

WINTER 2015 Impact

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 DANA-FARBER
CANCER INSTITUTE

 The
Jimmy Fund®

Volume 18 • Issue 1

The Kohlberg Foundation's transformative gifts propel genitourinary research and patient care

Hoping to drive the continuation of innovative research discoveries and personalized cancer medicine, The Kohlberg Foundation recently extended its longtime support of Dana-Farber Cancer Institute with three extraordinary gifts to spur genitourinary oncology research and care. A transformative gift of \$3.3 million established the Jerome and Nancy Kohlberg Professorship in Medicine with Philip Kantoff, MD, chair of Dana-Farber's Executive Committee for Clinical Research, chief of the Division of Solid Tumor Oncology, and director of the Lank Center for Genitourinary Oncology, as its first incumbent. This professorship honors the Kohlbergs' lasting dedication to ensuring that leading physician-scientists like Kantoff will continue to guide genitourinary cancer research and care at Dana-Farber for many years to come. Additionally, \$2 million was committed to establish an endowed fund for genitourinary oncology research that will support the work of Kantoff and his team of world-class investigators in the Lank Center.

“These gifts are reflective of Jerome and Nancy Kohlberg's visionary, generous spirit and genuine leadership, which complement Dana-Farber's commitment to excellence and the pursuit of groundbreaking scientific discovery,” said Kantoff.

The Kohlberg Foundation's magnanimous support will allow Lank Center researchers to study the underlying biology that can lead to genitourinary cancers, pursue new therapeutic targets, and test promising drug combinations in the clinic. This kind of translational research is the cornerstone upon which innovative treatments will be developed, and demonstrates why the Lank Center is a world leader in personalized medicine and compassionate care.

Investigators in the Lank Center are employing cutting-edge science to guide therapeutic strategies. Kantoff's work in particular focuses on genetic and molecular factors that contribute to prostate cancer, specifically metastatic disease and cancers that are resistant to the standard hormone-based therapies.



Philip Kantoff, MD, chair of Dana-Farber's Executive Committee for Clinical Research, was named as the first incumbent of a professorship in medicine established by The Kohlberg Foundation to guide genitourinary cancer care and research at Dana-Farber.

Recent research led by Kantoff revealed several resistance mechanisms to androgen deprivation therapy. His team has also discovered that when hormone

[continued on page 11](#)



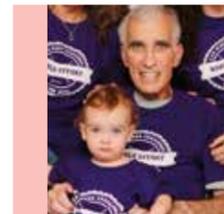
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute has been the top ranked cancer hospital in New England by U.S. News and World Report for 14 consecutive years, and is the only cancer center in the country ranked in the top 4 for both adult and pediatric cancer programs.



3
Working Together
to End Cancer



6
Partnership Built on
Deep Commitment



10
Driving Discovery
in Pancreatic Cancer

Stand Up To Cancer and Farrah Fawcett Foundation provide vital funding for innovative vaccines



Stand Up To Cancer (SU2C) and the Farrah Fawcett Foundation recently awarded a three-year, \$1.2 million grant to Dana-Farber to develop and test vaccines for patients with cancers linked to the human papillomavirus (HPV). This tremendous award, which is also being supported by the HPV and Anal Cancer Foundation,

will enable investigators led by Ellis Reinherz, MD, and Robert Haddad, MD, to explore ways in which to leverage the power of the body's immune system to target HPV-associated cancers.

“HPV causes cancer in 26,000 men and women in the United States every year,” said Sung Poblete, RN, PhD, president and chief executive officer of Stand Up To Cancer. “New treatments are urgently needed. This team is taking an innovative approach that has the potential to dramatically improve outcomes for patients with HPV-driven cancers.”

Although current HPV vaccines are generally effective at preventing infection from occurring, they do not protect a patient who has already been infected. Unlike preventative vaccines, Dana-Farber investigators aim to use the immune system's T cells to target and attack the cancer cells that arise after an HPV infection has occurred, which may provide critical new treatment options for patients with related cancers of the cervix, anus, and head and neck. The SU2C-Farrah Fawcett Foundation Human Papillomavirus Translational Research Team Grant will also prepare researchers to test their innovative vaccines in clinical trials.

Reinherz, chief of Dana-Farber's Laboratory of Immunobiology and co-director

of the Cancer Vaccine Center, said, “This generous award will help to move us closer to our goal of developing novel T-cell therapeutic vaccines for those with HPV-driven cancers who have relapsed after their initial treatment. We are honored to have SU2C and the Farrah Fawcett Foundation as partners on our groundbreaking study, which may someday impact the thousands of patients diagnosed with HPV-related cancers each year.”

“This team is taking an innovative approach that has the potential to dramatically improve outcomes for patients with HPV-driven cancers.”

—Sung Poblete, RN, PhD, president and CEO, Stand Up To Cancer

Using a unique physical detection technology created at Dana-Farber, researchers are able to search for the specific peptides on the surface of cancer cells that can be used as a stimulus to trigger T cells to attack the tumors after vaccination. The team has already uncovered one such peptide using this technology, which will be the basis for a vaccine that will be tested in an upcoming clinical trial. Additionally, they hope to discover other targets that may help investigators to create vaccines for other diseases, as well as reveal the T-cell receptors that generate the strongest immune system response.

Haddad, who is the disease center leader for Dana-Farber's Head and Neck Oncology Program, said, “Stand Up To Cancer and Farrah Fawcett Foundation's visionary support will enable us to explore new treatments for those cancers associated with HPV. These cancers have few therapeutic options, and this extraordinary grant will help to fuel our efforts to improve outcomes for patients.” ■



Dear Friends,
President Obama's recent announcement of a \$215 million Precision Medicine Initiative provided strong affirmation that the new era of medical science foretold by the mapping of the human genome is now fully under way. Dana-Farber President and CEO Edward J. Benz Jr., MD, was among the national leaders present at President Obama's announcement, further affirming the Institute's preeminent position at the forefront of this field.

Dana-Farber's pioneering role in precision—also known as personalized—medicine is fortified by Profile, one of the nation's largest research studies analyzing the DNA of tumors from consenting adult and pediatric patients at Dana-Farber, to build a massive database of genetic mutations in all forms of cancer. Profile and other studies at Dana-Farber that uncover genetic and molecular targets for cancer treatments are fueled by donor philanthropy. In this issue of *Impact* we are thrilled to recognize The Kohlberg Foundation for its most recent, visionary gifts totaling \$5.3 million, which have already advanced innovative discoveries in the Lank Center for Genitourinary Oncology and will accelerate the translation of those discoveries into personalized treatments for patients.

We are honored to be recognized once again by Stand Up To Cancer, which, with the Farrah Fawcett Foundation, made a \$1.2 million grant that is driving the development and clinical trials of therapeutic vaccines for the human papillomavirus (HPV), harnessing the body's immune system to attack HPV-driven cancers after infection occurs.

We are tremendously grateful for a \$1 million gift from Paula and Russ Agrusa, which provides critically needed funding for research into the role of the immune system in colorectal cancer, as well as genetic and molecular drivers of the disease, with the goal of developing novel therapies.

And we are proud to announce that longtime sponsor and supporter Arbella Insurance Group was recently named the Official Auto Insurance Partner of the Jimmy Fund and Dana-Farber, providing unrestricted, flexible funding that can be utilized when and where it is needed most.

Many individuals and organizations provide vital and loyal support to Dana-Farber and the Jimmy Fund, and on May 2 we have the chance to thank you in person at the Fourth Annual Summit on Fundraising. This half-day event offers an opportunity to hear the latest developments in cancer research and care from Dana-Farber physician-scientists, and to meet other donors and supporters. You can sign up online at JimmyFundASF.org. I hope to see you there, but if you are unable to attend, please know that your ongoing generosity has a powerful impact in our labs, in our clinics, and in the lives of our patients. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Susan S. Paresky
Senior Vice President for Development

Dana-Farber researcher garners coveted NIH award

Federal funding for cancer research has declined after many years of solid increases. Demonstrating Dana-Farber's success in securing awards from a shrinking pool of federal grants, Carl Novina, MD, PhD, a researcher in the Department of Cancer Immunology and AIDS at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, was one of 10 scientists chosen to receive a 2014 Pioneer Award from the National Institutes of Health (NIH). These awards are designed to support "a small number of investigators of exceptional creativity who propose bold and highly innovative new research approaches that have the potential to produce a major impact" in the fields of biomedicine and behavioral research, according to the NIH. Novina will receive \$500,000 in direct costs per year for five years. His proposal involves developing a "next-generation" form of gene modification aimed initially at treating sickle cell anemia. Novina believes the technique may be "the next frontier in gene therapy and could be used in cancer, neurological disorders, and autoimmune diseases."

"This award gives me more flexibility to take scientific risks and to take my research in new directions," said Novina, who is also affiliated with Harvard Medical School and the Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard.

Federal funding, however, does not cover the cost of early-stage research. Dana-Farber's ability to develop studies to a point where they will attract federal funds primarily relies on philanthropy and unrestricted support from generous donors. Basic research like Novina's is critical to Dana-Farber's long-term strategy of finding cures. Many scientific discoveries that lead to major breakthroughs in specific disease areas begin as exploratory, basic research, and rely on funding from a powerful combination of private, institutional, and federal resources to enable Dana-Farber's faculty to remain at the cutting edge of science in the fight against cancer. ■

Basic research like Novina's is critical to Dana-Farber's long-term strategy of finding cures.



Carl Novina, MD, PhD, received a coveted Pioneer Award from the National Institutes of Health.

The Pioneer Award reported in this publication is supported by the National Cancer Institute of the National Institutes of Health under Project Number 1DP1DK105602-01.

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Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
Division of Development & the Jimmy Fund
10 Brookline Place West, 6th Floor
Brookline, MA 02445-7226
617-632-3019 or 800-52-JIMMY
or visit jimmyfund.org/opt-out

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute provides expert, compassionate care to children and adults and is home to groundbreaking cancer discoveries. Since its founding in 1948, the Jimmy Fund has raised millions of dollars through thousands of community efforts to advance Dana-Farber's lifesaving mission.

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Contributors Colleen Akins, Jane Anderson, Jennifer Skala Bodio, Christine Casalini, Amanda Citrone, Erika Clapp, Katie Connors, Scott Edwards, Brittany Flaherty, Elizabeth Furilla, Kelsie Guerriero, Sharon Mathelus, Katherine McIsaac, Erin McVeigh, Maria O'Meara, Erin Podolak, Arielle Rollins, Laura Shannon, Heidi Ziegler-Voll, Monica Zurlinden

Art Director Sharon Veino

Production Coordinators Ryan Agate, Ben Gould, Jessamyn Martin

Photography Russ & Paula Agrusa, Michael Blanchard, John Deputy, Steve Gilbert, Drew Hyman, Channing Johnson, CWKelly Photography, Lifetouch, Jessamyn Martin, Caitlin Moloney, Rich & Lori Murphy, Sam Ogden, Katie Pietrowski, Eddie Pimentel, Steph Stevens, Amy Trapasso, Bryce Vickmark, Maureen & Thomas Wipf

Jane Weeks Endowment Fund nurtures young investigators

At her core, Jane Weeks, MD, MSc, was a mentor. Weeks served as director of Dana-Farber's McGraw-Patterson Center for Population Sciences and chief of the Division of Population Sciences until her untimely death in September 2013. Her



Jane Weeks, MD, MSc, was a mentor of young scientists and an influential leader in outcomes research.

guidance and nurturing of young scientists will now continue, through the Jane C. Weeks, MD, MSc, Junior Population Science and Clinical Investigator Endowment Fund at Dana-Farber.

Envisioned by Weeks before her passing and established through the estate plans of Weeks and her husband, Dana-Farber Chief Scientific Officer Barrett Rollins, MD, PhD, the fund provides critical resources for early-stage population science and clinical investigators who are committed to careers in which they devote at least 70 percent of their effort to cancer-related research.

"What this fund will do," said Rollins, "is give junior faculty members a couple of years of protected time to 'make their bones,' to establish themselves as researchers in this area," and set them along the path to independent research funding.

"With this fund, we'll be able to draw a straight line back to Jane. It's a way for her to continue to support the careers of the people she cared about the most."

— Barrett Rollins, MD, PhD, Dana-Farber chief scientific officer

Deborah Schrag, MD, MPH, who succeeded Weeks as chief of the Division of Population Sciences, said the fund will not only provide critically needed resources to jumpstart careers, but also will enable more senior faculty members to mentor and train these

young scientists, an effort that Weeks championed.

"Jane was supremely generous as a mentor, and she is continuing that even now," said Schrag. "I can think of no more perfect way to honor her outsized legacy than to invest in the next generation."

To honor her commitment to young faculty members, Weeks received Dana-Farber's inaugural Casty Family Achievement in Mentoring Award in 2013, as well as the 2012-2013 William Silen Lifetime Achievement Award in Mentoring from Harvard Medical School (HMS). Her trainees now populate the field of health services research in oncology across the country.

Weeks, a professor of medicine at HMS and professor of health policy and management at Harvard School of Public Health, was also an influential leader in outcomes research, which focuses on the benefits, risks, and results of treatment, as well as patients' experiences and preferences. In addition, she was a pioneer in comparative effectiveness research, which addresses the reality that many decisions about cancer treatment must be made with imperfect evidence.

Rollins said the new endowment fund adds to Weeks' legacy as both a mentor and researcher by enabling junior faculty to pursue their careers and assist them in making an impact in the field of population science and outcomes research, which, in turn, will ensure that Dana-Farber remains the preeminent institution conducting research in this area.

"With this fund," he added, "we'll be able to draw a straight line back to Jane. It's a way for her to continue to support the careers of the people she cared about the most." ■

Paula and Russell Agrusa support innovative colorectal cancer research

After more than 37 years of marriage and decades of leading a successful automation software development company, Paula and Russ Agrusa are no strangers to working as a team. When Paula was diagnosed with colorectal cancer, the couple knew that this challenge was something they would take on together.

"We were very inspired by our experiences at Dana-Farber," said Russ. "Paula and I understand how important it is to support discovery science, and we wanted to help identify and accelerate effective new treatment options."

Toward this goal, Paula and Russ recently gave \$1 million to establish the Project P Fund, supporting cutting-edge colorectal cancer studies under the direction of Charles Fuchs, MD, MPH, director of Dana-Farber's Center for Gastrointestinal Cancer. They also created a Giving Page on the Jimmy Fund website to enable others to support the fund. Fuchs and his team are using this critical support to examine the role of the immune system in colorectal cancer development and progression, ultimately aiming to uncover novel therapies.

Dana-Farber is a longstanding pioneer in the burgeoning field of immunoncology, which focuses on leveraging the power of the body's immune system to battle cancer. Building on Dana-Farber's successful efforts to develop immunotherapies for other forms of cancer, Fuchs and his colleagues are leading the charge to learn how this approach can benefit patients with gastrointestinal cancer.

"This extremely generous support from Paula and Russ will greatly accelerate our ability to learn more about the importance of the immune system in colorectal cancer," said Fuchs. "We plan to illuminate the specific mechanisms driving immune responses in this challenging disease, which may allow us to develop new therapies that harness the immune system in our battle against colorectal cancer."

Fuchs and his team recently discovered a link between greater numbers of immune cells and better patient outcomes, and they are now exploring the potential mechanisms behind this response, including the role of cellular metabolism. The investigators are also applying advanced genomic sequencing technologies to uncover novel molecular and genetic abnormalities, and recently identified a mutation that occurs in nearly 20 percent of colorectal cancers. These studies and others supported by the Project P Fund will help Fuchs' team understand the drivers of colorectal cancer, empowering them to develop new targeted therapies, as well as immunotherapies that leverage the body's natural defenses.

A scientist and engineer himself, Russ was inspired by the creative discovery science at Dana-Farber. After careful consideration, he and Paula determined that supporting this pioneering immunotherapy research held great promise for the future of colorectal cancer care.

"Advancing this research means a great deal to our family," said Paula. "We are very proud to support Dr. Fuchs and his talented team in this incredible work, which we hope will accelerate the discovery of new treatments to benefit colorectal cancer patients for years to come." ■

"We are very proud to support Dr. Fuchs and his talented team in this incredible work, which we hope will accelerate discovery of new treatments to benefit colorectal cancer patients for years to come."

— Paula Agrusa



Russ and Paula Agrusa are driving creative discovery science and innovative treatments in Dana-Farber's Center for Gastrointestinal Cancer with their \$1 million gift.

35th PMC rides to a phenomenal \$41 million finish

The 2014 Pan-Mass Challenge (PMC) marked the 35th ride, and this milestone anniversary wasn't the only reason to celebrate. Last August, 5,500 cyclists, 3,500 volunteers, 200 sponsors including presenting sponsors New Balance and the Red Sox Foundation, and countless supporters raised an unprecedented \$41 million for Dana-Farber and the Jimmy Fund — \$1 million above their goal and the largest sum to date for the two-day bike-a-thon.

The 2014 PMC Check Presentation and Gala was held Nov 8. at Fenway Park, with more than 800 committed PMC participants in attendance. PMC Founder and Executive Director Billy Starr (left) and Boston Red Sox President and CEO Larry Lucchino, both Institute Trustees, announced the generous gift and presented a ceremonial check of \$41 million to Dana-Farber.

The PMC has raised \$455 million since its inaugural ride in 1980, with 100 percent of all rider-raised funds going directly to Dana-Farber and the Jimmy Fund.



Breast Cancer Research Foundation celebrates 20 years of giving with new grants



In 1994, the Breast Cancer Research Foundation (BCRF) awarded its first grant to Dana-Farber. In the 20 years since, BCRF has developed a thriving relationship with the Institute and its investigators, giving a total of more than \$16.7 million in support.

BCRF awarded funding to 14 physician-scientists at Dana-Farber in 2014, including a new grant to Chief of Staff Lawrence Shulman, MD, in support of his global cancer care initiative.

“We are proud to support the physician-scientists at Dana-Farber who are making a difference in the lives of women and men with breast cancer—in Boston, and even around the world,” said Peg Mastrianni, BCRF deputy director and chief program officer. “From identifying new hormone-based therapies, to understanding how each cell in a tumor is different, to research which is now introducing high-quality cancer care to Rwanda, Dana-Farber investigators are tackling breast cancer from every angle.”

“I have received BCRF funding for several years, which allows me and my collaborators the opportunity to start high-risk projects that could not be funded otherwise,” said J. Dirk Iglehart, MD, director of the Susan F. Smith Center for Women’s Cancers at Dana-Farber.

In addition to Iglehart and Shulman, Dana-Farber investigators receiving BCRF support include Ross Berkowitz, MD; Monica Bertagnolli, MD; Myles Brown, MD, director of the Center for Functional Cancer Epigenetics; Alan D’Andrea, MD, director of the Center for DNA Damage and Repair; Judy Garber, MD, MPH, director of the Center for Cancer Genetics and Prevention; William Kaelin Jr., MD; Nancy Lin, MD; David Livingston, MD, deputy director

of Dana-Farber/Harvard Cancer Center; Ursula Matulonis, MD, medical director of Gynecologic Oncology, Susan F. Smith Center for Women’s Cancers; Kornelia Polyak, MD, PhD; Andrea Richardson, MD, PhD; Zhigang Charles Wang, MD, PhD; and Eric Winer, MD, chief of the Division of Women’s Cancers, and director, Breast Oncology Program, Susan F. Smith Center for Women’s Cancers. ■



Myra J. Biblowit (left), president and CEO of the Breast Cancer Research Foundation, and Institute Trustee Susan F. Smith at the BCRF Hot Pink Luncheon in October 2014.

The V Foundation awards new grants to drive novel and translational research



Honoring the legacy of famed basketball coach James “Jim” Valvano, The V Foundation for Cancer Research has supported many investigators at Dana-Farber. This ongoing relationship has lasted more than 15 years and provided nearly \$6.5 million in funding for cancer research.

“Our process for selecting grantees is highly competitive, as we permit only one application in each category from each cancer center in the country,” said V Foundation CEO Susan Braun. “Only the very best grants are awarded, and we have funded many excellent research projects at Dana-Farber since 1997.”

The foundation continued its longstanding dedication to Dana-Farber and awarded two new grants. Peter Hammerman, MD, PhD, received a V Scholar Award of \$200,000 to support his work developing targeted therapies for fibroblast growth factor receptor (FGFR) enzymes in lung and head and neck cancers. The V

Scholar Award is designed to help early-career researchers like Hammerman pursue promising avenues of research.

Additionally, Margaret Shipp, MD, chief of Dana-Farber’s Division of Hematologic Neoplasia; Nika Danial, PhD; and Jarrod Marto, PhD, director of the Blais Proteomics Center, were awarded a Translational Research Grant totaling nearly \$600,000. The researchers are collaborating to test imaging probes to help distinguish between subtypes of diffuse large B-cell lymphoma.

The Translational Research Grant is intended to accelerate laboratory findings to benefit patients more quickly. The work of Shipp, Danial, and Marto has strong implications for future treatments and ultimately could reveal the mechanisms behind resistance to current therapies, which may have a significant impact on cancer care.

“Research is fundamental to pushing the boundaries of our ability to effectively treat cancer,” said Jerome Ritz, MD, director of the Connell and O’Reilly Families Cell Manipulation Core Facility at Dana-Farber and a member of The V Foundation’s Scientific Advisory Committee. “Through their continued support of research at Dana-Farber, The V Foundation is helping to make a difference in the lives of patients through innovative science.” ■

Takeda Oncology provides additional support for early-phase clinical trials research



ONCOLOGY

To address the pressing need for effective multiple myeloma therapies, Takeda Oncology has made a gift to the Early Phase Clinical Trials Research Fund for Multiple Myeloma (EPCT) at Dana-Farber, under the direction of Paul Richardson, MD, clinical

program leader and director of clinical research of the Jerome Lipper Multiple Myeloma Center and LeBow Institute for Myeloma Therapeutics, and his colleagues, in collaboration with laboratory colleagues under the direction of Kenneth Anderson, MD, director of the Lipper Center and the LeBow Institute. Takeda Oncology, based in Cambridge, Mass., is a leader in multiple myeloma research and drug development.

Multiple myeloma (MM) is the second most common blood cancer in adults, yet the disease's complex nature helps it evade treatment. There are no common, defining genetic mutations in MM cells, and although druggable mutations are identified, the genetic makeup of the disease changes over time, presenting a moving target.

The EPCT fund supports investigator-led trials with the goal of speeding promising drug combinations and novel therapeutic agents efficiently through the pipeline. This most recent gift brings Takeda Oncology's support of this fund to more than \$1 million.

"This support is crucial to our efforts in clinical innovation," said Richardson. "It enables us to address clinical questions in creative ways. This enhances and extends the potency of effective therapies and helps us build a broader arsenal of anti-MM treatment options through translational research collaborations with our key laboratory partners."

"We take pride in our continued support of Dr. Richardson and his colleagues as they work to extend the frontier of treatment for multiple myeloma," said Shawn Goodman, site head of corporate communications for Takeda Oncology. ■



Granite Telecommunications and the Hale Family celebrate success by giving back

To celebrate reaching a major sales goal last August, Granite Telecommunications and the Hale Family celebrated in a manner true to their philanthropic spirit: by making gifts to charitable organizations. Five non-profits, including Dana-Farber, were nominated by Granite's 1,200 employees, who then voted on the allocation of the funds. Awards were made to each organization during a Sept. 22 ceremony at Granite's main office in Quincy, Mass.

Institute Trustee Judith Hale (far left) and her son Rob Hale, president and CEO of Granite Telecommunications, presented a ceremonial check to Dana-Farber Senior Vice President for Development Susan Paresky (second from right) and Senior Director Susan Korsmeyer. The generous gift of more than \$123,000 supports the Hale Family Center for Pancreatic Cancer, established by Judith Hale in honor of her late husband, Robert T. Hale Sr.

Eric and Kathy Leafquist honor their daughter with fund for leukemia research



Erica Kate Leafquist, whose parents are supporting ALL research in her honor.

Erica Leafquist was just five years old when she was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL) at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Supported by her family and her dedicated nurses and doctors, Erica endured two bone marrow transplants, chemotherapy, and radiation over 10 years. Through it all, Erica demonstrated an indomitable spirit and love for life. Sadly, in December 2013, at the age of 14, Erica passed away.

Despite tremendous advances in pediatric cancer treatment over the last 20 years, the leading cause of death from pediatric cancers is still ALL. This is why Erica's parents, Eric and Kathy, created the Erica Leafquist Fund. This

fund, directed to Erica's doctor, Lewis Silverman, MD, has already raised more than \$300,000 for ALL research.

"When Erica died we lost not just her but everything that she could have been and done," the Leafquists said. "The Erica Leafquist Fund is Erica's legacy. We cannot think of a better way of honoring Erica's life than supporting ALL research at Dana-Farber."

Silverman, clinical director of the Pediatric Hematologic Malignancies Center, is the principal investigator of the Dana-Farber ALL Consortium, a multi-institutional group conducting clinical trials in children with newly diagnosed and relapsed ALL.

"Despite the improvement in outcome for childhood ALL over the last 50 years, there are still a large number of children who are not cured with currently available treatment," Silverman said. "The Erica Leafquist Fund will support research to genomically characterize the leukemia cells from individual patients, which will help us to identify genetic factors associated with a higher risk of relapse, and potentially develop new targeted therapies. We are hopeful that this research will lead to more effective treatments, both improving cure rates and reducing short- and long-term toxicities for patients." ■

Ambrose Monell Foundation carries on legacy of support

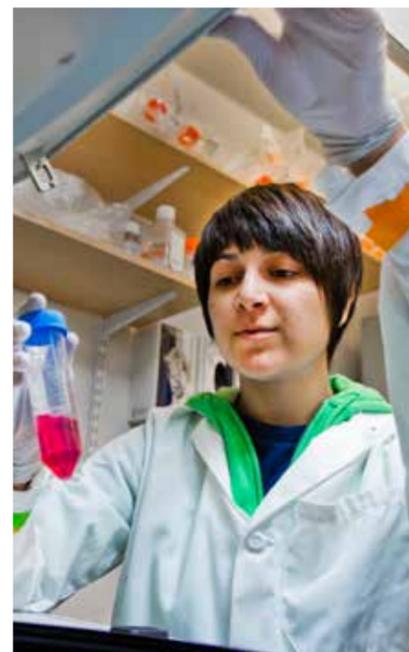
The Ambrose Monell Foundation's unwavering commitment to Dana-Farber Cancer Institute has continued this year with a generous \$300,000 grant.

Founded in 1952, and led by President Ambrose K. Monell, the foundation remains steadfast in furthering Dana-Farber's mission by providing flexible funding that supports the areas of greatest need and opens doors for cutting-edge research projects. The foundation has given unrestricted grants to Dana-Farber since 2002, and has surpassed the \$1.6 million mark in cumulative giving. This year, the foundation has continued this generous tradition, directing \$200,000 in operating support.

"The foundation and Dana-Farber share a passion and determination for conquering cancer," said Monell. "Through institutional grants, we're able to work with Dana-Farber to identify the most pressing needs, and fund initiatives that could change the future of treatment and care."

Notably, the foundation made an additional \$100,000 gift this year in support of Kenneth Anderson, MD, director of the Jerome Lipper Multiple Myeloma Center and the LeBow Institute for Myeloma Therapeutics, and his groundbreaking research efforts in multiple myeloma. The Ambrose Monell Foundation has earned an esteemed reputation for expending funds to disease areas that need it most, including advancing promising cancer research.

"We are privileged to work with the Ambrose Monell Foundation," said Institute President and CEO Edward J. Benz Jr., MD. "Especially in areas where federal funds for research are on the decline, unrestricted funds are essential to Dana-Farber's mission. Because of grants like this, we are able to support novel basic research, attract the best and brightest faculty, and make invaluable progress." ■



Over the past 12 years, the Ambrose Monell Foundation has provided Dana-Farber with more than \$1.6 million in unrestricted funding.

Arbella named Official Auto Insurance Partner of the Jimmy Fund and Dana-Farber Cancer Institute



Official Auto Insurance Partner of the Jimmy Fund and Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

Arbella Insurance Group, based in Quincy, Mass., has been named the “Official Auto Insurance Partner” of the Jimmy Fund and Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. As part of a three-year commitment, Arbella will contribute a total of \$750,000 to support Dana-Farber and the Jimmy Fund, in addition to the \$100,000 annual commitment the Arbella Insurance Foundation makes as the presenting sponsor of the WEI/NESN Jimmy Fund Radio-Telethon.

“It is a privilege to partner with a world-class institution like Dana-Farber,” said John Donohue, chief executive officer of Arbella Insurance Group. “In addition to providing financial support, we’re also encouraging Arbella employees

and independent agents to participate in Jimmy Fund events, to help raise funds and increase awareness for the critical work being done at Dana-Farber.”

As part of this special partnership, Arbella is offering an 8 percent discount on car insurance to eligible Massachusetts drivers who have made a gift of \$25 or more to Dana-Farber and the Jimmy Fund during the year. Participants in iconic Jimmy Fund events and programs such as the Jimmy Fund Scooper Bowl® presented by Walgreens and the Boston Marathon® Jimmy Fund Walk presented by Hyundai will also see an increased Arbella presence onsite.

Arbella’s new commitment builds on its long history of supporting pediatric and adult cancer care and research, through sponsorship and participation in Jimmy Fund events and initiatives, to help raise funds and increase awareness of the important work being done at Dana-Farber. ■



John Donohue, CEO of Arbella Insurance Group, which was recently named the Official Auto Insurance Partner of the Jimmy Fund and Dana-Farber.

Conquer Cancer Foundation of ASCO awards 9 grants

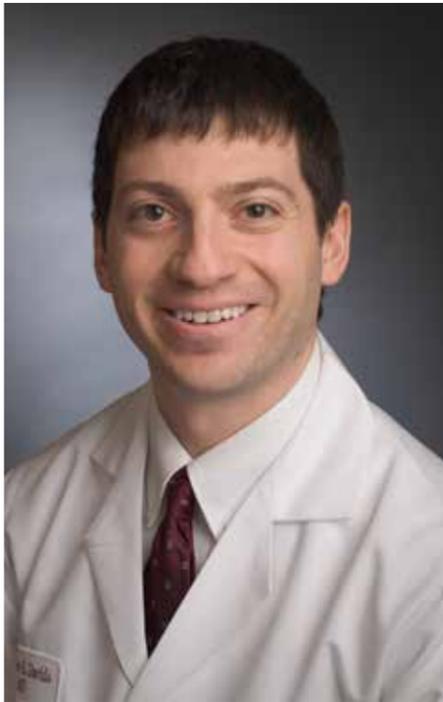
Demonstrating its powerful commitment to fueling groundbreaking cancer research, the Conquer Cancer Foundation of the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) awarded nine grants totaling \$600,000 to promising investigators at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in 2014. Overall, the foundation awarded more than \$5.75 million in research grants in 2014. The nine awards received by Dana-Farber brings the foundation’s lifetime giving to the Institute to almost \$9 million.

ASCO established the Conquer Cancer Foundation to propel innovative research by scientists at various stages in their careers, from providing young investigators with critical early funding to creating vital mentorship opportunities for senior scientists. Since its inception, the foundation has maintained a close relationship with Dana-Farber; the renowned, late Jane Weeks, MD, MSc, received one of its inaugural awards, for example, and Robert Mayer, MD, currently serves on its board.

In a reflection of this partnership, Dana-Farber’s Matthew Davids, MD, received the three-year, \$200,000 Career Development Award to support his early-stage clinical study of a potential combination treatment for young patients with chronic lymphocytic leukemia. Eight investigators—Andrew Aguirre, MD, PhD; Bradley Blaser, MD, PhD; Steven Corsello, MD; Franklin Huang, MD, PhD; Junne Kamihara, MD, PhD; Kent Mouw, MD, PhD; Orefo Odejide, MD; and Frederick Wilson, MD, PhD—received Young Investigator Awards, which provide \$50,000 over one year to physician-scientists who are at the beginning of their careers.

Nancy Daly, MS, MPH, the foundation’s executive director and chief philanthropic officer, noted that foundation awards are often the catalyst for young researchers who would not otherwise have the protected time to research, write papers, and obtain additional grants. Blaser, who is leveraging his Young Investigator Award to reveal the interactions between blood stem cells and their home in the bone marrow, concurred, saying, “Without research funding, I cannot translate my ideas into discoveries or treatment. This award provides me with the time and resources to perform my translational research in the lab.”

“With our combined resources, we can make an enormous difference,” Daly said. “Our vision is to live in a world free from the fear of cancer. We can achieve more together than alone.” ■



Matthew Davids, MD, received the Conquer Cancer Foundation’s Career Development Award.

Record-breaking year for Dana-Farber runners at the 2014 B.A.A. Half Marathon®

Each year, hundreds of dedicated runners lace up to run for Dana-Farber in the Boston Athletic Association (B.A.A.) Half Marathon® presented by Dana-Farber and the Jimmy Fund. Team members take on the dual challenges of running 13.1 miles through Boston’s Emerald Necklace park system, and raising critical funds that bolster the Institute’s mission to identify and deliver cutting-edge cancer treatments. While some runners broke personal and course records, this year’s Dana-Farber team broke a record of their own by raising more than \$730,000, surpassing their goal by \$80,000.

This year’s event took place Oct. 12, on a beautiful fall day with excellent racing conditions. Nearly 600 runners made up Dana-Farber’s team, including individuals of various ages and athletic abilities, as well as Dana-Farber faculty members and former patients. The 2014 Team Hero, 26-year-old Jason Durkin, was treated at the Jimmy Fund Clinic along with his two siblings, who were all diagnosed with the same rare blood disorder. To give back, Durkin decided to raise money and run the half marathon from start to finish, where his siblings held up the finish line tape for the race winners.

Established in 1887, the B.A.A. is committed to promoting health and athleticism in Boston-area communities through an array of empowering events and races, which also offer tremendous opportunities for raising philanthropic dollars. Over the past 12 years, Dana-Farber team members in the B.A.A. Half Marathon have collectively raised more than \$5 million to support the Institute’s vital work.

“The Boston Athletic Association is extremely proud of its longstanding partnership with Dana-Farber and the Jimmy Fund,” said B.A.A. President Joann Flaminio. “We are honored to have so many dedicated Dana-Farber runners each year in the B.A.A. Half Marathon, where their hard work is not only reflected in their athletic achievements, but also in their support of lifesaving research. We look forward to continuing to work together to advance Dana-Farber’s innovative cancer science and exceptional care.” ■



The 2014 Dana-Farber team at the start of the 14th annual B.A.A. Half Marathon.

Faculty development award fuels MDS research



The American Society of Hematology supports the research of Esther Obeng, MD, PhD, into myelodysplastic syndromes (MDS).

When Esther Obeng, MD, PhD, meets with students, she is often asked why she works at Dana-Farber. For her, the answer is simple.

“The strength of Dana-Farber’s infrastructure,” said Obeng. “I am constantly encouraged and supported by my colleagues. Thanks to them, I have the ability to apply for important grants and awards that can further my research of MDS.” Myelodysplastic syndromes (MDS) is a group of diseases in which the bone marrow does not produce enough healthy blood cells.

Obeng is a 2014 recipient of the American Society of Hematology-Harold Amos Medical Faculty Development Program (ASH-

AMFDP) Award. This \$420,000 award is intended to help increase the number of underrepresented minority scholars in the field of hematology, and is the result of a partnership between ASH and the Harold Amos Medical Faculty Development Program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

“During a critical time for a post-doctorate fellow, this award provides the resources needed to continue research and sets the stage for a successful career. I am thankful for the opportunity,” said Obeng. “Continued research will help us to understand the genetic mutations to learn more about the different subtypes of MDS, with the goal of improving outcomes for patients.”

“The ASH-AMFDP program demonstrates ASH’s commitment to promoting diversity in the field of hematology,” said 2014 ASH President Linda J. Burns, MD, of the National Marrow Donor Program in Minneapolis. “With this mission in mind, ASH is proud to offer research support to Dr. Obeng and connect her with inspiring mentors, and I hope that this support will help further her promising hematology research career.” ■

BioNovion advances multiple myeloma research

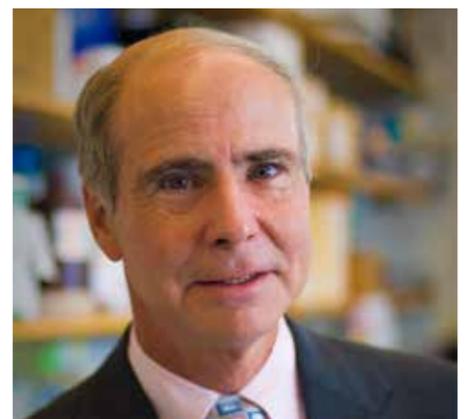
Driven by its deep commitment to identifying novel cancer therapies,



BioNovion recently established the BioNovion Fellowship in Multiple Myeloma with a generous \$150,000 gift to Dana-Farber. With this support, Yu-Tzu Tai, PhD, and Chirag Acharya, MD, are studying whether a new monoclonal antibody has the potential to block the activity of APRIL, a protein identified as important in the development and long-term survival of multiple myeloma cells in the bone marrow. APRIL and BCMA, a protein receptor universally found at high levels in malignant plasma cells, bind together, making them a potential therapeutic target for novel therapies. Engineered to block growth and survival in malignant myeloma cells in the bone marrow microenvironment, monoclonal antibody therapies have the potential to significantly impact the future care of patients with multiple myeloma. These studies are ongoing, under the direction of Kenneth Anderson, MD, director of the Jerome Lipper Multiple Myeloma Center and the LeBow Institute for Myeloma Therapeutics.

“The basic and translational research that Dr. Anderson and his group are performing is essential to translate novel experimental treatments from bench to the bedside,” said Hans van Eenennaam, chief operational officer at BioNovion. “BioNovion is proud to be able to support his research through this fellowship.”

“We are exceedingly grateful to BioNovion for their commitment to our quest to identify novel and effective multiple myeloma cancer therapies,” said Anderson. “Investing in the next generation of investigators and funding this cutting-edge research will be invaluable, as we together strive to extend immunotherapy to more patients.” ■



Kenneth Anderson, MD, will direct research into novel therapies for multiple myeloma, funded by BioNovion.

DCU and DCU for Kids make a big difference in patients’ lives

During a serious illness, financial burdens associated with treatment hit families especially hard. On a recent visit to Dana-Farber, John LaHair, public relations manager for Digital Federal Credit Union (DCU), was struck by the economic struggles experienced by families receiving cancer treatment.

“Helping people with their finances is what we do,” said LaHair, “so we realized that we could make a big difference in people’s lives by giving to patient assistance funds.”

In 2014, DCU and its charitable foundation, DCU for Kids, made combined gifts of \$125,000 to support patient assistance funds for both pediatric and adult families, expanding their longtime support of Dana-Farber’s Pediatric Resource Program.

“Patient assistance funds are provided entirely

through philanthropy,” said Joe Chabot, MS, manager of Dana-Farber’s Pediatric Resource Program. “We are incredibly grateful to DCU. Their gift helps our families pay for essentials like transportation so their child can receive treatment, as well as food and utility bills.”

Deborah Toffler, MSW, LCSW, director of Patient and Family Programs and Services, stresses the immediate impact that patient assistance funds have for adult patients and their families.

“When frontline care providers identify financial issues, they contact resource specialists in our division,” explained Toffler. “We respond rapidly, so that patients can continue receiving treatments and focus on their health.” In the past year, Toffler’s office provided needs-based patient assistance to more than 1,600 families. ■



Joe Chabot, MS, manager of the Pediatric Resource Program at Dana-Farber, and Deborah Toffler, MSW, LCSW, director of Patient and Family Programs and Services, are deeply grateful for philanthropic gifts that support patient assistance funds.

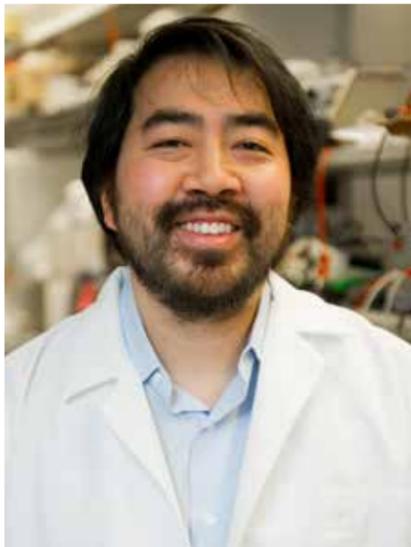
Dana-Farber President’s Circle recognizes members at insider presentation



The fall President’s Circle insider presentation held Sept. 18 recognized steadfast members of Dana-Farber’s President’s Circle. The September event focused on health and wellness, and featured keynote speaker Jennifer Ligibel, MD, director of the Leonard P. Zakim Center for Integrative Therapies. Ligibel’s presentation, “Cancer Wellness Through Nutrition, Diet, and Exercise,” gave members the opportunity to learn about the groundbreaking research that links a healthy lifestyle to cancer prevention and better treatment outcomes. Attendees enjoyed a reception prior to Ligibel’s presentation and an engaging post-presentation Q&A session.

Left, President’s Circle members with Zakim Center Director Jennifer Ligibel, MD (fifth from left).

Prostate Cancer Foundation Young Investigator Award goes to Huang



Recipient of the PCF Young Investigator Award, Franklin Huang, MD, PhD, is currently investigating new therapeutic approaches for prostate cancer using data from genomic sequencing.

Through his research into the genomics of prostate cancer in African-Americans, Dana-Farber's Franklin Huang, MD, PhD, has already uncovered new drivers of the disease. In recognition of his innovative research, Huang recently received the Prostate Cancer Foundation (PCF) Young Investigator Award of \$225,000.

"African-American men have a higher incidence of and an increased death rate from prostate cancer compared to Caucasian men," said Huang. "A major goal of my work is to uncover genetic alterations using whole exome sequencing to ultimately identify new therapeutic targets. Through the support of PCF, this work has the potential to improve the care of patients with metastatic prostate cancer."

PCF is the leading philanthropic organization funding prostate cancer research globally. Currently, some of the world's most talented and dedicated investigators, like Huang, are using grants from PCF to further study the underlying mechanisms of prostate cancer in order to bring new treatments to patients.

"The Prostate Cancer Foundation is pleased to support the launch of early careers for outstanding medical researchers like Dr. Huang," said PCF Executive Vice President and Chief Science Officer Howard Soule, PhD. "We not only provide financial support, but more importantly, the foundation creates a community of intellectual support and career development opportunities for young investigators who share our mission of eliminating prostate cancer as a health risk for all men globally." ■

Run Any Race program sets the pace in the fight against cancer

Upholding the grassroots tradition of hitting the pavement and taking action, Dana-Farber's Run Any Race program gives runners, both accomplished and aspiring, the opportunity to sign up for any race, of any distance, anywhere, and raise funds that support Dana-Farber's lifesaving mission. The program began in 2005 with 13 runners raising a total of \$14,000. Since then, nearly 1,400 runners from all over the country have joined Run Any Race to participate in 5Ks, ultra marathons of 50 miles or more, and everything in between, collectively raising more than \$2 million—with more than \$400,000 raised in 2014 alone.

In 2008, Rich Murphy was diagnosed with mucosal melanoma, and sought treatment from the expert staff at Dana-Farber. His wife, Lori, often turned to running to cope with the challenges she and Rich were facing. In 2011, as Lori sat by his side during an infusion treatment, she caught sight of a Run Any Race brochure and immediately knew she wanted to raise funds for Dana-Farber through the activity that provided her with a sense of comfort and balance.

With Rich's health improving, Rich and Lori joined the Run Any Race program, started team "Tri-ing for a Cure," and recruited family and friends to participate with



The "Tri-ing for a Cure" team, headed by Dana-Farber patient Rich Murphy and his wife, Lori, gathers for the Duxbury Triathlon in Duxbury, Mass.

them in the Duxbury Triathlon in Duxbury, Mass. Over the last four years, they have recruited a total of nearly 50 teammates to participate in that same triathlon, and have cumulatively raised more than \$137,000.

"Run Any Race helped me to stay positive and motivated during my treatment," said Rich. "Being able to race together to raise funds for the people who saved my life is an incredible honor." ■

Children's Leukemia Research Association renews grant to find new targeted therapies

Renewing a grant from 2014, the Children's Leukemia Research Association (CLRA) has awarded \$100,000 to Kimberly Stegmaier, MD, co-director of the Pediatric Hematologic Malignancy Program and a pediatric hematologist/oncologist at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. With this grant, Stegmaier will build on last year's goal of identifying new therapeutic targets in pediatric acute myeloid leukemia (AML) and acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL), and embark on a new study of a first-in-class chemical targeting the protein GSK-3alpha, which has exciting potential in childhood AML.

A longtime supporter of Dana-Farber researchers, CLRA has sponsored research efforts toward finding the causes of and cures for leukemia since 1965.

"Our organization is dedicated to finding better treatments for patients and ultimately a cure for this disease," CLRA President Anthony Pasqua said. His daughter, Susan, is an AML survivor who was given a less than 1 percent chance of survival when she was diagnosed in 1980 at age 5.

The goal of Stegmaier's research is to direct treatment at specific cancer-fueling proteins, with the hope that patients experience fewer side effects with faster results because healthy cells won't be damaged.

"Now more than ever before, academic research laboratories are dependent on the generous support of organizations such as the CLRA," said Stegmaier. "CLRA funding is enabling my laboratory to study the role of two new metabolic targets in AML. Our preliminary studies suggest that inhibition of these targets would be therapeutic in this highly aggressive leukemia. We are now working to develop chemicals that inhibit the activity of these metabolic enzymes. We are very grateful to CLRA for their invaluable support." ■



CLRA President Anthony Pasqua with Kimberly Stegmaier, MD, who is exploring metabolic targets in AML through the continued generosity of CLRA.

Kidney Cancer Association catalyzes next level of mRCC research

In May 2014, the Kidney Cancer Association (KCA) graciously granted Dana-Farber \$100,000 to support Toni Choueiri, MD, and his project, the International Metastatic Renal Cell Carcinoma (mRCC) Database Consortium: The Next Generation of Studies. This funding from KCA supports the creation of a biobank of tissue from patients and allows investigators the opportunity to study the tumor biology with greater depth.

"The consortium houses one of the largest renal cell carcinoma clinical databases in the world and has contributed greatly to our understanding of treatment," said Choueiri, who is director of Dana-Farber's Kidney Cancer Center. "KCA's significant contribution to this effort will benefit mRCC patients globally as we work to identify predictive biomarkers of efficacy for targeted therapy."

Founded in 1990, KCA is an organization of patients, nurses, and physicians

focused on the treatment and diagnosis of renal cell cancer, with a goal of curing this malignancy.

"We are delighted to support Toni and this project because of his commitment to helping people who are living with kidney cancer," said KCA Board Chair Ronald M. Bukowski, MD. "His training in genitourinary oncology, his focus on the clinical and biologic aspects of renal cancer, and his background in clinical oncology, make him an ideal individual to help lead kidney cancer research during this period of innovation, development of new and novel therapy, and change in our medical care system." ■



The Kidney Cancer Association supports Toni Choueiri, MD, and his work to create one of the largest renal cell carcinoma clinical databases in the world.

Senator's gift honors Dana-Farber's mission and family's courage

Although young Paul Kirk's survival of a life-threatening illness was not cancer, it gave him an early awareness and appreciation for the incredible work of Dana-Farber's founder, Sidney Farber, MD, and the Jimmy Fund. That experience, and the courage of former U.S. Senator Paul G. Kirk Jr.'s mother and two sisters through their own cancer battles, inspired him and his wife, Gail, to make a gift in their memory through a charitable gift annuity (CGA), to fund Dana-Farber's lung cancer and multiple myeloma research.

"We chose Dana-Farber and the Jimmy Fund for our gift because of its combined and deserved reputation of trust and excellence in every aspect of its mission," Kirk said. His mother and his sister Maud lost their battles to lung cancer, and his sister Kath died from complications of multiple myeloma.

"The generosity of Senator and Mrs. Kirk's CGA gift allows the Institute to advance our cutting-edge research into diagnosis of and precision treatment for lung cancer and multiple myeloma," said Dana-Farber President and CEO Edward J. Benz Jr., MD.

Through a CGA, a donor makes a monetary contribution or a gift of stock or securities to Dana-Farber, and in return, the donor—or a person of his or her choosing—receives a fixed income for life.

"Gail and I are convinced that the doctors, nurses, medical practitioners, researchers, and staff of Dana-Farber and the Jimmy Fund will leave the world a better place through their collaborative work to rid it of cancer," Kirk said. "Through our gift, we want to thank them and join with them in this noble pursuit." ■



Former Sen. Paul G. Kirk Jr. and his wife, Gail, made a CGA gift to Dana-Farber in honor of Kirk's sisters, Maud and Kath, and his mother, pictured above (left to right) with Kirk.



Boston Marathon® Jimmy Fund Walk Pacesetters recognized for going the distance

Last September, more than 8,800 walkers took to the streets to walk all or part of the historic 26.2-mile route from Hopkinton to Boston for the 26th annual Boston Marathon® Jimmy Fund Walk presented by Hyundai. More than 1,200 walkers achieved Pacesetter status by raising \$1,500 or more (\$500 for those 12-years-old and younger) for Dana-Farber and the Jimmy Fund. Of the more than \$8 million raised, more than half was raised by Pacesetters alone.

A recent Pacesetter Exclusive Event at Dana-Farber recognized these outstanding achievements. A special night of education, tours, and socializing, the event featured a behind-the-scenes look at the state-of-the-art programs and services supporting Dana-Farber's signature "total patient care" through the Leonard P. Zakim Center for Integrative Therapies and the Adult Survivorship Program.

Pacesetters including (from left) Jennifer Noonan, Tanya Palos, and guest Heather Burns had the opportunity to share why they walk.

One Mission brightens days in the Jimmy Fund Clinic

Last Halloween, patients and families in the Jimmy Fund Clinic wore costumes, went trick-or-treating, and had a party. It was a moment of fun that eased the journey of pediatric cancer, a journey that Ashley Haseotes traveled eight years ago when her son, Nicholas, underwent treatment for acute myelogenous leukemia.

Today Nicholas is doing well, but Haseotes remembers the tedium and anxiety of treatment, and her search for meaning in her son's illness.

"My husband, Ari, and I became very connected to families who were going through the same experience," recalled Haseotes. "And we recognized that we had the ability to help."

Grateful for their own opportunities, the Haseoteses established One Mission, a foundation dedicated to making everyday life easier for pediatric cancer patients and their families. In 2014, One Mission's gift of \$165,000 supported holiday parties, the Summer Festival, and Pig Day, a holiday unique to the Jimmy Fund Clinic. These traditions bring families together to share moments of normalcy and enjoyment that punctuate long days and months of treatment.

One Mission also funds the salary of an activities specialist and provides 10 parking passes for every new patient, as well as gift cards and parking during the holidays.

"One Mission's support is essential in our efforts to make the Clinic a comforting place," said Lisa Scherber, director of Patient and Family Programs in the Jimmy Fund Clinic. "We're grateful for One Mission's insight and continued generosity." ■



Jimmy Fund Clinic patient Eliana Montas sparkles as Princess Elsa at the annual Halloween party in the Jimmy Fund Clinic, one of the events supported by One Mission.

Donors recognize researchers' perseverance with \$100K gift

While battling stage IV esophageal cancer, Thomas Wipf maintained an upbeat attitude, was able to work during chemotherapy, and never missed a gig with his band, Hell or High Water. This perseverance and positive attitude were as instrumental in his recovery as the quality care he received.

Diagnosed in 2011 in New York City, Wipf sought a confirmation of his treatment plan from Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. After meeting with Peter Enzinger, MD, director of the Center for Esophageal and Gastric Cancer, Wipf and his wife, Maureen, confirmed their confidence in the treatment plan of his doctors in New York. Through their visits, the Wipfs were also impressed by the expertise and tenacity of Dana-Farber's researchers. So encouraged by this work, the Wipfs have given \$100,000 to Dana-Farber to establish the Wipf Family Research Fund to support Enzinger's work and that of Adam Bass, MD, who researches the genetic causes of gastrointestinal cancers.

"Researchers at Dana-Farber don't settle for small wins. We were comforted by knowing that on the other side of the wall there are people like Dr. Enzinger and Dr. Bass working hard so others don't have to suffer," Wipf said.

"Through the Wipfs' support and partnership, our team has been able to focus specifically on exploring new approaches to improve treatment options for HER2-positive esophageal cancer patients," Enzinger said of the gift.

"I hope that somewhere down the line there is another discovery like Herceptin that saves more lives," Wipf said. ■



Thomas and Maureen Wipf established a fund to drive research in esophageal cancer and improve treatment options for patients.

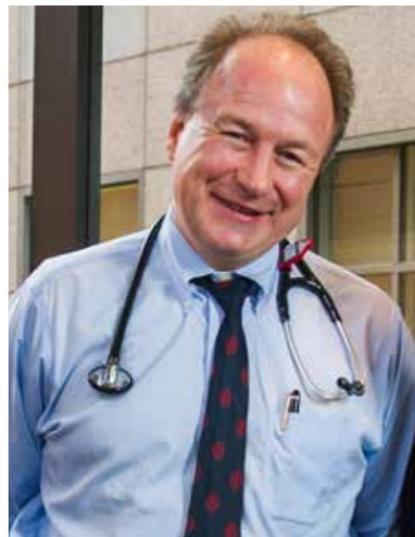
Hathaways support clinical research in multiple myeloma

When Margaret and Derek Hathaway sought treatment at Dana-Farber for Derek's multiple myeloma, they were deeply impressed by what they found.

"We were shocked by the epidemic proportions of cancer," said Derek Hathaway, "how busy people are in the clinic, and the number of teams of people committed to helping patients."

During time spent in the clinic, the Hathaways absorbed all that was going on around them and felt that they had a duty to assist. To aid in the clinical research of Derek's physician, Paul Richardson, MD, clinical program leader and director of clinical research of the Jerome Lipper Multiple Myeloma Center and LeBow Institute for Myeloma Therapeutics, the Hathaways established the Hathaway Fund for Multiple Myeloma Research with a gift of \$250,000.

"Our main motivation to give was the respect and admiration we feel as we watch how the research is being performed and care administered to patients in a competent and compassionate way by the whole team," said Hathaway.



Margaret and Derek Hathaway's generous gift will support clinical research under the direction of Paul Richardson, MD.

"Derek and Margaret's incredibly generous, gracious, and thoughtful support is now more crucial than ever in bolstering our efforts as part of a very busy clinical research team," said Richardson. "With their help, we can continue to pursue encouraging leads to bring new, more effective, and better-tolerated therapies to our patients in an ever more dynamic and promising research environment."

"The commitment of Dr. Richardson and his team is superb," said Hathaway, "and it's wonderful to know that each patient at Dana-Farber is getting this type of expert treatment and attention." ■

Noble family gift seeks to advance innovation in pancreatic cancer research

When Mike Noble was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, his first reaction was: hope. Channeling this positive outlook, Mike beat the odds against a difficult disease and lived four long years before passing away in August 2014.

In memory of Mike's hopeful and loving spirit, the family of Pam and Mike Noble has committed \$100,000 to establish the Michael C. Noble Pancreatic Research Fund, which will support research conducted by Brian Wolpin, MD, MPH, at Dana-Farber. An additional \$35,000, contributed by friends and family in Mike's memory, will also go toward the fund.

"We are so impressed with Dr. Wolpin's commitment to developing an early detection tool for pancreatic cancer—something like that would be amazing," said Pam Noble, Mike's wife.

Wolpin recently worked on two groundbreaking studies: one that identified early signs of pancreatic cancer in the blood, and another that identified new genetic risk markers in the disease.



Mike Noble, center, with his family, who established a fund to support the development of early detection tools for pancreatic cancer.

"We are working hard to develop a screening tool that will help detect pancreatic cancer earlier in its development. This approach will be very important to reducing deaths due to pancreatic cancer, a disease that often presents after it has already spread," said Wolpin. "The Noble family's wonderful generosity will help us reach that important goal even sooner."

"Mike was very philanthropic and always thinking about other people—it is only fitting that we honor him by helping others," added Pam Noble. "We hope to inspire even further funding of pancreatic cancer research." ■

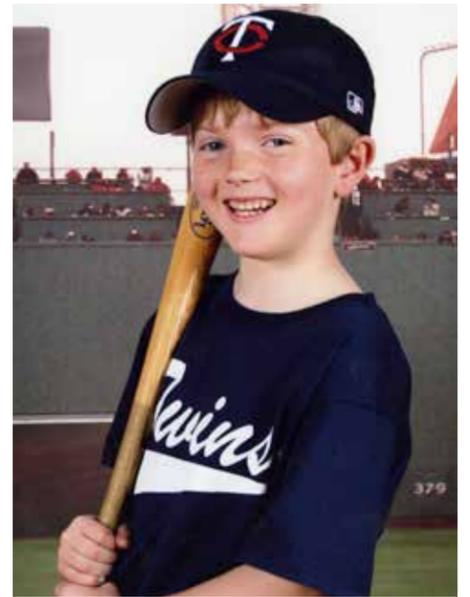
Ryan Harvey Foundation award helps fund research for new DIPG therapies

The Ryan Harvey Foundation was founded in 2013 to advance research into diffuse intrinsic pontine gliomas (DIPG). The foundation was created by Eileen and Chris Harvey in memory of their son, Ryan, who lost his battle with DIPG when he was 10 years old.

"When Ryan was diagnosed with DIPG, the tumor was so rare that there wasn't any funding available," said Chris Harvey. "Dana-Farber was so gracious with Ryan and with us as a family. We were always able to have hope even under the worst circumstances. Because of that we wanted to be at the forefront of fundraising for DIPG."

Recently, the foundation made a \$100,000 gift to create a named fund, under the direction of Dana-Farber's Mark Kieran, MD, PhD, and support current research in developing treatment for this type of tumor.

"We have initiated the first clinical trial of the biopsy and molecularly targeted treatment of newly diagnosed DIPG," said Kieran. "Based on the analysis of the first dozen cases, a number of new mutations were identified in these tumors. We are now working to develop models to define the importance of these mutations and develop drugs that will specifically inhibit their activity. In this way, we may finally be on the path to the development of an effective therapy for this currently incurable disease." ■



The Ryan Harvey Foundation supports Dana-Farber's research into diffuse intrinsic pontine gliomas (DIPG) in memory of Ryan, above.

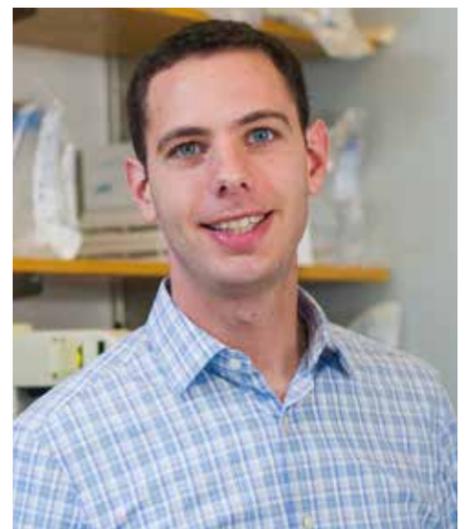
Cancer Research Institute fuels translational research in immunotherapy

The Cancer Research Institute (CRI) is the world's only nonprofit organization dedicated exclusively to cancer immunology and immunotherapy. Recently, CRI awarded a Clinic and Laboratory Integration Program (CLIP) grant of \$200,000 to Michael Goldberg, PhD, of Dana-Farber's Department of Cancer Immunology and AIDS.

"As a junior investigator passionate about the power of immunotherapy, I was immediately drawn to this outstanding organization," said Goldberg. "The CLIP grant provides catalytic support for translational laboratory studies, and this is precisely what our lab aims to do. I am tremendously grateful for their visionary support, which we hope will lead to substantial increases in patient survival."

The Cancer Research Institute's CLIP grant will enable Goldberg to identify drugs that allow existing immunotherapies to work even better. Though cancer immunotherapy can lead to incredible benefits for some patients, there is still a need to increase the percentage of patients who respond to this exciting new class of cancer therapeutics. Goldberg's research is designed to address this need.

"Dr. Goldberg's work exemplifies the spirit of our CLIP grant program, with its focus on clinically relevant laboratory research with potential to improve the effectiveness of immunotherapy in patients," said Jill O'Donnell-Tormey, PhD, CEO and director of scientific affairs at CRI. "As has been the case with many Cancer Research Institute-funded scientists, we expect his work will make a significant impact in both the laboratory and the clinic." ■



Michael Goldberg, PhD, of Dana-Farber's Department of Cancer Immunology and AIDS, received the Cancer Research Institute's CLIP grant.

A family that gives together, stays together

Cancer survivor David Lash was on top of the world as he wed the love of his life in December 2014. The night was made especially memorable when his stem cell transplant donor, Tobias Jarmer, made a surprise call from Germany to congratulate David and his new wife, Kate. And there to witness this amazing moment was another significant person in David's life, his Dana-Farber physician, Philippe Armand, MD, PhD.

"Seeing David speak to his stem cell donor for the first time was emotional for all of us," said David's father, Douglas Lash. "How incredibly fitting to have Philippe and Tobias a part of this special day; without them, this would not have been possible."



David Lash and his wife, Kate, enjoy a surprise phone call on their wedding night from David's stem-cell donor, who helped save his life.

In 2011, at age 21, David was diagnosed with an aggressive form of lymphoma. As he began intensive chemotherapy treatments, David's team at Dana-Farber continued testing him for possible secondary cancers, ultimately learning that he, in fact, had a rare "double-hit" lymphoma (DHL). With no known effective chemotherapy treatment for DHL, David underwent a lifesaving stem cell transplantation under the care of Armand.

"While stem cell transplantation can provide a powerful treatment for some lymphomas, it also entails a lot of risks. In David's case, it was very challenging to weigh the possible benefit of transplant against its risks, at a time when little was known about this type of lymphoma," said Armand.

It quickly became apparent to Douglas that this lack of knowledge in treating DHL was a significant issue. So, in recognition of the need for expanded research of this rare and misunderstood disease, the Lash family recently made a \$500,000 gift to the Harold and Virginia Lash/David Lash Fund for Lymphoma Research. The fund, first established in 2013, is made possible through the generosity of David's philanthropic grandparents, Harold and Virginia Lash. This generous gift will be used to support Armand's newest research involving combined immunotherapy and targeted therapies for lymphoma patients, in the hopes of finding more effective treatments for patients. ■

[Kohlberg Foundation](#) continued from page 1

therapy lowered the levels of androgen in the body, expression of a gene, *PLZF*, also decreased. This may point to one of the adaptive mechanisms that prostate cancer cells use to circumvent hormone therapy, thus driving resistance. Research like this is essential to identifying new methods for stopping prostate cancer, and to translating these strategies into new therapies that will help mitigate treatment resistance and potentially stop or slow the progression of disease.

Offering the latest treatments fueled by ongoing scientific discovery, the Lank Center employs a truly multidisciplinary approach to care, and is comprised of a team of specialists who are highly trained in each area of genitourinary disease. Several laboratories that are investigating the molecular basis of genitourinary malignancies inform treatment approaches in the clinic, and in turn, clinical discoveries guide subsequent questions asked in the labs. This type of collaboration is vital to understanding the basic mechanisms of disease and will ultimately translate into better treatment for patients.

"The Kohlberg Foundation's incredible philanthropic investment has fueled innovative discoveries in our laboratories, as well as the application of our research in the clinic to those who directly benefit—our patients," said Kantoff. "We are proud to have made scientific progress that is reshaping the way we treat cancer, with their partnership. With their sustained support, the Lank Center is poised to continue making crucial discoveries with the ultimate goal of developing the most effective treatments for patients with prostate, kidney, bladder, and testicular cancer." ■



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SATURDAY, MAY 2, 2015
8:00 A.M. - NOON
BOSTON MARRIOTT COPLEY PLACE

Spend your morning with Jimmy Fund fundraisers and Dana-Farber doctors, and learn how you can maximize your impact in the fight against cancer.

Seating is limited—RSVP today!
JimmyFundASF.org

SUPPORT THE JIMMY FUND



The Jimmy Fund®

BIG IDEAS

CONTEST



- **Enter** your idea for a new fundraiser
- **Win** fabulous prizes
- **Be mentored** by a prominent CEO judge

Visit JimmyFundBigIdeas.org for more information

Submissions due April 26

Media Sponsor 
#BigIdeasContest



Massachusetts 15

J 2015



STEP UP TO THE PLATE. MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

ORDER YOUR OFFICIAL
BOSTON RED SOX/JIMMY FUND LICENSE PLATE

JIMMYFUND.ORG/DRIVE





WINTER 2015
Impact

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U.S. Postage
PAID
Dana-Farber

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
Division of Development & The Jimmy Fund
10 Brookline Place West, 6th Floor
Brookline, MA 02445-7226

dana-farber.org and jimmyfund.org

THANKING THOSE WHO MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED



Boston Red Sox players Heath Hembree, Steven Wright, and Garin Cecchini visit with Jimmy Fund Clinic patient Zahra and her family as part of the Red Sox Winter Caravan in December 2014.

APRIL

April 1–Aug. 31 Jimmy Fund Little League
Presented by Extra Innings and Franklin Sports®

Little League teams throughout New England can sign up to continue playing after the regular season ends, while fundraising to strike out cancer. Contact: Laura Ducie at 617-632-3613 or Laura_Ducie@dfci.harvard.edu.



April 10–July 9 Stop & Shop Triple Winner Game

Give \$1 at the register at your local Stop & Shop for the chance to win a coupon or prize, and support the Stop & Shop Family Pediatric Brain Tumor Clinic at Dana-Farber. Contact: Colleen O'Connor at 617-582-7724 or Colleen_O'Connor@dfci.harvard.edu.



13 Rally for the Jimmy Fund
Presented by Next Step Living®

Give \$5 or more to wear your Boston Red Sox gear to work or school on Opening Day at Fenway Park while supporting cancer research and care at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Contact: Katie McGuirk at 617-632-5420 or visit RallyfortheJimmyFund.org.



18 B.A.A. 5K

Conquer cancer by supporting a Dana-Farber runner in the B.A.A. 5K. Contact: Mary Ann McChesney at 617-632-6915 or MaryAnn_McChesney@dfci.harvard.edu.



20 Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge

DANA-FARBER
Marathon Challenge 2015

Support the Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge team as they run the 2015 Boston Marathon® to raise funds for cancer research. To give to a runner or to volunteer, contact the Marathon Challenge Office at 800-551-7036 or email dfmc@dfci.harvard.edu.

JUNE

2–4 Jimmy Fund Scooper Bowl®
Presented by Walgreens

The nation's largest all-you-can-eat ice cream festival features entertainment, music, and bottomless sweet treats from the nation's leading ice cream brands. Tues. to Thurs., noon to 8 p.m. at Boston City Hall Plaza. Contact: Molly Moss at 617-632-5091 or visit ScooperBowl.org.



4 Dana-Farber Society 25th Anniversary Dinner

The Dana-Farber Society celebrates those who have included Dana-Farber and the Jimmy Fund in their estate plans, at this annual event. To learn more about making a planned gift, the Dana-Farber Society, or 25th anniversary events, contact Alice Tobin Zaff at 800-535-5577 or Alice_Zaff@dfci.harvard.edu.



June 12–July 30 Jimmy Fund Theatre Collections

Volunteer for the Jimmy Fund's most enduring fundraiser and help to pass collection canisters at National Amusements theatres and Blue Man Group in Boston. Contact: Colleen O'Connor at 617-582-7724 or Colleen_O'Connor@dfci.harvard.edu.



All Summer Jimmy Fund Golf

Conquer cancer through the game you love. To start a golf tournament or mini golf event, or find a tournament in your area, contact William Grogan at 617-582-8479 or William_Grogan@dfci.harvard.edu, or visit JimmyFundGolf.org.

