

# Impact

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THANKING THOSE WHO MAKE A DIFFERENCE



## Massachusetts Life Sciences Center invests \$4.6 million to enhance cell manufacturing core

### MASSACHUSETTS LIFE SCIENCES CENTER

**A \$4.6 million grant from the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center (MLSC) will increase Dana-Farber's capacity for manufacturing a wide variety of engineered cellular products for patients with cancer and other diseases, establish relationships with commercial partners to refine cell manufacturing processes, and provide manufactured products for patients enrolled in clinical trials.**

At the core of this expansion is the relocation of the Connell and O'Reilly Families Cell Manipulation Core Facility (CMCF) to the Richard A. and Susan F. Smith Research Laboratories to accommodate the growing demand for its services and to consolidate its laboratories under one roof. The new facility, which is one of the largest cell manufacturing facilities of its kind in the region and one of the premier cellular therapy institutions in the country, will more than double in size to more than

30,000 square feet of space.

The MLSC grant will fund the development of the Advanced Cell Therapy Unit (ACTU), which will include 13 environmentally controlled cell manufacturing suites designed for complex cell selection and expansion, genetic manipulation

with viral vectors, and generation of mature tissues for transplantation.

"This significant commitment by the MLSC will enable Dana-Farber to create and deliver new cellular therapies benefiting patients living

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Jerome Ritz, MD, is leading a major expansion and relocation of the Connell and O'Reilly Families Cell Manipulation Core Facility, made possible in part by a \$4.6 million grant from the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center.



Dana-Farber Cancer Institute has been the top ranked cancer hospital in New England by U.S. News and World Report for 17 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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## Pomeroy Foundation invests \$1 million in AML research

**N**umerous studies have demonstrated that acute myeloid leukemia (AML) has a significant risk of recurring when patients over 60 years of age are treated with chemotherapy alone, and many older patients cannot tolerate stem cell transplantation, which reduces relapse rates.

With a \$1 million endowment gift from William and Sandra Pomeroy through the William G. Pomeroy Foundation, Edwin Alyea, MD, associate director of Stem Cell Transplantation at Dana-Farber, is studying the risk factors associated with relapse among older patients with AML and developing intervention strategies to improve outcomes. Twelve years ago, Bill Pomeroy underwent a stem cell transplant procedure at Dana-Farber, under Alyea's care, to treat his AML.

"While less toxic treatments are available for older patients, including reduced intensity conditioning [RIC] transplants, many still relapse," said Alyea. "The Pomeroy's tremendous philanthropy enables us to learn more about AML recurrence and develop better options that will change the trajectory for these patients and their families."

Stem cell transplantation is a potentially curative therapy for AML, but it carries considerable risks,

including graft-versus-host disease (GVHD), one of the most challenging post-transplant complications. Current strategies to alleviate GVHD, however, often put patients at significant risk for relapse.

T-cell depleted transplants, which remove all T-cells and their subtypes, lower the risk of GVHD, but they also increase the risk of recurrence because they eliminate the subtypes of T-cells that protect against it. Alyea is devising new ways to manipulate donor stem cells before they are delivered to patients in order to make transplants more successful. This includes removing certain T-cells that promote GVHD, while preserving key T-cell subtypes that protect against relapse.

In addition, Alyea is examining blood samples from older AML patients who undergo stem cell transplantation to determine their risk for relapse. His findings may identify new treatment targets.

"We all share the hope that there will be higher survival rates for AML patients," said Bill Pomeroy. "Wouldn't it be nice someday to be able to cure everybody? My goal was to support Dr. Alyea's research to help others have the same successful outcome I did."

This gift is the Pomeroy's third investment in Alyea's research. In 2012, they created the William G. Pomeroy Foundation Fund for Stem Cell Transplant Research and the William G. Pomeroy Foundation Endowed Fund for AML Research with gifts totalling \$350,000. ■



William and Sandra Pomeroy's gift accelerates Dana-Farber's research into new treatments for acute myeloid leukemia.



Dear Friends,

At Dana-Farber, your support makes it possible for brilliant scientific leaders and young investigators to pursue promising research, equipped with leading-edge technology. Our physician-scientists get astonishing results that benefit cancer patients everywhere.

The Massachusetts Life Sciences Center recently made a major investment in the important field of cellular therapy by granting \$4.6 million to relocate and expand Dana-Farber's cutting-edge Connell and O'Reilly Families Cell Manipulation Core Facility. We are thrilled that this support will make it possible for Dana-Farber scientists to leverage novel tools, techniques, and collaborations into more lifesaving therapies.

A powerful \$1 million grant from the William G. Pomeroy Foundation will be used to develop intervention strategies for older patients with acute myeloid leukemia (AML), which is enormously challenging to treat when it recurs, especially in people over age 60. Grateful for the successful treatment he received at Dana-Farber, Bill Pomeroy and his wife, Sandra, hope to help other AML patients.

And \$500,000 given in memory of Sheryl V. Kerr by the Grayce B. Kerr Fund will allow our investigators to pursue promising advances that could help brain cancer patients. During her treatment at Dana-Farber, Sheryl Kerr expressed a desire to support groundbreaking immunotherapy research, and her family honored that wish after her death.

The many successful events that benefit Dana-Farber and the Jimmy Fund are labors of love for thousands of volunteers, participants, and donors. Rally for the Jimmy Fund presented by Sully's Brand had a record-breaking year, with more than \$600,000 raised by more than 430 schools and companies. Jimmy Fund Scooper Bowl® presented by Valvoline Instant Oil Change™ also had its best year ever, expanding to include Scooper Bowl New York in Manhattan, jointly raising nearly \$750,000.

As you will see in the quarterly update at the right, the achievements of Dana-Farber researchers frequently result in federal grants, like the \$2.6 million awarded to Dana-Farber by the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute. The grant will support a clinical trial testing a new model of care for patients after they have received stem cell transplants. Such public funding is increasingly competitive, and it is your support that helps innovative studies like this one garner federal grants.

Extraordinary things are happening every day at Dana-Farber, and none of them would be possible without the help of our tremendous community. We are privileged to have you with us on this journey.

Sincerely,

Susan S. Paresky  
Senior Vice President for Development

## Susan F. Smith Center Executive Council Breakfast bolsters women's cancers research

Since 2004, the annual Susan F. Smith Center Executive Council Breakfast has demonstrated the difference that dedicated individuals make in the fight against cancer. This year's breakfast, held in April at the Mandarin Oriental, Boston, was attended by more than 250 donors, patients, survivors, and 46 faculty, and raised \$258,000 for Dana-Farber's Susan F. Smith Center for Women's Cancers.

The Susan F. Smith Center Executive Council is a forum of women business and community leaders that has generated more than \$12 million to support women's cancer research and treatment at Dana-Farber since 2002. At the council's spring breakfast, themed "The Promise of Immunotherapy," Dana-Farber President and CEO Laurie H. Glimcher, MD, delivered the keynote

address and introduced Alan D'Andrea, MD, as the newly appointed director of the Susan F. Smith Center. Following research updates from Director of Breast Oncology and Thompson Chair in Breast Cancer Research Eric Winer, MD, and Director of Gynecologic Oncology Ursula Matulonis, MD, patient speakers Patty Klein and Robyn Nash shared personal testimonials to the lifesaving impact of the Institute's innovative science and the high quality of care they received.

Dana-Farber Trustee Debbie First, who co-chaired the event with Hazel Durand, Janit Greenwood, and Barbara Marx, paid tribute to the late Susan F. Smith, the center's beloved founder and namesake, and invited guests to support the groundbreaking research discussed that morning. She said, "Sue's gift is now in our hands. Standing on her shoulders,

we must continue her mission to improve outcomes for women with cancer." ■



Susan F. Smith Center Executive Council Breakfast Co-Chairs (from left) Institute Trustee Debbie First, Barbara Marx, Janit Greenwood, and Hazel Durand.

## UPDATE ON FEDERAL FUNDING AT DANA-FARBER

### Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute awards \$2.6 million to Dana-Farber

For many cancer patients who receive potentially lifesaving stem cell transplants (also known as bone marrow transplants) at specialized centers, the need for months of regular return visits to check for complications causes financial hardships, reduced income, additional stress, and lower quality of life.

In a move to ease those burdens, researchers at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute will test a "Shared Care" model that allows patients to receive half of their post-transplant monitoring from cancer specialists closer to their homes.

Through a highly competitive review process, a team led by Gregory Abel, MD, MPH, a member of the division of Population Sciences and the division of Hematologic Malignancies, has been selected to receive \$2.6 million in funding from the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) for a five-year clinical trial to determine if the Shared Care program can be safe and effective in providing quality follow-up care. PCORI is an independent, nonprofit organization authorized by Congress in 2010 to fund research that will provide patients, their caregivers, and clinicians with the evidence-based information needed to make better-informed health care decisions.

Hematopoietic stem cell/bone marrow transplantation is the only potentially curative treatment for many patients with advanced blood cancers, but it is offered only at selected inpatient cancer centers that can safely provide this highly technical therapy. After discharge,

patients who have received bone marrow or stem cell transplants must be monitored closely—typically through weekly return visits to the transplant center. In many cases, patients and their caregivers travel long distances for follow-up visits with their specialist transplant teams.

Abel and colleagues at Dana-Farber recently published the results of a survey of transplant recipients revealing that 46 percent had a decline in their income and 56 percent reported financial hardship six months after their transplant.

In the study supported by PCORI, transplant patients will be randomized to either receive all their follow-up care at Dana-Farber (the transplant center) or alternate visits between Dana-Farber and a local oncologist closer to their home. The participating oncologists are located in New York, Connecticut, New Hampshire, and Maine. They will attend a multi-day transplant conference at Dana-Farber and can confer with Dana-Farber specialists via a tailored Web-based platform.

"This project was selected for PCORI funding not only for its scientific merit and commitment to engaging patients and other stakeholders, but also for its potential to fill an important gap in our health knowledge and give people information to help them weigh the effectiveness of their care options," said PCORI Executive Director Joe Selby, MD, MPH. "We look forward to following the study's progress and working with Dana-Farber to share the results." ■

## Dana-Farber Society members recognized for generosity and foresight



In June, the Dana-Farber Society (DFS) gathered at the Fairmont Copley Plaza in Boston for the 27th annual DFS Dinner. The society, which now includes more than 1,000 dedicated members, recognizes those who have chosen to include Dana-Farber and the Jimmy Fund in their wills or estate plans. Dana-Farber President and CEO Laurie H. Glimcher, MD, moderated a panel of expert Dana-Farber physician-scientists, including Senior Vice President for Experimental Therapeutics and Quick Family Chair George Demetri, MD; Director of the Center for Cancer Genetics and Prevention and Susan F. Smith Chair Judy Garber, MD, MPH; and breast oncologist Nikhil Wagle, MD. "Our ongoing scientific and clinical progress simply would not be possible without the commitment of visionary supporters like Dana-Farber Society members," Glimcher said.

Above, from left: DFS Co-Chairs and Institute Trustees Jim and Barbara Sadowsky, Board of Trustees Chairman Josh Bekenstein, and Drs. Glimcher, Demetri, Garber, and Wagle.

## Ambrose Monell Foundation renews its vital support

**W**ith a generous gift of \$300,000, the Ambrose Monell Foundation has continued its support of Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and its mission to conquer cancer.

Since 2002, the Ambrose Monell Foundation, led by President Ambrose K. Monell, has supported Dana-Farber with grants totaling \$2.4 million. This year, the foundation awarded \$200,000 in flexible funding that allows the Institute to seize opportunities and direct support where and when it is needed most. Funding patient care, research, and outreach programs, unrestricted giving is essential to Dana-Farber's lifesaving mission, said Dana-Farber President and CEO Laurie H. Glimcher, MD.

"In this challenging federal funding climate, philanthropy fills a critical gap," said Glimcher. "Unrestricted giving enables Dana-Farber to direct funds to priority programs that need them the most and allows physician-scientists to pursue their most promising, innovative research."

The foundation's gift also

**"Unrestricted giving enables Dana-Farber to direct funds to priority programs that need them the most."**

— LAURIE H. GLIMCHER, MD,  
Dana-Farber president and CEO

generously designated \$100,000 to support research by Kenneth Anderson, MD, director of the Jerome Lipper Multiple Myeloma Center and LeBow Institute for Myeloma Therapeutics and Kraft Family Professor of Medicine.

"We are grateful to the Ambrose Monell Foundation for their loyal generosity and commitment to changing the course of this difficult disease," said Anderson. "This gift propels in-depth scientific analysis of the mechanisms of resistance and enables us to improve upon treatment options available for our myeloma patients worldwide." ■

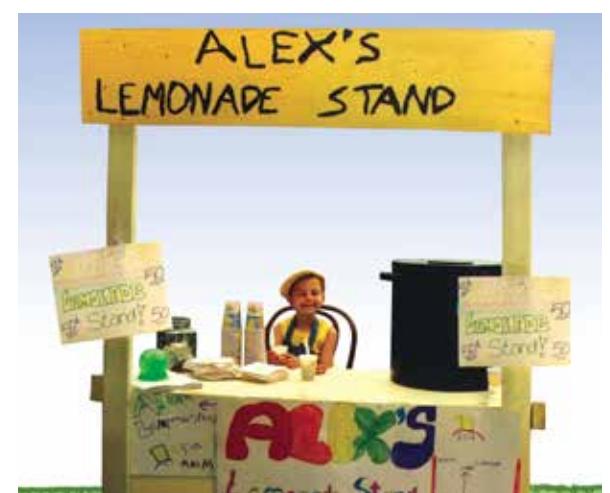
## Alex's Lemonade Stand funds first-of-its-kind treatment

**A**lex's Lemonade Stand Foundation (ALSF) is dedicated to finding better and safer treatments, and ultimately cures, for children with cancer. Recognizing the importance of investing in research leading to better quality of care and life for children battling cancer and their families, the foundation recently awarded Dana-Farber researcher Eric Zhou, PhD, a \$100,000 Psychosocial: Launch Grant for early career researchers whose studies aim to explain and/or improve psychosocial outcomes of those affected by childhood cancer.

With the support of ALSF, Zhou will work with patients and their families to develop an online program to treat insomnia in adolescent cancer survivors. "This grant offers a tremendous opportunity to develop and pilot a Web-based

intervention that can effectively treat insomnia, a common disorder in pediatric cancer survivors with significant health consequences if it is ignored," said Zhou. "This program will be the first of its kind designed to help patients with sleep disorders."

"We are honored to support and fund this project for Dana-Farber," said Jay Scott, co-executive director of ALSF. "We are conscious of the effects the fight against childhood cancer can have emotionally and behaviorally on children and their families. With this grant, we aim to address the psychosocial aspects of childhood cancer treatment and hope to make a difference in the quality of life and care for these children and their families." ■



Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation, founded by the late Alex Scott (above), supports an innovative study by Eric Zhou, PhD.

### Massachusetts Life Sciences Center continued from page 1

with cancer and other life-threatening illnesses," said Institute President and CEO Laurie H. Glimcher, MD.

Projects in the ACTU will be supported by academic collaborators to manufacture novel cellular products for early phase clinical trials at Dana-Farber and other clinical centers in Massachusetts. The CMCF also collaborates with technology-focused commercial partners that are developing technologies, instrumentation, and software applications to improve manufacturing and testing of cellular products.

"With increased capacity, the CMCF will be able to expand collaborations with existing entities as well as new biotechnology companies that are being created to advance this emerging, paradigm-shifting technology," said CMCF Executive Director Jerome Ritz, MD.

The MLSC is a 10-year-old, state-funded investment agency that supports life sciences innovation, education, research and development, and commercialization. To date, it has awarded more than \$405 million to support capital projects across the state, including a \$10 million grant to

Dana-Farber in 2012 to establish the Molecular Cancer Imaging Facility on our Dry Dock campus in Boston's Innovation District.

"The MLSC continues to make major capital investments to support education and innovation at academic institutions to meet the needs of our state's fastest-growing industry," said Travis McCready, president and CEO of the MLSC. "The capital grants being provided to these institutions will enhance their capabilities, improve human health, and continue the Commonwealth's status as the preeminent location for advanced research." ■

## Scooper Bowl expands to New York, raises nearly \$750,000



The summer of 2017 saw phenomenal growth for one of Dana-Farber's flagship events, the Jimmy Fund Scooper Bowl®. Already the nation's largest all-you-can-eat ice cream festival, the 35th annual Jimmy Fund Scooper Bowl presented by Valvoline Instant Oil ChangeSM on Boston's City Hall Plaza expanded to include the first-ever Scooper Bowl New York in Manhattan's Bryant Park. Together, these events raised nearly \$750,000. Since 1983, the Jimmy Fund Scooper Bowl has raised nearly \$6.3 million for Dana-Farber.

Chairman of the Jimmy Fund Larry Lucchino opened the festivities in Boston. "This event is the unofficial start to summer in Boston, and it is a terrific way for New Englanders to enjoy delicious ice cream and frozen yogurt while also raising money for an important cause," said Lucchino. "As a cancer

survivor and former Dana-Farber patient myself, I am honored and lucky to have lent a hand to help raise critical funds to find cures for cancer."

The Boston event drew more than 45,000 ice cream lovers of all ages, including students from 28 Massachusetts schools who raised an incredible \$100,000 through the Jimmy Fund Scooper Schools program.

"After attending Scooper Bowl in Boston, I felt this magical event would be loved anywhere people savor ice cream and have charitable hearts," said Brooke Biederman, who co-chaired the New York event with her father, Dan Biederman. "Attendees learned about the lifesaving work done at Dana-Farber while having a wonderful time."

The growth and success of the Jimmy Fund Scooper Bowl is due in large part to the generosity and dedication of partners who contributed their time and tons of delicious treats, including Adirondack Creamery, Arctic Zero, Baskin-Robbins®, Ben & Jerry's®, Big Gay Ice Cream, Breyers®, Brooklyn Ice Cream Factory, Coolhaus,

DF Mavens, Graeter's Ice Cream, Häagen-Dazs, Edy's®, Friendly's®, HP Hood®, Minus-the-Moo, SAMBAZON, Vice Cream, Wafels & Dinges, Yasso, and Yuengling's Ice Cream®. ■



Event Co-Chair Brooke Biederman (far right) helped to kick off the first-ever New York Scooper Bowl in June.

## Despite loss, Kerr Family advances brain tumor research, education

For decades, Sheryl V. Kerr's family has supported communities and the pursuit of knowledge by giving through the Grayce B. Kerr Fund. Shery herself helped to advise the fund's giving



David Reardon, MD, is researching immune-based approaches to treating brain tumors thanks to a generous gift from the Grayce B. Kerr Fund.

through her work as a board member of the organization. When she was diagnosed with a brain tumor, Shery sought treatment at Dana-Farber, knowing of the Institute's excellence and commitment to researching the latest treatments.

Sadly, Shery lost her battle with cancer. While being treated by David Reardon, MD, clinical director of Dana-Farber's Center for Neuro-Oncology, Shery showed interest in supporting his groundbreaking immunotherapy research. Shery's daughter, Marcy, consulted Reardon on how best the family could support his work and ultimately recommended a gift of \$500,000 from the family's Grayce B. Kerr Fund to establish the Sheryl V. Kerr

Family Research Fund and the Sheryl V. Kerr Lecture Series in Neuro-Oncology.

"Shery's family is so grateful for the care Dr. Reardon provided to Shery, and hope that this gift can help make a positive impact on the care future patients receive," John Valliant, president of the Grayce B. Kerr Fund, said on behalf of the family.

The fund will direct \$400,000 to Reardon's research on brain malignancies. Under Reardon's direction, the Center for Neuro-Oncology is leading numerous clinical trials exploring an array of different immune-based treatment approaches. Immunotherapy, which refers to treatments that harness the power of the immune system to fight

disease, has shown promise in many kinds of cancer. Much of the work in ongoing clinical trials is translated from Reardon's lab, and focuses on immune checkpoint therapies such as PD-1 inhibitors—a type of immunotherapy.

"This very generous gift in Shery's memory will be instrumental in our efforts to pursue promising advances in immunotherapy to help brain cancer patients achieve better outcomes," Reardon said.

The remaining \$100,000 will support an annual lecture series to provide a forum to discuss the diagnosis and treatment of brain tumors so that other physicians and researchers can share expertise on treating these serious diseases. ■

## Rally for the Jimmy Fund knocks it out of the park



Rally for the Jimmy Fund presented by Sully's Brand completed another record season in 2017, with more than 430 schools and companies from Massachusetts and across the country raising more than \$600,000. Since its start in 2006, the event has raised more than \$5.8 million.

For a contribution of \$10 or more to the Jimmy Fund, Rally gives participants the opportunity to wear Red Sox gear to work or school on Fenway Park Opening Day. The company and school with the highest fundraising total each win a visit from a Boston Red Sox player.

Raising \$30,540, Country Bank of Ware, Mass., was the top corporate fundraiser this season. Team Captain Bonnie Trudeau-Wood said she was thrilled

to see Country Bank have such success fundraising for the Jimmy Fund.

"Country Bank's team may be little but we are mighty!" said Trudeau-Wood. "We are so fortunate to have Dana-Farber, a top cancer treatment facility, less than two hours away, and we are happy to do our part to support their work."

Fisher's Finest, representing the Fisher School in Walpole, Mass., topped school team fundraising with \$12,250. As their prize, Red Sox player Jackie Bradley Jr. visited the school in June.

"The students were ecstatic that their hard work won them a visit from Jackie Bradley Jr.," said Fisher's Finest Team Captain Carolyn McDonough. "But most importantly, they understood that the \$12,250 they raised truly makes a difference in cancer research."

McDonough added that the experience of fundraising for Rally for the Jimmy Fund taught her students about the power of working together.

"Participating in Rally for the Jimmy Fund

taught our students how good it feels to help others and how, when each of us contributes something, it becomes something greater than all of us," said McDonough. "Whether it was \$20 someone received as a birthday gift or a quarter received from redeeming bottles, each contribution played a part in making a difference for many who need our love and support." ■



Red Sox player Jackie Bradley Jr. visited the Fisher School, which raised \$12,250 for Rally for the Jimmy Fund.

## Leonard P. Zakim Center for Integrative Therapies and Healthy Living showcases its new home

**O**n the evening of June 14, Dana-Farber welcomed donors and their guests to preview the new home of the Leonard P. Zakim Center for Integrative Therapies and Healthy Living, which officially opened August 1. As a part of the Institute's recent Capital Projects Campaign, many individuals contributed to making the expanded and enhanced space a reality. This new, centralized location will allow the Zakim Center staff to support more patients.

Pioneered by civil rights activist and complementary therapies advocate Lenny Zakim, the center was founded after his passing to provide treatment options that integrate complementary therapies with traditional therapies to treat the whole patient. These services help to provide comprehensive care for the body, mind, and spirit and alleviate the stress, tension, and general symptoms associated with receiving cancer treatment. The dedicated spaces for massage therapy, acupuncture, exercise therapy, and more were made possible by the generosity of donors, several of whom celebrated the spaces they named with individual ribbon cuttings.

Jennifer Ligibel, MD, director of the Leonard P. Zakim Center for Integrative Therapies and Healthy Living, cut the ceremonial ribbon with Eric Winer, MD, Dana-Farber Chief Clinical Strategy Officer and Thompson Chair in Breast Cancer Research, Joyce Zakim, wife of Lenny Zakim, and their two daughters, Deena Zakim and Shari Zakim-Yakouby. ■



(From left) Deena Zakim, Shari Zakim-Yakouby, Joyce Zakim, Jennifer Ligibel, MD, and Eric Winer, MD, celebrate the new home of the Leonard P. Zakim Center for Integrative Therapies and Healthy Living.



(From left) Jennifer Ligibel, MD, joins Harold and Linda Schwartz as they cut the ribbon on the Treatment Room they named to provide acupuncture treatment for patients.



Dennis and Carol Kanin prepare to cut the ribbon on the Consult Room made possible by the Kanin Family's gift.



(From left) Zakim Center's Bambi Mathay, LMT, reads the proclamation celebrating the naming of a Treatment Room by Lois and David Slovik.



Neal Levitan and Audrey Zabin named the Reception Desk, which will serve as the welcome point for patients and their families as they enter the center.



(From left) Leslie and Robert Ogan are joined by former Zakim Center Director David Rosenthal, MD, to celebrate the opening of the Waiting Room they named.



Alyssa Kaitz (left) prepares to cut the ribbon for the Mind-Body Studio named for her mother, Erica, along with (from left) her father, Rick Kaitz, Joyce Zakim, Rami Rones of the Zakim Center, Meredith Beaton-Starr of the Pan-Mass Challenge, and Jennifer Ligibel, MD.



Elizabeth Silverman (center) is joined by her two children, Charlotte and Henry Goodman, and Jennifer Ligibel, MD, to unveil the new Training Studio made possible by the Elizabeth Silverman Thriving in Survivorship Fund.

## Arbella "spreads the good" for cancer



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

**The Official Auto Insurance Partner** of the Jimmy Fund and Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Arbella Insurance Group of Quincy, Mass., recently made a \$250,000 gift to support our cancer research and patient care.

Arbella's generous and enthusiastic partnership with Dana-Farber is multifaceted. The company is a supporting sponsor of the Jimmy Fund Scooper Bowl® presented by Valvoline Instant Oil Change, fairway sponsor of Jimmy Fund Golf presented by Mohegan Sun, and a premier sponsor of the Boston Marathon® Jimmy Fund Walk presented by Hyundai. Arbella also offers a 6

percent discount on auto insurance premiums for customers who give at least \$50 to Dana-Farber.

Arbella employees volunteer at numerous Jimmy Fund events, and the company's "Spread the Good" campaign encourages acts of kindness and shares them through social media.

"Arbella employees are always very generous and proud to participate in the many Jimmy Fund events and activities throughout the year," said John Donohue, chairman, president, and CEO of the Arbella Insurance Group. "Many of us at Arbella have been touched personally by cancer, and helping to raise funds and awareness makes us all feel good. It's just who we are." ■

**"Many of us at Arbella have been touched personally by cancer, and helping to raise funds and awareness makes us all feel good. It's just who we are."**

— JOHN DONOHUE, chairman, president, and CEO, Arbella Insurance Group

## Grant fosters novel research with broad potential

**A**lthough it is the second most common blood cancer, multiple myeloma is regarded as incurable. Current drug treatments work for some patients, while relapsed patients eventually become refractory to treatment.

Dana-Farber cancer biologist Sara Buhrlage, PhD, is studying how levels of cancer tumor suppressors in multiple myeloma



Sara Buhrlage, PhD, is pursuing novel treatments for multiple myeloma with support from the Ellison Foundation.

can be increased with novel agents that target specific enzymes. The goal is for these novel agents then to be turned into new therapies for patients. The Ellison Foundation has continued its ongoing support for Dana-Farber with a recent grant to advance this research.

In addition to possible benefits in treating multiple myeloma, this research holds promise for patients suffering from a variety of other cancers including neuroblastoma, non-small cell lung cancer, osteosarcoma, and breast cancer.

"The research we are conducting is beneficial for all multiple myeloma patients," said Buhrlage. "With the Ellison Foundation's gift, we can truly understand the potential of these novel agents and develop prototype drugs to treat patients with multiple myeloma and possibly other forms of cancer as well."

"We continue to be impressed by Dr. Buhrlage's research and are eagerly anticipating any findings she may have that could impact multiple myeloma or other forms of cancer," said Martin Hall, trustee of the Ellison Foundation. ■

## Support for promising research honors Colabello family members

**V**ictoria Johnson's family has been profoundly affected by cancer. The deaths of two beloved aunts in one year, from leukemia and pancreatic cancer, inspired her to make a generous gift to Dana-Farber in their memory.

The Colabello Family Cancer Research Fund, established by Johnson's gift of \$150,000, honors her aunts, Linda and Norina Colabello, and uncle, Gino Colabello. "My aunt Linda was truly a life force," said Johnson. "She was a dedicated school teacher for 35 years, and her gifts to others were many. My aunt Norina's kindness, gentility, and gracious caretaking embraced all whom she loved, and my uncle Gino was the 'go-to guy' for his sisters and other family."

Although she lived in New York, Linda Colabello was treated for leukemia at Dana-Farber so that, said Johnson, "she could have the best, newest, and most advanced opportunities for

treatment." After Linda's death, Victoria Johnson met with Dana-Farber's Anthony Letai, MD, PhD, to discuss the desire of both her aunts to bequeath funds to advance research.

"Dr. Letai explained his work to me in terms I could clearly understand," she said. Johnson's gift will support leukemia research and laboratory equipment, including a robot, as well as research in other cancers. "We are delighted with the generous support of the Colabello Family Cancer Research Fund, which speeds our work on an exciting new way of identifying effective drugs," said Letai. ■



The Colabello Family Cancer Research Fund honors (from left) Norina, Gino, and Linda Colabello.

## Tina's Wish grants focus on early detection of ovarian cancer

**O**nly 20 percent of women with ovarian cancer are diagnosed at an early stage when more successful treatment options are available, according to the American Cancer Society. Dana-Farber's Dipanjan Chowdhury, PhD, and Jarrod Marto, PhD, have been awarded grants totaling \$300,000 from The Honorable Tina Brozman Foundation, also known as "Tina's Wish," to pursue innovative research on the early detection of ovarian cancer.

With his grant, Chowdhury hopes to develop a blood test that could possibly detect ovarian cancer at an early stage, using extremely small microRNA molecules that can form a "signature" in blood serum and distinguish early ovarian malignancies from benign tumors.

Marto, director of Dana-Farber's Blais Proteomics Center, is using protein measurement technology developed in his laboratory to drive the discovery of new protein biomarkers for ovarian cancer, which also may aid early diagnosis.

Tina's Wish funds groundbreaking research on the early detection and prevention of ovarian cancer in memory of Tina Brozman,



Jarrod Marto, PhD, addresses the audience at the Tina's Wish Boston Gathering in March 2017.

a former chief judge of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York who died of ovarian cancer in 2007.

"I think Tina would be extraordinarily gratified by what we've achieved in her honor," said Andrew Brozman, Tina's husband and Tina's Wish board member. "We are excited to be funding eight grantees from top institutions in 2017/18, including Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. I am confident that we are supporting the most innovative science out there." ■

## Casty Family Award



Jerome Ritz, MD, received the Casty Family Achievement in Mentoring Award at a special celebration in May at the Yawkey Center for Cancer Care. Ritz, who is executive director of the Connell and O'Reilly Families Cell Manipulation Core Facility and director for Clinical Trials Cores at the Cancer Vaccine Center, was recognized as an outstanding faculty mentor who has made significant career-long contributions to health care by positively shaping the careers of young scientists who have dedicated themselves to advancing the field of cancer medicine. Ron Casty and his late wife, Ronni, 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 the best and brightest faculty at Dana-Farber. The award includes a \$10,000 stipend. Pictured above, Ritz (left) is joined by Ron Casty and Dana-Farber President and CEO Laurie H. Glimcher, MD, after the award presentation.

## Catalytic gift aims to transform patient access to resources

For 10 years, Charles Roussel has been by his wife's side during her treatment for neuroendocrine cancer. Hours spent chatting with others in waiting rooms have illuminated the universal challenges faced by patients and families from every walk of life—taking time off work, finding transportation, paying for medications, and caring for children.

"People are living longer lives with cancer," said Roussel. "Their ability to have a life outside of being a patient varies hugely depending on their financial resources." In conversations about the importance of patient assistance funds with Deborah Toffler, MSW, LCSW, director of Patient and Family Programs and Services, Roussel also recognized the need for established patients to become aware of the many outstanding resources—including patient assistance—that Dana-Farber offers.

To fill that need and to honor the outstanding care his wife has received, Roussel decided to make a catalytic gift of \$250,000 to support the position of a program coordinator for three years. Maritza Nassif, a 2017 recipient of a Sidney Farber Volunteer Award for her volunteer

work, stepped into the position in July 2017 and is leading initiatives to ensure that all patients are made aware of supportive resources as part of their care experience.

"This paradigm-shifting gift is helping us standardize the way patients access programs and services that can help them financially, emotionally, and spiritually," said Toffler. "To my knowledge, no other hospital has undertaken a similar effort." ■



Charles Roussel's generous gift will help to ensure that all patients have access to supportive resources. A portion of the gift is being used for patient assistance funds, which are provided entirely through philanthropy.

## TBBCF provides critical breast cancer research funding

In 2006, two good friends had two big goals: to honor their dear friend, Terri Brodeur, a young mother who died of breast cancer, and to raise funds for promising breast cancer research that could accelerate more effective treatment options. Norma Logan and Sandy Maniscalco worked tirelessly to create the Terri Brodeur Breast Cancer Foundation (TBBCF). Tragically, Norma died of breast cancer just six months after Terri.

The foundation Norma and Sandy helped to create prides itself on granting 100 percent of the funds it raises, and has awarded

\$1.6 million in grants to Dana-Farber since 2007. Recently, TBBCF continued its long-term support with grants totaling \$200,000 to Dana-Farber's Ji Li, PhD, and Heather Parsons, MD, MPH.

Li's research uses genomic, molecular, and cellular biology, as well as computational approaches, to seek

new treatments for aggressive basal-like triple-negative breast cancers. In her work, Parsons aims to identify DNA mutations that cause treatment resistance in patients with HER2-positive metastatic breast cancer.

"Young researchers like Dr. Li and Dr. Parsons are on the forefront of breast cancer research," said Susan Logan, PhD, a founding and sustaining member of TBBCF's Scientific Advisory Board and associate professor at New York University Medical Center. "They are our brightest hope for finding a cure for this terrible disease." ■



John LaMatta, PhD (far left), Sandy Maniscalco (center), and Michael Morin, PhD (far right), of TBBCF, with Dana-Farber researchers Ji Li, PhD, and Heather Parsons, MD, MPH.

## Support drives exploration of new therapies for patients



**For patients with acute myeloid leukemia (AML) and blastic plasmacytoid dendritic cell neoplasm (BPDCN), there is an urgent need for new therapies. There is currently no defined treatment strategy for BPDCN, a rare subtype of AML, and researchers are still working to understand the factors that determine how and why these diseases respond to an investigational drug called SL-401.**

In 2016, Stemline Therapeutics, Inc., renewed its commitment to the promising research of Andrew Lane, MD, PhD, who is working to uncover the mysteries behind SL-401 response and ways to improve the drug's efficacy in patients. Thanks to Stemline's \$100,000 gift, Lane is conducting laboratory tests to see if the drug is more effective in combination with chemotherapy, and is exploring why AML and BPDCN cells respond to—and ultimately resist—this treatment.

"Stemline's visionary support will help us to conduct critical

foundational research that we hope will help to improve outcomes for our patients and their families," said Lane. "I am deeply grateful for their generous investment and ongoing dedication to my research."

"Dr. Lane's previous work helped further understand the mechanism of action of SL-401 and the exquisite potency against BPDCN, a rare and very aggressive cancer with no FDA-approved therapies to date," said Stemline's Vice President of Research and Development, Christopher Brooks, PhD. "This additional funding will help to assess the activity of SL-401 in combination with chemotherapy for treating other cancers with high unmet medical need." ■

**"This funding will help to assess SL-401 for treating cancers with high unmet medical need."**

— CHRISTOPHER BROOKS,  
PhD, VP of R&D, Stemline Therapeutics

## Critical funding targets esophageal cancer



**Before the age of 40, Paul Poth** had died of cholangiocarcinoma, an extremely rare cancer. After his diagnosis, Poth and those who loved him were frustrated that patients with rare cancers have limited therapies available because researchers have fewer cases to study and treat.

Poth created TargetCancer Foundation to ensure that others with rare cancers would have more treatment options and a better chance of survival. By granting seed money to critical projects at their initial stages, TargetCancer Foundation supports early career investigators who seek effective new therapies for rare cancers.

Dana-Farber's Adam Bass, MD, says that funding from the foundation has been critical to his progress in researching esophageal cancer: "TargetCancer Foundation's support for new projects and collaborations helps us take our research forward in ways that wouldn't otherwise be possible." Bass' genomic study of esophageal

cancer has yielded significant discoveries, including identification of immunotherapeutic targets for which approved treatments in other cancers already exist.

TargetCancer Foundation recently granted \$100,000 to advance Bass' work, bringing its total funding of his research to \$335,000. "Dr. Bass is clearly leading the way in esophageal cancer research, and we are grateful for the opportunity to partner with him as he continues to push the field forward," said Executive Director Jim Palma. "As funders of basic research in rare cancers, we are incredibly gratified to see such a rapid translation to potential new treatments." ■

**"We are incredibly gratified to see such a rapid translation to potential new treatments."**

— JIM PALMA, executive director, TargetCancer Foundation

## Massey gift honors a life well lived

To Calvin Massey, life was an adventure. A law professor, outdoorsman, self-taught chef, and fiction writer, Calvin was, says his wife, Martha Massey, "forever curious, forever learning."

Diagnosed with myelodysplasia, Calvin became a patient of Robert Soiffer, MD, chief of Dana-Farber's Division of Hematologic Malignancies and co-chief of Stem Cell Transplantation. With Soiffer, both Masseys felt that Calvin was "in the best possible hands," according to Martha. Although he had a successful stem cell transplant, Calvin was later diagnosed with tongue cancer, which metastasized and caused his death in 2015.

Devastated by Calvin's passing, but grateful for the care he received at Dana-Farber, Martha and her daughter made a generous \$100,000 gift to support the research of Soiffer and his colleague Glenn Hanna, MD, into secondary head and neck cancers that can develop following stem cell transplants. Recalling that her husband "saw and respected Dr. Soiffer's deep knowledge of his field, questing mind, and commitment



Martha Massey supports Dana-Farber in memory of her husband, Calvin.

to research," Martha hopes that her support will help bring about improved treatment options and better outcomes for other cancer patients.

"This gift will provide much needed insight into our understanding and treatment of head and neck cancers occurring after bone marrow transplant," said Soiffer. "It was an honor and pleasure to care for Mr. Massey, whose quick wit and strength of character left a significant impression upon me and all whose lives he touched." ■

## Young, strong, and paying it forward

Only 29 years old at her breast cancer diagnosis, Annie Marra was in a unique position. "I felt sort of alone," she said. "I didn't know anybody my age who had been diagnosed with breast cancer, and it was really scary."

As a breast cancer patient diagnosed before age 44, when Annie came to Dana-Farber she was automatically included in the Young and Strong Program for Young Women with Breast Cancer, co-founded and directed by her oncologist, Ann Partridge, MD, MPH, in the Susan F. Smith Center for Women's Cancers. The first and only program of its kind in New England, Young and Strong offers comprehensive

care, support, and education tailored to the unique needs of young breast cancer patients.

"Annie met a young woman through the program, just prior to surgery, who talked her through what to expect," Annie's mother, Karen Bali, recalled. "It was the first time Annie had connected with someone who had just been through what she was about to go through."

"Young and Strong helped me know that I wasn't alone and there was a light at the end of the tunnel," said Annie. "I would like to pay it forward and help other women my age feel inspired and hopeful."

In recognition of the excellent care Annie received and to help other young women receive the best care possible, Annie's father, Tom Marra, and his wife, Michelle, established the Marra Family Young and Strong Breast Cancer Fund with a gift of \$103,000. ■



Annie Marra (left) participated on Team Young and Strong in the Boston Marathon® Jimmy Fund Walk presented by Hyundai with her oncologist, Ann Partridge, MD, MPH, one week after finishing chemotherapy.

## One Mission brings endless smiles and support to pediatric patients and families

Established in 2008 by Ashley and Ari Haseotes, One Mission demonstrated their steadfast commitment to pediatric cancer patients with a recent gift of \$233,000 benefitting Dana-Farber Cancer Institute's Jimmy Fund Clinic. The gift helps to provide a more positive experience for pediatric cancer patients by supporting family-centered programs, including holiday celebrations, a Parent Bereavement cruise, parking passes for new patients, and funding for a Child Life Specialist position. One Mission also recently introduced Heart to Heart, a program dedicated to helping parents heal after the traumatic life experience of watching a child fight cancer.

One Mission emerged after the Haseotes' own experience with their son, Nicholas. At seven months old, Nicholas was diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia (AML), and their world was turned upside down. After living in a hospital for months, the Haseotes recognized an opportunity to help other families navigating a cancer journey. Today,



Aurora, a patient in Dana-Farber's Jimmy Fund Clinic, wears her superhero cape at the Jimmy Fund Clinic Summer Festival.

Nicholas is cancer free, and One Mission works to make life easier for patients and their families.

According to Ashley Haseotes, One Mission aims to address the real-time needs of patients and their families. Their partnership with the Jimmy Fund Clinic allows them to do just that.

"Our partnership with the Jimmy Fund Clinic directly connects us to families coping with the emotional and financial challenges brought on by childhood cancer," says Haseotes. "We'll do whatever it takes to make their cancer journey easier." ■

## Friends of Dana-Farber host annual Spring Gala

The Friends of Dana-Farber Cancer Institute celebrated Dinner & Late Night with Friends in April. More than \$365,000 was raised to support groundbreaking cancer research and compassionate patient care at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Created and hosted by acclaimed chef Jeremy Sewall of Island Creek Oyster Bar, Row 34, and Les Sablons, the two-part fundraiser was held at the Hotel Commonwealth in Boston. Attendees were treated to a unique dinner that included interactive cooking demonstrations featuring



Acclaimed chef and gala host Jeremy Sewall with (from left) Friends Co-President Suzanne Chapman, Event Chairs Marilyn Wolman, Dana Gerson Unger, and Suzanne Bloomberg, and Friends Co-President Jen Cunningham Butler.

renowned chefs with local ties.

The evening featured Jody Adams of TRADE and Porto; Tiffani Faison of Sweet Cheeks and Tiger Mama; Andy Husbands of Tremont 647, Sister Sorel, and the Smoke Shop; William Kovel of Catalyst; Michael Schlow of Doretta Taverna & Wine Bar, Alta Strada, and Tico Boston; and Jasper White of Summer Shack. The event also honored Annie McNamara, who discussed being treated at Dana-Farber following her diagnosis of myelodysplastic syndrome at the age of 26.

Dana-Farber President and CEO Laurie H. Glimcher, MD, thanked the Friends for their more than 40-year commitment to funding cancer research, care, and support programs across the Institute. The Friends organization was founded in 1976. Since that time, the group has given more than \$33 million to the Institute, and has provided programs that enhance Dana-Farber's healing environment, like gift bags for patients and our world-class art collection. ■

## Ovarian Cancer Research Fund Alliance drives the future of ovarian cancer discovery



Ovarian Cancer Research Fund Alliance

Through grants supporting the next generation of cancer researchers, the Ovarian Cancer Research Fund Alliance (OCRFA) is dedicated to improving care for patients with ovarian cancer.

Earlier this year OCRFA awarded grants totaling \$350,000 to Dana-Farber, including a \$200,000 Liz Tilberis Early Career Award to Michael Goldberg, PhD. The program honors OCRFA's late president, who also served as the editor-in-chief of *Harper's Bazaar* while she battled ovarian cancer and raised awareness of the disease.

"Research grants are at the very core of what we do," said Sarah DeFeo, OFCRA's vice president, Scientific Affairs and Programs. "The future depends on engaging early career investigators from the start, so that they apply their talents to researching this disease."

Goldberg's work suggests that chemotherapy, while killing cancer cells, also inhibits the immune system. Adding an immunotherapy to chemotherapy could boost the overall effect of both treatments.

"I am extremely honored to receive this award," said Goldberg. "This support is critical in helping us to leverage the standard of care for ovarian cancer patients, chemotherapy, by combining it with appropriate immunotherapy to potentially improve survival."

OCRFA also awarded Ann and Sol Schreiber Mentored Investigator Awards, named in honor of OCRFA's founders, to Beatrice Rondinelli, PhD, and Anniina Farkkila, MD, PhD. Rondinelli is investigating the protein EZH2 in epithelial ovarian cancers to better understand treatment resistance. Farkkila is studying mechanisms of resistance to PARP inhibitors, and exploring a combination therapy approach pairing PARP inhibitors with PD-1 inhibitor immunotherapy. ■

## ASH recognizes work of early career investigators



Established nearly 50 years ago, the American Society of Hematology (ASH) is dedicated to fighting blood diseases worldwide, and its support of Dana-Farber investigators recently surpassed \$3 million in grants. "ASH provides support for researchers with innovative ideas for treating and curing blood diseases, through an extremely competitive process," explains ASH Executive Director Martha Liggett, Esq.

Two early career investigators at Dana-Farber recently received ASH Scholar Awards totaling \$350,000. Award recipient Christopher Ott, PhD, is researching hematologic malignancies and genetic diseases. Ott analyzes chromatin structures

and epigenetic mechanisms of gene regulation, aiming to develop more targeted treatments for chronic lymphocytic leukemia.

With her grant, Zuzana Tothova, MD, PhD, is studying molecular mechanisms of myelodysplastic syndromes (MDS) and acute myeloid leukemia (AML), with particular focus on the biology and therapeutic vulnerabilities of a new class of genetic lesions. Her goal is to develop more effective treatments.

"ASH Scholar Awards are very competitive, and have launched the careers of many independent researchers in hematology," said Liggett. "We are pleased to support Dana-Farber scientists who have demonstrated a commitment to hematologic research, and the Society leadership hopes that their work will lead to important discoveries in our understanding and treatment of blood diseases." ■

**"ASH Scholar Awards are very competitive, and have launched the careers of many independent researchers in hematology."**

— MARTHA LIGGETT, ESQ., executive director, American Society of Hematology

## Barry gift to name space in the Yawkey Center honors loved ones



A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held in June to celebrate Susan and William Barry's generous gift to Dana-Farber. They named a Vitals Bay on the 7th floor of the Yawkey Center for Cancer Care in tribute to Bill's late niece, Maura DeVito, and Susan's brother, Gregory Monaghan. Yawkey 7 was the floor where Maura received her treatment, and the family was touched when the nurses who treated Maura stopped by to introduce themselves and say hello.

Above, at the ribbon-cutting ceremony were (from left) Jim Barry, Melissa Barry, Lindsay Stephenson (front), Lorraine Barry, Jason DeVito, Michael Monaghan, Debbie Monaghan, Susan Barry, and Bill Barry.

## Raising awareness while investing in progress

In 2010, Patty Klein was diagnosed with stage IIIC ovarian cancer. Now facing her seventh recurrence, Patty and her husband, Jay, have confidence in the quality of care received at Dana-Farber. They believe that the Institute's commitment to patient-centered services is just as critical to successful outcomes as the drive to conduct innovative science that yields more effective therapies.

Over the past seven years, the Kleins have witnessed firsthand that as ovarian cancer evolves, a patient



Patty Klein shared her story at the Susan F. Smith Center Executive Council Breakfast in April.

will go through many therapeutic options. An advocate who is dedicated to raising awareness for new drug research, Patty notes that, "Of all the drugs I am offered now, none were available in 2010."

Determined to create further progress, the Kleins are active members of the Dana-Farber community, and recently gave \$345,000 to support a phase 1 study led by Panagiotis Konstantopoulos, MD, PhD. His team is working to develop a personalized neoantigen vaccine combined with an immunotherapy for treatment of advanced and recurrent ovarian cancer. Similar vaccines have shown promising results against other forms of cancer, but this is the first time that a version for ovarian cancer is being researched.

Novel treatments for late-stage ovarian cancer are important to the Kleins, who said, "If progress isn't happening all the time, then patients have nothing to hope for. We want to give hope to people who have been fighting and need something new." ■

## Longstanding partnership accelerates research progress



### Twenty-one years ago, when

Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation (MMRF) founder Kathy Giusti was diagnosed with multiple myeloma, no new treatments had been developed in decades, and patients were living just three years from diagnosis. From its inception in 1998, MMRF joined forces with Ken Anderson, MD, director of Dana-Farber's Jerome Lipper Multiple Myeloma Center and LeBow Institute for Myeloma

Therapeutics and Kraft Family Professor of Medicine, to jumpstart drug discovery and development.

The results are stunning. MMRF has directed more than \$10 million to Dana-Farber, supporting more than 40 research grants and more than 30 clinical trials via the Multiple Myeloma Research Consortium. In the past year, MMRF has supported many new translational research projects and opened more than 10 clinical trials at Dana-Farber.

Recently, through the generosity of Ron and Anita Wornick, MMRF awarded \$100,000 to Nikhil Munshi, MD, the Lipper Center's director of Basic and Correlative Science. Munshi is examining immunotherapy and molecular manipulation in the treatment of multiple myeloma, hoping to identify novel drug targets. "This extraordinary collaboration between the MMRF and Dana-Farber allows promising laboratory discoveries to be brought quickly to the clinical setting," said Paul Giusti, president and CEO of MMRF. "Countless patients will benefit from better treatments and, eventually, cures." ■

**"Countless patients will benefit from better treatments and, eventually, cures."**

— PAUL GIUSTI, president and CEO, MMRF

## Music Heals the Soul celebrates 10 years on a high note

On April 24, more than 250 guests gathered at the House of Blues in Boston for the 10th annual Music Heals the Soul event to raise nearly \$250,000 for the Leonard P. Zakim Center for Integrative Therapies and Healthy Living at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Attendees enjoyed a performance by pop singer Darlene Love, a member of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame who has backed artists including Aretha Franklin and Frank Sinatra.

Established in 2000, the Leonard P. Zakim Center for Integrative Therapies and Healthy Living honors Lenny Zakim, a passionate advocate for an integrated approach to cancer

treatment. The Zakim Center is dedicated to improving the quality of life for cancer patients and their families by incorporating complementary therapies such as acupuncture, integrative nutrition, Reiki, and more into traditional cancer care.

With Jennifer Ligibel, MD, director of the Zakim Center, in attendance and former Dana-Farber patient and cancer survivor Kelly Tuthill serving as emcee, guests enjoyed delicious food from various restaurant stations located throughout the venue. Featured chefs included Jody Adams of TRADE and Porto, Trevor Smith of Copo Enoteca, and Emilio Garcia of Barcelona Wine Bar & Restaurant.

Reducing pain, stress, and anxiety while enhancing daily life is incredibly important for those with a cancer diagnosis. Music Heals the Soul raises vital funds to help patients improve their wellbeing through a stronger, all-encompassing treatment plan. ■



Singer Darlene Love (center) with Music Heals the Soul Co-Chairs (from left) Carol Kanin, Joyce Zakim, Linda Schwartz, and Laura Grant-Hunter.

## Anna Fuller Fund drives research to improve diagnosis and treatment

When businessman Egbert Chaplain Fuller lost his wife, Anna, to cancer, he decided to establish a charitable fund in her honor. Since 1932, the Anna Fuller Fund has supported cutting-edge cancer research at leading institutions like Dana-Farber.

The fund recently awarded grants totaling nearly \$168,000 to Institute investigators Andrew Lane, MD, PhD, and Sapna Syngal, MD, MPH.

With this support, Lane is testing novel therapeutic approaches to help patients with acute myeloid leukemia (AML). "Thanks to this grant, we are learning more about how to target key mechanisms involved in driving AML," said Lane. "We hope that our findings will ultimately expand treatment options for patients."

Syngal is leveraging her grant to better predict which individuals are most likely to develop cancer based on their genetic makeup. "My laboratory is creating models to improve hereditary cancer risk assessment," said Syngal. "This work could result in new tools for primary

**"We are proud to partner with Dana-Farber toward this important mission to help more patients with cancer."**

— JIM PARKER, co-trustee of the Anna Fuller Fund

care practices to effectively identify high-risk patients."

By advancing studies like these, the Anna Fuller Fund is helping to expedite improvements in cancer diagnosis and treatment. "We support innovative projects like those led by Drs. Lane and Syngal, which demonstrate great potential to improve therapies and clinical outcomes," said Jim Parker, vice president at Wells Fargo Private Bank and co-trustee of the Anna Fuller Fund. "We are proud to partner with Dana-Farber toward this important mission to help more patients with cancer." ■

## Jimmy Fund FitFest is a day of fitness and inspiration



### The second annual Jimmy Fund

FitFest presented by Reebok was held in May, at the DCR Memorial Hatch Shell on the Charles River Esplanade in Boston. Despite a little rain, more than 300 participants and sponsors came out to get fit and fight cancer, raising more than \$160,000 to support research and care at Dana-Farber.

Olympic gold medalist Aly Raisman started the morning by leading participants in a warm up.

"My grandmother passed away from lung cancer a couple of years ago, so to be able to be a part of this event is very, very special to me," said Aly. The event continued with five different workout classes taught by some of Boston's best trainers. Classes included Barry's Bootcamp, CorePower Yoga, CrossFit Back Bay, EverybodyFights, and Les Mills, allowing all fitness levels to participate in a day that left people feeling accomplished and inspired.

The event featured motivating speeches from Dana-Farber patients including Megan Savage, a participant and top fundraiser for Jimmy Fund

FitFest. "Staying positive is looking at this place you're stuck in, and knowing you will come out better and stronger on the other side of

it," said Megan. "I tried my best to stay positive throughout my cancer treatment. A great support system made this so much easier." ■



Olympic gold medalist Aly Raisman (in light blue jacket) with top fundraising team The Rak Pak at the 2017 Jimmy Fund FitFest presented by Reebok.

## Hellenic Women's Club aims to make breast cancer history

**A**t Dana-Farber, researchers are developing new therapies for cancers that are otherwise

resistant to treatment. In support of this work, the Hellenic Women's Club recently made a \$100,000



From left: Pamela Lazares, chair of the Demetra Fund; Jackie McCabe, co-chair of "Blooming Pink"; Matt Dunphy, general manager of Bloomingdale's Chestnut Hill, presenting sponsor; Jamie Monovoukas, co-chair of "Blooming Pink"; and Felicia Kiehm, president of the Hellenic Women's Club.

gift through the Demetra Fund for Breast Cancer Research and Patient Assistance to advance the efforts of Eugen Dhimolea, PhD, and Constantine Mitsiades, MD, PhD.

Dhimolea and Mitsiades have developed a type of laboratory model that more accurately simulates how tumors—including metastatic cancers—function within the human body. Using this model, the investigators will be able to grow tumor cells from patients with various breast cancer subtypes, which they can then use to study the efficacy of various therapeutic options.

"Our club members are so thrilled to fund the groundbreaking research of Drs. Mitsiades and Dhimolea,"

said Pamela Lazares, chair of the Demetra Fund. "From the start, we were so impressed by their dedication and expertise, and we know they are making important progress in the fight against breast cancer."

The Hellenic Women's Club is devoted to advancing philanthropic causes in New England. Through events like this year's third annual "Blooming Pink" fundraiser presented by Bloomingdale's—which brought together nearly 175 people in May for an evening of fashion, cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, and music—club members continue to invest their talents and energy in support of Dana-Farber's critical research and other important endeavors. ■

**Impact | FALL 2017 | Volume 20 Issue 4**

*Impact* is a newsletter of Dana-Farber Cancer Institute published by the Division of Development & the Jimmy Fund.

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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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ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

# FALL 2017 Volume 20 | Issue 4

# Impact

THANKING THOSE WHO MAKE A DIFFERENCE



Chairman of the Jimmy Fund Larry Lucchino (left) had a busy summer, raising awareness and support for Dana-Farber by attending Jimmy Fund events across the region. A two-time cancer survivor treated at Dana-Farber, Lucchino greatly enjoys meeting fellow patients and survivors, including Angelo Bellia, 19, of Saugus, Mass.

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

For more information on all Jimmy Fund and Dana-Farber events and programs, go to [jimmyfund.org](http://jimmyfund.org) or [dana-farber.org](http://dana-farber.org)

OCTOBER 8

### B.A.A. Half Marathon®



Register now to join the official Dana-Farber team and raise funds to conquer cancer, or make a gift to support a runner. Visit [RunDanaFarber.org](http://RunDanaFarber.org) or contact Kelly Wicks at 617-632-1970 or DFRunners@dfci.harvard.edu.

OCTOBER 10-12

### QVC presents FFANY Shoes on Sale

Join the Fashion Footwear Association of New York at this gala and charitable shoe sale at New York City's Waldorf Astoria to support the Susan F. Smith Center for Women's Cancers, or shop during QVC's live broadcast. Visit [FFANY.org](http://FFANY.org) or contact Quincey Spagnoletti at 617-632-5381 or QuinceyM\_Spagnoletti@dfci.harvard.edu.

OCTOBER 16

### Sunrise to Sunset Jimmy Fund Golf Tournament

This 36-hole golf tournament on The International's premier courses, The Oaks and The Pines, includes prizes for the top fundraisers and top golfers. Visit [SunrisetoSunsetGolf.org](http://SunrisetoSunsetGolf.org) or contact Katie McGuirk at 617-632-6603 or Katherine\_McGuirk@dfci.harvard.edu.



OCTOBER 21

### Dana-Farber's UnMask Cancer

Presented by The Herb Chambers Companies

At the fourth annual event, enjoy live entertainment, delicious bites, and signature cocktails while raising funds to unlock the mysteries of cancer. Visit [UnMaskCancer.org](http://UnMaskCancer.org) or contact Quincey Spagnoletti at 617-632-5381 or QuinceyM\_Spagnoletti@dfci.harvard.edu.



NOVEMBER 11

### Fall Formal

Join a thousand of your closest friends at the third annual Fall Formal, where Boston-area young professionals dress up and have fun while raising vital funds for Dana-Farber. Visit [FallFormal.com](http://FallFormal.com) or contact Julie Wood at 617-632-8387 or Julie\_Wood@dfci.harvard.edu.

NOW-DECEMBER 1

### Cheer for Dana-Farber®

Presented by Plymouth Rock Assurance

Empower cheerleading squads to conquer cancer through fundraising. Top fundraising squads win the chance to perform prior to a New England Patriots home game or participate in a cheer clinic with New England Patriots Cheerleaders. Visit [CheerForDanaFarber.org](http://CheerForDanaFarber.org) or contact Sarah Hunt at 617-632-5461 or SarahW\_Hunt@dfci.harvard.edu.



NOW-DECEMBER 15

### Kick for Dana-Farber

Score big with your soccer team by raising funds to support Dana-Farber's lifesaving mission. Participating teams are entered to win an on-field Rally Tunnel experience with the New England Revolution at a 2017 home game as well as other great prizes. Visit [KickForDanaFarber.org](http://KickForDanaFarber.org) or contact Katherine Bahrawy at 617-632-3863 or KatherineL\_Bahrawy@dfci.harvard.edu.



NOW-DECEMBER 31

### Dana-Farber Holiday Cards & Gifts

Presented by Amica Insurance



Embrace a holiday tradition that's full of hope. Purchase cards and gifts and spread cheer while making a difference in the fight against cancer. View the complete collection at [Dana-FarberHoliday.org](http://Dana-FarberHoliday.org).

