

Linda Wright Long

Linda Wright Long is a native Floridian born in Callahan, Florida. She is the wife of James A. Long, mother of Katrina Long-Robinson, and grandmother of Jasmine Long-Holland. She moved to West Palm Beach at an early age and graduated from Roosevelt High School. Linda earned her undergraduate degree in Sociology at Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University. She earned her master's degree in Reading from Nova Southeastern University. She continued her studies to complete a certification in Administration and Supervision and an Exceptional Student Education certification from Nova Southeastern University. After 34 years of Palm Beach County School District service, Mrs. Long retired as an Exceptional Area Student Education Administrator. Due to her forward-thinking and innovative skillset in education, she was asked to come out of retirement to help transform the ESE department into one of the local schools, where she served as an Assistant Principal for 2 years. After retiring from Palm Beach County School District, Linda served as an adjunct teacher in the education department, mentoring beginners' teachers at Palm Beach Atlantic University.

In 2004, Linda was diagnosed with breast cancer. Her mission has been to educate, provide emotional support, and encourage women of color living with breast cancer in and around Palm Beach County. Linda joined forces with three other survivors to found Sojourners with Healing Hearts in 2006. She has served as president for the past 18 years, and now as president emeritus for two years. This non-profit organization provides emotional support, financial assistance, educational outreach, and community events for women of color. As a result of Linda's innovative and compassionate leadership, Sojourners with Healing Hearts has been at the forefront of helping women of color in the community receive vital services needed for breast cancer treatment. Her leadership skills allow her to collaborate with other organizations, including the medical field. One of her notable initiatives is the "Early Detection Community Program," which brings the Mammogram Screening Van to underserved communities four times a year for free screenings, significantly increasing the early detection of breast cancer in these areas.