



University Hospitals

SPRING 2019

LEGACY

ACHIEVEMENTS IN HEALTH CARE, MEDICAL SCIENCE AND PHILANTHROPY



PAVING THE PATH FORWARD

“Driven by the same commitment we share with UH’s founders, we will continue to invest in you, build on your trust and, together, create a healthier future.”



Thomas F. Zenty III
Chief Executive Officer
University Hospitals

Dear Friend of UH:

At University Hospitals, people always come first – our patients and families, our physicians, nurses and employees, and our volunteers, donors and community supporters. Our mission is one of service to you, and our investments in this mission have helped us forge a deep bond of trust with the community. And, in turn, you’ve helped sustain UH.

Generous support from our community and beyond is propelling UH forward, supporting revolutionary laboratory research, the development of groundbreaking new treatments and the compassionate delivery of personalized care.

This issue of Legacy is filled with stories of purposeful giving, featuring people with powerful desires to give back to their community by safeguarding its future.

- Angela and James Hambrick, inspired by Dr. Marco Costa’s vision of immediately reducing mortality rates for people experiencing cardiogenic shock, made a remarkable \$5 million contribution that will transform the way advanced cardiac care is delivered at UH and across the nation. The new Hambrick Center for Cardiac Recovery at UH Harrington Heart & Vascular Institute will improve patient outcomes, lead critical research and train the next generation of advanced cardiovascular care providers.

- Longtime Cleveland-area business leaders, the Minoff family thoughtfully invested in the community that helped build their company, Kichler Lighting. In recognition of their transformational generosity, we renamed UH Chagrin Highlands Health Center the UH Minoff Health Center at Chagrin Highlands. Through the family’s gift, UH will ensure that thousands of people each year continue to receive the highest-quality care in a convenient location.
- Envisioning the future of health care and the rising need for certified nurse practitioners, Corey and Doug Ralston established and endowed the Ralston Advanced Practice Nursing Scholars program to support UH nurse education and training. A pipeline for nurse recruitment, the Ralston Scholars program is also helping UH identify and hire promising certified nurse practitioners.

These and many other stories of philanthropy throughout this issue demonstrate the enduring trust you have in our dedicated caregivers and the services they provide. Driven by the same commitment we share with UH’s founders, we will continue to invest in you, build on your trust and, together, create a healthier future.

As always, we are grateful for your steadfast support of our vision: **Advancing the Science of Health and the Art of Compassion.** 

Sincerely,

UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS
LEGACY

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10



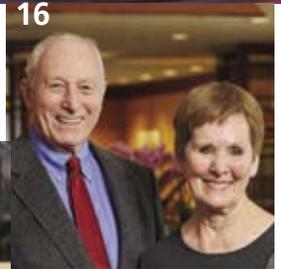
20



contents



24



DEPARTMENTS

From the Chief
Executive Officer
Investing in People,
Building Trust

2 Highlights

8 Science & Compassion
A Shared Commitment to
Patients with Kidney Disease

14 Advances

24 Philanthropic Spirit

29 Reflections
In Times of Uncertainty,
Philanthropy is Critical

FEATURES

4 **Paving the Path Forward**
Investment Accelerates Community
Integration of Advanced Cardiac Care

10 **Lighting the Way to the Very Best Care**
Transformational Gift Benefits
Outpatient Care

16 **Philanthropy Built on Principle**
Scholarship Fund Supports Advanced
Practice Nurses

20 **Diamond: Charitable Gift Planning**
The Powerful Impact of Blending Current
and Future Giving

on the cover
JAMES AND ANGELA HAMBRICK
LOCATION: SHELDON, SC/PHOTO: ROGER MASTROIANNI

HARRINGTON DISCOVERY INSTITUTE AND UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD ANNOUNCE NEW ALLIANCE

Harrington Discovery Institute at University Hospitals, part of The Harrington Project for Discovery & Development, and the University of Oxford have entered into a multi-year affiliation to establish a global center for rare diseases, bringing hope to millions who suffer from conditions for which there are no treatment options. The new, global Oxford-Harrington Rare Disease Centre, jointly announced on February 28 in Oxford, was the inspiration of Jonathan Stamler, MD, President, Harrington Discovery Institute, and Robert S. and Sylvia K. Reitman Family Foundation Distinguished Chair of Cardiovascular Innovation, and will be headquartered both in Oxford and in Cleveland within the Harrington Discovery Institute.

“The partnership allows both institutions to reach beyond their borders to find answers for some of medicine’s toughest questions,” said Dr. Stamler, explaining that more than 350 million people worldwide are living with a rare disease and only 5 percent of these diseases have an FDA-approved treatment.

The Oxford-Harrington Rare Disease Centre is another example of UH’s commitment to advance science through innovative partnerships. The combined capabilities, resources and expertise of the University of Oxford and Harrington Discovery Institute will advance breakthrough treatments in rare diseases across both the U.S. and U.K.

UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS CLEVELAND MEDICAL CENTER AWARDED \$9.6 MILLION GRANT FOR AGE-RELATED DEMENTIA RESEARCH

In November, the American Heart Association/Allen Initiative in Brain Health and Cognitive Impairment awarded a \$9.6 million grant to University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center. Led by Mukesh K. Jain, MD, UH Chief Academic Officer, and Chief Scientific Officer and Harrington Endowed Scientific Director, Harrington Discovery Institute, the major four-year study aims to help combat the rapid rise in Alzheimer’s disease and other age-related dementias. UH joins Stanford University and the Salk Institute for Biological Studies as one of three national recipients of this prestigious funding initiative.

As people live longer in many parts of the world, Alzheimer’s disease and other age-related dementias are projected to reach more than 75 million people by 2030. Dr. Jain, who is also Chief Research Officer and Ellery Sedgwick, Jr. Chair and Distinguished Scientist in Cardiovascular Research will lead a national team of investigators, including two from the Harrington Discovery Institute – Jonathan Stamler, MD and Andrew Pieper, MD, PhD, Director, Alzheimer’s Drug Discovery Foundation-Harrington Scholar Program and Gund-Harrington Scholar Program; Morley-Mather Chair in Neuropsychiatry – to determine if jointly targeting blood cells and blood vessels can keep brains healthy and prevent dementia.

“Each member of the team brings a unique perspective and expertise,” said Dr. Jain. “I am confident our findings will accelerate development of novel therapies that will help us better treat age-related dementia.”



From left: Thomas F. Zenty III; Ronald G. and Nancy Harrington; Sir John I. Bell, Regius Professor of Medicine, University of Oxford; Jonathan S. Stamler, MD; Georg A. Holländer, MD, Head of the Department of Paediatrics, University of Oxford

UH LEADERS NAMED YWCA 2019 WOMEN OF ACHIEVEMENT

Two UH leaders have been named 2019 Women of Achievement – the YWCA of Greater Cleveland’s highest honor – for their extraordinary leadership qualities, career accomplishments and community commitment.



From left: Enid Rosenberg and Patti DePompei, RN, MSN

Patti DePompei, RN, MSN, President of UH Rainbow and MacDonald Women’s hospitals, has championed women’s and children’s services at UH and on regional and national levels for nearly three decades. She has served in numerous leadership roles throughout her UH career, including NICU Head Nurse Manager, Director for Critical Care Services/Pediatric Network and VP of Patient Care Operations at UH Rainbow and MacDonald. Patti is immediate past chair of the American Hospital Association Maternal Child Governing Council and the Ohio Children’s Hospital Association Board of Directors.

Also named to this select group of YWCA honorees is Enid Rosenberg, UH donor, advocate and longtime volunteer leader for UH and numerous civic and nonprofit Cleveland organizations. Chair of the UH Volunteer Leadership Committee, which oversees more than a dozen Leadership Councils, Enid is a member and former Chair of the Ahuja Medical Center Leadership Council and has served on the UH Ahuja Medical Center Board of Directors since 2010.

WORLD-RENOWNED PATIENT SAFETY CHAMPION NAMED UH CHIEF CLINICAL TRANSFORMATION OFFICER

UH is consistently recognized for the quality and safety of care it provides to over one million patients annually. The appointment of Peter J. Pronovost, MD, PhD, FCCM, as Chief Clinical Transformation Officer furthers UH’s commitment to continuous quality improvement and high-value care delivery.

A world-renowned patient safety champion, innovator and critical care physician, Dr. Pronovost’s scientific work has saved thousands of lives and earned him high-profile accolades, including being named one of the 100 most influential people in the world by Time Magazine and receiving a coveted MacArthur Foundation “genius grant” in 2008. A prolific researcher and global thought leader, he has published over 800 papers and has shaped the delivery of health care nationally and internationally.

“I’m excited to join UH because this organization is passionate about driving excellence,” said Dr. Pronovost who, in this new role, is developing and leading strategic initiatives to improve value across the health system. “We will be creating a new tomorrow focused on delivering high-value health care, helping people be well, get well and manage their most acute medical conditions.” 🍷



Peter J. Pronovost, MD, PhD, FCCM



“We really have a lot of confidence in UH and, particularly in Dr. Costa, not only as a doctor but as a leader, administrator and innovator. Given the resources, we know he can do wonders.” – James and Angela Hambrick

PAVING THE PATH FORWARD

“The most important story here isn’t about us,” agreed James and Angela Hambrick who, last year, gave \$5 million to University Hospitals Harrington Heart & Vascular Institute to establish a first-of-its-kind cardiac recovery center. “Anyone can make a gift, but it’s the people that take those resources and make the world a different place that matter.”

A graduate of Texas A&M University with a degree in chemical engineering, James Hambrick spent his entire 44-year career at Lubrizol, retiring as Chairman, President and CEO in 2016. His evolving position in the company allowed him to travel extensively and meet countless people, chief among them an analytical chemist named Angela. The two married in August 1982, and have filled the nearly 37 years since with adventures, laughter and family.

“Thousands of people have touched our lives – coaches and teachers, people at church, friends, colleagues – and they all helped us in some way,” shared James. “They gave us love, knowledge, courage and counseling. They all made a huge difference and most of them have no idea. In the same way, we’re trying to help others. It’s not important that people know who we are, the fact that we know we’re helping is enough.”

INVESTING IN PEOPLE

Focused on education and health and human services, the Hambricks largely invest their charitable support in areas where they’ve lived or worked. “We’re just a couple of kids from Texas that went a long number of years with precious little to give anyone,” said James. “We never felt we could give enough to make a difference so, when we got to the point decades later that we could, we did.”

“We spend a lot of time discussing how our philanthropy can best help others,” continued Angela. “We can’t know how things will turn out or how many lives will be impacted, so it’s important that we’re confident in the organizations and people we support.”

One organization in which they are supremely confident is UH. “Our family has been under the care of UH for a long time, so there’s a fundamental grounding there,” explained James who, as a patient and past board member,

has developed strong relationships with a number of physicians and hospital leaders, including Marco Costa, MD, PhD, MBA.

Recruited to UH in 2007, Dr. Costa quickly proved an exceptional cardiologist, researcher and innovator. Having developed artificial heart valves, blood-flow devices and stents for high-risk patients facing severe heart disease, his life-extending surgical procedures attracted patients, peers and students from around the world.

the ones that do the work and make life-changing things happen.”

In 2016, Dr. Costa was named President, UH Harrington Heart & Vascular Institute and began to further develop a vision for the institute’s future. Last year, inspired by his plans, the Hambricks decided to invest in UH again, this time creating a new Center of Excellence – the James and Angela Hambrick Center for Cardiac Recovery at UH Harrington Heart & Vascular Institute.

immediate treatment, patients in cardiogenic shock have a 70-90 percent mortality rate.

UH Harrington Heart & Vascular Institute currently has coordinated care teams consisting of physicians, nurses and other cardiovascular experts that are prepared to treat cardiogenic shock patients at seven locations in the health system. UH sees approximately 700 cardiogenic shock patients annually and has a 50 percent survival rate, one of the highest among the

▯▯ THE HAMBRICK CENTER IS THE ULTIMATE EXPRESSION OF OUR VISION – IT’S NOT JUST A PROMISE, BUT A COMMITMENT TO SAVE LIVES. IT’S A PERFECT EXAMPLE OF WHAT PHILANTHROPY CAN DO. ▯▯ – Marco Costa, MD, PhD, MBA

“When you’re building a team, you want the best available athletes,” explained James. “It was clear that Marco was a remarkable and extraordinary talent and that UH needed to retain him.”

With matching support from The Harrington Family, the couple established the Angela and James Hambrick Master Clinician in Innovation at UH Harrington Heart & Vascular Institute in 2013. Dr. Costa was the inaugural appointee and continues to hold the position today. “It was a simple decision,” said Angela. “For us, there’s nothing more important than investing in great people. You need buildings, of course, but if you don’t stock them with great technology and great people, you don’t have much. The people are

ACCELERATING A VISION

There is approximately one heart attack every 40 seconds in the United States, amounting to nearly one million annually, according to the American Heart Association.

During a cardiac event, the heart muscle suffers irreparable harm. If the damage is too great, the heart may be unable to sufficiently pump blood to the rest of the body, causing the patient to enter cardiogenic shock. Though rare, cardiogenic shock quickly leads to organ failure and full cardiac arrest. Minimally, patients need emergency life support to restore blood flow. Medical devices such as a left ventricular assist device (LVAD), may also be needed and, in some instances, surgery is required to treat the underlying causes. Without

U.S. News & World Report’s top-ranked heart centers.

Despite UH’s proven leadership in this type of care, Dr. Costa sees an immediate need to improve, not only at UH but across the country. “The nature of cardiac events is that they hit you in a time and place you least expect,” he explained. “With cardiogenic shock, you have a critical one-hour window to get the treatment you need. There isn’t time to travel far when you have minutes to live. In those moments, you need the right physicians with the right tools and the right training. Your best chance of survival is to be treated locally.”

The cost of integrating advanced cardiac care into community hospitals, however, has long been prohibitive.



Marco Costa, MD, PhD, MBA

“The health care industry decided a long time ago that it was too expensive, but our data shows we have to think differently if we want to save lives. We need a systemwide approach.”

Recognizing the immediate impact this new model of care would have on patient care, the Hambricks made a \$5 million commitment to UH Harrington Heart & Vascular Institute. “Marco knows how to save lives that, presently, he can’t save simply because he doesn’t have the resources,” said James. “We know this investment will make critical, life-saving differences in peoples’ lives.”

“The beauty of James and Angela’s gift is that it accelerates our vision,” explained Dr. Costa. “We had plans to grow our footprint in the coming years, but because they decided to embark on this journey with us, we can traverse the path together more quickly and purposefully than we ever could alone.”

The Hambricks’ support will allow UH to recruit top clinicians in cardiac recovery, continue to enhance care using innovative technologies and integrated processes, and become a national center for training and educating cardiogenic shock care providers. It will also support research and drug development.

“Health care is evolving at a rapid rate and we want to ensure that UH physicians and the treatments they discover and provide remain at the forefront,” said James. “Marco’s vision and this new center will allow UH to lead the charge in improved mortality rates from cardiogenic shock and continue to advance cardiac care for the benefit of patients around the world.”

“To have James and Angela in my corner is a great honor,” expressed Dr. Costa. “Their philanthropy is not a gift, it’s a thoughtful and rational investment in our vision.” 🍷

Together Through Transition



Gary Robinson and Diane Wish

Like any long-lasting relationship, University Hospitals and the Centers for Dialysis Care (CDC) have experienced much together. Both have grown tremendously – UH has greatly expanded its service area and become a super-regional health system; CDC has grown to be the region’s largest and most trusted provider of outpatient dialysis treatment. Both have worked to advance care for patients with kidney disease, leading research and discovery while promoting patient-first standards of care. And both have also experienced staffing and leadership changes, including the December retirement of CDC’s longtime CEO Diane Wish.

Regardless of the changes, the two nonprofits have maintained a powerful working relationship, bound by their shared commitment to quality patient care for the renal community.

“CDC is dedicated to providing quality services, education and support to individuals with kidney failure,” said CDC President and CEO, Gary Robinson. “Like UH, we have an enduring legacy of service in the Cleveland community, and we have a long history of supporting UH and its kidney disease research efforts.”

CDC’s history of giving at UH includes significant support for research as well as creating multiple endowed chairs. In 2012, they established two positions in the department of nephrology – the Center for Dialysis Care Leonard C. Rosenberg Renal Research Foundation Master Clinician in Nephrology I and II.

Most recently, CDC established the Peter B. DeOreo, MD, Endowed Chair in Nephrology and Dialysis, a position that will focus on the development of new therapies and treatments for people with kidney disease. The chair serves as an enduring tribute to the late Dr. Peter DeOreo, a nationally recognized nephrologist who dedicated his career to CDC and served as Chief of Medical Affairs and Quality Assurance until his passing in 2016.

“UH has a growing team of nephrologists who have contributed extensively to the field. I’m confident that we can, and will, accomplish much together in the coming years.”

– Richard A. Spech, MD



“The DeOreo Chair and the research funding it provides are strong recruitment tools as we look to retain a new division chief for nephrology,” shared Robert A. Salata, MD, FACP, FIDSA, UH Physician-in-Chief, STERIS Chair of Excellence in Medicine and Master Clinician in Infectious Diseases, UH Cleveland Medical Center. “It demonstrates the passion and commitment that both UH and CDC have to advancing care and innovating new treatment methods. Candidates want to be a part of that and join in our pursuit.”

“We’re thrilled that the DeOreo Chair will assist in the attraction of talented new physicians,” said Richard A. Spech, MD, the CDC’s recently named Chief Medical Officer. “UH has a growing team of nephrologists who have contributed extensively to the field. I’m confident that we can, and will, accomplish much together in the coming years.”

Gary echoed Dr. Spech’s enthusiasm for the future. “I believe that each organization is well-situated to continue working collaboratively for additional improvements to the care dialysis patients receive in our community.”

“I worked with many UH physicians during my tenure at CDC and am proud of the advancements we achieved in kidney disease care,” reflected Diane, whose tireless advocacy efforts have benefitted UH and health care providers statewide. “When the patient comes first, everybody wins.” 🙌

Lighting

the Way to the Very Best Care

When Harold “Sam” Minoff purchased Kichler Lighting in 1954 using \$46,000 in borrowed money, he promised the widow of the company’s founder, L.D. Kichler, that he would never change the company’s name. Sam kept that promise, and with his late wife, Clare, and his family at his side, slowly transformed the single-employee business into the world’s largest manufacturer of decorative lighting.

Over time, the Minoff family achieved renown in the Cleveland business community and throughout the lighting industry for their compassionate leadership and acumen for product innovation. Sam attributed the company’s success, in part, to its pioneering spirit, which allowed Kichler Lighting to excel in quality, design and service to their customers. It also earned Sam a prestigious spot in the American Lighting Association Hall of Fame.

The family’s more than 80-year legacy took on a new dimension last year when, following the sale of Kichler Lighting to Masco Corp., the Minoff family decided to give back to the community that helped build their company. Sam and his children, Barry, Roy and Amy, as well as Amy’s husband, Michael Southard, made a transformational gift to University Hospitals to benefit outpatient care. In recognition of the family’s historic gift – the largest to a UH outpatient facility to date – UH Chagrin Highlands Health Center has been renamed UH Minoff Health Center at Chagrin Highlands.

“We’ve lived in this community most of our lives,” Sam said. “Clare and I raised our family here. With our children and grandchildren – David, Drew and Melissa Minoff and Ashley and Kasey Southard – we built a business here. Now, we have the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of other families like ours, who deserve access to the very best health care in Northeast Ohio.”



“We are very proud to support the work of the doctors and nurses at University Hospitals who are dedicated to helping people with their health care needs.”

– Sam Minoff

Sam’s sentiment is shared by his children. “We spent decades growing the company,” Barry said. “After we sold Kichler Lighting, we thought about all those who helped us along the way, and we wanted to do something for our friends and neighbors to show how much we appreciate them. Making a gift that benefits UH and the many patients they serve at the Chagrin Highlands location is the best way for us to do that.”

A GIFT TO TRANSFORM OUTPATIENT CARE

Located near the intersection of I-271 and Harvard Road and in proximity to UH Ahuja Medical Center, UH Minoff Health Center is the health system’s most prominent outpatient facility and, serving more than 100,000 patients annually, is also the busiest of UH’s 50 ambulatory health centers. The location is home to a wide array of services, including heart, cancer, women’s health, ENT and primary care as well as radiology, travel medicine and laboratory services. In addition, the Urgent Care Center, complete with a UH Rainbow Babies & Children’s section, serves adults and children when quick diagnoses and treatments are needed.

“Through their deeply meaningful philanthropy, the Minoffs will help advance the science of health and the art of compassion for generations to come.”

– Daniel I. Simon, MD



Sam Minoff (left) wearing his white coat from the 2018 Mather Society induction ceremony with Daniel I. Simon, MD

According to Cynthia Zelis, MD, Vice President, UH Ambulatory Operations and Telehealth, the Minoff family’s gift reflects a deepening focus on the role of outpatient centers in the health care delivery process. This trend is seen across the nation as technological advances enable a dramatic increase in the number of procedures that can be performed in an outpatient environment, and at a lower cost to both the patient and the health system.

“We’re very grateful to the Minoff family. Their generous support is expediting our efforts to transform ambulatory health care at UH, beginning with UH Minoff Health Center,” said Dr. Zelis. “Providing advanced care in the outpatient setting is key to delivering the greatest value to our patients. We’re investing heavily in technology and facility renovations across our extensive network of health centers and outpatient facilities to ensure our patients have a full spectrum of services available to help them get well and stay well.”

SUSTAINING A FAMILY LEGACY

The Minoffs’ latest gift to UH furthers their commitment to innovation, building on significant prior contributions in two key areas of the health system. After undergoing successful surgeries to treat two broken arms and a broken elbow, Amy wished to honor the work of her surgeon, Kevin J. Malone, MD, Division Chief, Hand Surgery, UH Cleveland Medical Center. In 2017, she and her husband established the Amy and Michael Southard

Clare and Sam Minoff



From left: Roy Minoff, Barry Minoff, and Amy Southard



University Hospitals Minoff Health Center

Endowed Lectureship in Orthopaedics, a program aimed at securing nationally recognized speakers to educate UH orthopedic care providers about state-of-the-art advances within the field and to provide educational and programmatic support to orthopedic residents.

Three years earlier, in 2014, the Minoffs made a significant commitment to create the Minoff Family Innovation Fund. The gift provides UH Harrington Heart & Vascular Institute resources for discovery and new technologies to improve patient outcomes. That gift was inspired by the institute's then director Daniel I. Simon, MD, President, UH Medical Centers. "Dr. Simon was instrumental in our decision to give then, just as he was a significant part of our decision to expand our giving now," said Roy. "We continue to be impressed by his clinical leadership and dedication to transforming health care."

"In the years since I met the Minoff family, I have consistently been impressed by their deep belief in helping people around them," said Dr. Simon. "Their passion for innovation in health care echoes the core values that made them such adept business leaders. We're deeply grateful for their continued commitment to UH and our community."

For Sam, the gift is a fitting way to honor his beloved wife, Clare, who passed away in 2015. "I was blessed to find Clare and even luckier to convince her to marry me," he reflected, describing their long-distance courtship during World War II, in which

Sam saw heavy combat in several major naval battles in the South Pacific. The pair wed in 1946 and planted roots in Cleveland near Clare's family. "We started out with very little but, together, we grew our business and our family, instilling in our children the importance of treating others with respect and compassion."

Amy thinks her mother would be pleased with the family's philanthropy. "Ours was always a family business, in the broadest sense," she said. "This gift is a tribute to our parents, who taught us to work hard and to treat all those around us, especially our employees and customers, like they're family. Above all, they taught us to give to others, even in the days when we didn't have much to give. I think my mother would have loved that we made this gift. We hope that it honors her memory and all that she and my dad built."

"My parents worked for decades to build Kichler Lighting from the ground up," added Roy. "My siblings and I are grateful to have contributed to its success and to now have this opportunity to give back to the community in a way that will improve lives for years to come." 🍷

UH RAINBOW FIRST IN THE NATION TO IMPLANT SMARTPHONE-ENABLED CARDIAC MONITOR IN A PEDIATRIC PATIENT

The pediatric cardiology team at UH Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital was the first in the United States to implant a smartphone-compatible cardiac monitor to help diagnose unexplained fainting or sporadic heart arrhythmias in children.

"The Bluetooth-enabled Confirm Rx cardiac monitor we use is paired with the patient's cellphone through an app," said Christopher S. Snyder, MD, FAAP, Chief of Pediatric Cardiology and KeyBank-Meyer Family Chair for Excellence in Leadership at UH Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital. "If you are having an episode, you pull up the app on your phone and report it. Within 30 seconds, the electrophysiology data is on my phone and I can call the patient immediately. It's phenomenal."

In addition to allowing patients to report episodes, the monitor allows Dr. Snyder and his team to review the data collected for any episodes the patient might have missed.

"Kids love having the ability to monitor their own heart rhythm," says Dr. Snyder. "We're empowering them to take charge of their own health care."



Mahazarin B. Ginwalla, MD, MS, FACC

INFLAMMATORY BOWEL DISEASE MAY RAISE LIKELIHOOD OF HEART ATTACK

A new study has found that individuals with inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), such as Crohn's disease or ulcerative colitis, have significantly greater risk of having a heart attack compared to those without IBD.

Senior author, cardiologist Mahazarin B. Ginwalla, MD, MS, FACC, Medical Director of Heart Failure, UH Harrington Heart & Vascular Institute, UH Cleveland Medical Center, noted that patients with IBD had heart attacks twice as often compared to patients without IBD.

The study found patients with Crohn's disease had a higher risk compared to patients with ulcerative colitis and that younger patients with IBD had a higher risk than older patients.

"Chronic inflammation seems to play a key role in the development of heart disease in patients with IBD," said Dr. Ginwalla. "IBD should be recognized as an independent risk factor for the development of heart disease. Patients with IBD should be aggressively screened, have their cardiovascular risk factors modified and have any symptoms of heart attack appropriately investigated by a physician."



UH SEIDMAN CANCER CENTER FIRST IN U.S. TO USE "HOT PINK" IMAGING AGENT

An imaging agent which glows hot pink to help neurosurgeons more clearly see the edges of a tumor was used at UH Seidman Cancer Center for the first time in the United States since achieving FDA approval for general use.

Andrew E. Sloan, MD, FAANS, FACS, Peter D. Cristal Chair in Neurosurgery and Director of both the Brain Tumor and Neuro-Oncology Center, UH Neurological Institute and the Center for Excellence for Neuro-Oncology, UH Seidman Cancer Center, was the first neurosurgeon in the U.S. to use the approved 5-Aminolevulinic Acid (5-ALA) on a patient with brain cancer. The agent causes cancerous cells to glow hot pink when illuminated with a special blue light incorporated into the operating microscope. This helps identify the difference between the border of tumors and healthy tissue, improving tumor removal results.

"If surgeons can remove 95 to 99 percent of the tumor, it can nearly double a patient's survival," said Dr. Sloan.

"This innovative drug will help surgeons more completely remove cancerous cells from the brain and help save the lives of countless patients."

– Andrew E. Sloan, MD, FAANS, FACS



Jordan M. Winter, MD, FACS

CLINICAL TRIALS ARE KEY FOR PANCREATIC CANCER PATIENTS

Although pancreatic cancer may soon be the second-leading cause of cancer deaths, no diagnostic tools exist to catch the disease in its early stages, making it critically important for newly diagnosed patients to get appropriate treatment as quickly as possible – and to enroll in a clinical trial where available.

"Pancreatic cancer spreads early in the course of disease, when the tumor is still the size of a golf ball or smaller," said nationally recognized pancreatic cancer expert Jordan M. Winter, MD, FACS, UH Chief of Surgical Oncology and Jerome A. and Joy Weinberger Family Master Clinician in Surgical Oncology. "The cancer often presents with very vague and non-specific symptoms, which further delays diagnosis."

Clinical trials, which offer promising treatments unavailable anywhere else, are vital for patient survivability. Only 5 percent of pancreatic cancer patients nationally participate in clinical trials, but Dr. Winter is hoping to increase UH's participation closer to 80 percent. Currently, the Case Comprehensive Cancer Center, of which UH Seidman Cancer Center is a part, offers more pancreatic cancer trials than any other location in the region.

"The five-year survival for pancreatic cancer is about 8 percent, but if we enroll more patients in trials, progress will come much faster," said Dr. Winter. "At UH Seidman Cancer Center, we are populating our clinical trial map with extreme urgency." 🍷



Doug and Corey Ralston

Philanthropy Built on Principle

Education. Hard work. Perseverance. These are the cornerstones on which Corey and Doug Ralston built their life, family and business over nearly six decades. These are also the principles that inspired their decision to establish the Corey and Doug Ralston Advanced Practice Nursing Scholars program at University Hospitals. Now in its third year, the endowed program supports nurses training to become Certified Nurse Practitioners (CNPs) at UH and the Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing at Case Western Reserve University.

“The Ralstons understand that advanced practice nursing is vital to our efforts to meet the growing needs of our patients,” said Robin J. Rowell, wMSN, RN, CNP, President, UH Bedford and Richmond Medical Centers, campuses of UH Regional Hospitals, explaining that CNPs are playing an increasingly crucial role in the delivery of health care. “CNPs can write prescriptions, order diagnostics and deliver diagnoses – many of the same functions of a physician. Through the Ralstons’ extraordinary generosity, we have the opportunity to identify the very best nurse practitioner candidates, deliver an optimal training experience and recruit the most promising nurses and nurse practitioners to UH.”

CELEBRATING THE POWER OF EDUCATION

The Ralstons’ enduring passion for education has positively impacted their lives and the lives of those around them. In addition to helping fund the educations of extended family members, the couple has provided scholarships to high school students in their community. It’s a core value that they say precedes their generation.

“My grandfather and his younger siblings were the children of Scottish immigrants who came to this country in 1860 to work in the coal mines of Pennsylvania,” said Doug. “They were destined to work in the mines until my grandfather’s sister pulled together enough funds to send him to

college with the understanding he would help pay for his brothers to go to school, which he later did. He eventually became the Chief Engineer at American Steel & Wire. My grandfather believed – and taught his entire family to believe – in the power of education.”

“My family was very poor, but they made great sacrifices to send me to nursing school,” Corey shared, vividly recalling the day in 1960 when she arrived at the Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing to pursue her degree. The Havana, Illinois native had only \$250 to cover her school and living expenses that first year. “I was reluctant to accept a scholarship when it was offered, but I came to realize how important financial support is for nursing students, especially those pursuing advanced training. This is why our commitment to nursing at UH is so personal and meaningful to us.”

“We’re delighted to support the dedicated nurses who have answered the call to serve patients. They are the face of health care at UH.”

– Corey Ralston



From left: Robin J. Rowell, MSN, RN, CNP; Ralston scholar Alyssa Royer, CNP; Doug and Corey Ralston; program preceptors Meredith Walters, DNP, CNP; Suzanne Fortuna, DNP, CNS, FNP; and Jean Marino, CNP

“The Ralstons’ generous support will have a powerful impact on the patient experience, ensuring UH delivers the highest quality care today and for years to come.” – Robin J. Rowell, MSN, RN, CNP

Doug learned about the essential role nurses play from a different perspective – as a patient. “In 2015, I underwent treatment for prostate cancer and experienced post-operative complications,” he shared. “But the UH nursing team delivered expert, compassionate care, every step of the way. Whether we were at an appointment or calling from home, they always took our concerns seriously and were available to answer our questions and reassure us. They were a godsend.”

It was at one of Doug’s follow-up visits that the Ralstons met Robin and learned she was a Certified Nurse Practitioner. “She was very knowledgeable, thorough and kind. She made me feel like her only patient that day,” said Doug.

The Ralstons grew curious about the role of CNPs in the health system and envisioned a scholarship program that could help promote advanced nurse training at UH. “We need more CNPs, but the training is extensive and the cost high,” said Corey. “Doug and I decided to make sure tuition expenses didn’t discourage talented nurses from pursuing their plans.”

AN INVENTIVE MODEL FOR NURSE TRAINING AND RECRUITMENT

As one of the nation’s leading academic medical centers, UH Cleveland Medical Center has long been a training site for advanced nursing. Outside of their coursework, CNP candidates gain hands-on experience in the clinical setting, providing direct care to patients under the direction of credentialed CNPs and physicians. Candidates typically spend four semesters working with a trainer, or preceptor, and rotate among various subspecialties to grow their competencies across disciplines. To complete their rotations, it is common for CNP candidates to move among different health systems.

The Corey and Doug Ralston Advanced Practice Nursing Scholars program, however, aims to identify and award scholarships to exceptional CNP students. Keeping them within the UH health system for the duration of their training and beyond, the program effectively creates a pathway to employment for the best and brightest candidates.



Alyssa Royer, CNP

Since the program's inception in 2016, 19 scholars and preceptors have benefited from the prestigious award, which covers tuition costs for the scholars and provides a continuing education stipend for preceptors. As further evidence of the program's impact, UH recruited its first graduate of the Ralston Scholars program to the health system in 2017.

"These nurses work so hard – studying, caring for patients, caring for their own families," said Corey. "We hope these scholarship awards make life a little easier for them."

The concept of hard work resonates with Corey and Doug, who started their company, Ralston Instruments, nearly 50 years ago. After marrying in 1964, Corey was working as a nurse and Doug as a sales representative for a manufacturing company when inspiration struck. Doug had the idea to create a hand pump to calibrate the accuracy of a pressure switch he sold at the time. He later invented the first calibration hand pump designed for use with hydraulic equipment and, within the first year of their business, was receiving orders from around the country.

For years, they built their products by hand in the basement of their home to keep costs down and be close to their children, Sarah and Griffin, who would do their homework nearby while Corey and Doug worked into the evenings.

"Those were difficult years," shared Corey, who eventually left nursing to devote all of her time to the business. "But we were building products that were meant to last, products that would make life better for our customers. Today, we're grateful to be in a position to give back in a way that makes life better for the hardworking nurses of UH. It's our hope that our giving will inspire others to do the same." 🍷

Ralston Scholar Answers the Call to Serve Cardiology Patients

Alyssa Royer, CNP, was working as a part-time nurse in post-operative cardiovascular surgery and pursuing a master's degree in nursing when a chance meeting with Robin J. Rowell, MSN, RN CNP, defined the course of her career. "Inpatient cardiovascular medicine is my passion," she said. "I once shadowed a CNP with a specialty in cardiology and I remember thinking, 'This is the ideal job for me.' So when Robin told me about the Ralston Advanced Practice Nursing Scholars program, I knew immediately it was something I should pursue."

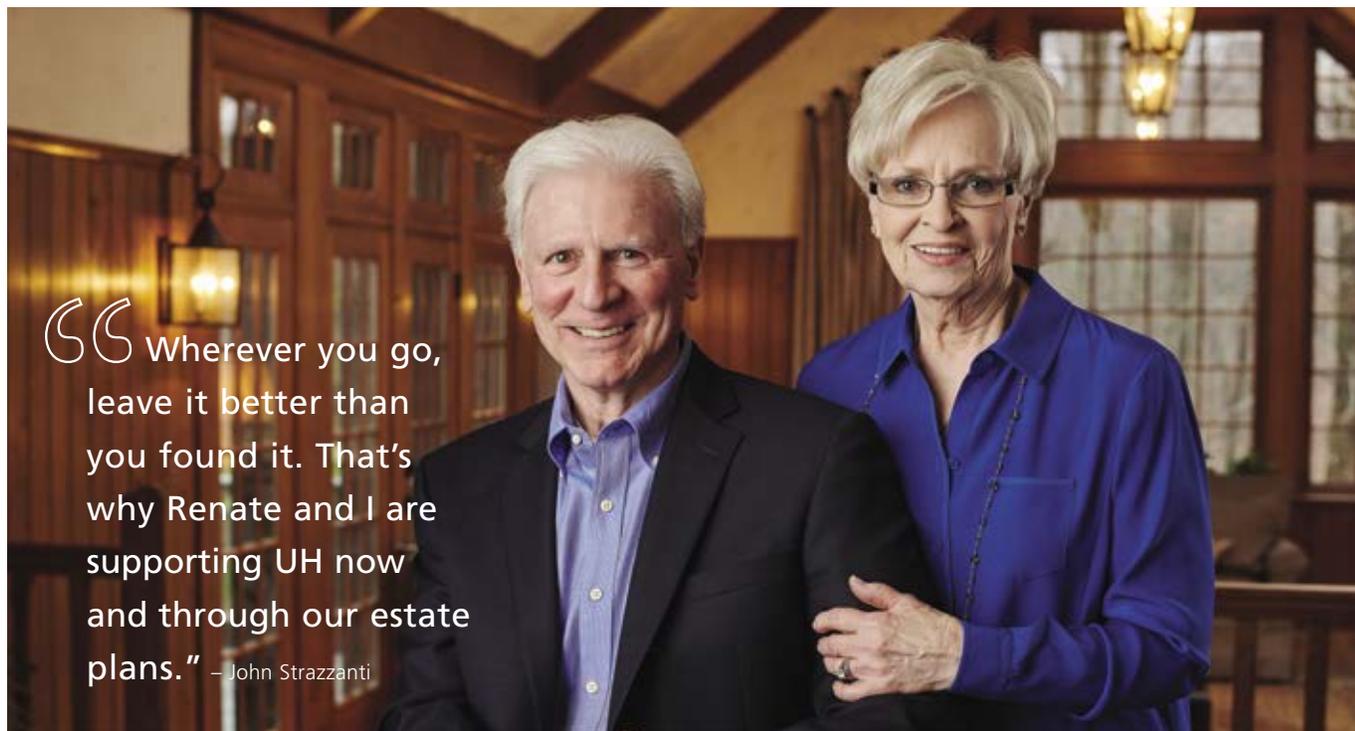
Alyssa was among the first to receive a Ralston scholarship and was awarded tuition support for her one-year advanced practice nursing program. After completing her training, she became the first Ralston Scholar to be recruited to UH, accepting a CNP position with UH Harrington Heart & Vascular Institute. "I'm very grateful to care for patients with a wide range of cardiovascular conditions," Alyssa shared. "This is my calling."

"Our patients are grateful to have Alyssa," said Guilherme H. Oliveira, MD, Director, Advanced Heart Failure and Transplant Center and Lorraine & Bill Doderio Master Clinician in Heart Failure and Transplantation, UH Harrington Heart & Vascular Institute. "She takes the time to listen and fully address their concerns. She exemplifies UH's commitment to compassionate care and, as a CNP, is a true asset to our team."

Alyssa is also now a member of the Ralston Scholars selection committee. She is happy to be part of the program that made such a difference in her life. "Because of the Ralstons, I have my dream job. I'm amazed by their generosity and commitment to nurses like me. They are investing in our future and helping train the next generation of UH care providers."

DIAMOND

C H A R I T A B L E G I F T P L A N N I N G



“Wherever you go, leave it better than you found it. That’s why Renate and I are supporting UH now and through our estate plans.” – John Strazzanti

John and Renate Strazzanti

Good Health, Good Deeds

“Health is our number one priority; everything else is second.” The simple sentence summarizes the philosophy of Renate and John Strazzanti of Gates Mills. It guides their personal lives, and most recently, influenced their philanthropy when the couple made a generous estate commitment to UH to ensure state-of-the-art patient care for future generations.

Working with an estate planner, the couple developed a plan for their financial future. “We received expert advice on how to best take care of ourselves, our loved ones and our community,” said John. “It really took the worry out of the whole process.” In addition to their legacy gift, Renate and John are making a gift in support of renovations to the Angie Fowler Adolescent & Young Adult Cancer Institute at UH Rainbow Babies & Children’s Hospital.

“We have always had deep respect for the talents and lifelong dedication of medical personnel,” said John, quick to shift the focus from their own generosity to the contributions of UH medical staff. “Physicians, nurses, caregivers of all kinds – they are very special people.”

Both John and Renate, now members of the UH Diamond Legacy Society, have benefited from the personalized care that is a UH trademark. “Restoring health is not just physical – there’s an emotional component to it,” shared John. “It’s more than diagnosis and treatment. It’s reassurance to a patient that everything that can be done will be done – my wife and I certainly felt that connection with UH.”

The Powerful Impact of Blending Current and Future Giving

Estate Gifts for Future Support

Outright Gifts for Current Needs

When it comes to charitable giving and fulfilling philanthropic passions, many think that they have to choose between current and future gifts. By blending different giving options, however, you can accomplish both and make an even greater impact at University Hospitals, in addition to providing for family and your own financial needs. Through outright gifts of cash or securities, you can support current needs and help advance patient care and research today, while a legacy gift in your estate plans can provide for future needs and support generations of patients to come.

This strategy allows you to enjoy the satisfaction of giving today and also rest easy knowing that your impact will continue in the future. And, because of the wide array of gift options available, you can customize the plan to meet your needs, helping you make a gift that may not have seemed possible while preserving or, in some cases, enhancing your financial security.

Example*

Make the most of an IRA: George consistently supports UH with annual gift recommendations through his donor advised fund, fulfilling his charitable goal of giving back to the community. Now, at age 70½, he plans to continue his annual support by making direct transfers from his IRA that count toward his required minimum distribution (RMD). For him, it's an ideal way to support good health in our community and avoid the tax he would have to pay if he received the RMD. And, since UH is a qualified charitable organization, the full amount of the gift supports the hospital. For George, it is a rewarding way to make the most of his IRA funds.

After consulting with his advisor, George decides to take his giving one step further by naming UH as the beneficiary of his IRA to support the area of greatest need. The funds continue to be available to George if he needs them during his lifetime. Upon his death, UH receives the remaining funds in his retirement account.

**Examples not based on actual donors. Contact your financial advisor and UH Gift Planning Team to learn how gift planning opportunities apply to your situation.*

The Powerful Impact of Blending Current and Future Giving

Example*

Give appreciated stock today and leave a legacy: Ruth, a grateful patient, has enjoyed investment success and owns a significant amount of long-term appreciated stock. Comfortable with her financial outlook, she donates stock annually to UH. Ruth pays no capital gains tax on the appreciated value and, since she itemizes, receives a charitable deduction for the full amount – a double tax benefit that she welcomes.

After making specific bequests of cash and property to family, Ruth decides to modify her estate plans and designate a percentage of the remainder to UH in support of cancer research. This strategy meets Ruth's goals of providing for loved ones, supporting current needs at UH, and making an estate gift to ensure future support for a cause that is meaningful to her.

**Examples not based on actual donors. Contact your financial advisor and UH Gift Planning Team to learn how gift planning opportunities apply to your situation.*

Create a future endowment that begins to have impact today: You may have sufficient income to meet current needs but wish to conserve assets for potential needs in the future. You can create an endowment in memory of a loved one now through a pledge agreement to provide annual support in an amount that the endowment would have generated. The annual gift could be made using your required minimum distribution from your IRA. The balance of your IRA or other assets would then be designated to UH to fund the endowment upon death.

Take the lead in supporting UH and pass wealth to family in a tax-efficient way:

A charitable lead trust (CLT) is a powerful giving strategy that provides current annual gifts for a specified number of years to UH, as well as potential tax and wealth transfer benefits. At the end of the trust term, what remains in the trust passes back to family. With a CLT, you can support a meaningful program at UH today that will also reduce your overall taxes. After seeing the impact of your gift, you may also decide to plan for future support through an estate gift to endow this program.

What's right for you?

By blending different giving options, you can achieve maximum impact in a truly personalized way. In addition to the giving strategies highlighted, other gift options such as artwork, real estate, life insurance and business interests can also be part of your overall giving plans. Working together with you and your advisors, the UH Gift Planning Team would be happy to help identify a strategy that creates your personal and powerful legacy at University Hospitals.

To learn more, call the UH Gift Planning Team at 216-983-2200 or visit UHGiving.org/GiftPlanning.

Leave your legacy.
Remember University Hospitals in your estate plans.



Investing in a Healthy Tomorrow

Sheila McHale has been a driving force in Northeast Ohio philanthropy for decades. Her keen grasp of the prominent role of fundraising and charitable giving has benefitted a multitude of area organizations, including those in the arts, academia and health care. "There is a healthy culture of altruism in Greater Cleveland," said Sheila. "It has been my pleasure to be a part of it."

In the last decade, Sheila has supported University Hospitals in many ways. She's made gifts to such areas as UH Seidman Cancer Center, UH MacDonald Women's Hospital, UH Ahuja Medical Center and the Angie Fowler Adolescent & Young Adult Cancer Institute at UH Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital, and has given of her time and talents by serving on numerous leadership councils and fundraising committees, including the MacDonald Women's Health and Seidman Cancer leadership councils and the Five Star Sensation auction committee.

A member of the Diamond Legacy Society, Sheila recently made provisions to positively impact the health of the Greater Cleveland community. By creating an endowment through her estate, Sheila's enduring legacy will support clinical trials and research development at UH Seidman Cancer Center. "From a health care standpoint, we are incredibly lucky to have UH right in our backyard," she shared. "The state-of-the-art, personalized care that is characteristic of UH is such an asset to our community. If I can assist in continuing to ensure that the tradition of leading edge health care remains a priority in Cleveland for coming generations, I'm happy to do so." 🍷

Philanthropic Spirit

“AS LONGTIME SUPPORTERS OF UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS, WE KNEW UH WOULD BE GOOD STEWARDS OF OUR PHILANTHROPY.” – Brenda Brown



Marshall and Brenda Brown

Lucky to Give Back

When she wakes each morning, Brenda Brown often feels like the luckiest person alive. Over coffee one day, she discussed her overwhelming feeling of gratitude with her husband, Marshall. Without hesitation – and with the unspoken understanding that comes with a 46-year marriage – he agreed.

“I, too, had been feeling particularly blessed,” he said. “We decided it was time to do more and start giving back to the great institutions in our hometown.”

Soon after, the couple learned of ground-breaking work underway at UH Digestive Health Institute where internationally renowned gastroenterologist Amitabh Chak, MD, and a team of researchers were developing a new screening method for Barrett’s esophagus.

A known risk factor for esophageal cancer, Barrett’s esophagus is a rare condition in which the tissue that lines the esophagus begins to resemble intestinal lining due to damage from acid exposure. Unfortunately, the condition has no specific symptoms and often goes undiagnosed.

“Most people with Barrett’s present with advanced cancer. Early detection is the only way we get a chance to prevent the condition from progressing,” said Dr. Chak, whose team has developed an easier, less expensive alternative to screen for the condition.

“Our family has been personally affected by Barrett’s esophagus,” explained Brenda. “Hearing about Dr. Chak’s work was no coincidence. It was another stroke of luck.”

Last year, the couple created the Brenda and Marshall B. Brown Master Clinician in Innovation and Discovery. Their generous \$1 million gift, with additional support from the Dr. Donald J. and Ruth W. Goodman Philanthropic Fund of the Cleveland Foundation, will help advance Dr. Chak’s life-saving research.

“Dr. Chak is a dedicated, caring and brilliant doctor,” emphasized Marshall. “We know in our hearts that his research will change countless lives in such a positive way that – like Brenda and me – they will wake up every morning feeling like the luckiest person on Earth.”



Growing UH's Pet Pals Program



Barb Nalette (center, standing) with members of the Risman family (from left): Noah, Rob, Tricia and Nathan and UH Pet Pals (from left): Moose, Sophie and Archie

Marion Risman had a special empathy for people in need and a way of making those around her feel better. When her son Rob learned about the Pet Pals program at UH, he knew a gift to help grow the vital program would honor his late mother's love for animals as well as her caring nature.

Members of the Risman family, including Rob, his wife, Tricia, and Rob's brother, R. Wayne, made an incredible gift of \$1.1 million to create the Marion C. Risman and Family Endowed Pet Pals Coordinator.

"If you're a sick child in the hospital, you might be scared, sad or depressed. A therapy animal can change that and help kids forget about their worries for a few minutes. That's what my mom did for me and everyone else she knew, and why it's so amazing to have this position in her name." – Rob Risman

The creation of a dedicated Pet Pals position is a dream come true for Barbara Nalette, Dee Kleinman Endowed Director of UH Volunteer Services, who currently oversees the program.

"With this new coordinator we can screen more Pet Pals volunteers, go out to the community hospitals, mentor our pet handlers and just grow the program," explained Barbara. "Pet therapy really improves the hospital experience for patients as well as families, guests and staff. Countless people will be positively affected by the Risman's gift."

"There's been so much research on how animal-assisted therapy can help reduce pain, anxiety and depression in patients," shared Tricia. "We want this program to grow and prosper into the future."



Making What Matters Work for Angie's Institute

The brand promise, "We Make What Matters Work," drives Eaton's efforts in innovative, energy-efficient power management solutions. It also propels philanthropy through the Eaton Charitable Fund, which recently made a commitment of \$800,000 to the Angie Fowler Adolescent & Young Adult Cancer Institute at UH Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital. The gift will help expand Angie's Institute to include a dedicated inpatient unit on the 7th floor of Horvitz Tower.

"Eaton is proud to support the mission of Angie's Institute and provide an uplifting space where young patients and their families get to feel like themselves, even when they are in the hospital," said Taras G. Szmagala, Jr., Eaton's senior vice president of Public & Community Affairs and Corporate Communications.

Matched by an anonymous donor, Eaton's gift will have a total impact of \$1.6 million at Angie's Institute.



From left: Mandi Myers, BSN, RN, OCN; Richard Bahnick; Judah D. Friedman, MD; Leanne Bahnick

Improving Cancer Care in Geauga County

When Richard "Dick" Bahnick was growing up, he went door-to-door with his father, James, to raise money for Geauga Community Hospital, now UH Geauga Medical Center.

Though Dick's connection to the hospital started in childhood, it grew significantly when he was diagnosed with cancer. He received treatment at UH Seidman Cancer Center at Geauga and developed a deep bond with oncologist Judah D. Friedman, MD, and his team.

"When Dick was diagnosed, they thought he only had four or five months to live," said his wife, Leanne. "But Dr. Friedman never gave up on him. He bought him 13 months."

Dick died on August 3, 2018, and in his estate left a gift of more than \$500,000 to advance cancer care at UH Geauga Medical Center. In recognition of his thoughtful generosity, the infusion space will be named the Alice & James W. Bahnick Infusion Suite in memory of Dick's parents. Part of his gift has already helped the hospital purchase advanced radiation technology, bringing this type of treatment closer to home for Geauga residents.

"Dick just wanted to help people in the community," shared Leanne. "He was so pleased he could make a gift to help Dr. Friedman."



From left: John J. Letterio, MD and Taras G. Szmagala, Jr.



Susan Spector

An Enduring Commitment to Rainbow Families

Susan Spector knows too well what it's like to have a child in the hospital. In 1992, at the age of four, her son Joey was diagnosed with a cancerous brain tumor. Joey spent extended time at UH Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital after surgery while waiting for a bed at a nearby rehabilitation clinic.

"We saw a lot of kids come and go, and I couldn't help but notice how difficult it was for families to have a child in the hospital," said Susan, noting the financial burdens of parking, meals and other expenses. "The nurses and staff tried so hard to help in any way they could."

Joey passed away one year after his diagnosis, and in the years since, Susan has never stopped thinking about the families she met. In 2013, she created the SOS Fund at UH Rainbow Babies & Children's to help families in need pay for the unforeseen expenses that come with having a child in the hospital. "The cost of parking should never prevent a parent from visiting their child," she said.

Paula Gillette, MSN, Associate Chief Nursing Officer at UH Rainbow, oversees the SOS Fund and describes it as a blessing. "The fund allows our nurses to provide parking passes, meal vouchers and other resources as part of their daily assessment rounds," she explained. "The ongoing cost of these services can pose an overwhelming barrier to family presence and support, but because of Susan, we can ensure that every family who needs help receives it."

Last year, Susan made an additional gift to permanently endow the SOS Fund. "I realized these costs are never going to go away," she said. "So to start a fund like this and not see it through would be like putting the burden back on the nurses."

Susan hopes other donors will join her in giving to the SOS Fund. "I hope people will see that they can make a small gift or a large gift and it will make a difference," she said.

Paula agrees. "Every contribution, regardless of size, can make a real difference for our families who are balancing so much."

To learn more about how you can support the patients and families at UH Rainbow Babies & Children's, visit UHGiving.org or call the Department of Institutional Relations & Development at 216-983-2200.



Theodoros N. Teknos, MD, (center) with Jane and Lee Seidman

Continued Investment in Quality Cancer Care

Driven and immensely passionate, Theodoros N. Teknos, MD, President and Scientific Director, UH Seidman Cancer Center, has a vision for the future of cancer care at University Hospitals – being named a Top 10 Cancer Program.

“Since opening in 2011, UH Seidman Cancer Center has become a truly trusted name in cancer care,” said Dr. Teknos. “At our flagship location at UH Cleveland Medical Center, we deliver an optimal patient experience and superior outcomes. We are one of only 13 free-standing cancer hospitals in the country and the

only one in Northeast Ohio. We are home to Ohio’s first proton therapy center and we are one of only 49 National Cancer Institute-Designated Comprehensive Cancer Centers in the country. We also operate 18 regional locations, allowing patients to receive life-saving treatment close to home. Our unique model – focused on science, compassion and convenience – has propelled us to national prominence, and we will continue to build on that reputation for years to come.”

Inspired by his energy and commitment, Jane and Lee Seidman furthered their investment in UH’s cancer program in September 2018. With support from the Dr. Donald J. and Ruth W. Goodman Philanthropic Fund of the Cleveland Foundation, they established the Jane and Lee Seidman Chair in Cancer Innovation with Dr. Teknos as the inaugural appointee.

“With the Seidman Chair, I hope to cultivate academic research talent and promote genetic sequencing, immunotherapy and precision medicine,” shared Dr. Teknos. “In the coming years, these areas will be key in elevating our program to the next level.” 🍷

“Jane and Lee’s extraordinary generosity has changed the face of cancer care for our patients and our community.” – Theodoros N. Teknos, MD

reflections



Heidi L. Gartland, Vice President, Government and Community Relations, University Hospitals

IN TIMES OF UNCERTAINTY, PHILANTHROPY IS CRITICAL

The unpredictable climate for funding some of health care's most pressing needs can leave us feeling like we're on a wild rollercoaster ride. More than ever before, we seem to encounter sharp turns or steep drops that force us to hang on by our fingertips.

For instance, Medicaid expansion since 2014 has helped cut the number of uninsured Ohioans in half, sustaining many of our neighbors who seek care at UH. But will this program continue in the future as budgets are prepared and debated in the face of dwindling state resources? Every two years we wait expectantly for budget results, and we experience similar challenges with Medicare reimbursement at the federal level.

Regardless of the outcome of these decisions, UH will continue to weather the ebbs and flows of government funding. We press forward with our unwavering commitment to serve our community with the highest-quality care regardless of an individual's ability to pay, just as we have always done.

The generosity of our philanthropic community is paramount to our ongoing success. You see evidence of the giving spirit throughout our health system, with many UH programs, facilities and endowed positions made possible by our benefactors. These gifts are powerful reminders that UH donors spur growth, technological advances and physician recruitment to benefit more than one million patients each year.

These gifts also allow UH to better serve Northeast Ohio. Last year, we opened a new model of care in Cleveland's MidTown neighborhood – the UH Rainbow Center for Women & Children – which integrates medical care with behavioral and social services. We are continuing to take an aggressive approach toward the opioid epidemic by joining with other local health systems to share best practices, promote policy change and increase prevention efforts. And at the same time, we are working to achieve better health outcomes, deliver leading-edge patient care, research new ways to treat diseases and educate the health care providers of tomorrow. 🍷

“With the support of our donors, we’ve made our way together through multiple generations of challenges, troubles and triumphs. And through it all, UH has been a constant in this community.”

– Heidi L. Gartland

Produced by University Hospitals Institutional Relations & Development in partnership with University Hospitals Marketing & Communications Department.



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