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Impact

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THANKING THOSE WHO MAKE A DIFFERENCE



Commonwealth Foundation for Cancer Research expands Bridge Project with a \$20 million challenge gift

Scientists at Dana-Farber often say that cures for cancer won't be discovered by one individual or institution, but that collaboration is key to unlocking the secrets of cancer.

Bill and Alice Goodwin of the Commonwealth Foundation for Cancer Research deeply understand this assertion and have pledged \$20 million to the Bridge Project, a collaborative research program of Dana-Farber/Harvard Cancer Center (DF/HCC) and the Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research at MIT. Its goal is to discover new therapeutic strategies for the most resistant of human cancers.

The Bridge Project funds cross-institutional and interdisciplinary DF/HCC-MIT teams of cancer scientists, engineers, and clinicians to solve longstanding problems in the most intractable cancers. The program leverages Dana-Farber's strengths in basic and clinical/translational cancer research and cancer care and MIT's strengths in basic cancer research and bioengineering. Each team is co-led by at least one DF/HCC investigator and one MIT investigator. The gift awards \$10 million directed to Dana-Farber and \$10 million to MIT, for a combined \$20 million to be awarded to those scientific teams whose grants fare most successfully in peer review.

This gift follows an initial investment of \$4.5 million from the Commonwealth Foundation in 2012. To amplify the impact of this new gift, DF/HCC and MIT will raise matching funds over the next five years, resulting in a combined \$40 million expansion of Bridge Project funding.

"We are so proud to continue our support of the Bridge Project," said Bill Goodwin, chairman of the Commonwealth Foundation for Cancer Research, which he founded with his wife, Alice, in 2002. "Over the last four years, we have witnessed some truly innovative advances. We share the Bridge Project's goal to move important discoveries out of the lab and into the clinic—and hope other families and foundations will be inspired to join this effort," Goodwin said.

The Bridge Project is led by David



Alice and Bill Goodwin are deepening their commitment to the Bridge Project with their latest gift through the Commonwealth Foundation.

"Over the last four years, we have witnessed some truly innovative advances. We share the Bridge Project's goal to move important discoveries out of the lab and into the clinic—and hope other families and foundations will be inspired to join this effort."

—BILL GOODWIN, Commonwealth Foundation for Cancer Research chairman

Livingston, MD, deputy director of DF/HCC as well as the Emil Frei III, MD, Professor of Genetics and Medicine and the Charles A. Dana Chair in Human Cancer Genetics at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, and Tyler Jacks, PhD, director of the Koch Institute and the David H. Koch Professor of Biology at MIT.

"We are immensely grateful to the Commonwealth Foundation for Cancer Research for their transformative investment and shared vision for the future of the Bridge Project," Livingston said. "By enlarging the scale of this project, we believe that we can bring about positive outcomes for cancer patients."

The Commonwealth Foundation gift doubles the number of grants available to fund multi-investigator teams each year, and will create two new funding mechanisms that will extend the pipeline of collaboration and catalyze the translation of basic research toward clinical trials.

Footbridge Grants will enable new

teams to form and establish proof of concept of their work, while Expansion Grants will provide follow-on funding to existing teams whose projects are on the cusp of clinical implementation.

"This gift enables the Bridge Project to fund larger numbers of collaborative projects of extraordinary quality," said Livingston. "Typically, such grants aim to assess the potential value of a novel therapeutic concept aimed at the treatment of the most resistant of human cancers."

Since its inception, the Bridge Project has funded 15 teams that are pursuing clinical advances across a variety of cancer types that represent areas of great clinical need, including brain, lung, ovarian, pancreatic, and advanced prostate cancers. Collectively, the work of these teams has led to publications in high-profile journals, the filing of invention disclosures and patent applications, the formation of new companies, and the initiation of clinical trials. ■



Dana-Farber Cancer Institute has been the top ranked cancer hospital in New England by U.S. News and World Report for 16 consecutive years, and is the only cancer center in the country ranked in the top 4 for both adult and pediatric cancer programs.



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Legacy of Leadership



7
Passion for Patients



9
Million-Dollar Milestone



15
Momentum for Multiple Myeloma



David Livingston, MD, leads Bridge Project research at Dana-Farber and Dana-Farber/Harvard Cancer Center.



Dear Friends,

In recent weeks, we learned that Dana-Farber is the top-ranked cancer hospital in New England, according to *U.S. News & World Report*, for the 16th consecutive year. It is still the top pediatric cancer center in the nation, and the only one in the country ranked in the top 4 for both adult and pediatric cancer programs. I hope you share

our excitement and pride, as your generous gifts help make possible the scientific advances and exceptional care reflected in this important ranking.

Achieving this recognition year after year is just one mark of the visionary leadership of Edward J. Benz Jr., MD, who will step down as Dana-Farber President and CEO at the end of September. In tribute to his legacy of Institute growth and achievement, hundreds of Trustees, faculty, staff, and others have established the Edward J. Benz Jr., MD, Chair at Dana-Farber, with gifts totaling more than \$2.5 million. This endowment honors Dr. Benz while providing a permanent fund to help attract and retain outstanding faculty to advance our lifesaving mission long into the future.

We are especially delighted to acknowledge a \$20 million challenge grant from the Commonwealth Foundation for Cancer Research to support the Bridge Project. This tremendous gift greatly expands this collaboration between Dana-Farber and MIT, doubling the number of projects that can aggressively pursue new treatments for the most resistant cancers.

We are honored by a \$1 million Quantum Grant from Hyundai Hope on Wheels, to accelerate our progress toward clinical trials of a novel treatment for resistant and refractory pediatric acute myeloid leukemia, with the goal of raising this common disease's low survival rate.

We are so grateful to Stephen and Joan Clark for renewing their loyal support with a new gift of more than \$1 million, to bolster novel research aimed at better preventing, detecting, and treating gastrointestinal tumors.

And we are buoyed by the heartfelt commitment of Granite Telecommunications and the Hale Family, whose annual Granite Day and Saving by Shaving events engage their company and community in our lifesaving cause, this year raising more than \$5 million in the process.

In the midst of all these wonderful gifts, Dana-Farber has also endured a heartbreaking loss, with the passing of Institute Trustee Susan F. Smith in July. Her vision, leadership, passion, and infectious enthusiasm enabled both the Friends of Dana-Farber and the Susan F. Smith Center for Women's Cancers to grow and thrive. We will greatly miss her.

Your dedication and generosity enable Dana-Farber to develop novel ideas into proven research and attract federal funding like that described at the right. Thanks to you, we are constantly discovering new treatments and improving outcomes for our patients and their loved ones. From all of them, and all of us, thank you.

Sincerely,

Susan S. Paresky
Senior Vice President for Development

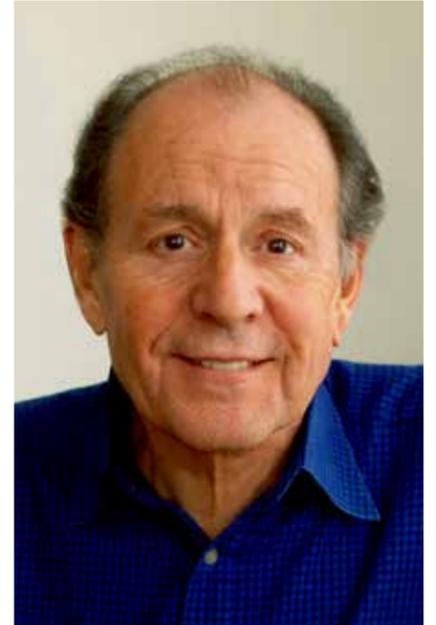
Update on federal funding at Dana-Farber

Research supported by grants totaling \$2.4 million from the National Institutes of Health and \$2.7 million through major philanthropic funding from the LeRoy Schechter Foundation has set the stage for a new approach to cancer immunotherapy that avoids some of the shortcomings associated with other treatment methods.

In the March 2016 *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, Dana-Farber scientists described how changing the identity of key immune system cells could incite an immune system attack on tumors. These cells, known as T regulatory (Treg) cells, ordinarily prevent their more combative cousins, known as T effector (Teff) cells, from attacking the tumor. The researchers showed that eliminating a key protein in Treg cells converts them into Teff cells that join in the destruction of the tumor.

"Many current approaches to immunotherapy run the risk of triggering an autoimmune response against normal as well as malignant tissue," said Harvey Cantor, MD, the Baruj Benacerraf Professor of Microbiology and Immunobiology in the Department of Cancer Immunology and Virology at Dana-Farber, who helped lead the study. "The key to our approach is that it singles out the Treg cells inside a tumor for conversion to Teff cells, leaving Treg cells elsewhere in the body unchanged."

Critically, the study authors show that this conversion occurs only in the inflammatory conditions that prevail within many tumors. As a result, healthy organs and tissues are protected from attack. These findings raise the prospect of therapies that concentrate the immune system's firepower on tumors without



Harvey Cantor, MD, is co-leading research that represents the next stage in cancer immunotherapy.

producing residual damage and harmful side effects.

"This represents a next stage in cancer immunotherapy," Cantor remarked. "We now have a very specific, targeted way of inducing a T effector cell attack on cancer while lowering the risk of adverse effects on healthy tissue. The next step will be to organize a clinical trial using this approach in patients."

The combination of federal and philanthropic funding for research speeds the translation of basic science to clinical care for patients. The Institute's success in obtaining grants is a credit to donors who have the foresight to fund ideas aimed at new ways to combat cancer and investigators who must have a proven scientific track record to attain federal funding.

The research reported in this publication was supported by the National Institutes of Health under project number R01A137562.

Jimmy Fund Fit Fest participants get fit to fight cancer



On May 14, fitness fans gathered for a picture perfect day at the DCR Hatch Shell on the Charles River Esplanade in Boston, to get fit and fight cancer at the inaugural Jimmy Fund Fit Fest presented by Reebok. This first-year event was a huge success with sponsors and Fit Fest participants proudly raising more than \$118,000 to support cancer research and care at Dana-Farber.

The day consisted of six different workout classes taught by Boston's best trainers, and was hosted by Medha Gandhi of KISS 108 and Colton Bradford from 101.7 THE BULL. Classes ranged from Barry's

Bootcamp to yoga, allowing for all fitness levels to participate in a day filled with fun, fitness, and inspiration. Among the participants was Dana-Farber patient Kyndra Angell. "I am always looking for ways to give back to Dana-Farber and the Jimmy Fund," she said, "and there is just something about hundreds of people coming together in one location, on one day, to all fight for the same thing: a cure for cancer."

"Reebok's purpose is to inspire people everywhere to be their best physical, mental, and social selves," said David Oksman, U.S. marketing director, Reebok. "Sharing these values, the Jimmy Fund Fit Fest brings people together for a fun-filled day of workouts in Boston for a brilliant cause. We are so proud to support this event in our local community, and are inspired by all the people who sweat it out to raise money to benefit Dana-Farber." ■



Classes ranged from Barry's Bootcamp (above) to yoga, offering options for all fitness levels at the Jimmy Fund Fit Fest presented by Reebok.

A Legacy of Leadership

In unanimous admiration, donors contribute \$2.5 million to establish the Edward J. Benz Jr., MD, Chair

When Edward J. Benz Jr., MD, steps down from his role as president and CEO of Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and director of the Dana-Farber/Harvard Cancer Center on September 30, he will leave an enduring legacy of growth and achievement. Over the course of 16 years, he has grown the Institute into a truly world-leading cancer hospital for both adults and children, internationally renowned for the excellence of its comprehensive research program as well as for the unique intimacy and familial feel of its patient care experience. And he has achieved all of this with a warmth and humility that is uniformly cited by all who meet him.

In recognition of his transformative impact, Institute Trustees, faculty, staff, and so many friends, family, and supporters have contributed more than \$2.5 million to establish the Edward J. Benz Jr., MD, Chair at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

The highest honor that Dana-Farber can bestow upon a physician or scientist, the Benz Chair will provide a permanent fund that can be used to bolster the strong clinical,

research, organizational, and financial structure and strategy Dana-Farber has in place.

All who contributed to the Chair were unanimous in appreciation for Dr. Benz.

“Ed is brilliant and an amazing leader,” said Josh Bekenstein, chairman of the Board of Trustees, who led the Trustee fundraising effort along with immediate past Board Chairman Gary Countryman, and inspired support with a leadership gift together with his wife, Anita. “He does it all for Dana-Farber in a selfless way and with such modesty. I feel incredibly lucky to have spent the last five years partnering with him.”

The Friends of Dana-Farber also made a lead gift to the Chair (see page 5), as did several Trustees including Alice Cutler and her husband, Stephen. Cutler’s dedication to volunteering at the Institute over the last 20 years brought her to cross paths with Benz. “I have a fondness and respect for Dr. Benz,” shared Cutler. “It is his compassion in all that he does that really makes the ‘special sauce,’ as he always says.”

More than 330 members of the



In a nod to Edward J. Benz Jr., MD’s love for his hometown Pittsburgh Steelers, Trustees, Institute leaders, family members, and guests cheered him with “terrible towels” at a May 2 event at which the chair in his honor was announced.

Dana-Farber community contributed to the Chair. Senior faculty and executive leadership heartily endorsed the effort, with nearly 100 percent participation.

“As president of the Institute, I get more credit for our accomplishments than I should,” said Benz. “The fact of the matter is that it is all of us together who power the heart of our

mission. This was a great Institute before I got here. It will be an even greater Institute long after I’m gone.”

The Chair will enable incoming President and CEO Laurie H. Glimcher, MD, to recruit exceptional new talent, and encourage Institute staff to dream big in aggressively pursuing the ultimate goal: a world without cancer. ■

Benz by the Numbers

Highlights from Dr. Benz’s extraordinary 16-year tenure as Dana-Farber’s longest-serving President and CEO.

ANNUAL REVENUES **QUADRUPLED**
FROM \$265 MILLION TO

\$1.2
BILLION



PATIENT VISITS & INFUSIONS
TRIPLED FROM 128,000 TO

396,000

THE INSTITUTE’S FOOTPRINT
NEARLY **DOUBLED**
FROM 1,221,348 SQ. FT. TO

2,375,118 SQ. FT.



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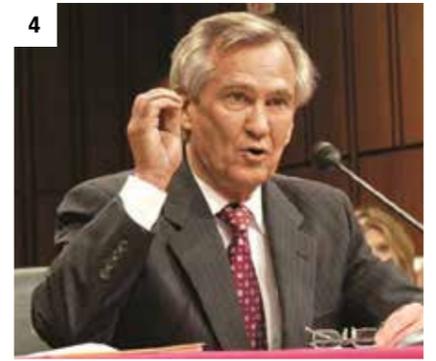
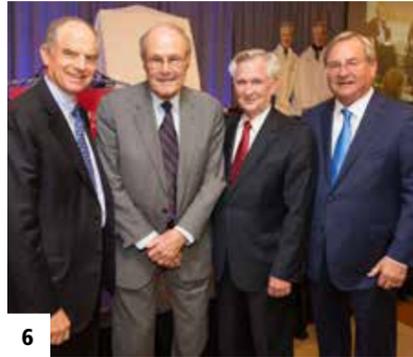
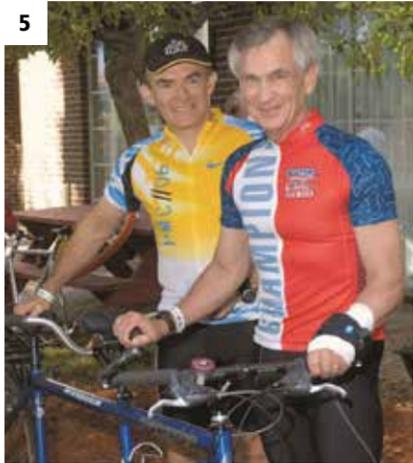
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Continued on page 4

Continued from page 3



CLINICAL TRIALS INCREASED FROM 397 TO 752

47%

MAMMOGRAPHY VAN PROVIDED MORE THAN

41,000

MAMMOGRAMS SINCE 2002

WOMEN FACULTY PROMOTED TO FULL PROFESSOR INCREASED FROM

1 TO 25



NIH FUNDING INCREASED

45%

FROM \$109.8 MILLION TO \$159.2 MILLION

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1. Dana-Farber patients are at the heart of Dr. Benz's fierce commitment to our unique, equal focus on research and patient care, and our signature "total patient care." Pictured here, the annual Halloween parade for Jimmy Fund Clinic patients. 2. The Yawkey Center for Cancer Care opened in 2011 with significant input from patients and their families, thanks to Dr. Benz. 3. Celebrating our partnership with the New England Patriots, with Institute Trustee Robert Kraft (center) and Kraft Family Professor of Medicine Ken Anderson, MD. 4. A passionate advocate who has briefed members of Congress and the White House. 5. Preparing to ride the Pan-Mass Challenge with Harry Holmes, MD. 6. With the two Board of Trustees Chairmen under whom he has served—current Chairman Josh Bekenstein (left) and immediate past Chairman Gary Countryman (right)—and his mentor, President Emeritus David Nathan, MD. 7. At the Molecular Cancer Imaging Facility, which enables scientists to assess the efficacy of treatments within days instead of weeks or months. 8. At the Boston Marathon® Jimmy Fund Walk presented by Hyundai. 9. The Longwood Center, in which Dr. Benz had the vision to build out several floors to expand our powerful basic research enterprise in cancer chemistry and biology. 10. At the WEEI/NESN Jimmy Fund Radio-Telethon. 11. Receiving his 15-year service award from Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Dorothy Puhly. 12. Kicking off the 60th anniversary of the Boston Red Sox–Jimmy Fund partnership with (from left) then Red Sox president and CEO and Institute Trustee Larry Lucchino, 2013 Jimmy Fund Co-Captain Will Middlebrooks, Jimmy Fund Clinic patient Jonathan, and Wally the Green Monster. 13. An internationally recognized hematologist who will return to research and teaching October 1. 14. With his wife, Margaret Vettese, RN, PhD, at Dana-Farber's Discovery Celebration in Palm Beach.

The Friends of Dana-Farber provide early momentum to Edward J. Benz Jr., MD, Chair

The Friends of Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, an all-volunteer organization supporting and fundraising for Dana-Farber, made a most generous \$500,000 gift toward the Edward J. Benz Jr., MD, Chair, helping bring this important initiative to fruition.

"The Friends made this gift in support of the Edward J. Benz Jr., MD, Chair to honor Dr. Benz's generous spirit and commemorate his thoughtful leadership over the last 16 years," said Jennifer Cunningham Butler, who serves as co-president of the Friends with Suzanne Chapman.

"We hope our gift will further Dr. Benz's work and legacy here, celebrating innovation and excellence in research and patient care," said Chapman.

"Dana-Farber is incredibly grateful for the ongoing partnership, leadership, and vision of the Friends over the course of 40 years," said Benz. "I am humbled and honored by this generous gift to support our shared mission to conquer cancer."

The Friends organization was founded in 1976. Sheila Driscoll Cunningham, mother of Jennifer Cunningham Butler, was founding president. The Friends now

include more than 1,500 dedicated individuals who raise money for Dana-Farber and volunteer at the Institute. The Friends allocate funds toward groundbreaking research projects and programs to benefit patients and their families, in addition to sponsoring an annual Dana-Farber fellow.

"The Friends have had the honor of working closely with Dr. Benz as we support a broad range of Dana-Farber initiatives and programs, from junior researchers on the cutting-edge of new discoveries to gift bags for patients undergoing treatment to non-denominational spiritual health programs," said Chapman.

The Benz Chair will be a powerful tool allowing future Dana-Farber presidents to attract, retain, and support the brightest scientific minds pursuing cutting-edge research, delivering comprehensive patient care, and possessing the "special sauce" that Benz has made a vital part of the Institute community.

"The Friends are dedicated to ensuring the Institute is home to the best and brightest for our patients, and it is our hope that the Benz Chair will be a resource to attract outstanding talent to Dana-Farber," said Cunningham Butler. ■



Members of the board of the Friends of Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, which made a leadership gift to the Edward J. Benz Jr., MD, Chair.

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 Robert & Kathleen Stansky
 Billy Starr & Meredith Beaton-Starr
 Charles D. Stiles, PhD & Ruthann T. Stiles
 Richard M. Stone, MD & Jane A. Brown, MD
 Sandra Stratford, MD, MSc & Oscar Malcolm
 Scott Swanson, MD & Donna Swanson
 Sapna Syngal, MD, MPH
 Jean C. Tempel
 Beth F. Terrana
 Amy C. Thorp
 David T. & Alice C. Ting
 Mary Ann & Douglas E. Tocio
 Bailey S. Trevisan
 Pamela S. Tucker
 James A. Tulsky, MD

Penny E. & Richard J. Valentine
 Stacy Siana Valhouli & Thomas Forest Farb
 Annick D. Van den Abbeele, MD
 Ruth B. & Drury L. Vinton
 Kasisomaya Viswanath, PhD
 Francine G. Wacht
 Jia-huai Wang, PhD & Jin-huan Liu, PhD
 Patrick Y. Wen, MD & Siew Koon Teoh, MD
 Mr. & Mrs. T. Conrad Wetterau
 Gregory A. White & Alison Brown White
 Nadege V. White
 Frederica M. Williams
 Eric P. Winer, MD & Nancy A.
 Borstelmann, MPH, MSW, LICSW
 Joanne Wolfe, MD & Michael M. Givertz, MD
 Kwok-Kin Wong, MD, PhD & Naomi M. Simon
 Winnie W. Wong, PhD & Arthur Cheng, ScD
 Patricia Wrixon
 Kai W. Wucherpfennig, MD, PhD
 Jay & Dee Yost
 Alice Tobin Zaff & Alan Zaff
 Diana Zervanos & Nikitas J. Zervanos, MD
 Jean J. Zhao, PhD

∞ Deceased

Hyundai drives pediatric cancer research



Hyundai Hope On Wheels® (HHOW), the non-profit arm of Hyundai Motor America, awarded a four-year, \$1 million Quantum Grant to Loren Walensky, MD, PhD, at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Dana-Farber was one of only four organizations nationally to receive the inaugural Hyundai Quantum Grant, which is aimed at advancing research in pediatric cancers with the lowest survival rates.

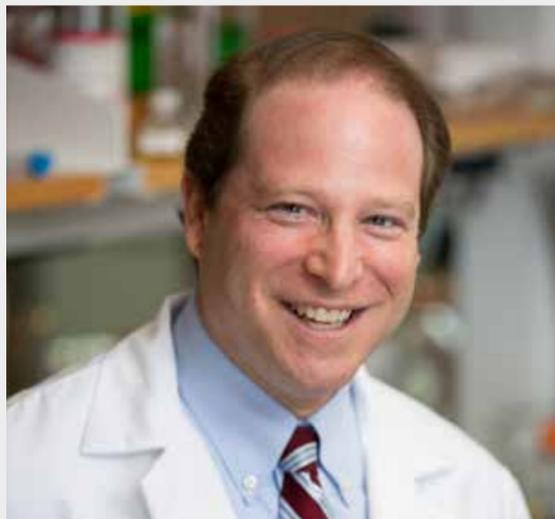
Hyundai is committed to finding a cure for childhood cancer: Since 1998, HHOW has provided more than \$115 million in grants to some of the most innovative investigators in the field. This philanthropy is driven by the tremendous generosity of Hyundai's more than 830 American car dealerships, which work closely with Hyundai Motor America to fuel game-changing research.

"Hyundai and its dealers are committed to the fight against pediatric cancer and to achieving a day when no child has to hear the words, 'You have cancer,' ever again," said Zafar Brooks, program executive director, Hyundai Hope On Wheels. "We are excited about the potential of Dr. Walensky's

work, and his leadership in making the lives of children with cancer better."

Walensky will study one of the most challenging forms of pediatric cancer: relapsed and refractory acute myeloid leukemia (AML). AML, the second-most common form of childhood leukemia, is a type of blood cancer that spreads rapidly throughout the body and has low survival rates upon recurrence, so new therapies are urgently needed.

Most pediatric AML cells contain the protein p53, which is involved in regulating cell growth and, as a result, can stop tumors from growing. This protein is one of the most powerful—and most studied—tools in the body's anti-cancer arsenal.



Hyundai Hope On Wheels awarded a four-year, \$1 million Quantum Grant to Loren Walensky, MD, PhD.

Yet despite the presence of p53, pediatric AML cells nonetheless proliferate rapidly—and, until recently, one of the reasons why remained a mystery.

As Walensky and his team discovered, AML cells overproduce two proteins—HDM2 and HDMX—that neutralize the anti-cancer effect of p53, enabling diseased cells to grow unchecked by p53. If investigators can "turn off" these two proteins and restore p53's natural function, then physicians might have a stronger and more effective way to treat young patients with AML.

The grant will allow the Dana-Farber team, which includes Kimberly Stegmaier, MD, co-director of the Pediatric Hematologic Malignancy Program, to develop essential proof-of-concept data in support of a clinical trial to test whether a new compound can disarm HDM2 and HDMX. Walensky is uniquely qualified to lead this critical research: He and his colleagues developed the prototype for a new dual HDM2/HDMX inhibitor drug, a stapled peptide that binds to the surface of these two proteins and halts their activity. The researchers also plan to develop a test that can rapidly identify which patients would optimally benefit from HDM2/HDMX inhibitors, allowing doctors to quickly match patients with the most effective therapies.

"I am deeply honored by Hyundai's tremendous support of this research program," said Walensky. "The Hyundai Quantum Grant will allow us to advance an entirely new pharmacologic strategy to confront treatment-resistant AML and, in doing so, help us to improve the care of our youngest patients." ■

American Cancer Society grants fuel next-generation research at Dana-Farber



The American Cancer Society (ACS), a longtime supporter of Dana-Farber, has committed grants totaling \$375,000 to novel research at the Institute. The investment primarily funds early career scientists at Dana-Farber who are conducting innovative basic science research that can lead to new cancer treatments.

Currently, the American Cancer Society is investing \$6.4 million in 16 Dana-Farber-based investigators.

"The American Cancer Society and Dana-Farber have a shared commitment in fostering and supporting 'rising star' researchers," said Peg Camp, executive vice president of the Society's Framingham-based New England Division. "The Society believes strongly in investing in bright minds. Their creative ideas will uncover new avenues for research with the

potential for new treatments."

Dana-Farber postdoctoral fellow Jonathan LaRoche, PhD, will use the new funding to investigate SHP2 mutations, which have been identified in leukemia, lung, skin, and colon cancers, and gain better insight on how they drive cancers.

"I am extremely excited to move this study forward and lay the groundwork to develop new targeted therapies that could help countless patients," said LaRoche.

Jennifer Spangle, PhD, and Allison Taylor, PhD, also received ACS funding for novel research on overcoming resistance to therapies for HER2 breast cancer and evaluating the role of chromosomes in tumor development, respectively.

ACS support also enables more senior Dana-Farber physician-scientists to undertake critical new investigations. Jennifer Ligibel, MD, director of Dana-Farber's Leonard P. Zakim Center for Integrative Therapies, received a grant from ACS to further her pioneering research on lifestyle factors such as diet and exercise, and their association with cancer. ■

Chleck Family Foundation establishes chemical biology research fellowship

David Chleck, a chemist and entrepreneur, established the Chleck Family Foundation in 2014 to support advances in scientific and medical research, as well as higher education and health care. When his grandson and director of the foundation, Ross Levine, toured Dana-Farber's Longwood Center with family members, he was impressed by the talented researchers developing new cancer drugs. The foundation recently gave \$280,000 to establish the Chleck Family Fellowship Fund, overseen by Nathanael Gray, PhD, the Nancy Lurie Marks Professor of Biological Chemistry and Molecular Pharmacology.

"We were struck by the passionate team of investigators and Dana-Farber's incredible drug development model," said Levine. "We recognized a great opportunity to continue the progress and drive more breakthroughs."

This fund will support chemical biology graduate students, allowing them to minimize time spent applying for grants and maximize time collaborating with senior scientists to establish new treatments.

"This generous support from



Under the direction of Nathanael Gray, PhD, the Chleck Family Fellowship Fund supports talented chemical biology graduate students.

the Chleck Family Foundation will enable talented, early stage investigators to pursue exciting new avenues of research," said Gray. "We are tremendously grateful for this partnership and the opportunity to develop novel cancer therapies and advanced technologies."

While the family has not had direct patient experiences at Dana-Farber, they understand the enormous challenges facing cancer researchers.

"It is an honor to partner with Dana-Farber, one of the leading institutions in cancer research and treatment, to fight this disease," said Levine. ■

Epsteins establish Iglehart Visiting Scholar lecture

In 1999, J. Dirk Iglehart, MD, began working at Dana-Farber to direct the brand-new women's cancers program. He worked tirelessly to transform the program into a multi-disciplinary center internationally renowned for the treatment and study of breast and gynecological cancers. This year, as Iglehart stepped down as director of the Susan F. Smith Center for Women's Cancers, Eileen and Mark Epstein made a generous \$100,000 gift to celebrate his accomplishments and establish the J. Dirk Iglehart, MD, Visiting Scholar Lecture at Dana-Farber.

"Dirk exemplifies the passion and care that all patients and family expect and deserve at Dana-Farber," said Mark Epstein. "His passion for life and medicine, along with the countless hours of helping and healing, is second to none. To know and work with Dr. Iglehart has been an honor and a privilege. He is a scholar, a gentleman, and a true hero in his practice and career. Simply stated, he is the 'best of the best!'"

Additionally, the Epsteins, along with other generous donors, established the J. Dirk Iglehart, MD, Breast Cancer Term Fellowship, a

two-year fellowship that will go to a physician-scientist who demonstrates its namesake's values of mentorship, education, and collaboration.

"These extraordinary donors help the Susan F. Smith Center for Women's Cancers recruit and retain exceptional faculty," said Eric Winer, MD, chief of the Division of Women's Cancers and director of Breast Oncology in the Susan F. Smith Center. "Dirk leaves a deep legacy as a true practitioner of team science, a bridge builder, and an inspired mentor. The lecture and fellowship will further this legacy." ■



J. Dirk Iglehart, MD (above), was honored with a lecture and fellowship established in his name by Eileen and Mark Epstein.

Governor Baker addresses the Dana-Farber Society



On June 2, members of the Dana-Farber Society (DFS) gathered at the Mandarin Oriental, Boston for the 26th annual DFS Dinner. The society, which now includes more than 975 dedicated members, recognizes those who have chosen to include Dana-Farber and the Jimmy Fund in their estate plans. Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker, the evening's keynote speaker, congratulated Edward J. Benz Jr., MD, on the progress made in cancer research during his 16-year tenure as the Institute's president and CEO, noting, "In 2000, there were limited options for those diagnosed with cancer. The amount of progress that has been made with Dana-Farber Cancer Institute leading the way is really miraculous."

Above, at the DFS Dinner (from left): DFS Co-Chairs and Institute Trustees James and Barbara Sadowsky; Governor Charlie Baker and his wife, Lauren; DFS members Edward J. Benz Jr., MD, and his wife, Margaret Vettese, PhD, RN; and Dana-Farber Board of Trustees Chairman Josh Bekenstein and his wife, Anita.

Schaubert Family enhances support for lung cancer research

After a few years of treatment for small cell lung cancer under the care of Dana-Farber's Peter Hammerman, MD, PhD, Steve Schaubert had become well informed—about his disease, about Hammerman's research into targeted therapies, and about the lack of funding for lung cancer research. Inspired to help Hammerman's research gain momentum, Steve established the Stephen J. Schaubert Family Lung Cancer Research Fund in 2014.

Following his successful treatment, which enabled him to enjoy time with his young grandchildren, Steve passed away from a sudden heart attack last year. "In Steve's memory, I'm pleased to continue our support through a gift to the fund," said Eileen Schaubert, who recently committed \$200,000 in honor of her late husband. "It is important that the work go on, uninterrupted, and it's good to feel part of such a worthy effort."

"The Schaubert Fund has helped me continue research into developing therapies that 'mop up' cancer cells left behind by targeted drugs," said Hammerman. "By combining targeted therapies with these 'clean-up' therapies, we hope to prevent



Eileen Schaubert made a gift to lung cancer research to continue the support started by her late husband and former Dana-Farber patient, Steve Schaubert.

cancer cells from developing drug resistance."

On a recent visit to Hammerman's lab with her daughters and their husbands, Eileen was impressed by the enthusiasm he brings to his work. "Dr. Hammerman said he likes to balance his time with a mix of doing research and seeing patients," said Eileen. "My family and I are glad Steve was one of his patients." ■

Nurse practitioner's gift inspires others to support patient assistance fund

Throughout her 35 years caring for patients in oncology, Shirley Shuster, NP, saw people struggling to make ends meet. "You'd see patients trying to decide between medicine and food for their family," recalled Shuster. "We could refer them to a food pantry, but had no specific resources to help them meet their immediate needs other than the generosity of our staff."

Upon her retirement as director of clinical operations for Dana-Farber

Community Cancer Care (DFCCC), Shuster established the first patient assistance program for the physician practice. "I wanted to give back to patients who have given me so much over the past 35 years and give staff a way to help patients without paying out of their own pockets," said Shuster.

Shuster and her husband, John, launched the Shuster Patient Support Fund with a generous gift and created a Giving Page on the Jimmy Fund website to inspire contributions from people whose lives Shuster had touched. Patients, family members, and staff have contributed to the fund which now totals more than \$100,000. A committee led by DFCCC Executive Medical Director Michael Anderson, MD, and Patient Advocate Donna Lynch oversee the fund and ensure its longevity.

"Shirley and her husband have made an incredibly generous gesture, one that will benefit DFCCC patients for years to come," said DFCCC Chief Medical Officer Andrew Norden, MD, MPH. "What a fitting legacy in light of her lifelong commitment to cancer patients and their families." ■



Shirley and John Shuster, above with their grandchildren, established the first-ever fund to support patient assistance at Dana-Farber Community Cancer Care locations.

Intel collaboration drives innovation in genomics research



Through its Profile research initiative, Dana-Farber has one of the largest databases of cancer-driving genetic abnormalities in the world. Thanks to a collaboration with Intel Corporation, Dana-Farber can now securely share that information with other cancer institutions and develop personalized treatments for patients through the Collaborative Cancer Cloud, Intel's precision medicine analytics platform.

Under the direction of Chris Sander, PhD, director of Dana-Farber's cBio Center, and Ethan Cerami, PhD, director of the center's Knowledge Systems Group, Dana-Farber joins Intel and two leading cancer centers in the creation of innovative systems that allow the cancer genomics community to securely collaborate, share insights, and manage critical data. The cBio Center provides oncologists with tools to mine genomic data for research and for guiding treatment decisions.

"With such excellent partners as Intel, the Oregon Health & Science University, and the Ontario Institute for Cancer Research, this collaborative project will solve data management and sharing problems, helping Dana-Farber and other institutions committed to the fight against cancer achieve key precision medicine goals," said Cerami.

The Collaborative Cancer Cloud combines Intel technologies and bioscience advancements to help make it easier, faster, and more affordable for developers, researchers, and clinicians to determine how hundreds, even thousands, of genes interact to drive

disease in individual patients. The project enables scientists to overcome problems inherent in large data sets by allowing multiple institutions to securely run computations on not only their data, but also the data from other participating cancer institutions without having to move or pool their data.

"We are excited to be part of the Collaborative Cancer Cloud," said Chief Scientific Officer and Linde Family Professor in Medicine Barrett Rollins, MD, PhD, "and are convinced that the innovative data collaboration structure developed by Intel and our academic partners will ultimately

accelerate the delivery of better treatments to our patients."

Together with Intel, the three cancer centers will initially focus on developing genomics pilot projects based on leading industry-standard tools, and will identify novel analytics approaches using machine-learning techniques against a collective set of molecular and imaging data in order to support big data analytics.

The long-term goal is to extend the Collaborative Cancer Cloud to dozens of other institutions, accelerating the ability of clinicians and researchers to understand the root causes of cancer and develop targeted molecular treatments. These technologies may be applied in the future to cardiovascular diseases and neurological disorders, among other diseases with a genetic component.

"We are honored to bring Intel technology to the Collaborative Cancer Cloud and advance the processing, storage, networking, data security, and advanced analytics necessary to push the boundaries of precision medicine, and bring us closer than ever to truly making care personal," said Ketan Paranjape, general manager life sciences, Health and Life Sciences, Intel Corporation. ■

"We are honored to bring Intel technology to the Collaborative Cancer Cloud and advance the processing, storage, networking, data security, and advanced analytics necessary to push the boundaries of precision medicine, and bring us closer than ever to truly making care personal."

— **KETAN PARANJAPE**, general manager life sciences, Health and Life Sciences, Intel Corporation

Granite Telecommunications, LLC galvanizes support for groundbreaking research

Institute Trustee Judith Hale and her son, Rob Hale, have long set the bar high for philanthropic leadership. In addition to investing more than \$25 million in pancreatic cancer research at Dana-Farber over the past decade, the Hales have enlisted hundreds of employees at Granite Telecommunications to join them in the fight against pancreatic

cancer. Fueled by gratitude for the compassionate care Robert T. Hale Sr. received at Dana-Farber, the Granite community gathers to support groundbreaking research at the Institute through two annual events: Granite Day and Saving by Shaving.

Granite Day is an annual summer carnival held each June at the company's headquarters in Quincy,

Mass. Spearheaded by a volunteer committee of Granite staff, the celebration attracted approximately 10,000 members of the community, who enjoyed a full day of food, games, and rides. Propelled by the investment of the Hales, Granite Day has raised more than \$3.1 million for Dana-Farber, including \$621,000 at the 2016 event, while providing family fun for employees and area residents alike.

Established in 2014, Saving by Shaving has grown into a powerhouse event that leverages funding for Dana-Farber through the generosity of the Hales, who give a gift for each person who submits to the clippers. The 2016 event in March generated more than \$4.5 million through the participation of more than 700 employees and friends. A number of local notables also joined in on the "hair-razing" festivities to raise funds and awareness, including Governor Charlie Baker and Quincy Mayor Thomas Koch. With long lines of employees awaiting their turn at the barber's chair, Granite's commitment to conquering cancer was on full display from start to finish.

Funds raised through Saving by Shaving and Granite Day support the Hale Family Research Center, a

fund established in 2015 through a significant gift from Judy and Rob, and managed under the direction of Charles Fuchs, MD, MPH, director of the Hale Family Center for Pancreatic Cancer and the Robert T. and Judith B. Hale Chair in Pancreatic Cancer. Edward J. Benz Jr., MD, Dana-Farber president and CEO, credits the Hales for empowering Institute physician-scientists to pursue the most promising research opportunities and make strides aimed at improved outcomes. He said, "We cannot thank the Hales and the Granite community enough for their incredible support, which accelerates our efforts toward early detection and treatment of pancreatic cancer, and brings hope to our patients."

For his part, Rob noted the collective commitment of Granite employees to advancing Dana-Farber's mission. "Granite's culture is one of community activity and philanthropy, and we're a team," he said. "I think people understand that supporting Dana-Farber is a way that our team can impact our community." Together with the Hales, the Granite family continues to build a solid foundation for progress against pancreatic cancer for years to come. ■



Granite CEO Rob Hale (far right) and his mother, Institute Trustee Judy Hale (third from right), are joined by Quincy Mayor Thomas Koch (fourth from left) and Granite employees to present the ceremonial check for the proceeds from Granite Day.

"I think people understand that supporting Dana-Farber is a way that our team can impact our community."

— **ROB HALE**, CEO of Granite Telecommunications, LLC

Rally for the Jimmy Fund hits it out of the park in the fight against cancer



Each April, on Fenway Opening Day, Rally for the Jimmy Fund presented by Sully's Brand gives companies and schools the opportunity to wear Boston Red Sox gear to work and school while supporting cancer research and patient care. In 2016, Rally for the Jimmy Fund had another successful year. More than 435 schools and companies from Massachusetts and across the country raised more than \$584,000, bringing the event's cumulative total to \$5.2 million.

The company and school with the highest fundraising total each won a visit from a Boston Red Sox player.

State Street Corporation of Boston was once again the top fundraising company, raising more than \$29,000, and has totaled nearly \$353,000 since 2009. In its seventh year, Furnace Brook Middle School of Marshfield, Mass., raised more than \$30,000, pushing its cumulative total past \$125,000.

Teams that raised \$5,000 or more were entered into a drawing for the "Wild Card," a third Red Sox player visit, won by ERT Company of Boston, which raised \$24,600.

State Street Corporation graciously gave their player visit to Fisher School, the second-place team in the school category. These teams were thrilled by visits from Red Sox infielder Travis Shaw and center fielder Jackie Bradley Jr.

"Rally for the Jimmy Fund is a great way for our students to give back to a good cause and participate in the excitement of Opening Day," said Scott Brenner, team co-captain of Furnace Brook Middle School. "The program has quickly become



Boston Red Sox infielder Travis Shaw visits Furnace Brook Middle School, which has raised more than \$125,000 cumulatively for Rally for the Jimmy Fund presented by Sully's Brand.

an annual tradition and whether we win or lose, we've raised more than \$125,000 in the past seven years for the Jimmy Fund." ■

Grants help transform DIPG research findings

Diffuse intrinsic pontine gliomas (DIPGs) are one of the most aggressive pediatric brain tumors and are difficult to study. Thanks to recent funding totaling \$200,000 awarded by The Cure Starts Now Foundation to Rameen Beroukhim, MD, PhD, and Mariella Filbin, MD, PhD, researchers at Dana-Farber are able to explore new treatment options for this almost uniformly deadly disease.

"Current treatment approaches for DIPG have limited success," said Beroukhim. "This vital funding from The Cure Starts Now will help us to devise new treatment strategies that

tumors cannot resist."

The Cure Starts Now chose Beroukhim and Filbin as grant recipients because of their strong submissions and dedication to finding a cure.

"Our focus at The Cure Starts Now is on finding a homerun cure for all cancers," said Executive Director Brooke Desserich. "We hope our gift will help form a better understanding of DIPG, and lead us one step closer to our goal."

As Beroukhim and Filbin work to transform their research findings into more unique treatment options for DIPG patients, they are grateful for the encouragement that these generous grants provide.

"Receiving the DIPG grant from The Cure Starts Now was transformative for my research," said Filbin. "It provided me with the necessary means to pursue a cutting-edge research project aimed at identifying novel targets in this disease." ■



Massachusetts Chapter Directors of The Cure Starts Now Lisa and John Mackintosh (far left and far right) present grants to Mariella Filbin, MD, PhD, and Rameen Beroukhim, MD, PhD.

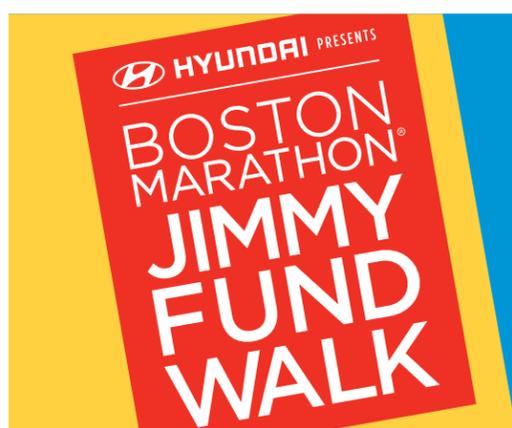
Ted Rubin Memorial Golf Tournament reaches milestone in cumulative giving



Since 2010, the annual Ted Rubin Memorial Golf Tournament has gathered members of the Jimmy Fund Golf community to celebrate the life of Boston wine icon and avid golfer, Ted Rubin, who passed away in 2009 after battling leukemia. Each year, golfers and guests enjoy a day filled with delicious food and wine pairings courtesy of Boston's top restaurants.

The tournament recently surpassed \$1 million in total dollars raised for the Adult Leukemia Program, and was recognized with inclusion of the tournament's name on a commemorative donor wall at Dana-Farber.

Above, Tournament Chairman Jon Rosenberg (third from right) celebrated the addition of the Ted Rubin Memorial Golf Tournament to the donor wall at Dana-Farber, with (from left) Coleman Lindsley, MD, PhD; Ilene Galinsky, NP; Chief of Staff Richard Stone, MD; Andrew Lane, MD, PhD; and Dan DeAngelo, MD, PhD.



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25
Register or give to support
our \$8.3 million goal!
JimmyFundWalk.org

Clark Family advances gastrointestinal cancer research



Joan and Stephen Clark (right) are longtime supporters of Dr. Charles Fuchs' gastrointestinal cancer research. They recently built on this legacy of giving with a gift of more than \$1 million.

"This fantastic team is absolutely on fire and making remarkable advancements. We knew we had to do all we could to keep the ball rolling and perpetuate the current momentum."

— STEPHEN CLARK

Stephen and Joan Clark have long recognized the importance of compassion and giving back to their community. In 1998, the couple established a family foundation and directed funds to health care and education organizations that they believed in, including Dana-Farber. Unfortunately, supporting cancer research became even more meaningful to Stephen and Joan when their son was diagnosed with a rare gastrointestinal tumor. While their son lost his battle in 2009, the Clarks were impressed with the quality of his care under Charles Fuchs, MD, MPH, director of the Center for Gastrointestinal Cancer and the Robert T. and Judith B. Hale Chair in Pancreatic Cancer. Building on their longtime support of Fuchs' work, the couple recently gave more than \$1 million to bolster innovative gastrointestinal cancer research spearheaded by Fuchs and his colleagues.

"While our son was under Dr. Fuchs' care, we gained firsthand knowledge about the caliber of research and patient treatment at Dana-Farber," said Stephen. "We had always believed that the Institute was worthy of support, but the dire need for additional, substantial funding was truly driven home."

In addition to their personal experiences, Stephen and Joan were inspired to support this work due to all they have learned about Dana-Farber's groundbreaking discovery science. The couple was particularly motivated by the tremendous progress presented by Fuchs' team at the annual meeting of the Visiting Committee for Gastrointestinal Oncology.

"This fantastic team is absolutely on fire and making remarkable advancements," said Stephen. "We knew we had to do all we could to keep the ball rolling and perpetuate the current momentum."

Their most recent gift is advancing diverse projects aimed at better preventing, detecting, and treating gastrointestinal tumors, some of which present significant treatment challenges. Fuchs is using genomic analysis to identify the drivers of disease and develop more effective targeted drugs and immune-activating agents.

"Thanks to generous support from Joan and Stephen, our team continues to lead the way in expanding understanding about the causes of gastrointestinal cancer and the most promising new therapies," said Fuchs. "This funding is propelling cutting-edge research—including the development of advanced research models of disease and exploration of novel drugs—that promises to benefit patients battling gastrointestinal tumors."

Stephen and Joan acknowledge that major advancements require community effort and support. They hope that their gift will encourage others to do all they can to advance the research conducted by Fuchs and his team.

"Even though we don't personally know the folks we're helping now—there's no name, no face—they're members of our extended community," said Stephen. "Our family feels blessed to be able to play a role in improving lives and finding new treatments. If others can give, I hope they're inspired to." ■

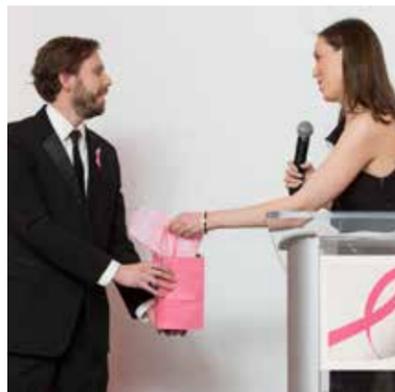
The Pink Agenda gift helps to characterize the genomics of triple-negative breast cancer

Breast cancers often express estrogen, progesterone, or HER2 receptors that drive the disease and can be targeted with specific treatments. Those that do not—called triple-negative breast cancers (TNBC)—can be particularly aggressive and more likely to recur than other breast cancer subtypes, although they typically respond to chemotherapy.

With a \$100,000 gift from The Pink Agenda, a national nonprofit that supports breast cancer research and fosters awareness about the disease, Daniel Stover, MD, is characterizing the genomic landscape of young women with breast cancer, especially those with TNBC, in order to develop treatments beyond chemotherapy.

"The Pink Agenda is proud to support research that will have a direct and positive impact on young women's cancer, and believes in the importance of funding auspicious scientists such as Dr. Stover," said Lucretia Gilbert, executive director of The Pink Agenda.

Working closely with Ann Partridge, MD, MPH, director of the Program for Young Women with



Nicole Seagriff, president of The Pink Agenda's board of directors, with Daniel Stover, MD, at The Pink Agenda's Annual Boston Gala in March.

Breast Cancer in the Susan F. Smith Center for Women's Cancers, Stover is analyzing samples from young women with high-risk or metastatic TNBC to look for associations between genetic alterations and patient outcomes.

"I am grateful for The Pink Agenda's generosity, as this project provides an important advance for the understanding of genomic characteristics in young women with triple-negative breast cancer," said Stover. ■

Friends of Dana-Farber receive Sidney Farber Medical Research Award at RISE gala

The Friends of Dana-Farber Cancer Institute had many reasons to celebrate at its annual RISE gala. The May 20 event marked the group's 40th anniversary as well as the presentation of Dana-Farber's highest honor, the Sidney Farber Medical Research Award, to the organization.

Held at Boston's Four Seasons Hotel, the gala raised more than \$420,000 for cancer research and patient care at Dana-Farber. The evening also included remarks from the night's honoree, Boston Mayor Martin J. Walsh, as well as the event's Honorary Chair, Governor Charles Baker, and Dana-Farber patient Eva Grant.

The Sidney Farber Medical Research Award, accepted by Friends Co-Presidents Suzanne Chapman and Jennifer Cunningham Butler, is presented to individuals or organizations that have made extraordinary contributions to the fight against cancer, either through research or public service.

Dana-Farber President and CEO Edward J. Benz Jr., MD, presented the award to the Friends, an all-

volunteer organization with more than 1,500 members. Founded in 1976 by Sheila Driscoll Cunningham, the group fundraises and volunteers to advance research, care, and support programs at Dana-Farber. The Friends have raised more than \$30 million since the organization's inception.

"We are grateful that our loyal partners in the Friends have remained committed to enriching the lives of Dana-Farber's patients and their families since 1976," said Benz. ■



Edward J. Benz Jr., MD, presented the Sidney Farber Medical Research Award to Friends Co-Presidents Suzanne Chapman (center) and Jennifer Cunningham Butler.

Medine Family names fund to honor loved ones

Don and Patricia Medine and their son Alec have a mission: to keep the names of their loved ones alive. In 2004, Don and Patricia's nephew Cameron Hawkins was diagnosed with Ewing sarcoma, an aggressive bone cancer. Driven and determined in the face of his illness, Cameron dreamed of being an army ranger and, later, a pediatric oncology nurse. In 2007, Patricia's cousin's son Zachary Tiernan was diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia (AML) at age 2. Always cheerful, Zachary wanted to be a chef when he grew up. Tragically, both boys passed away.

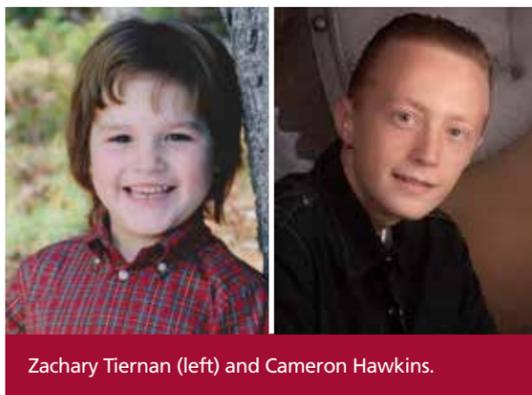
Wanting to create a place where Zachary and Cameron's names would live on, the Medines visited Dana-Farber, where they met Lisa Scherber, MS, director of patient and family programs at Dana-Farber's Jimmy Fund Clinic. Lisa remembered Zachary as a patient—his infectious laugh and smile. Inspired by this encounter, the family made a \$100,000 gift to establish the Zachary Tiernan and

Cameron Hawkins Fund to support the Pediatric Activities Program.

This generous gift will provide essential resources to help Dana-Farber's youngest patients feel like kids despite their cancer treatment, and improve their well-being during a difficult time in their lives.

"These kids fight so hard with an uncertain tomorrow," said Patricia Medine. "We want to give them an hour of play, a moment of light in an otherwise dark day."

"Dana-Farber is a special place," added Don. "What Lisa and her colleagues do for patients and their families is intangible. Funding this amazing work is how we honor Zachary and Cameron." ■



Zachary Tiernan (left) and Cameron Hawkins.

Fantasy Day is a home run for the Jimmy Fund



On June 11, more than 2,000 participants and guests gathered at historic Fenway Park to live out their baseball dreams and fight cancer at John Hancock Fenway Fantasy Day to benefit the Jimmy Fund. This year was a grand slam, with presenting sponsor John Hancock and Fantasy Day participants raising more than \$220,000, bringing the event's cumulative fundraising total to more than \$7.7 million since 1992.

Jimmy Fund supporters could fundraise their way onto the field, purchase individual or corporate hospitality packages, or contribute by sponsoring a patient—creating an opportunity for Dana-Farber's adult and pediatric cancer patients to enjoy a memorable day of batting and fielding fun.

This year marked the second year of the High School All-Stars program, through which the top three fundraising teams, Waltham High

School, the Akadema Razorbacks, and Millbury High School, had the opportunity to participate on-field during the event. An inaugural home run derby was also held with four of the top high school players in Massachusetts.

"It is important to us and our ongoing commitment to give back to the communities in which we live and work," said Rob Friedman, assistant vice president of Sponsorship and Event Marketing at John Hancock. "We are particularly proud of our partnership with Dana-Farber and the Jimmy Fund as we work together to conquer cancer." ■



Jimmy Fund Clinic patient Asher, age 5, runs the bases at Fenway Park during the 25th annual John Hancock Fenway Fantasy Day.

Soiffer honored with Casty Family award



Robert Soiffer, MD, received the Casty Family Achievement in Mentoring Award at a special celebration in April at the Longwood Center. Soiffer, who is chair of Dana-Farber's Executive Committee for Clinical Programs, chief of the Division of Hematologic Malignancies, vice chair of the Department of Medical Oncology, and co-director of the Adult Hematopoietic Transplant Program, was recognized for his career-long dedication to developing and mentoring young scientists. Ron and Ronni Casty endowed the award in 2012 with a generous gift of \$250,000, to provide ongoing recognition of the importance of mentoring and its role in developing and retaining health care providers. Pictured above, Soiffer (center) is joined by Ron Casty (left) and Dana-Farber President and CEO Edward J. Benz Jr., MD, after the award presentation.

Forward4Tobi makes major gift to assist breast cancer patients

Tobi Klonecki was a beloved wife, mother, and friend who lost her battle with breast cancer in 2013 at age 42. Throughout her treatment—even on the worst days—she spoke about how lucky she felt to have financial means and support from family and friends, as she was struck by the strain cancer places on so many. Tobi's husband, Tom, and their friends launched the Forward4Tobi Foundation to help ease the financial burden for families battling breast cancer.

The foundation made a \$100,000 gift to Dana-Farber's Patient and Family Assistance Program to establish the Forward4Tobi Patient Assistance Fund, under the direction of Deborah Toffler, MSW, LCSW, director of Patient and Family Programs and Services. The fund will

primarily provide gift cards for gas and groceries to help breast cancer patients put meals on their tables or help with transportation to and from treatment.

"Tobi met many other women living with this disease," said Monica Tobler,



The Forward4Tobi Foundation, represented above by (from left) Dan Jacob, Tom Klonecki, Karen Jacob, and Becky Foley, supports assistance for breast cancer patients.

foundation executive committee member. "Tobi was always concerned about her 'sisters' who had the added financial stress and worry of not being able to afford basic needs while they were receiving treatment. This fund will allow Tobi's legacy

to live on by providing financial assistance to those breast cancer patients who need it most."

"Our goal is to break down many of the financial barriers that cancer patients and families may face," said Toffler. "The Forward4Tobi Foundation is helping us support in profound ways breast cancer patients who face such tremendous financial burdens." ■

The V Foundation for Cancer Research grants support innovative investigations



Jim “Jimmy V” Valvano was a college basketball player, coach, and sportscaster for ESPN. Before his death from cancer in 1993, he and ESPN formed The V Foundation for Cancer Research to propel advances in cancer treatment. Since then, the foundation has supported research on all types of cancers at top cancer centers nationwide, including Dana-Farber. In doing so, the foundation honors the legacy of a legendary sports figure, by supporting critical cancer research.

In 2015, The V Foundation awarded four grants to Dana-Farber, helping propel research into the underlying biology of cancer. Matthew Meyerson, MD, PhD, co-director of the Center for Cancer Genome Discovery, was awarded a \$600,000 Translational Grant funded by the foundation’s Stuart Scott Memorial Cancer Research Fund. The fund supports cancer research on minority groups in memory of the late Stuart Scott, an ESPN anchor who inspired many during his battle with cancer.

“With ESPN, we created the Stuart Scott Memorial Cancer Research Fund, which enables us to support research projects that delve into important questions about why certain minority populations have a higher incidence of cancer, higher mortality, or both,” said Susan Braun, CEO,

V Foundation for Cancer Research. “Through our entire grant portfolio, our goal is to put an end to cancer by funding cutting-edge research. All of The V Foundation awardees at Dana-Farber excel in innovation and quality.”

Meyerson is exploring the importance of inherited genetic variation in lung cancers in Latin American populations. This work has implications for cancer screening and intervention.

“While we have learned many things about lung cancer genetics, there remains a need to increase our understanding of how genetic abnormalities differ among Latin American populations so that we can better screen for and treat this disease,” said Meyerson. “I’m tremendously grateful for this support from The V Foundation for Cancer Research, which will enable our study of *EGFR* mutations in lung cancers in Colombia and Mexico.”

The V Foundation also awarded Nikhil Wagle, MD, a \$200,000 V Scholar Grant. The V Scholar Grant supports promising early career investigators, fostering their professional growth as they pursue important questions in cancer. Wagle is studying mechanisms of resistance in hormone-positive metastatic breast cancer using genomic technologies.

Together with Stand Up to Cancer (SU2C), The V Foundation for Cancer Research also awarded a \$100,000 SU2C-TVF Convergence Scholar Award to Joan Montero, PhD, with mentor Anthony Letai,



Matthew Meyerson, MD, PhD, is helping tackle cancer in minority populations with support from The V Foundation.

MD, PhD; and a \$300,000 award to Xiuning Le, MD, PhD, with mentor Levi Garraway, MD, PhD, director of the Joint Center for Cancer Precision Medicine. Convergence grants are designed to bring together young investigators, senior physician-scientists, chemists, bioengineers, and bioinformaticians to investigate cancer through multidisciplinary research. Montero is working on personalized medicine for melanoma, and Le is studying mechanisms of resistance to combination treatments in breast cancer. ■

Boston schoolteacher recognizes outstanding care with generous bequest

Nancy Lake taught elementary school in the Boston Public Schools for 50 years. “Even in retirement, Nancy remained a schoolteacher in every way,” recalled her estate attorney, Jack Coffey. “In writing her will, she was precise, careful, and generous.” Above all, Lake wanted to reward excellence, just as she had always done in the classroom.

When making her estate plans, Lake and Coffey had lengthy discussions about which charities to name as beneficiaries. “Dana-Farber was one name that always stood out,” said Coffey. “She frequently told me that Dana-Farber had provided her with the best and most compassionate care she had

ever received from any medical institution. She decided to recognize that excellence by giving back.” Lake was treated twice for ovarian cancer at Dana-Farber.

When Lake passed away in March 2015, Dana-Farber was named as a beneficiary of the Nancy J. Lake Family Trust. Her unrestricted gift of

\$100,000 through the trust provides the Institute with flexible funds that can be used when and where they are needed most. “Nancy wanted the money to go where it would do the most good,” said Coffey. “She decided to make this gift to Dana-Farber so that others could benefit from the same compassionate care that she received.” ■

“[Nancy] frequently told me that Dana-Farber had provided her with the best and most compassionate care she had ever received from any medical institution.”

— JACK COFFEY, ESQ.

Attendees sing praises of another successful “Music Heals the Soul” event

The 9th annual “Music Heals the Soul” event held May 16 at the Fairmont Copley Plaza in Boston attracted more than 250 guests and raised more than \$300,000 to support the Leonard P. Zakim Center for Integrative Therapies at Dana-Farber. Guests enjoyed live performances by local singer/songwriter and Zakim Center Music Therapist Heather Woods and her band, Proper Company,

and by Carlie Gonzalez, a Jimmy Fund Clinic patient. The event was emceed by Kelley Tuthill, vice president of Public Relations and Communications at Regis College, and a former Dana-Farber patient and cancer survivor herself.

The evening honored Jay Harris, MD, who served as chair of Radiation Oncology from 1997 to 2015, for his extraordinary research, dedication to Dana-Farber, and commitment to integrative therapies and the Zakim Center. “The quality of my colleagues and staff is outstanding, and everyone is committed to evidence-based research and exceptional care for our patients, with a determination to do even better through laboratory and clinical research,” said Harris. “It was Lenny Zakim’s brilliance and vision to see that this is not enough.”

The Zakim Center is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for cancer patients and their families by incorporating complementary therapies, such as acupuncture, Reiki, meditation, and massage, into traditional cancer care. Since 2008, Music Heals the Soul has raised nearly \$2 million. ■



Jay Harris, MD, former chair of Radiation Oncology at Dana-Farber and committed supporter of integrative therapies and the Zakim Center, was honored at Music Heals the Soul.

National Breast Cancer Foundation strengthens Mammography Van efforts



A new commitment from the National Breast Cancer Foundation (NBCF) is advancing Dana-Farber Cancer Institute's critical breast cancer awareness and prevention work in medically underserved communities throughout the Greater Boston area.

The gift of nearly \$180,000 established a new breast cancer patient navigator position for Dana-Farber's Mammography Van. He or she will help grow Dana-Farber's presence in medically underserved communities, serve as a liaison to 16 community health center partners, and continue to build awareness about cancer prevention and care.

The Mammography Van, which is also funded in part by NBCF, travels to Boston neighborhoods and nearby towns year round, providing a wealth of resources—from prevention materials to screening and treatment reminders

to survivorship support—to thousands of women every year. Early detection is one of the most effective ways to reduce cancer mortality rates.

"Our new mammography van patient navigator will work with medically underserved populations to improve their cancer care outcomes," said Magnolia Contreras, MSW, MBA, director of community benefits at Dana-Farber. "He or she will also ensure seamless and coordinated care for those patients with the highest risk for breast cancer, from the point of a suspicious finding to resolution or throughout treatment."

"We are proud to partner with Dana-Farber to deliver their industry-leading cancer care and educational resources to medically underserved patients," said the National Breast Cancer Foundation's Vice President of Programs Douglas Feil. ■

Pediatric clinical trial receives vital support

With a goal of supporting and accelerating cancer research, the Anna-Maria and Stephen Kellen Foundation recently made a generous \$175,000 gift to support a clinical trial of a new drug called CUDC-907, being led by Steven DuBois, MD, MS, director of Experimental Therapeutics at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

The Experimental Therapeutics program in pediatric oncology conducts cutting-edge clinical trials to test the newest anti-cancer therapies in children with advanced solid tumors, brain tumors, and leukemia. These clinical trials have a common goal of understanding the optimal dosing of these newer medicines in pediatric patients, as well as understanding the effects of these medicines on the unique types of cancers that impact children.

DuBois and his team are conducting a phase 1 trial of CUDC-907 in children with relapsed cancers. They will evaluate how the drug works in young patients, particularly in children with cancers that are driven by abnormal MYC or MYCN oncogenes. By understanding



Steven DuBois, MD, MS, is leading a clinical trial in pediatric cancer with funding from the Anna-Maria and Stephen Kellen Foundation.

the side effects and blood levels of CUDC-907, DuBois can determine the best dose of the drug to give in future studies of this agent. The trial is also investigating how well CUDC-907 treats a range of pediatric cancers, with an emphasis on neuroblastoma and lymphoma. These findings will enable DuBois to prioritize which disease areas to focus on for future studies.

"Conducting early phase clinical trials is expensive," said DuBois. "The support from the Kellen Foundation has been absolutely critical in allowing us to launch this trial." ■

New York Stem Cell Foundation honors Michor

Dana-Farber's Franziska Michor, PhD, has been honored by the New York Stem Cell Foundation (NYSCF) with the 2015 NYSCF – Robertson Stem Cell Prize for her work integrating mathematics, molecular biology, and patient care to study the growth, spread, and treatment of cancer. The prize includes a \$200,000 grant to further support Michor's work.

Michor and her team use



Franziska Michor, PhD, has been honored by the New York Stem Cell Foundation with the 2015 NYSCF – Robertson Stem Cell Prize.

mathematical models to better understand cancer's onset. Her work also questions traditional drug regimens for cancer treatment, including that of chronic myelogenous leukemia. With some tumors building up drug resistance over time, Michor studies the introduction of drugs at different time intervals, hoping to optimize treatment by reducing the number of surviving cancer cells.

"As the results of my work move from theoretical understandings into clinical trials, it is an honor to receive a prize that will help me continue to expand the capacities of what my laboratory can do," said Michor. "I am excited to grow my work and examine new types of cancer to model the challenges they pose to current treatments and build new strategies for tackling the root of these malignancies."

Susan L. Solomon, CEO and co-founder of NYSCF, applauded Michor's innovative approach to research.

"Dr. Michor's interdisciplinary work challenges biomedical research to reach beyond current approaches toward finding cures that leverage new technologies and capabilities," said Solomon. ■



Dana-Farber supporters enjoy an evening at Fenway as "MVPs"

On April 26, more than 250 supporters of Dana-Farber and the Jimmy Fund gathered at Fenway Park for Summit 2016: Inside the Institute. The Summit was an opportunity for supporters, including donors, event coordinators, program sponsors, and volunteers, to celebrate the difference they are making in the fight against cancer and learn firsthand how Dana-Farber is improving patient care and accelerating life-changing research.

Attendees enjoyed insider tours of the historic park, a cocktail reception, and a speaking program that featured a panel of the Institute's world-class faculty, hosted by Emmy Award-winning arts and entertainment critic and three-time cancer survivor Joyce Kulhawik. The evening concluded with dessert and table conversations with doctors, nurses, and scientists.

Above, the panel of speakers at the Summit (from left): Joyce Kulhawik; Michael Goldberg, PhD; Ann LaCasce, MD; Eric Winer, MD; and Loren Walensky, MD, PhD.

Ian's Friends Foundation shines light on pediatric brain tumors



After a shocking inoperable brain tumor diagnosis was given to their son, Ian, Cheryl and Phil Yagoda established Ian's Friends Foundation (IFF) in 2006 to fund pediatric brain tumor research and boost awareness of the severity of pediatric brain tumors. Ten years later, Ian is doing very well and continues to undergo regular MRIs and diagnostic tests. Inspired by Ian's continued strength, IFF recently awarded Dana-Farber Cancer Institute's Rameen Beroukhim, MD, PhD, a \$100,000 grant to push pediatric brain tumor research in novel areas.

IFF prioritizes its funding to support innovative projects that otherwise may not receive funding, enabling researchers like Beroukhim to stay

at the forefront of this disease area and provide hope for pediatric patients and their families.

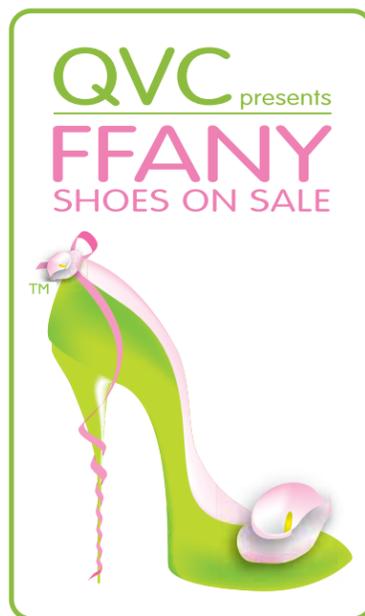
IFF's gift will propel Beroukhim's pediatric low-grade glioma research, and his work to uncover the biological drivers of tumor growth by

advancing cutting-edge studies of the *MYB* and *QKI* genes.

"Funding Dr. Beroukhim has been a true pleasure and an even greater opportunity," said Phil Yagoda. "His knowledge and approach in examining novel therapeutic targets of proteins that can then be used clinically, may prove crucial in the lives and treatment of children suffering with pediatric low-grade gliomas."

"The funds provided by IFF enable us to investigate treatment strategies for these rare and often overlooked tumors," said Beroukhim. "Support like this is crucial to understanding all types of brain cancer, not just the most prominent ones." ■

QVC and FFANY put their best foot forward to fight breast cancer



The Fashion Footwear Association of New York (FFANY), QVC, Inc., and the Fashion Footwear Charitable Foundation (FFCF) once again stepped up to fight breast cancer at the 22nd annual QVC Presents "FFANY Shoes on Sale" benefit held at the Waldorf Astoria New York and broadcast on QVC. The gala and shoe sale fundraiser supported breast cancer research and education at nine distinguished

cancer centers, including Dana-Farber. The event generated \$325,000 for the Susan F. Smith Center for Women's Cancers, bringing the cumulative total raised to more than \$6 million since 1994.

Funds from the event bolster breast cancer research at the Susan F. Smith Center on a number of fronts. The majority are allocated to supplement the Breast SPORE (Specialized Program of Research Excellence), which is the core of the Breast Oncology Program's translational research effort. Additionally, a portion supports the breast tumor bank. Finally, funding is directed toward the work of two junior investigators, fuelling their scientific progress and professional growth.

Eric Winer, MD, chief of the Division of Women's Cancers at Dana-Farber, director of Breast Oncology, and the Thompson Chair in Breast Cancer Research, underscored the impact of this support: "By investing in our data infrastructure and tumor bank, the gift from FFANY is critical to virtually all of our translational research." ■

Anna Fuller Fund supports research into liquid biopsies

The Anna Fuller Fund has underscored its mission to alleviate the suffering caused by cancer with a new \$130,000 gift to support Dana-Farber. Established in 1932 through the bequest of New Haven businessman Egbert Chaplain Fuller, the Anna Fuller Fund honors Fuller's wife, who succumbed to cancer in 1918.

In recent years, the fund has awarded a total of \$630,000 to Dana-Farber physician-scientists across a



The Anna Fuller Fund supports the research of Geoffrey Oxnard, MD, into liquid biopsies as a non-invasive test for lung cancer.

wide spectrum of specialties. The latest recipient, Geoffrey Oxnard, MD, found that a simple blood test—or "liquid biopsy"—could swiftly and accurately detect key lung cancer mutations, as well as the emergence of resistance mutations.

"We see liquid biopsies as having enormous potential as a rapid, non-invasive way of screening a cancer for common genetic fingerprints, while avoiding the challenges of traditional invasive biopsies," said Oxnard. "Our study was the first to demonstrate prospectively that a liquid biopsy technique can be a practical tool for making treatment decisions in cancer patients."

With the Anna Fuller Fund's new gift, Oxnard is expanding the liquid biopsy study with next-generation sequencing to detect more complex genetic mutations.

"We feel that Dr. Oxnard's research has a direct clinical impact, as it is a simpler way to test for cancerous mutations," said Jim Parker, vice president at Wells Fargo Private Bank and co-trustee of the Anna Fuller Fund. "The end goal is to find effective treatments for cancer, so anything that is on that path, we support!" ■

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Renewing hope in multiple myeloma research

When Daryl Daugherty, MD, was diagnosed with multiple myeloma in 2002, he sought out the expert guidance of Ken Anderson, MD, director of Dana-Farber's Jerome Lipper Multiple Myeloma Center and LeBow Institute for Myeloma Therapeutics, and the Kraft Family Professor in Medicine. Since then, Anderson's team has made tremendous advances to improve treatment options for patients like Daugherty.

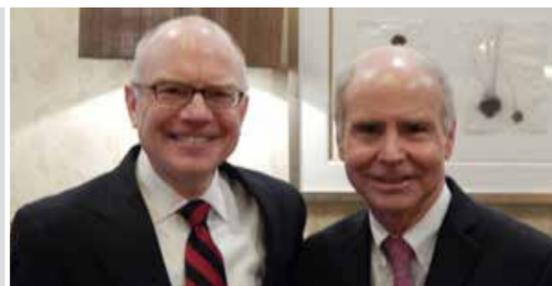
"When I first started receiving treatment, many of the drugs available now did not exist," said Daugherty. "It has been astounding to see the progress Dr. Anderson has made in helping to secure FDA approval for 16 new multiple myeloma drugs."

To fuel new research, Daugherty and his wife, Jamey, made a \$100,000 gift to support the Daugherty Family Fund for Multiple Myeloma Research.

"While there have been great strides made in

"It has been astounding to see the progress Dr. Anderson has made in helping to secure FDA approval for 16 new multiple myeloma drugs."

— DARYL DAUGHERTY, MD



Daryl Daugherty, MD (left), with Ken Anderson, MD.

lengthening survival times, the overarching goal is cure," said Daugherty. "The new promise of immunotherapy could be the tipping point in the multipronged approach to treating and achieving the goal of curing multiple myeloma."

As the landscape for multiple myeloma has changed, one constant throughout Daugherty's experience has been Anderson's comprehensive

approach, complete with encouragement and friendship: "This type of caring cannot be minimized," said Daugherty. "I leave Dana-Farber after each visit with renewed hope and a boost of positive energy."

Anderson added, "Our progress is inspired by our patients and could not happen without their heartfelt commitment. They are our heroes." ■



President's Circle members enjoy insider presentation

On Monday, May 9, members of Dana-Farber's President's Circle giving society enjoyed this year's spring insider presentation, *Unlocking Cancer's Genetic Code: Genomics and Targeted Therapies*, in the Center for Cancer Genome Discovery in the Charles A. Dana Building. A benefit of President's Circle membership, this event offered the opportunity to hear from the director of Dana-Farber's Center for Cancer Genome Discovery, Matthew Meyerson, MD, PhD, and learn about new and innovative technologies that are being used to discover and treat genetic causes of cancers. In addition to enjoying light refreshments, President's Circle members had the opportunity to tour the laboratories within the Center for Cancer Genome Discovery and get behind-the-scenes updates from lab members.

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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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Boston Red Sox outfielder and Jimmy Fund Co-Captain Brock Holt enjoyed spending time with Jimmy Fund Clinic patients including Sawyer, above, on one of his frequent visits to the Institute in July.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

For more information on all Jimmy Fund and Dana-Farber events and programs, go to jimmyfund.org or dana-farber.org

SEPTEMBER 25

Boston Marathon® Jimmy Fund Walk

Presented by Hyundai

Walk one of four routes along the historic Boston Marathon® course, from a 5K to the full marathon, and raise funds to conquer cancer at Dana-Farber. Register today at JimmyFundWalk.org or contact Robert Hendrickson at 617-582-8322.



OCTOBER 9

B.A.A. Half Marathon®

Register now to join the official Dana-Farber team and raise funds to conquer cancer. Contact Kelly Wicks at 617-632-1970 or visit rundanafarber.org



OCTOBER 14

Celebrating Young and Strong

This festive cocktail reception celebrates the courage and strength of all young women diagnosed with breast cancer. All proceeds benefit Young and Strong, the Program for Young Women with Breast Cancer in the Susan F. Smith Center for Women's Cancers. Contact: Casey Pereira at 617-632-3863 or celebratingyoungandstrong@gmail.com.

**SUSAN F. SMITH
CENTER FOR
WOMEN'S CANCERS**

OCTOBER 17

Sunrise to Sunset Jimmy Fund Golf Tournament

Join us for an all-day golf fundraiser on The International's premier courses, The Oaks and The Pines. The top 10 fundraisers and top 3 golfers will receive prizes. Contact: Katie McGuirk at 617-632-6603 or visit sunrisetosunsetgolf.org.



OCTOBER 22

UnMask Cancer

Presented by The Herb Chambers Companies

Join us for our third annual UnMask Cancer, hosted by Bill and Giuliana Rancic. Enjoy living art entertainment, delicious bites, and signature cocktails, all to benefit Dana-Farber and the Jimmy Fund. Contact: Quincey Spagnoletti at 617-632-5381 or QuinceyM_Spagnoletti@dfci.harvard.edu, or visit unmaskcancer.org.



OCTOBER 25

QVC presents FFANY Shoes on Sale

Join the Fashion Footwear Association of New York at this black tie gala and charitable shoe sale at New York City's Waldorf Astoria, supporting the Susan F. Smith Center for Women's Cancers. Contact: Quincey Spagnoletti at 617-632-5381 or QuinceyM_Spagnoletti@dfci.harvard.edu.



NOVEMBER 12

Fall Formal

Join a thousand of your closest friends at the third annual Fall Formal, where Boston-area young professionals get together and have fun while raising vital funds for Dana-Farber. Contact: Laura Ducie at 617-632-3613 or Laura_Ducie@dfci.harvard.edu, or visit fallformal.com.

NOVEMBER 15

Susan F. Smith Center Executive Council Beyond Boston Luncheon

Come learn about the latest advances in genetics in women's cancers while raising critical funds to support research at the Susan F. Smith Center for Women's Cancers. Contact: Brenda Goodell at 617-632-5089 or Brenda_Goodell@dfci.harvard.edu.

**SUSAN F. SMITH
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