



Dana-Farber Cancer Institute Trustee Judy Hale and her son, Rob, are dedicated to advancing research and bringing new therapies to patients with pancreatic cancer.

Hale family builds legacy of eradicating pancreatic cancer with new \$15 million gift

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute Trustee Judy Hale and her son, Rob, have committed \$15 million to establish the Hale Family Research Center to advance pancreatic cancer research at the Institute. This is the Hale family's second transformative gift in three years, bringing their total giving to \$25 million since 2012.

The Hales' commitment will enable Dana-Farber researchers to better understand the underlying biology of pancreatic cancer, identify new methods of early detection, create targeted clinical trials, and develop new drugs to improve outcomes for patients.

"In making this new gift, we want to significantly accelerate the pace of new therapies for patients with pancreatic cancer," said Judy Hale. "We cannot imagine a better life legacy than helping to ultimately cure this terrible disease."

The gift is in honor of Judy's late husband, Bob, who was treated at Dana-Farber. Longtime supporters of the Institute, Judy and Bob established the Robert T. Hale Sr. and Judith B. Hale Fund for Pancreatic Cancer Research in 2007. Five years later, Judy made a \$10 million commitment to Dana-Farber to create the Hale Family Center for Pancreatic Cancer, the Robert T. and Judith B. Hale Chair

in Pancreatic Cancer, and to support the Yawkey Center for Cancer Care.

"The Hales' steadfast dedication to Dana-Farber has provided the necessary resources to propel pancreatic cancer research forward and lay the foundation for greater clinical application," said Dana-Farber President and CEO Edward J. Benz Jr., MD. "Thanks to their most recent generosity, our multidisciplinary team of physician-scientists will be able to further this progress with additional genomic research and analysis, along with chemical biology, to accelerate the pace of discovery and applications of those discoveries to more effective therapies."

The gift will support pioneering research led

by 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; Nathanael Gray, PhD, the Nancy Lurie Marks Professor of Biological Chemistry and Molecular Pharmacology; and William Hahn, MD, PhD, chief of the Division of Molecular and Cellular Oncology and co-director of the Center for Cancer Genome Discovery.

Fuchs and his team most recently identified three



Charles Fuchs, MD, MPH, is director of the Hale Family Center for Pancreatic Cancer and the Robert T. and Judith B. Hale Chair in Pancreatic Cancer at Dana-Farber.



Dana-Farber Cancer Institute has been the top ranked cancer hospital in New England by U.S. News and World Report for 15 consecutive years, and is the only cancer center in the country ranked in the top 4 for both adult and pediatric cancer programs.



4
Cracking the
Cancer Code



6
Powering
Pediatric
Discovery



11
No Half
Measures

"In making this new gift, we want to significantly accelerate the pace of new therapies for patients with pancreatic cancer. We cannot imagine a better life legacy than helping to ultimately cure this terrible disease."

—JUDY HALE, Institute Trustee

circulating amino acids, the building blocks of proteins, that were dramatically higher in people who developed pancreatic cancer. These results could help identify more useful predictors of pancreatic cancer by developing a screening test to aid in early diagnosis.

In addition to their personal commitment to Dana-Farber, the Hales' company, Granite Telecommunications, and its employees make significant gifts to the Institute, as well as to other charities in the community. Since 2008, annual corporate events at Granite Telecommunications have cumulatively raised more than \$8 million for Dana-Farber and the Jimmy Fund. ■



Dear Friends,

Spring is the season of possibilities, and we are excited by the possibilities that abound with the recent appointment of Laurie H. Glimcher, MD, as the next president and CEO of Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, detailed at the right. An internationally recognized immunologist with experience leading a major academic medical institution, Glimcher's close ties to the Harvard medical community and passion for both cancer research and patient care position her perfectly to build on the powerful legacy of growth and leadership established by Edward J. Benz Jr., MD, who retires at the end of 2016.

New possibilities have also emerged from the labs and clinics of Dana-Farber. In just the past two months, our researchers discovered the genetic cause of a rare pediatric brain tumor, identified a previously unknown cause of drug resistance in ovarian cancer, and identified the first potential targeted drug for triple-negative breast cancer. These discoveries hold tremendous promise for our patients, and are only possible with your support.

We are exceedingly grateful for a phenomenal new \$15 million gift from Institute Trustee Judy Hale and her son, Robert Hale Jr. This transformative gift established the Hale Family Research Center at Dana-Farber, and builds on the Hale Family's historic support of the Institute's research in pancreatic cancer to further advance early detection, clinical trials, and new drugs.

A longtime donor who prefers to remain anonymous is accelerating Dana-Farber's momentum in lung cancer discovery with a tremendous new gift of \$1.5 million to support research translating genomic discoveries into new treatments for patients.

Inspired by the Institute's groundbreaking success in harnessing the body's immune system to attack many types of cancer, the Carney Family Foundation extended their loyal generosity with a marvelous new \$1 million gift to support the development of targeted immune therapies for breast cancer.

The Breast Cancer Research Foundation continued more than two decades of investment in Dana-Farber investigators with grants totaling \$2.25 million to drive research aimed at both preventing and curing breast cancer.

Our donors' confidence in the exceptional expertise of our physician-scientists is reflected in the National Cancer Institute's recognition of several Dana-Farber researchers with Outstanding Investigator Awards, described in the quarterly update below. Such awards only cover a portion of the cost of research, and it is your generous contributions that fill that gap. Thank you for empowering Dana-Farber to aggressively pursue the pioneering discoveries and treatments that improve the lives of our patients and their families.

Sincerely,

Susan S. Paresky
Senior Vice President for Development

Laurie H. Glimcher, MD, named president of Dana-Farber

Laurie H. Glimcher, MD, an internationally recognized immunologist, has been named the next president and CEO of Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, the Board of Trustees announced on Feb. 23. Glimcher is currently the Stephen and Suzanne Weiss Dean of the Medical College at Weill Cornell Medicine in New York City, where she is also professor of medicine and provost for medical affairs at Cornell University.

"Dr. Glimcher is in many ways an ideal choice for Dana-Farber," said Josh Bekenstein, chairman of the Dana-Farber Board of Trustees. "She is a distinguished immunologist, widely renowned for her work in one of the most promising areas of cancer research. She has had extraordinary success as the leader of a major academic medical institution. Most importantly, she has a deep understanding of the latest developments in cancer research and care, and a clear vision of how Dana-Farber can most powerfully affect the fight against cancer."

Glimcher will begin at Dana-Farber in January, and current President Edward J. Benz Jr., MD, has agreed to remain as president until her arrival at the Institute. She will also be a professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School.

The Dana-Farber CEO plays an important role across the Harvard University-affiliated health sciences organizations, and Glimcher will serve as president of Dana-Farber/Partners Cancer Care, principal investigator of Dana-Farber/Harvard Cancer Center, and trustee of Dana-Farber/Boston Children's Hospital Cancer Care.

"It is an enormous honor and

privilege to be chosen as the next leader of Dana-Farber Cancer Institute," said Glimcher. "The opportunity to advance Dana-Farber's groundbreaking research and to improve the care available to patients with cancer is truly special to me, and I am thrilled to be returning home to Boston. Cancer research and care have reached a transformative moment in science, and I look forward to working with all of Dana-Farber's clinicians and scientists to find innovative therapies in the coming years."

Glimcher has strong ties to the Harvard medical community. Prior to joining Weill Cornell Medicine, Glimcher was the Irene Heinz Given Professor of Immunology at the Harvard School of Public Health, and Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School, where she headed one

Continued on page 4



Laurie H. Glimcher, MD, will succeed Edward J. Benz Jr., MD, as president and CEO of Dana-Farber in January 2017.

Quarterly update on federal funding at Dana-Farber

Five Dana-Farber researchers—Levi Garraway, MD, PhD; Matthew Meyerson, MD, PhD; Shuji Ogino, MD, PhD, MS; Kornelia Polyak, MD, PhD; and Loren Walensky, MD, PhD—are among of the first recipients of the National Cancer Institute's Outstanding Investigator Award.

This prestigious award supports investigators with exceptional records of productivity in cancer research, with the goal of providing extended funding that emboldens them to continue or embark on projects of unusual potential. The award provides up to \$600,000 in direct costs per year for seven years, allowing substantial time for funded investigators to take greater risks in their research. Of the 27 institutions with award winners,

Dana-Farber received the most awards.

The studies pursued by Dana-Farber's award recipients exemplify the comprehensive scope of the Institute's expertise, ranging from disease-specific research to investigations with implications for all types of cancer in its many forms.

Garraway, who directs Dana-Farber's Joint Center for Cancer Precision Medicine, a collaborative initiative with Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston Children's Hospital, and the Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard, will study the resistance mechanisms to cancer therapy, aimed at yielding new insights into dependencies and illuminating guiding principles for the design of novel therapeutic combinations.

Meyerson, co-director of the Center for Cancer Genome Discovery at Dana-Farber, will research significant alterations in the DNA of lung cancers and their link to disease progression. The findings stand to uncover new approaches to combat lung cancer.

Ogino will conduct molecular pathological epidemiology (MPE) research on colorectal cancers to better understand the roles of environmental, diet, lifestyle, immunity, and genetic factors in inter- and intra-tumor molecular heterogeneity. He will also use the MPE paradigm to expand several new frontiers of health sciences.

Exploring the hypothesis that heterogeneity within tumors drives metastasis and drug resistance in

breast cancers, Polyak's work strives to improve clinical strategies for patients.

Walensky, pediatric oncologist and principal investigator in the Linde Family Program in Cancer Chemical Biology, will study key protein interactions of the BCL-2 family that cause cancer and resistance to treatment. Working at the interface of chemistry, biology, and cancer medicine, Walensky seeks new therapeutic strategies for reactivating cell death in human cancer.

Philanthropy plays a crucial role in providing investigators with the resources they need to develop the proven scientific track records required to secure such esteemed, highly competitive federal awards. ■

\$1.5 million gift spurs lung cancer research

An anonymous donor recently made an exceptionally generous \$1.5 million gift to support the pioneering thoracic cancer research of Pasi Jänne, MD, PhD. With collective gifts of nearly \$5 million since 2009, the donor recognizes the critical need for breakthrough developments in lung cancer therapies, and feels passionate that Jänne and his laboratory team have the knowledge, skills, and tools to revolutionize treatments for lung cancer patients everywhere.

A recognized leader in this disease area, Jänne, director of the Carole M. and Philip L. Lowe Center for Thoracic Oncology and co-scientific director of the Robert and Renée Belfer Center for Applied Cancer Science, has focused on developing therapies for specific subsets of lung cancers, as well as determining new genomic subsets of the disease. His research combines laboratory-based, pre-clinical studies using model systems with clinical and translational studies of lung cancer patients.

This \$1.5 million gift will help Jänne and his team channel resources needed to generate the next wave

of lung cancer therapies. Jänne’s objective is to create scientific models based on actual cancer patients’ tumors to understand and explore the biological reasoning behind why particular combinations of therapies are effective for some lung cancer patients and less effective for others.

“Ultimately, the vast majority of lung cancer will be defined as a genetic disease where we study a patient’s cancer in detail before treatment,” said Jänne. “We can then use that information to determine the most appropriate therapy or therapeutic combination for that patient. But, in order to get to that point, funding is imperative, and this gift is equipping me and my team with the resources needed to get there.”

This behind-the-scenes donor aimed for his \$1.5 million gift to shine a brighter light on cancer research, particularly Jänne’s lung cancer research. As a longtime Dana-Farber supporter, the donor has seen progress in the fight against cancer, wholeheartedly believes in Dana-Farber’s mission, and hopes that this gift will inspire and prompt others to show their support as well.

“I am pleased to support a disease area that is in critical need of advancements, and I know Dr. Jänne can make great strides.”

— ANONYMOUS DONOR



An anonymous donor made a generous gift to support pioneering lung cancer research led by Pasi Jänne, MD, PhD.

“Dr. Jänne’s cutting-edge lung cancer research intrigued me, and after meeting with him to learn more, I have immense confidence in his work and his team,” said the donor. “I am pleased to support a disease area that is in critical need of advancements, and I know Dr. Jänne can make great strides.”

Jänne’s work bridges the research and clinical worlds of Dana-Farber by offering the latest treatment developments to cancer patients in the form of clinical studies and new

treatments. This work model is the foundation of Dana-Farber’s “Discover. Care. Believe.” platform, and one that Dana-Farber President and CEO, Edward J. Benz Jr., MD, encourages.

“In the last several years, Dr. Jänne and his research team have continued to lead the field in identifying and mastering the genetic composition of lung cancers. With an incredible gift like this, we can remain at the forefront of that discovery and change the lives of our patients,” said Benz. ■

Aid for Cancer Research surpasses \$1 million in cumulative giving

Aid for Cancer Research (ACR), an all-volunteer women’s group that supports major cancer research initiatives, has been a dedicated supporter of Dana-Farber for 68 years. In 2015, ACR surpassed \$1 million in cumulative giving and was inducted into the Dana-Farber Founders Society at a special ceremony in September.

ACR’s most recent gift will advance research in the Susan F. Smith Center for Women’s Cancers using patient-derived xenografts (PDX), an exciting technology that is having a significant impact on the development and testing of new therapies for metastatic breast cancer. ACR’s past gifts have provided equipment such as a next-generation sequencer and a laser-scanning cytometer, funded research fellows, and supported many other important initiatives. Below, at the Founders Society induction (from left): Eric Winer, MD, chief of the Division of Women’s Cancers, director of the Breast Oncology Program in the Susan F. Smith Center for Women’s Cancers, and Thompson Chair in Breast Cancer Research at Dana-Farber; and members of Aid for Cancer Research Joni Herson, Lynne Segill, Elaine Klubock, June Weinberg, and Elisa Silverman.



The Resolution by PMC: cycling toward a mission to conquer cancer

Getting in shape is always a popular New Year’s pledge, and more than 400 people adopted it in style for 2016 by helping launch a unique new fundraiser for the Pan-Mass Challenge (PMC) to benefit Dana-Farber and the Jimmy Fund.

The Resolution by PMC, the first indoor cycling event from the Pan-Mass Challenge, was held at The Club by George Foreman III in the Seaport District on Jan. 2 and 3. Offering a new spin on traditional bike-a-thons, The Resolution also jumpstarted fundraising efforts for the 2016 PMC, which aims to raise \$46 million for cancer research and clinical care at Dana-Farber.

“We are thrilled to introduce the camaraderie and culture of commitment of our organization to a new group of fitness enthusiasts,” said Billy Starr, founder and executive director of the PMC, and a Dana-Farber Trustee. “The cyclists and instructors who participated came together and motivated one another to fight for an effort much larger than themselves.”

LaTorre family continues legacy of support with gift to drive basic science discovery

Driven by their deep commitment to Dana-Farber’s mission, Institute Trustee James LaTorre and his wife, Lisa, have extended their longtime support of Dana-Farber Cancer Institute with a gift of \$100,000 to fund the work of Loren Walensky, MD, PhD, associate professor of Pediatric Oncology at Dana-Farber.



Institute Trustee James LaTorre and his wife, Lisa, are longtime supporters of Dana-Farber.

In 2007, LaTorre made a generous gift to sponsor two students in a research experience where they would be able to learn multidisciplinary approaches to finding cancer cures under Walensky’s guidance. It was his hope that the experience would inspire these individuals to further their careers in academic cancer medicine.

Since then, Walensky’s program has become the first choice for graduate student education in drug discovery. With this understanding, the LaTorres’ most recent gift makes it possible for Walensky and his team to continue to drive innovative drug discoveries by funding training for graduate students participating in this program.

“My wife and I have been committed to the growth of these young minds from the start,” said LaTorre. “We hope that this additional support will continue to inspire them in their efforts to find cancer cures.” ■

Advancing technology is the focus of Lafonds’ gift

Technology holds the potential to solve some of science’s most vexing problems.

Understanding this, James and Sandra Lafond have made a \$150,000 gift to create the Lafond Family Fund for Innovative Technologies. The fund, managed by Dana-Farber’s Chief Scientific Officer and Linde Family Professor of Medicine Barrett Rollins, MD, PhD, will help to ensure the Institute can invest in the equipment needed to

keep the Institute at the forefront of cancer research.

“The major changes that are happening in health care and cancer research are being advanced by technology,” said James Lafond. “Especially in the field of genetics, there’s a lot going on. We hope this gift allows Dana-Farber to continue to stay on the cutting edge.”

This gift is yet another way the Lafonds are demonstrating their support and dedication to Dana-Farber; they have also included Dana-Farber in their estate and are members of the Dana-Farber Society.

The Lafonds’ commitment to cracking the cancer code is motivated by personal experience. Sandra is a breast cancer survivor, and she has lost many family members to cancer. The Lafonds’ young grandson was also recently diagnosed with bone marrow disease, and is doing well after chemotherapy.

“After my grandson was diagnosed, we did a lot of research and realized that Dana-Farber has the best program,” said Sandra. “We knew right away that this was the place to support groundbreaking research.” ■



James and Sandra Lafond are advancing innovative technologies at Dana-Farber with their new gift.

Forbeck Foundation grant spurs scientist to continue her research



WILLIAM GUY FORBECK
RESEARCH FOUNDATION
wgfrf.org

“This grant encourages collaboration with other institutions and novel experiments to hopefully find new paths to fight cancer.”

— **JAMIE FORBECK COLLINS**,
Executive Director, William Guy Forbeck Research Foundation

For several years, Dana-Farber investigator Julie-Aurore Losman, MD, PhD, has studied mutations to a metabolic protein, IDH, that drive many forms of cancer. With a \$145,000 Collaborative Research Grant from the William Guy Forbeck Research Foundation, Losman is

continuing that research to gain a clearer picture of how mutant IDH mediates cellular transformation and how best to reverse that process.

Mutations to IDH produce high levels of a metabolite that promotes the transformation of normal cells to cancerous cells by inhibiting the function of tumor suppressor genes. With the grant, Losman is conducting a comprehensive structure-function analysis of the mutant IDH protein.

“The generosity of the Forbeck Foundation has provided me with vital support to undertake experiments that I otherwise would not have been able to do,” said Losman.

Collaborative Research Grants foster partnerships between scientists and institutions. Losman is teaming up on the project with Cory Johannessen, PhD, of the Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard.

“The Forbeck Foundation is very excited to fund Collaborative Research Grants,” said Executive Director Jamie Forbeck Collins. “This grant encourages collaboration with other institutions and novel experiments to hopefully find new paths to fight cancer.” ■

Glimcher named Dana-Farber president continued from page 2

of the top immunology programs in the world. She is widely considered to be one of the world leaders in understanding cellular differentiation pathways in lymphocytes and has made seminal discoveries of key transcription factors that drive lineage commitment and activation in the immune system. Most recently she has discovered a critical signaling pathway in both tumor cells and host immune responses, translating her basic discoveries in the control of immune cell differentiation into a new approach to cancer immunotherapy.

Glimcher received her postdoctoral training at Harvard and in the Laboratory of Immunology at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases in Bethesda, Maryland, and is board certified in Internal Medicine and Rheumatology. She received her BA degree from Radcliffe College and her MD from Harvard Medical School.

She has contributed more than 350 scholarly articles and papers to the medical literature. In addition, she is a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, a member of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences

and a member of the National Academy of Sciences. She is the former president of the American Association of Immunologists.

In addition, she has been honored by many organizations, including the Soma Weiss Award for Undergraduate Research, the Distinguished Young Investigator Award from the American College of Rheumatology, the Leukemia Society’s Stohlman Memorial Scholar Award, the Arthritis Foundation’s Lee S. Howley Award, the FASEB Excellence in Science Award, the American Society of Clinical Investigation Investigator Award, the Klemperer Award, the AAUW Senior Scholar Award, the Huang Meritorious Career Award, the AAI Excellence in Mentoring Award, the Dean’s Award for Leadership in the Advancement of Women Faculty, the American College of Rheumatology Distinguished Investigator Award, the Ernst Bertner Award and the William Coley Award, among others. Most recently, Glimcher received the Indiana University School of Medicine Steven C. Beering Award for outstanding research contributions to advancement of biomedical or clinical science, and the L’Oréal-UNESCO Award for Women in Science. ■

Carney Family drives breast cancer immuno-oncology research with \$1 million gift

Over the last decade, the Carney Family has experienced firsthand Dana-Farber’s unique balance of compassionate patient care and forward-thinking research. Following the loss of a beloved sister and aunt to metastatic breast cancer in 2004, the Carney Family Charitable Foundation established the Virginia Czerny Research Fund in her honor, under the direction of Virginia’s oncologist, Eric Winer, MD, chief clinical strategy officer, chief of the Division of Women’s Cancers, director of the Breast Oncology Program in the Susan F. Smith Center for Women’s Cancers, and Thompson Chair in Breast Cancer Research at Dana-Farber.

“From the first meeting with Dr. Winer, we knew we were in an environment that would give Virginia the very best care,” said Lillian Carney, Virginia’s sister. “We witnessed his ability to care for patients and conduct research at the same time.”

The Carney Family Charitable Foundation has continued to generously fund research at Dana-Farber, and was recently inspired by scientific advances in the field of immuno-oncology to establish a new fund of \$1 million under Winer’s direction. The Carney Family Charitable Foundation Fund for Breast Cancer Immuno-Oncology supports a focused effort to lay the groundwork for Dana-Farber’s own comprehensive immuno-oncology program in breast cancer.

“We now wish to help further the understanding of metastatic breast cancer and think that many answers to finding a cure for cancer may lie in immuno-oncology research,” said Carney. “We feel

“The Carney Family Charitable Foundation feels strongly that the research at Dana-Farber is helping us all receive innovative, state-of-the-art treatments for our cancers.”

— LILLIAN CARNEY



Eric Winer, MD, will lead research focused on bringing immunotherapy discoveries to bear on treatments for breast cancer, with support from the Carney Family.

immunotherapies have the potential to revolutionize the way many forms of cancer are treated.”

Around the time that Virginia Czerny was treated at Dana-Farber, Dana-Farber researcher Gordon Freeman, PhD, made a seminal discovery that helped to launch a new field of immunotherapy research, unleashing the body’s own abilities to fight cancer. Since that time, Dana-Farber has established the Center for Immuno-Oncology, conducted many clinical trials, and contributed to the FDA approval of several immunotherapy drugs.

Winer looks forward to capitalizing on these discoveries to bring targeted immune therapies to women with breast cancer.

“We’re incredibly excited about the potential of this new initiative,” said Winer. “In the near term, the Carney family’s generous support will enable us to grow our clinical research team with new staff dedicated to investigating the potential of immunotherapies in treating breast cancer. Ultimately, we hope that early successes will lead to the establishment of a new program in breast cancer immuno-oncology within the Susan F. Smith Center for Women’s Cancers.”

Like many families, the Carneys have experienced more than their fair share of cancer and loss—with four family members treated at Dana-Farber—yet they remain optimistic. “The Carney Family Charitable Foundation feels strongly that the research at Dana-Farber is helping us all receive innovative, state-of-the-art treatments for our cancers,” said Carney. ■

Holiday Patient Assistance Program raises more than \$120,000 for patients and families in critical need

The Dana-Farber Holiday Patient Assistance Program raised more than \$120,000 for patients and families this past holiday season.

In 2015, social workers and resource specialists identified 330 patients and their families receiving treatment at Dana-Farber in critical financial need. Through the generosity of Dana-Farber employees, volunteers, friends, and longtime supporters like Deb Jacob, these patients experiencing the economic burden of their cancer diagnosis and treatment were assisted in purchasing gifts and holiday meals.

“I found a lump Christmas morning, 14 years ago,” said Deb Jacob, a supporter of

the Holiday Patient Assistance Program. “When I was diagnosed, my first thoughts were of my kids and husband—how to tell the kids and would I be there for their significant moments. That got me thinking of the impact on a mother like me and her family during the holidays. I wanted to keep things as ‘normal’ as possible, but what if I didn’t have the means? That’s when I thought of what I could do—give the patient and his/her family one day to be spared the reality of the situation, one day of magic. That’s how I started working with the Patient Assistance Program, and I have been doing it for more than 12 years now to help make the holidays a little brighter.” ■



Deb Jacob (center) and her “elves,” including Cheryl Hines and Connor Jacob, have supported the Holiday Patient Assistance Program for more than 12 years.



Red Sox legend Jason Varitek is 2015 Jimmy Award winner

Jason Varitek, the two-time World Series champion and longtime catcher and captain for the Boston Red Sox, received the 2015 Jimmy Award at the Jimmy Fund Golf Classic. Established in 1983, the Jimmy Award honors celebrities and individuals who have committed themselves to the mission of Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and the Jimmy Fund. Honorees demonstrate their dedication through support, encouragement, guidance, and friendship. Off the field, Varitek made many trips to Dana-Farber to meet with patients and spent time visiting with Jimmy Fund Clinic teens during their annual trips to Red Sox spring training. Varitek has also supported various Jimmy Fund events, including the WEEI/NESN Jimmy Fund Radio-Telethon, where he has made numerous on-air appearances. Among the many people Varitek mentioned in his acceptance speech was former Jimmy Fund Clinic patient Jordan Leandre (pictured with Varitek), whose courage and spirit inspired Varitek and his Red Sox teammates throughout his playing career.

Trust Family Foundation supports kidney cancer research



Martin and Dena Trust are supporting the research of Toni Choueiri, MD, to develop novel treatments for kidney cancer through their family foundation.

In a turbulent climate for research funding, the Trust Family Foundation wants to make sure that investigators at Dana-Farber have the assurance and continuity needed to continue to make progress in the development of novel cancer therapies. This motivated the family to make a gift of \$800,000 to support research by Toni Choueiri, MD, director of the Kidney Cancer Center at Dana-Farber.

“So far research has been successful at extending the lives of people with cancer, but there is no cure yet,” said Martin Trust, of the Trust Family Foundation. “Cancer affects so many families, and Dana-Farber has a stellar reputation with a clear mission to develop new therapies for cancer. That’s why we’re supporting Dr. Choueiri’s research.”

The Trusts spread their giving out over several years so that Choueiri can count on their contributions in the years to come. Longtime supporters of research at Dana-Farber, the family has watched the development of new therapies, and wants to continue to serve as a catalyst for studying new drugs to treat kidney cancer.

Their support will enable the Kidney Cancer Center to embark on an increased portfolio of research endeavors through the addition of a biostatistician and two visiting scientists.

The biostatistician will apply statistical methods to ensure successful design and analysis of laboratory, clinical, and population-based studies. The visiting scientists will assist with laboratory experiments and lead several projects including genomic investigations to identify new molecular targets for therapies. The kidney cancer team led by Choueiri plans to test any newly identified molecular targets against a large library of therapeutic compounds in laboratory models and clinical trials.

“I cannot tell you how grateful and thankful I am for this generous gift,” said Choueiri. “Marty has been a friend, advocate, and partner in the development of new therapies against kidney cancer, and his gift will help our mission to find a cure for kidney cancer by putting resources into our research.” ■

Alex’s Lemonade Stand Foundation propels progress with new grants

When 4-year-old Alexandra Scott decided to raise money for pediatric cancer research in 2000, she set up a lemonade stand and raised an incredible \$2,000. Alex—who had been battling neuroblastoma since her first birthday—continued to fundraise throughout her treatment to help other children with cancer. When Alex passed in 2004, her stand had raised more than \$1 million. To honor Alex’s generosity and dedication to finding new treatments, her family established Alex’s Lemonade Stand Foundation (ALSF) to raise awareness and funds for innovative pediatric cancer research projects.

This year, ALSF chose Mark Kieran, MD, PhD, director of Dana-Farber’s Pediatric Neuro-Oncology

Center, as the recipient of a \$250,000 Innovation Award, which is designed to allow senior investigators to undertake pioneering new avenues of study. Kieran is testing several novel drugs against medulloblastoma to learn whether these drugs can interfere with a key cell signaling process, which could help to improve outcomes for patients.

“These generous funds are enabling me to take the next critical steps in testing promising new drugs and treatment strategies,” said Kieran. “Thanks to Alex’s Lemonade Stand Foundation, I can evaluate an innovative therapeutic approach that might have tremendous impacts for patients battling medulloblastoma and other pediatric brain cancers.”

ALSF also selected five Dana-Farber

investigators—Tovah Day, PhD; Shuning He, PhD; Andrew Hong, MD; Ting Tao, PhD; and Leo Wang, MD, PhD—to receive \$100,000 Young Investigator Awards, which empower talented junior-level researchers to advance their promising, early-stage studies. These investigators are tackling projects aimed at testing novel technologies, uncovering the mechanisms driving pediatric cancers, and identifying effective drugs to treat challenging forms of disease.

“Through the dedication and tireless efforts of Alex’s Lemonade Stand Foundation’s supporters, we are striving to help ensure that children with cancer become childhood cancer survivors,” said Jay Scott, co-executive director of Alex’s Lemonade Stand Foundation. “We are proud

to support these projects at Dana-Farber, which will take us one step closer to uncovering more impactful treatments for young patients.” ■



Inspired by Alex and her commitment to helping children with cancer, the Alex’s Lemonade Stand Foundation gave grants totaling more than \$750,000 to support pediatric cancer research at Dana-Farber in 2015.

Holiday Collection raises funds through gifts that give twice

Dana-Farber and the Jimmy Fund’s Holiday Collection, presented by Amica, provides an annual opportunity to find the perfect gift while impacting the fight against cancer, with 100 percent of the proceeds going toward breakthrough research and compassionate care at Dana-Farber. Available online, in the Yawkey Center for Cancer Care, and at various retail locations from September through December, the 2015 collection featured an attractive array of choice gifts made in New England: cards, candles, chocolates, ornaments, jewelry, gift baskets, and much more.

Started through the efforts of grassroots volunteers, the Holiday Collection has grown into an essential source of flexible support for Dana-Farber’s most pressing needs, having brought in more than \$7 million cumulatively, including more than \$650,000 in 2015. Companies are crucial to this annual campaign, by teaming up with the Jimmy Fund to provide merchandise for sale. Leading retailers such



Dedicated Institute supporters Baila Janock (left) and Bernard Manning were among volunteers who staffed a table outside the Lavine Family Dining Pavilion, featuring the Dana-Farber and Jimmy Fund Holiday Collection.

as The Paper Store, Stop and Shop, and Alex and Ani® featured various items from the Holiday Collection on display at their stores throughout New England. Additionally, some partners got involved through special events, such as Dancing Deer’s visit to the Jimmy Fund Clinic in November for gingerbread house building and decorating.

The Holiday Collection also depends upon the dedication of individuals, artists, patients, volunteers, Institute staff, members of the Friends of Dana-Farber, and other groups who all lend a helping hand. Longtime volunteer and Institute Trustee Phyllis “Fifi” Swerling Kellem said, “Supporting the Jimmy Fund is one of the best ways to give back during the holidays, and this collection provided a great chance to do this. It was inspiring to see so many people getting into the giving spirit this way.”

Dana-Farber remains grateful to all customers, companies, and volunteers for ensuring the continued success of the Holiday Collection. ■

A shared commitment to care for young women

The Chadwick/Cantin family has directed \$125,000 of funds raised in honor of Ellen Gabriel to support Ann Partridge, MD, MPH, founder and director of the Young and Strong program at Dana-Farber. Young and Strong was established in 2005 to help young women navigate the difficult journey after a breast cancer diagnosis, including fertility and reproductive options, genetics, and psychosocial matters.

To date, the program has helped more than 2,000 women and received much recognition, including a grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, for its impact through studies that bring together investigators from all over the world to explore challenges for breast cancer patients.

Having previously lost their respective spouses to cancer, Patricia Chadwick and Norm Cantin wish to honor their loved ones with the hope that no other family would have to endure their shared experience. The program’s special focus on the needs of this unique population of patients under Partridge resonated with the family. “Ann inspires us as a clinician and researcher,” said Chadwick. “Her work reminds us how important passionate clinical care is for young women who are diagnosed with breast

cancer. We are honored to support her efforts.” Additionally, Chadwick, a retired senior vice president at Bloomingdale’s, intends to leverage her professional experience to help expand the program’s impact beyond the Institute.

“Ann inspires us as a clinician and researcher. We are honored to support her efforts.”

—PATRICIA CHADWICK

“This generous gift allows the Program for Young Women with Breast Cancer to continue to expand our clinical and support services to improve care, and grow this invaluable research platform aimed at understanding the unique disease and psychosocial concerns of our young patients,” said Partridge. “This support will particularly target the enhanced study of fertility and premature menopause in the Young Women’s Breast Cancer cohort, an issue that is of utmost importance to this unique survivor population.” ■

Runners raise \$168,000 in Run Any Race program

Now in its 12th year, Dana-Farber’s Run Any Race program continues to help runners go the extra mile in support of cancer care and research at Dana-Farber. Run Any Race makes it fun and rewarding for runners to add a fundraising component to their individual race schedules.

“Every dollar counts in the fight against cancer, and the flexibility of Run Any Race makes it easy,” said runner Marie Caulfield. “I can’t imagine running a race without doing my part to support Dana-Farber—it makes every mile worth it.”

Participants register for any race, anytime, anywhere, and then use the Run Any Race website and other tools to raise funds to support the Institute’s mission. Collectively, 81 runners raised \$168,000 in 2015, bringing the program’s cumulative fundraising total to more than \$2.1 million since 2005. During that period, more than 1,300 individuals have participated in Run Any Race.

“I decided to raise money for Dana-Farber through the Bay State Marathon,” said Kevin Long. “The fundraising I have done will help Dana-Farber discover new treatments like the one that successfully treated my mom and



Run Any Race encourages runners of all abilities to register for any race, anytime, anywhere and raise funds to support Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

“I can’t imagine running a race without doing my part to support Dana-Farber—it makes every mile worth it.”

—MARIE CAULFIELD

helped her go into remission.”

No matter where you live, your running experience level, or your reason for running, making an important contribution to the fight against cancer is just steps away with Run Any Race. ■

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Boston Marathon® Jimmy Fund Walk Pacesetters take extra steps to conquer cancer



Last September, more than 8,900 walkers laced up their sneakers to walk all or part of the historic 26.2-mile route from Hopkinton to Boston for the 2015 Boston Marathon® Jimmy Fund Walk presented by Hyundai. More than 1,350 walkers achieved Pacesetter status by raising \$1,500 or more (\$500 for those 12 years old and younger) for Dana-Farber and the Jimmy Fund. Of the more than \$8.2 million raised, more than half was raised by Pacesetters.

A Pacesetter Exclusive Event, one of many Pacesetter benefits, was held at the Omni Parker House Hotel in Boston to recognize these outstanding achievements. Pediatric oncologist Allison O’Neill, MD, highlighted recent advances in both research and patient care made possible by Pacesetter support. Diana Lee, a Two-Star Pacesetter from Team Collier, shared her personal reasons for walking and successful fundraising tips.

Above, Pacesetter Lisa Rolfe (right) and her daughter, Lindsay, who volunteered at the finish line.

Breast Cancer Research Foundation’s steadfast generosity nears \$20 million



Since its founding in 1993, the Breast Cancer Research Foundation (BCRF) has demonstrated its commitment to preventing and curing breast cancer.

This year, with grants totaling \$2.25 million, BCRF supported 13 researchers at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. BCRF’s support for the last two decades underscores its unique approach to achieving prevention and a cure: seek out the brightest minds, then provide them with funding and flexibility to pursue their ideas.

“Every researcher will tell you that seed money is the hardest to come by, even though it is critical to moving forward,” said Judy Garber, MD, MPH, director of the Center for Cancer Genetics and Prevention at Dana-Farber. Garber is a longtime recipient of BCRF grants. “BCRF has made very important contributions to breast cancer because of the novelty of its funding approach by funding researchers and ideas, not projects.

That is a very different approach and nobody else does this. I think this model and the consistency of BCRF support from year to year allows investigators to collaborate and leverage funding that enables impact far beyond what you might expect from an individual investigator.”

Investigators at Dana-Farber have been funded annually by BCRF, and the foundation’s dedication to



Judy Garber, MD, MPH, has been a BCRF grantee since 2001.

supporting individual scientists gives them the freedom and opportunity to perform high-risk and strategic work. What develops is not only innovative new research, but a high level of trust between BCRF and the Institute’s physician-scientists.

In addition to Garber, BCRF grants for 2015-2016 were awarded to Ross Berkowitz, MD, surgical director of Gynecologic Oncology; Myles Brown, MD, director of the Center for Functional Cancer Epigenetics; Alan D’Andrea, MD, director of the Center for DNA Damage and Repair; William Kaelin Jr., MD; Nancy Lin, MD, clinical director of Breast Oncology; David Livingston, MD, deputy director of Dana-Farber/Harvard Cancer Center; Ursula Matulonis, MD, interim director of the Susan F. Smith Center for Women’s Cancers and medical director of Gynecologic Oncology; Kornelia Polyak, MD, PhD; Zhigang Charles Wang, MD, PhD; Eric Winer, MD, chief of the Division of Women’s Cancers, director of Breast Oncology, and Thompson Chair in Breast Cancer Research; and Jean Zhao, PhD.

Marc Hurlbert, PhD, BCRF’s new chief mission officer, succeeds

“BCRF is dedicated to ending breast cancer by advancing the world’s most promising research.”

— MARC HURLBERT, PHD, chief mission officer, BCRF

recently retired Peg Mastrianni, who served as deputy director and chief program officer for nearly 15 years and helped to shape the foundation into the world-renowned grantmaking organization it is today.

“This is an exciting time in cancer research,” said Hurlbert. “There has been tremendous progress made in the past few years. Women diagnosed with breast cancer are now living longer and with a better quality of life. There is still much more work, and BCRF is dedicated to ending breast cancer by advancing the world’s most promising research.” ■

Pediatric Advanced Care Team makes a profound difference

Miranda has spent much of her adolescence being treated for a rare cancer. The Pediatric Advanced Care Team (PACT) at Dana-Farber helps manage her physical pain and works with the family to make life as normal as possible. When she had her heart set on learning to drive, PACT helped her get a license and gain a precious sense of independence.

To expand the use of evidence-based practices that helped Miranda and her family, the United States

Cancer Pain Relief Committee (USCPRC) has provided \$200,000 in funding to Dana-Farber to lead the Pediatric Palliative Care Research Network (PPCRN), a collaboration of leading children’s hospitals that conducts multi-site studies to improve quality of care for children with life-threatening illnesses.

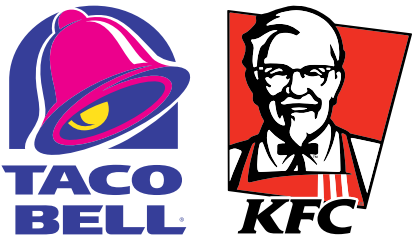
“Because so few children are diagnosed with cancer and other serious illnesses, it is challenging for a single institution to recruit the number of patients necessary for a valid sample size,” said Kathy Foley, MD, palliative care expert and advisor to the United States Cancer Pain Relief Committee. “Our investment will accelerate the pace of the transformative research PPCRN is already doing.”

Joanne Wolfe, MD, MPH, Dana-Farber’s division chief of Pediatric Palliative Care Services, helped found PPCRN and serves as its co-director. “Funding from the USCPRC came at a critical time, said Wolfe. “We’ve been able to continue to support talented junior investigators in pursuing pediatric palliative care research, and we are building an infrastructure that will enable us to share data across our centers.” ■



With funding from the United States Cancer Pain Relief Committee, Joanne Wolfe, MD, MPH, is leading a multi-institutional research effort to improve the quality of care for children with cancer.

“Strike Out Cancer” is a home run



The fall of 2015 marked the 14th annual “Strike Out Cancer” baseball pin-up program. At participating Taco Bell, KFC, and The Paper Store locations across New England, customers had the opportunity to give \$1, \$3, or \$5 at the register to support Dana-Farber Cancer Institute’s mission to conquer cancer. The promotion took place at The Paper Store from July 22 to Aug. 16, and at participating Taco Bell and KFC locations from Sept. 30 to Oct. 20. In exchange for their gift,

customers received a pin-up baseball to personalize and proudly display onsite. These generous customers helped this year’s Strike Out Cancer raise nearly \$130,000, bringing the program’s cumulative total to more than \$2 million for Dana-Farber and the Jimmy Fund.

“Our ‘Strike Out Cancer’ drive is a throwback to the original Jimmy Fund grassroots campaigns that ask for a little money from a lot of people,” said Institute Trustee Roger Lockwood, chairman of the Lockwood/McKinnon Company, a Taco Bell franchisee. “Our customers reward us with their incredible generosity.”

The program began in 2002 when Taco Bell locations throughout New England partnered with Dana-Farber and the Jimmy Fund to raise funds and fight cancer. KFC joined the team in 2006, followed by The Paper Store in 2011. ■

“Our ‘Strike Out Cancer’ drive is a throwback to the original Jimmy Fund grassroots campaigns that ask for a little money from a lot of people.”

— ROGER LOCKWOOD, Dana-Farber Trustee and chairman of the Lockwood/McKinnon Company, a Taco Bell franchisee

Pilot grant funds research into novel MDS treatments

Myelodysplastic syndromes (MDS) are pre-leukemic conditions with only marginally effective treatments. With a \$100,000 pilot grant from the Aplastic Anemia & MDS International Foundation (AA&MDSIF) and the Edward P. Evans Foundation, Dana-Farber investigator Andrew Lane, MD, PhD, is testing novel treatments for MDS patients who harbor a common genetic mutation that drives the disease.

In the laboratory, Lane and David Weinstock, MD, found that mutations to G proteins, which act as molecular switches inside of cells, could be targeted by small-molecule drugs already in clinical development. Lane is now identifying MDS patient samples with G protein mutations, developing research models of MDS driven by these mutations, and testing the sensitivity of these genetic alterations to various drugs.

“I am grateful for the support from AA&MDSIF and the Evans Foundation,” said Lane. “This will allow us to identify and characterize samples from MDS patients who have G protein mutations and begin to

test therapies in the laboratory that specifically target these mutations.” Dana-Farber is part of the MDS Clinical Research Consortium, a group of six institutions funded by longtime supporters AA&MDSIF and the Evans Foundation to advance research on MDS.

“We are proud to support young scientists like Dr. Lane, whose important work is leading to a greater understanding of MDS and better treatments for patients,” said Kathleen Weis, CEO of AA&MDSIF. ■



Kathleen Weis, CEO of AA&MDSIF, with Dana-Farber's Andrew Lane, MD, PhD, who is testing novel treatments for MDS with support from AA&MDSIF and the Edward P. Evans Foundation.

Movember Foundation supports men facing tough decisions

Men with early stage prostate cancer confront a blizzard of numbers—Gleason scores, PSA levels, and T-stages—and choices about treatment. Should they undergo surgery? Radiation? Hormonal therapy? Or should they opt for active surveillance? Some treatment options may lead to significant complications, and a man's decision can change his life.

Recognizing the need to support men with early stage prostate cancer, the Movember Foundation, through its True NTH USA initiative, is partnering with Donna Berry, PhD, RN, AOCN, FAAN, director of Dana-Farber's Phyllis F. Cantor Center for Research in Nursing and Patient Care Services, to deploy a decision-making tool via the Internet and at select cancer centers across the United States. Movember's investment of \$150,000 supports the rollout of the Personal Patient Profile-Prostate (P3P), a web-based program that guides men through a decision-making process that incorporates their values and priorities. In national trials, P3P has been shown to reduce decisional



Adam Garone, CEO and co-founder of Movember Foundation, which is supporting the rollout of an Internet-based tool to help men with localized prostate cancer make treatment decisions.

conflict and help men make decisions with an oncologist.

“P3P aligns with the foundation's commitment to help men make more informed treatment decisions,” said Paul Villanti, executive director of programs at the Movember Foundation. “We are delighted to make P3P available to some of the more than 200,000 men who are diagnosed with prostate cancer in the U.S. each year.”

Adds Berry, “We are grateful for the opportunity to make our efficacious system available, free of charge, to men with newly diagnosed localized prostate cancer.” ■



A night of thanks for volunteer event managers

More than 100 dedicated volunteer event managers gathered at Fenway Park, Sept. 21, for Special Events Appreciation Night. Before enjoying the Boston Red Sox game, guests met in the Champions Club for tasty treats and a brief speaking program. Lisa Blancato, event manager of Upbeat Like Millie, which benefits leiomyosarcoma research at Dana-Farber, shared her story and how much her event has grown. Many other volunteer-run events have seen continued success throughout the years, and were honored for their milestone anniversaries during the awards ceremony that followed. At left, volunteer event managers from Take Aim at Cancer enjoyed Special Events Appreciation Night: (front, from left) Holly Scott and Erica Scott; and (rear, from left) Paul Smith, Deborah Harrington, Alan Harrington, Bob Scott, Cam Heller, Jackie Heller, and Joanne Smith.

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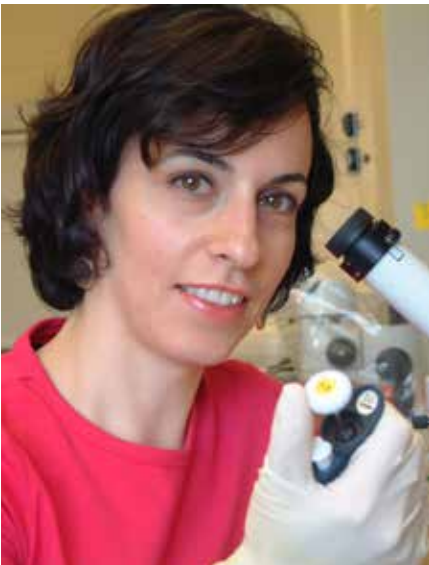
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JDRF awards grant to Dana-Farber for type 1 diabetes research



JDRF supports research by Nika Danial, PhD, into type 1 diabetes.

The Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, International (JDRF) has awarded a \$400,000 grant to be given over two years to support the research of Nika Danial, PhD, in cancer biology at Dana-Farber.

The goal of Danial’s research is to reverse type 1 diabetes by improving beta cell function and survival. Her laboratory has shown that BAD, a protein that regulates glucose sensing

and survival, has a protective effect on insulin-secreting beta cells. Danial is identifying the biological pathways involved in order to improve existing beta cell regeneration therapy and identify novel treatments.

“These studies have the potential to provide new insights into the most effective strategies for harnessing the benefits of glucose signaling to restore and enhance functional beta cells in type 1 diabetes,” said Danial.

“We are excited about the progress in Dr. Danial’s research,” said Patricia Kilian, PhD, a member of JDRF’s research staff. “A top JDRF goal is development of therapies that facilitate beta cell survival in people with type 1 diabetes, and Dr. Danial identified an interesting potential approach. Her current work to identify the biological pathways that are triggered by BAD will ideally provide insight into how we might design drugs that mimic the protein’s effect and preserve beta cell function in people with type 1 diabetes.” ■

UnMask Cancer rocks and raises unrestricted funds

Boisterous music and excited chatter could be heard in the Seaport District as more than 250 attendees gathered for the second annual UnMask Cancer presented by Mandarin Oriental, Boston. Held at the lively District Hall, this evening of captivating entertainment, delectable “dinner by the bite,” and fabulous cocktails raised more than \$170,000 in unrestricted funds for Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and the Jimmy Fund.

The mood was set for this animated event on a bright, neon-lit dance floor, set to the beats of DJ Vince1 from iHeartRadio. Guests, including actress Eliza Dushku, ate, drank, and danced the night away. The evening also featured a unique

performance from Tufts University dance troupe Spirit of Color.

“It is wonderful when you can get together with friends to have fun on the weekend and make it meaningful,” said UnMask Cancer Committee Member Scott Carmel. “Dana-Farber doctors and researchers work tirelessly to unmask the secrets of cancer and discover the latest developments and breakthroughs. This exciting and fun event raised crucial unrestricted funds that will be allocated to areas where they are most urgently needed.”

Another Committee Member, Meredith Tedford, will be back in 2016. “Each year this event becomes more successful, leading to research that will help conquer cancer.” ■



2015 UnMask Cancer presented by Mandarin Oriental, Boston Committee Members.

Gift funds precursor condition research for blood cancers

A generous gift from anonymous donors may give new hope to those diagnosed with “precursor conditions,” conditions that, although not yet cancerous, may develop into blood cancers including leukemia, lymphoma, or myeloma.

Often detected in routine blood tests, these conditions cannot be treated until they develop into full-fledged cancers. For many patients, having to wait for the disease to develop is both frustrating and

frightening, as an early diagnosis can be critical to the success of their treatment.

This \$100,000 gift establishes the Wonderful World Fund, supporting Irene Ghobrial, MD, co-principal investigator at the Center for Prevention of Progression of Blood Cancers (CPOP) and director of the Michele & Steven Kirsch Laboratory at Dana-Farber. Specifically, the fund will advance the study of smoldering multiple myeloma’s progression to overt multiple myeloma.

CPOP is leading research efforts to understand the progression and clonal evolution of blood cancers, with an ultimate aim to develop targeted therapeutic agents that can eliminate the early clones of disease. The center studies why some precursor conditions quickly develop into cancers while others never do, pinpointing when and where disease biology changes from precursor condition to cancer.

“By focusing on early precursor conditions,” said Ghobrial, “we will have the ability to develop better targeted therapeutic agents to prevent progression or even eliminate the disease before it leads to symptoms.” ■



Irene Ghobrial, MD, leads the Center for Prevention of Progression of Blood Cancers, which studies the progression of precursor conditions into full-fledged cancers.

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Three grants from St. Baldrick’s Foundation advance pediatric cancer research



While new treatments have dramatically improved outcomes for pediatric cancer patients, St. Baldrick’s Foundation recognizes the need for additional advances to help children with the most challenging forms of disease and to reduce side effects. St. Baldrick’s aims to fill the gap left by a challenging federal funding climate through its signature head-shaving fundraisers and other events, which have enabled the foundation to grant more than \$178 million to propel research.

To drive the discovery of groundbreaking new therapies, St. Baldrick’s recently awarded grants totaling nearly \$820,000 to three talented investigators at Dana-Farber.

“Philanthropic support is playing an increasingly important role in supporting the lifesaving work of our oncologists and investigators,” said Stuart Orkin, MD, chair of pediatric oncology and the David G. Nathan, MD, Professor of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology at Dana-Farber. “Through their generous support, St. Baldrick’s Foundation is bolstering our efforts to uncover the most impactful therapies to benefit young patients.”

Leveraging her St. Baldrick’s Fellowship Award, Kira Bona, MD, MPH, is studying the role of poverty in pediatric cancer outcomes, and strategies to help physicians pinpoint families that may be at risk for

material hardship. Birgit Knoechel, MD, PhD, a St. Baldrick’s Scholar Award recipient, is investigating the mechanisms driving treatment resistance in patients with T-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia to develop new treatments. Alongside international collaborators, Lindsay Frazier, MD, is using her Consortium Award to explore the biological underpinnings of germ cell tumors to identify mutations that might be targetable with existing or novel compounds.

“By supporting the best and brightest investigators in their innovative work, we aim to enable the detection of novel treatment targets and expedite their translation into new therapies,” said St. Baldrick’s Foundation CEO Kathleen Ruddy. “St. Baldrick’s is proud to partner with Dana-Farber in this fight, toward our shared goal of providing every young patient with maximally effective cancer treatments to help ensure the best possible outcomes.” ■



Chase, one of St. Baldrick’s 2015 Ambassadors, has benefitted from St. Baldrick’s-funded cancer research.

B.A.A. Half Marathon raises funds on the run

The Jimmy Fund’s partnership with the Boston Athletic Association propels Dana-Farber’s lifesaving mission through annual events such as the B.A.A. Half Marathon®, which has raised more than \$5.7 million for cancer research and care since 2003, including more than \$693,000 in 2015.

More than 6,400 runners navigated the 13.1-mile half marathon course through Boston’s beautiful Emerald Necklace park system. Dana-Farber’s team, consisting of 501 runners from 21 states and 5 countries, went the extra mile by bringing in an average of more than \$1,300 per participant.

With a mix of ages and experience levels, these dedicated runners embodied numerous motivations: to honor a friend or loved one, to thank Dana-Farber for care received, or to join the fight against cancer. “Team Ari,” which led the roster with nearly \$66,000 raised, found inspiration in 5-year-old namesake Ari Goldwasser. According to Team Ari captain

Rachel Glazer Gustat, the runners were driven by the realization that their fundraising helped other young patients like Ari, who was treated for leukemia at the Jimmy Fund Clinic and is thriving now. “Knowing that the funds we raised have advanced critical research and contributed to Ari’s recovery is something we will always cherish,” she said.

Sandee Stratton, the 2015 Dana-Farber Team Hero, also exemplified the spirit of the half marathon. After being diagnosed with breast cancer in the spring, she underwent a lumpectomy and biopsy at the Institute in June, completing chemotherapy only a week before the race. Fueled by a desire to give back, Sandee trained rigorously throughout her treatment, and was able to greet her family at the finish line after a successful run. In doing so, she provided a powerful reminder that every dollar raised by the half marathon team makes a direct difference in the ongoing race to defeat cancer. ■



Dana-Farber’s team of 501 runners went the extra mile to raise critical funds for cancer research and care at the Institute.

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

For questions, or to be removed from our mailing list, please contact:

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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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New England Patriots Safety Jordan Richards, above with Kraft Family Blood Donor Center Apheresis Technician Cheryl Riley, visited the Kraft Center in February to donate platelets and visit with other donors.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

APRIL 1 – AUG. 12

Jimmy Fund Little League

Presented by Extra Innings and Franklin Sports

Little League teams throughout New England can fundraise to strike out cancer while continuing their season of play. Contact Casey Pereira at 617-632-3863 or Casey_Pereira@dfci.harvard.edu.



APRIL 2 – 3

Jimmy Fund Dance Party

Presented by Capital One

At this 12-hour dance marathon, students from New England area colleges and universities join together in the fight against cancer. Contact Nicole Allo at 617-632-5461 or visit JimmyFundDanceParty.org.



APRIL 8

Susan F. Smith Center for Women's Cancers Executive Council Breakfast

This annual event in downtown Boston is a fundraiser and a forum for women to learn about advances in the treatment of breast and gynecological cancers. Contact Kira Driver at 617-582-8387 or Kira_Driver@dfci.harvard.edu.

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

APRIL 11

Rally for the Jimmy Fund

Presented by Sully's Brand

Give \$5 or more to wear your Boston Red Sox gear to work or school on Opening Day at Fenway Park while supporting Dana-Farber. Contact Andrew Cader at 617-632-5420 or visit RallyfortheJimmyFund.org.



APRIL 16

B.A.A. 5K®

Conquer cancer by joining the Dana-Farber B.A.A. 5K fundraising team or supporting a Dana-Farber runner. To apply or learn more, contact Mary Ann McChesney at 617-632-1970 or dfrunners@dfci.harvard.edu, or visit RunDanaFarber.org.



APRIL 18

Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge



Support the Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge team in running the 2016 Boston Marathon® to raise funds for the Claudia Adams Barr Program in Innovative Basic Cancer Research. To support a DFMC runner or to volunteer, contact Jan Ross at 617-632-1970 or dfmc@dfci.harvard.edu, or visit RunDFMC.org.

MAY 14

Jimmy Fund Fit Fest

Presented by Reebok

Get fit, fight cancer. Join us for the Jimmy Fund Fit Fest presented by Reebok, a day-long outdoor fitness festival featuring the city's best trainers. Contact Laura Ducie at 617-632-3613 or Laura_Ducie@dfci.harvard.edu, or visit JimmyFundFitFest.org.



JUNE 7 – 9

Jimmy Fund Scooper Bowl®

Presented by Valvoline Instant Oil Change

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



JUNE – JULY

Jimmy Fund/Variety Children's Charity Theatre Collections

Volunteer for the Jimmy Fund's most enduring fundraiser and help to pass collection canisters at National Amusements and other participating movie theatres. Contact Suzanne Crane at 617-582-5344 or Suzanne_Crane@dfci.harvard.edu.

