de Florida, sección 381.986

Pon a prueba tus conocimientos sobre la marihuana medicinal en

MMERIFAMU.EDU/EDUCATE

Conéctese con nosotros @MMERIFAMURadio

HIDDEN IN PLAIN SIGHT

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT NEW VAPING TRENDS

Watch a Conversations on Cannabis virtual forum to learn about the latest hidden vaping products and drug testing tools to help parents, educators and communities stay informed and proactive in addressing these issues.

Watch Now

Follow “Conversations on Cannabis” on

@MMERIForumRadio

OCULTO A PLENA VISTA

LO QUE HAY QUE SABER SOBRE LAS NUEVAS TENDENCIAS DEL VAPEO

Vea un foro virtual de Conversaciones sobre el Cannabis para informarse sobre los últimos productos ocultos de vapeo y las herramientas de análisis de drogas para ayudar a padres, educadores y comunidades a mantenerse informados y proactivos a la hora de abordar estas cuestiones.

¡Véalo Ahora

Siga “Conversations on Cannabis” en

@MMERIForumRadio

Can Medical Cannabis Help People with Multiple Sclerosis (MS)?

Learn the Risks and Benefits

Watch a Conversations on Cannabis virtual forum to learn how using medical cannabis may impact the quality of life for patients with Multiple Sclerosis (MS)

Watch Now

Follow “Conversations on Cannabis” on

@MMERIForumRadio

EL CONSUMO DE CANNABIS SÓLO PUEDE AYUDAR ALIVIAR LOS SÍNTOMAS DEL VIH/SIDA

See a virtual forum of Conversations on Cannabis to learn about the latest hidden vaping products and drug testing tools to help parents, educators and communities stay informed and proactive in addressing these issues.

Watch Now

Follow “Conversations on Cannabis” on

@MMERIForumRadio

Wu Tang Clan rapper rescues ‘Bad Shaboo’ Jews, gentiles

True basketball fan likely to enjoy Thunder Paces series

Watch a Conversations on Cannabis virtual forum to learn about the latest hidden vaping products and drug testing tools to help parents, educators and communities stay informed and proactive in addressing these issues.

Watch Now

Follow “Conversations on Cannabis” on

@MMERIForumRadio

Up to 4 in 10 people could develop dementia after 55. What you can do to lower your risk

“ALL OF OUR RESEARCH SUGGESTS WHAT YOU DO IN YOURS REALLY MATTERS.”

Watch a Conversations on Cannabis virtual forum to learn about the latest hidden vaping products and drug testing tools to help parents, educators and communities stay informed and proactive in addressing these issues.

Watch Now

Follow “Conversations on Cannabis” on

@MMERIForumRadio

Medical Cannabis Offers Relief from MS Symptoms

Watch a Conversations on Cannabis virtual forum to learn how some women are using medical cannabis to manage menopause symptoms and what experts say about the risks and benefits.

Watch Now

Follow “Conversations on Cannabis” on

@MMERIForumRadio

¿Puede el cannabis medicinal ayudar a los enfermos de esclerosis múltiple (EM)?

Conoce los riesgos y beneficios

See a virtual forum of Conversaciones sobre el Cannabis para saber cómo puede influir el consumo de cannabis medicinal en la calidad de vida de los pacientes con esclerosis múltiple (EM).

Watch Now

Follow “Conversations on Cannabis” on

@MMERIForumRadio

Employee Of The Month Is The Reassuring Voice Behind The Scenes

Did You Know?

While Florida state law permits the use of edibles for individuals with a valid medical marijuana card, recreational consumption of edible marijuana remains illegal.

Source: 2024 Florida Statutes Section 381.996

Follow “Conversations on Cannabis” on

@MMERIForumRadio

¿Puede La MARIJUANA MEDICINAL Ayudar Con LOS SÍNTOMAS DE LA MENOPAUSIA?

Riesgos y Discusiones Real Sobre el Alivio Patencial

Vea un foro virtual de Conversaciones sobre el Cannabis para saber cómo algunas mujeres utilizan el cannabis medicinal para tratar los síntomas de la menopausia y qué dicen los expertos sobre los riesgos y beneficios.

Watch Now

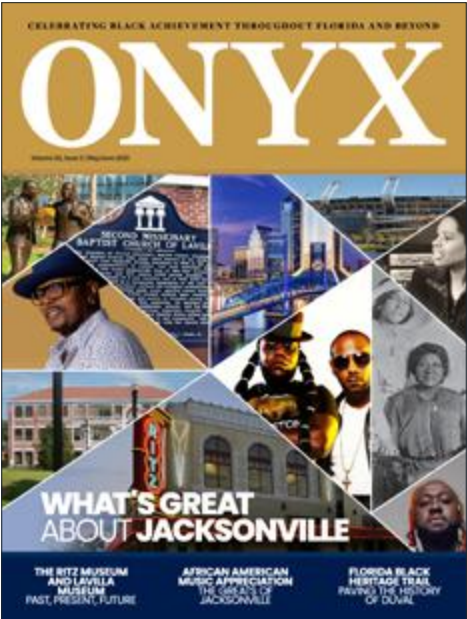
Follow “Conversations on Cannabis” on

@MMERIForumRadio

PRINT ADS & NEWS ARTICLES

(CONT'D)

Magazine Outreach
MMERI engaged top lifestyle magazines targeting Floridians during the fourth quarter. The readerships of Caribbean Today and Onyx magazines are primarily from Black and Caribbean communities across South Florida.



TELEVISION

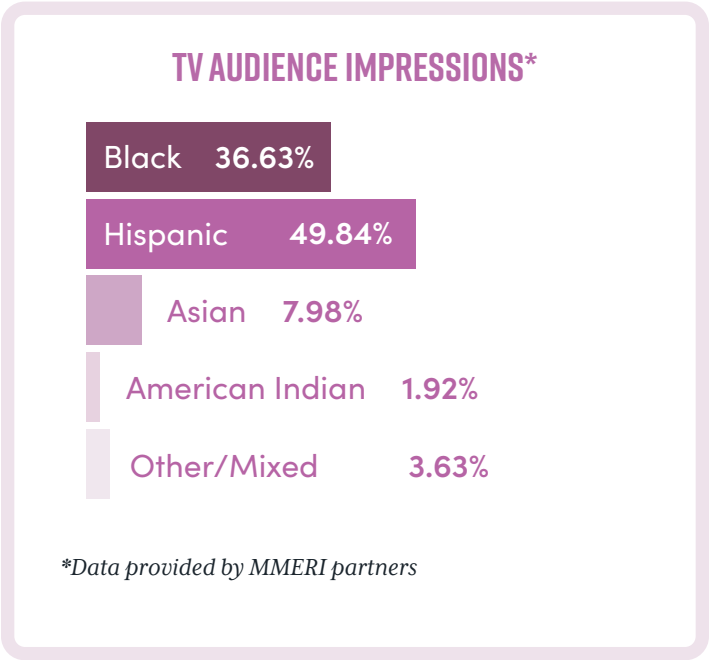
Television Commercials
Television commercials in English and Spanish blanketed the state's airwaves with information about the MMERI program, monthly campaign topics, and public education related to medical marijuana and the impact of the unlawful use of marijuana.

During the quarter, MMERI commercials aired on 50 television stations in 10 major media markets across Florida:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| • Fort Myers-Naples | • Panama City |
| • Gainesville-Ocala | • Pensacola |
| • Jacksonville | • Tallahassee |
| • Miami-Fort Lauderdale | • Tampa-St. Petersburg-Sarasota |
| • Orlando-Daytona Beach-Melbourne | • West Palm-Fort Pierce |

The estimated potential television reach statewide from April through June 2025 was over 7.9 million viewers.

Of those estimated television viewers, 1,476,458 were African American; 2,009,072 Hispanic; 3,869,626 White; 321,613 Asian; 77,311 American Indian, and 146,218 Other/Mixed.



PROMOTIONAL CAMPAIGNS

Statewide Promotions and Special Events By MMERI Partners

MMERI was featured in multimedia promotional campaigns for various events and activities held in cities and around the state. The promotions were designed to raise brand awareness and prompt audiences at the following events to participate in MMERI's education programs and forums.

- April
- Black Effect Podcast
 - iHeartRadio Music Festival
 - Q2 Cash Contest
 - Enrique Morning Show Contest Feature
 - The Breakfast Club Show Feature
 - Local Clout Sponsorship
 - BIN (Black Information Network)
 - TTWN Promotion
 - Live Forum Awareness Campaign

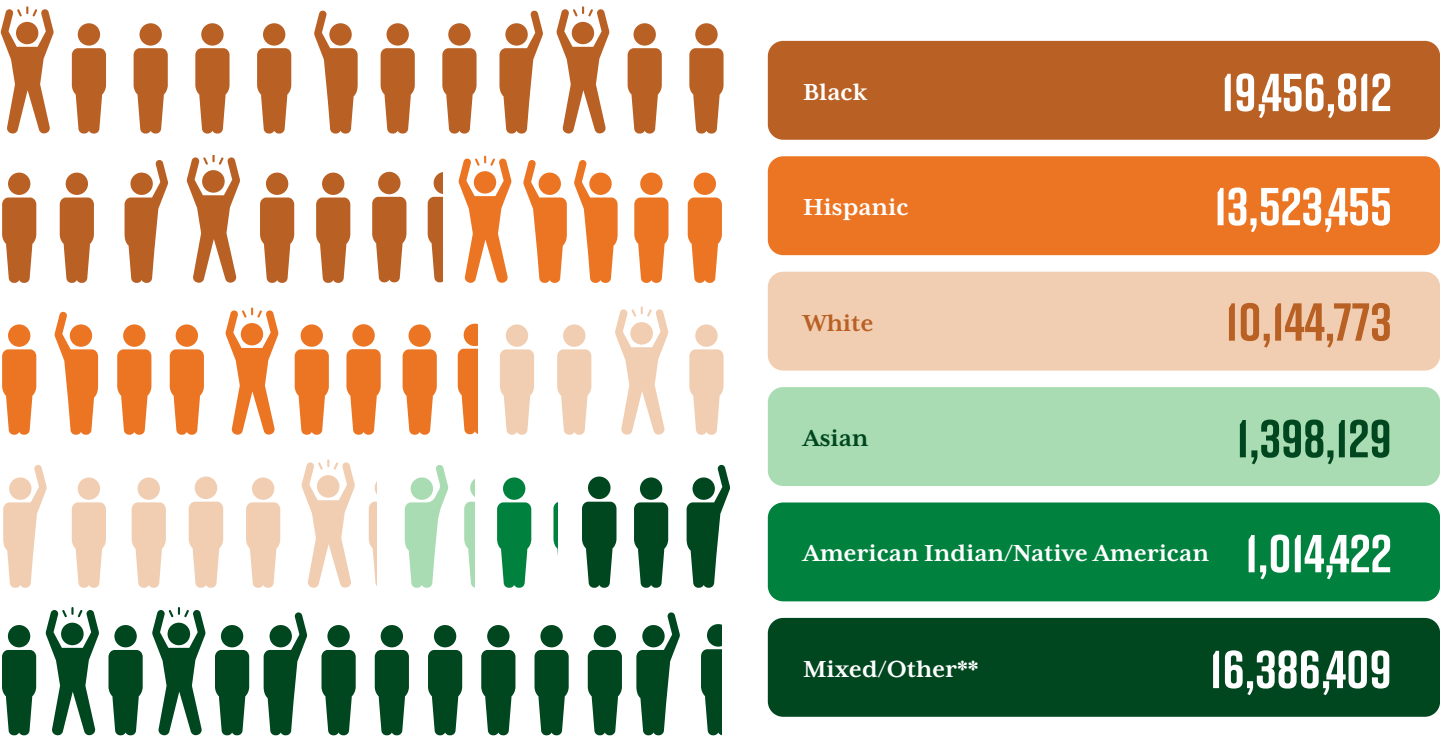
- May
- Treasure Coast Songwriters Festival
 - Haitian Heritage Month
 - Q2 Cash Contest
 - Enrique Morning Show Contest Feature
 - The Breakfast Club Show Feature
 - Local Clout Sponsorship
 - BIN (Black Information Network)
 - TTWN Promotion
 - Live Forum Awareness Campaign

- June
- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| • Black Music Month | • Local Clout Sponsorship |
| • Q2 Cash Contest | • BIN (Black Information Network) |
| • Enrique Morning Show Contest Feature | • TTWN Promotion |
| • The Breakfast Club Show Feature | • Live Forum Awareness Campaign |

AUDIENCE REACH & ENGAGEMENT

4Q

The following data represents the estimated* aggregated audience reach by demographics through public education programs, multimedia channels, engagement activities, and other communication tactics in the fourth quarter of FY 2024-2025.



Aggregated data of audiences reached and engaged were compiled from the following public education programs, multimedia channels, engagement activities, and other communication tactics:

- Online Education Surveys and Assessments
- Community Outreach
- Television Outreach
- Radio Outreach
- Print Outreach
- Digital Media Outreach
- Social Media Outreach

*Estimated total impressions based on data collected by MMERI staff and provided by program partners, media outlets and vendors

**Mixed/Other is defined as people of two or more races.

APPENDIX

APPENDIX A

MMERI Oversight and Compliance Workgroup

Role and Members

The MMERI Oversight and Compliance Workgroup was formed in 2019 and charged with a mandate to monitor four key areas of the Medical Marijuana Education and Research Initiative:

- 1. Fiscal Affairs/Reconciliation
- 2. Achievement of Project Goals and Fulfillment of Mission
- 3. Impact and Assessment
- 4. General Compliance

The panel includes members of FAMU faculty and staff and is led by the Principal Investigator of MMERI, Charles Weatherford, Ph.D., Vice President for Research, Professor of Physics and Director of the Center for Plasma Science and Technology. The workgroup meets periodically.

Workgroup Members

Herbert Bailey Associate Vice President for Fiscal Management and Chief of Staff for Academic Affairs
Pamela Blount Director, Contracts & Grants, Division of Research
Gloria Spradley-Brown Director, Office of Sponsored Programs, Division of Research
Rica Calhoun Chief Compliance and Ethics Officer, Office of Compliance and Ethics
Marixcia Chrishon-Jones, Ph.D. Contract Manager, MMERI
Donald Palm, Ph.D. Chief Operating Officer Executive Vice President
David Self, Esquire Associate General Counsel
GP Mendie Assistant Vice President for Research and Executive Director for MMERI
Charles Weatherford, Ph.D. Principal Investigator of MMERI, Vice President for Research, Professor of Physics and Director of Center for Plasma Science and Technology
Michelle Wilson Deputy Executive Director (Interim), MMERI

APPENDIX B

MMERI Team

Marixcia Chrishon-Jones, Ph.D. Contract Manager, MMERI
Shontielle Johnson, MS Administrative Assistant to the Assistant Vice President for Research (Interim), MMERI
B. Virginia King, Ph.D., FCCM Program Administrator & Manager, MMERI
GP Mendie Assistant Vice President for Research and Executive Director for MMERI
Shari L. Moore Associate Director, Office of Sponsored Programs, Division of Research
Anthony Washington Statewide Program Outreach Coordinator, MMERI
Charles Weatherford, Ph.D. Principal Investigator of MMERI, Vice President for Research, Professor of Physics and Director of the Center for Plasma Science and Technology
Michelle Wilson Deputy Executive Director (Interim), MMERI
Marixcia Chrishon-Jones, Ph.D. Contract Manager, MMERI
Donald Palm, Ph.D. Chief Operating Officer Executive Vice President
David Self, Esquire Associate General Counsel
GP Mendie Assistant Vice President for Research and Executive Director for MMERI
Charles Weatherford, Ph.D. Principal Investigator of MMERI, Vice President for Research, Professor of Physics and Director of Center for Plasma Science and Technology
Michelle Wilson Deputy Executive Director (Interim), MMERI

- 20. Aza Health
- 21. Baptist Healthcare
- 22. Barrineau Park Community Center
- 23. Barrineau Park Historical Society
- 24. Bay County Parkinson Support Group
- 25. Bebe's Bail Bonds
- 26. Bernard Cannabis Center
- 27. Beson4
- 28. Big Bend AHEC
- 29. Big Bend SHRM
- 30. Black Enterprise
- 31. Black Farmers and Agriculturalists of Florida
- 32. Black Professionals Network
- 33. Boys & Girls Club Northeast Florida
- 34. Broward College
- 35. Brownsville Community Resource Center
- 36. Brinson Family Medicine
- 37. Butterfly Life Journeys, Inc.
- 38. Caldwell Everson PLLC
- 39. Canna Moms
- 40. Cannabis Nurses of Color
- 41. Cannabiziac
- 42. Cannady and Associates, PLLC
- 43. Cantonment Family Medicine
- 44. Cantonment Improvement Committee
- 45. Capital Pediatrics
- 46. Carver Heights Senior Center
- 47. CDAC Behavioral Healthcare, Inc.
- 48. Central Florida Urban Leaguew
- 49. Century Village Pembroke Pines
- 50. Chesapeake Energy
- 51. Chinese Association of Tallahassee
- 52. City of Belleview
- 53. City of McAllen Risk Management
- 54. City of Miami Gardens
- 55. City of Palm Bay
- 56. Climate First Bank
- 57. Color Street
- 58. Color of Wellness Magazine
- 59. Cognitive Big Data Systems
- 60. Collier County Sheriff
- 61. Comcast
- 62. CommonSense
- 63. Community Action Program Committee, Inc. (CAPC)
- 64. Community Healthcare Northwest Florida
- 65. Community Health Outreach
- 66. Community Pharmacy Ormand Beach
- 67. Comprehensive Health Center
- 68. CORE DC
- 69. C.O.P.E – Caring for Our People in Emergencies
- 70. Crawfordville Lions Club
- 71. Curaleaf
- 72. CVS Pharmacy
- 73. Danzy Bail Bonds
- 74. Darius “Doc D” Baker
- 75. D.A.R.E.
- 76. Darrin Thomas, President (Thomas Media)
- 77. Dawn Powell, Life, Health Consultant
- 78. Daytona Police Department
- 79. DeKalb Medical Center
- 80. Defense Diagnostics
- 81. DISA- Drug Testing
- 82. Dixie County Anti-Drug Coalition

- 83. Drone 360 Solutions
- 84. Drug and Alcohol Testing Industry Association
- 85. Dr. Annabelle Manalo-Morgan (Author)
- 86. Dr. Kyron Tamar
- 87. Gadsden County Department of Elder Affairs
- 88. Dr. Marilyn Huestis, Toxicologist
- 89. Dr.Miriam Mandel, Pediatric Wellness Coach
- 90. Dr. Thomas Marcotte, Professor of Psychiatry Co-Director, Center for Medicinal Cannabis Research at UC San Diego
- 91. E&M Medical
- 92. Earl Britt, MD
- 93. ECAT – Transit Marketing
- 94. Economy Drug Store
- 95. Edward Waters College
- 96. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission
- 97. Efficient Edge HR Services
- 98. Ellen Grizzle, PhD
- 99. EliteBusiness Strategies
- 100. Empathetic Practice
- 101. Emerald Scientific
- 102. Enthused Cannabinoid Infusions
- 103. Epiphany Life
- 104. Escambia County Commission
- 105. Escambia County Neighborhood and Human Services Department
- 106. Escambia County Sheriff's Office
- 107. Ethos
- 108. Evans Center, Inc.
- 109. Faith Health Network
- 110. Families First Network of Lakeview
- 111. FAMU National Alumni Association
- 112. FAMU Industrial Hemp Research Pilot Program
- 113. Fields Law
- 114. First Baptist Church of Piney Grove
- 115. First West Florida Baptist District Association
- 116. Climate First Bank
- 117. Florida Association of Community Action
- 118. Florida Cannabis Action Network
- 119. Florida Commission on Offender Review
- 120. Florida Council on Crime and Delinquency
- 121. Florida Department of Corrections
- 122. Florida Department of Juvenile Justice
- 123. Florida Department of Health HIV Division area 2B
- 124. Florida For Care
- 125. Florida International University
- 126. Florida Medical Marijuana Physicians Association (FLMMPA)
- 127. Florida Rights Restoration Coalition
- 128. Florida Sheriff's Association Greater Tampa Bay Area
- 129. Florida/USVI Poison Information Center - Jacksonville
- 130. FOODESFEST
- 131. Gadsden County Health Council
- 132. Gadsden County Health Department
- 133. Gadsden County Juvenile Delinquency Court
- 134. Gadsden County Sheriff's Office
- 135. Grassroots Leadership
- 136. Grassroots Wellness

- 137. Greater Frenchtown Revitalization Council
- 138. Greater Little Rock Baptist Church
- 139. Green Enterprise
- 140. Green Source
- 141. Green Thumb Industries (GTI)
- 142. Gulf Coast Minority Chamber of Commerce
- 143. Gumbs Media Group
- 144. Guardians Credit Union
- 145. Gunster Law Firm
- 146. Harvard Medical School
- 147. Health and Wellness Centers of North Florida
- 148. Heart Community Capital
- 149. HELIO
- 150. Hemp Up Caring
- 151. HempLade Vegan Café
- 152. Hernando County Sheriff's Office
- 153. Herve Damas, MD, MBA
- 154. Hillsborough County Public Schools
- 155. Hispanic Federation
- 156. Hispanic Services Council
- 157. Hispanic Unity of Florida
- 158. Honorable Dr. Henry Lowe, PhD
- 159. Hound Labs
- 160. Hourly Medical Consulting Geriatric & Family Medicine
- 161. Howell Buchan & Strong Attorneys at Law
- 162. InCare Integrated Medical Care
- 163. Indivior Overdose Reversal Sciences
- 164. Infinity Protection Service, Inc
- 165. InterCultural Advocacy Institute
- 166. International Co-responder Alliance
- 167. Jacksonville Sheriff's Office
- 168. Jean Gary Joseph, MD, Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine
- 169. Jeffrey Block, MD
- 170. Jefferson County Senior Center
- 171. John Reeves Photography
- 172. JQuad Multimedia
- 173. Judge Gayle Knachtigal (ret.), Circuit Judge in Washington County, Oregon
- 174. Kitchen Toke Media & Red Belly Honey
- 175. Lakeview Center
- 176. Latino Leadership
- 177. Lauderhill Police Department
- 178. Lauderhill Towne Center Library
- 179. Leafwell
- 180. Leo Bridgewater, Veteran
- 181. Leon County Parks, Recreation, and Neighborhood Affair
- 182. Leon County Sheriff's Office
- 183. Leon County Urban League
- 184. Letresia Wilson, MD
- 185. Lighthouse of the Big Bend
- 186. Lighthouse Foundation, Inc.
- 187. Liquid Soul
- 188. Live Tampa Bay
- 189. LULAC Florida
- 190. Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church
- 191. Madison County Human Services Center
- 192. Malik Yoba
- 193. MARC Service
- 194. Marijuana Matters
- 195. Marthe Brun, Community Member
- 196. Max-Olivier Carre, Naturalist
- 197. Medical Marijuana Treatment Clinics of

- Florida
- 198. Medicus Cannabus
- 199. Med7, LLC
- 200. Melbourne Police Department
- 201. MIA Media Group LLC
- 202. Miami-Dade County Community Advocacy
- 203. Miami-Dade Police Department
- 204. Midway Horseman Association
- 205. Mimose Hyppolite, Community Member
- 206. Miracle Hill Nursing
- 207. Miramar Library
- 208. Modern Woodmen Fraternal
- 209. Morning Star Baptist Church
- 210. Most Worshipful Union Grand Lodge (Prince Hall Affiliated Masons)
- 211. Mother Wit Institute, Inc.
- 212. Mount Bethel Human Services Corporation
- 213. Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church
- 214. MUV
- 215. My Florida Families/Florida Department of Children and Families
- 216. Naleo Educational Fund
- 217. National Alliance for Hispanic Health
- 218. National Coalition of 100 Black Women/ Pensacola Chapter
- 219. National Hispanic Medical Association
- 220. Neighborhood Medical Center
- 221. Neville Ballin, MD
- 222. NORML Central Florida
- 223. NORML Tallahassee
- 224. North Dade Regional Library
- 225. North Florida Hispanic Association
- 226. Northwest Florida Area Agency on Aging Inc./ Aging and Disability Resource Center
- 227. Northwest Florida Heart Group
- 228. NurseDebb, LLC
- 229. Nutrition Abbey
- 230. Oasis/Florida Department of Health
- 231. Office of State Attorney, 2nd Judicial Circuit
- 232. Office of State Attorney, 13th Judicial Circuit
- 233. Olivia Jones, Mary Kay Consultant
- 234. Olympia Compounding Pharmacy
- 235. On My Nerves Inc.
- 236. Orange County Corrections Department
- 237. Orange County Sheriff's Office
- 238. OraSure Technologies, Inc.
- 239. Order of the Easter Star – Jerusalem Chapter
- 240. Ounce of Prevention Fund
- 241. P3 Community Church
- 242. Painalgia Relief Center
- 243. Panama Pharmacy
- 244. Panhandle Area Education Consortium
- 245. Pensacola Habitat for Humanity
- 246. Pensacola Police Department
- 247. Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
- 248. Personal Security Concepts, LLC
- 249. PHI Entertainment LLC
- 250. Players Only
- 251. Pompano Christian Clergy Council
- 252. Powerhouse COGIC
- 253. Premier Events NCF - Levy County
- 254. Proforce Law Enforcement
- 255. Prospera Florida
- 256. Quincy First Elizabeth Missionary Baptist

- Church
257. Quintette Community Center
258. ReleafMD
259. Restoring the Village
260. Riverdale Foot, Ankle & Leg Clinic, Riverdale, GA
261. Robert C. Allen, P.A.
262. Robert Robino Productions
263. Robert W Saunders, Sr. Public Library
264. Roberto Dorneval, Community Member
265. Rosenthal Consulting Solutions
266. Rymedi
267. Sanders-Beach Corinne Jones Resource Center
268. SCRAM Systems
269. Seminole County Sherriff’s Office
270. Sickle Cell Disease Association
271. Sigma Lambda Beta International Fraternity, Inc
272. Simon Scott Senior Center
273. Singleton Legal PLLC
274. Sixteen20
275. Sixth Avenue Missionary Baptist Church
276. South Florida Men’s Wellness
277. Southwest Focal Point Senior Center
278. Southwood Towne Center
279. St. John Progressive Missionary Baptist Church
280. “Street Minister” Anthony Durden
281. Sumter Correctional Institution Work Group -Bushnell
282. Survive and Thrive
283. Tallahassee Community College Gadsden Center
284. Tallahassee Community College Capital City Classic
285. Tallahassee MS Group
286. Tallahassee Nights Live
287. Tallahassee Senior Center
288. Tallahassee Veterans Outreach
289. Tampa Bay Wellness Festival
290. Tampa Hispanic Heritage Inc.
291. Tampa Police Department
292. The Holistic Cannabis Community
293. The Image Makers
294. The MaxOut Church
295. The Transition House
296. Tiffany Bowden, PhD
297. TK Education and Consulting PLLC
298. Total Pain Relief
299. Town of Century Florida
300. Trulieve
301. Treadwell Farms
302. UF Health Shands Pastoral Services Team
303. UF/IFAS Extension - Suwannee County
304. U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration
305. University of West Florida
306. Valencia Community College
307. Vogel Group
308. Volusia County FAMU Alumni Association
309. Volusia County of African American Leadership Council, Inc
310. Veriheal
311. Wakulla Correctional Institution

312. Watson Strategies
313. Wedgewood Community Center and Park
314. West Florida Baptist District Association
315. Whole Child Leon
316. Wholistic ReLeaf
317. Woodland Heights Neighborhood Association
318. World Financial Group
319. Your Enthusiasm is Contagious

APPENDIX D

Below are links to MMERI-owned channels (links to the website, podcast, PSAs, newsletter signup) and news coverage about the program.

MMERI Communication Channels

Website
<https://mmeri.famu.edu/>

MMERI Marijuana Education Modules
<https://educate.mmeri.famu.edu/public>

MMERI Forum Radio
Conversations on Cannabis Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/MMERIForumRadio/>

MMERI Forum Radio
Conversations on Cannabis Instagram
[@MMERIForumRadio](#)

MMERI Forum Radio
Conversations on Cannabis X (formerly Twitter) @MMERIForumRadio

MMERI on LinkedIn
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/famu-medical-marijuana-education-research-initiative-124b092bb/>

MMERI *Conversations on Cannabis* Forums and Events
<https://mmeri.famu.edu/talk/>

MMERI Forum Radio on YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/@mmeriforumradioatfloridaaml159>

MMERI Forum Radio Podcast
<https://mmeri.famu.edu/podcasts/>

MMERI Videocast
<https://mmeri.famu.edu/videos/>

MMERI Research Archive
<https://mmeri.famu.edu/research-grantees#repository>

News About MMERI

April 24, 2025 • *The Westside Gazette*
Medical Cannabis Offers Relief from MS Symptoms
<https://thewestsidegazette.com/medical-cannabis-offers-relief-from-ms-symptoms/>

April 25, 2025 • *Florida Courier*
Medical Cannabis Offers Relief from MS Symptoms
https://www.flcourier.com/commentaries/medical-cannabis-offers-relief-from-ms-symptoms/article_fb31ld23-be68-4621-97e1-2a395da3920a.html

May 2, 2025 • *Calle Ocho News*
Medical Cannabis Offers Hope for MS Symptom Relief
<https://calleochonews.com/medical-cannabis-offers-hope-for-ms-symptoms/>

May 5, 2025 • *Caribbean Today*
Medical Cannabis Offers Relief from MS Symptoms
<https://www.caribbeantoday.com/sections/health/medical-cannabis-offers-relief-from-ms-symptoms>

May 22, 2025 • *The Westside Gazette*
A Wonderful Plant Can Help Relieve Menopause Symptoms
<https://thewestsidegazette.com/a-wonderful-plant-can-help-relieve-menopause-symptoms/>

May 23, 2025 • *Florida Courier*
A ‘Wonderful Plant’ Can Help Relieve Menopause Symptoms
https://www.flcourier.com/commentaries/a-wonderful-plant-can-help-relieve-menopause-symptoms/article_390baaed-b0de-4922-8e5c-32bc77c59664.html

June 2, 2025 • *Calle Ocho News*
Cannabis: A ‘Wonder Plant’ Offering Relief for Menopause Symptoms
<https://calleochonews.com/cannabis-wonder-plant-offering-relief-menopause/>

June 12, 2025 • *Caribbean Today*
A ‘Wonderful Plant’ Can Help Relieve Menopause Symptoms
<https://www.caribbeantoday.com/sections/fyi/a-wonderful-plant-can-help-relieve-menopause-symptoms>

June 19, 2025 • *The Westside Gazette*
Vaping Devices that Conceal Cannabis Use Set Off Alarms
<https://thewestsidegazette.com/vaping-devices-that-conceal-cannabis-use-set-off-alarms/>

June 23, 2025 • *The Gadsden County Times*
A ‘Wonderful Plant’ Can Help Relieve Menopause Symptoms
<https://gadsdencountytimes.com/gadsden-county/a-wonderful-plant-can-help-relieve-menopause-symptoms/>

June 25, 2025 • *Calle Ocho News*
Concealing Cannabis Use Raises Teen Health Concerns
<https://calleochonews.com/concealing-cannabis-use-teen-health-concerns/>



- MMERI Forum Radio
- MMERI Forum Radio
- @MMERIForumRadio
- @MMERIForumRadio
- FAMU ((MMERI)) Medical Marijuana Education Research Initiative

FAMU

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