

## Breast Cancer Research Foundation continues to fuel groundbreaking projects



**In 1993, Evelyn H. Lauder founded** the Breast Cancer Research Foundation (BCRF) for the sole purpose of advancing breast cancer science. Today, the organization is the largest private funder of breast cancer research globally, and has supported Dana-Farber Cancer Institute for more than 20 years.

“BCRF’s commitment to excellence in breast cancer research from prevention and early detection to novel therapeutics in metastatic disease, and from translational and fundamental research to survivorship, echoes the dedication and passion of Dana-Farber’s physician-scientists,” said Judy Garber, MD, MPH, director of Dana-Farber’s Center for Cancer Genetics and Prevention and the Susan F. Smith Chair, who serves as chair of the BCRF Scientific Advisory Board.

In 2017, BCRF awarded \$3 million to Dana-Farber. This includes support for Garber, who leads research

looking for biomarkers in blood after treatment that can predict long-term outcomes. Finding ways to determine which patients are going to respond to specific therapies is a topic also being pursued by Ian Krop, MD, PhD, clinical research director of Breast Oncology in the Susan F. Smith Center for Women’s Cancers at Dana-Farber. Krop was awarded a new grant from BCRF to look for predictive biomarkers for patients with advanced *HER2*-positive disease, as well as to identify new therapeutic targets.

In addition to Garber and Krop, 2017-2018 BCRF awardees include: Monica Bertagnolli, MD; Myles Brown, MD, co-director of the Center for Functional Cancer Epigenetics; Alan D’Andrea, MD, director of the Susan F. Smith Center; William Kaelin Jr., MD; Nancy Lin, MD, clinical director of Breast Oncology in the Susan F. Smith Center; Shirley Liu, PhD, co-director of the Center for Functional Cancer Epigenetics; David Livingston, MD, Charles A. Dana Chair in Human Cancer Genetics and Emil Frei III, MD, Professor of Genetics and Medicine; Ursula Matulonis, MD, director of Gynecologic Oncology in the Susan

F. Smith Center and the Brock-Wilson Family Chair; Ann Partridge, MD, MPH, founder and director of the Program for Young Women with Breast Cancer in the Susan F. Smith Center; Kornelia Polyak, MD, PhD; Meredith Regan, ScD (through the International Breast Cancer Study Group); Nikhil Wagle, MD (through the Broad Institute of Harvard and MIT); Zhigang Charles Wang, MD, PhD; Eric

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Marc Hurlbert, PhD, is chief mission officer of BCRF, which recently made grants totaling \$3 million to Dana-Farber physician-scientists.



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.



**3**  
Capital gift fuels research



**4**  
A strong team effort



**5**  
The passion of Palm Beach

## Halfhill Estate provides more than \$1 million to support multiple myeloma clinical trials

**W**hen his dear friend Rick Corman died of multiple myeloma in 2013, William W. “Half” Halfhill quietly vowed he would assist Dana-Farber in its search for a cure for the disease. Upon his death in February 2017 at age 95, Halfhill, of Nicholasville, Ky., left more than \$1 million in his estate plan to the Richard Corman Research Fund in Multiple Myeloma at Dana-Farber to support clinical research conducted by Corman’s physician, Paul Richardson, MD.

“Half was the nearest and dearest friend of Rick Corman,” said Dennis King, a close friend and executor of Halfhill’s estate. “Rick was like a son to him. They talked every day, about anything and everything under the sun. When Rick was diagnosed, Dr. Richardson was a beacon of light. No doubt, he helped Rick gain several more

years of life. Half was grateful for that, and it was at that time that he decided, when his time came, he wanted to help Dana-Farber in any way he could to help find a cure for the disease.”

Halfhill’s gift will help to support Richardson’s research team at Dana-Farber’s Jerome Lipper Multiple Myeloma Center and LeBow Institute for Myeloma Therapeutics, where Richardson is clinical program leader and director of clinical research. A worldwide referral center for myeloma patients that conducts nearly 20 clinical trials at any given time, the Lipper Center exemplifies Dana-Farber’s commitment to translating scientific discoveries into new therapies for patients.

“The extraordinary generosity of Half in support of the Corman Research Fund reflects the continued

commitment of Rick’s extended family and the Nicholasville community to advance research in multiple myeloma,” said Richardson, who is also the R.J. Corman Professor of Medicine. “Half exemplified this, and was deeply involved in Rick’s care, as well as being committed to improving outcomes for future patients.”

Throughout his illness, Corman, along with friends, employees, and business colleagues, contributed significant funds to support Richardson’s work.

Under Richardson’s clinical direction and in collaboration with Kenneth Anderson, MD, program director of the Lipper Center and LeBow Institute and Kraft Family Professor of Medicine, and laboratory colleagues, the Lipper Center has been instrumental in securing FDA approval of 18 myeloma indications

over the last 14 years, with seven new therapies approved in 2015 alone. This is an unprecedented pace of success, given that, prior to this, the FDA had not approved any new myeloma drugs for more than 30 years. ■



William W. “Half” Halfhill left more than \$1 million in his estate plan to Dana-Farber in memory of his dear friend Rick Corman.



Dear Friends,

The pace of discovery in cancer medicine has been truly astonishing in recent years, and thanks to the support of our donors, Dana-Farber is at the epicenter of progress. Our physician-scientists have made major breakthroughs in immunotherapy, which harnesses a patient's immune system to fight cancer, and in precision medicine, which allows doctors to use genetic information about patients' tumors to design the most effective treatment.

Encouraged by this progress, the Ambrose Monell Foundation has made a major investment in the next step—Dana-Farber's new Center for Precision Immuno-Oncology. The foundation's gift of \$1.75 million will help to launch the center, advancing the field toward a new paradigm of care for patients and their families.

Revolutionary discoveries also take shape within our Susan F. Smith Center for Women's Cancers. The Breast Cancer Research Foundation (BCRF), a loyal Dana-Farber supporter for more than two decades, recently made grants totaling \$3 million to support our world-class research. We are proud of BCRF's ongoing confidence in the Smith Center and in our physician-scientists, and we are excited about the results.

The Neuroendocrine Tumor Research Foundation funds research with the potential to exponentially increase our understanding of neuroendocrine cancers, thereby leading to new hope for patients. The foundation's 2017 Accelerator Grant of \$1.2 million makes it possible for our physician-scientists to incorporate advanced genomic technologies into clinical research, moving the neuroendocrine field forward.

Our progress is advanced each year by our loyal friends in the Palm Beach community. For 27 years, they have worked tirelessly to create the annual Discovery Celebration weekend of events, this year raising \$2.7 million for Dana-Farber and the Jimmy Fund. We are so grateful for their passionate dedication to our mission, which has surpassed \$38 million since 1991.

We are always moved by the generosity and foresight of individuals who name Dana-Farber in their estate plans, seeking to help the patients of the future. Saddened by the death of his friend Rick Corman from multiple myeloma, and grateful for the care Rick received at Dana-Farber, William W. Halfhill left a bequest of more than \$1 million to help our researchers in their quest to cure this disease.

Transwestern | RBJ has a special connection to the Institute, and Bob Richards, a founding partner in this Boston-based real estate firm, has for several years represented Dana-Farber in real estate transactions which have allowed us to reach more patients and greatly expand our research facilities. Bob knows the Institute well, and we are honored by his recent \$1 million gift to support capital projects at the Longwood Center.

Although our researchers are leading recipients of federal grants, as you will see in the quarterly update at the right, federal funding alone cannot create the dramatic progress we have seen in recent years.

Generous donors make it possible for Dana-Farber physician-scientists to move us more quickly toward a world without cancer, while providing the highest quality patient care until we get there. We can never thank you enough.

Sincerely,

Susan S. Paresky  
Senior Vice President for Development

#### Breast Cancer Research Foundation continued from page 1

Winer, MD, chief of the Division of Women's Cancers, director of Breast Oncology in the Susan F. Smith Center, and Thompson Chair in Breast Cancer Research; and Jean Zhao, PhD.

By advancing the work of these 17 investigators, BCRF helps Dana-Farber push the boundaries of what is known about how to treat breast cancer.

"We continue to support investigators at Dana-Farber year after year because we believe that giving these bright minds the resources they need to think outside the box and pursue their most promising ideas is the best way to beat breast cancer," said Marc Hurlbert, PhD, chief mission officer of BCRF. ■

## UPDATE ON FEDERAL FUNDING AT DANA-FARBER

# Cancer Moonshot awards \$10.7 million to Dana-Farber

The federal Cancer Moonshot project is funding two Dana-Farber research centers as part of a nationwide scientific effort to develop tools for predicting which patients will respond to immunotherapy drugs.

While immunotherapies have been highly successful in certain cancers such as melanoma, leukemia, and lymphoma, it remains difficult to predict which patients will respond, and immunotherapies have not been effective against many solid tumors such as pancreatic, colon, and breast cancers.

The Institute will receive \$10.7 million over five years to operate a Cancer Immune Monitoring and Analysis Center (CIMAC) and a Cancer Immunological Data Commons (CIDC). Dana-Farber was selected as one of four CIMACs nationwide. The CIDC will be the only one.

Researchers at the CIMACs will perform "deep tumor and immune profiling" of tissue samples from patients in clinical trials of immunotherapy, according to the National Cancer Institute. The resulting data will be collected in the CIDC database for exploration of biomarkers of immune response.

At Dana-Farber, roughly 20 faculty and staff will be involved in the work of the two centers, says Catherine Wu, MD, co-principal investigator of the CIMAC along with F. Stephen Hodi, MD, who is also director of

Dana-Farber's Center for Immuno-Oncology and the Sharon Crowley Martin Chair in Melanoma.

The CIMAC work will be carried out by groups of researchers in the Immune Assessment Laboratory, the Tumor Biomarker Laboratory, and a new Translational Immunogenomics Laboratory.

The CIDC is co-led by X. Shirley Liu, PhD, and Ethan Cerami, PhD, from the Department of Biostatistics and Computational Biology, with Chris Sander, PhD; Eliezer Van Allen, MD; Wu and Anita Giobbie-Hurder as co-investigators; and James Lindsay, PhD, as the chief software architect.

The CIDC will establish and manage the data repository for biomarkers and associated clinical data for all four CIMACs, and provide an informatics environment for integrative multi-dimensional analysis and storage of data.

The grants for the CIMACs and the CIDC are part of a five-year, \$215 million public-private research collaboration, the Partnership for Accelerating Cancer Therapies (PACT), that was launched by the National Institutes of Health and 11 biopharmaceutical companies as part of the Cancer Moonshot.

PACT will initially focus on efforts to identify, develop, and validate robust biomarkers—standardized biological markers of disease and treatment response—to advance new immunotherapy treatments. ■

## New grant aims to reveal how exercise protects the body



The American Heart Association (AHA) made a three-year, \$231,000 grant to Dana-Farber researcher Edward Chouchani, PhD, to study how regular exercise can protect the body from cardiovascular disease—and, in some cases, even reverse its progression.

Scientists know that the way in which the body's muscles adapt to exercise—which includes the increased production of specific metabolic signals called mitochondrial reactive oxygen species (mtROS)—plays a key role in driving this protective response. Despite this, however, researchers still do not understand how the body produces these signals or how mtROS specifically interacts with other parts of the body to drive this healthy response.

Chouchani aims to better understand how mtROS functions, with the overarching goal of determining whether these signals can be manipulated to treat cardiovascular and metabolic disease. If successful, Chouchani's research could have significant therapeutic impact on a large number of patients.

"I am deeply grateful for the American Heart Association's tremendous support of my research," said Chouchani. "By identifying the targets that play a key role in driving the body's healthy response to exercise, we could someday be able to design drugs that trigger the same protective properties."

The American Heart Association is the nation's oldest and largest voluntary organization dedicated to fighting heart disease and stroke. Founded by six cardiologists in 1924, the organization now includes more than 22.5 million volunteers and supporters. ■

## Transwestern | RBJ fuels Dana-Farber's growth with major gift to support the Longwood Center

Cancer medicine has evolved tremendously in the 21st century, and Dana-Farber has grown significantly to remain at the forefront of this rapidly changing field—doubling its campus footprint since 2000. At the heart of this growth has been Bob Richards, a founding partner in the Boston-based real estate firm, Transwestern | RBJ. An award-winning commercial broker who has represented Dana-Farber in nearly every major real estate transaction in the past 12 years, Richards recently made a \$1 million gift to support capital projects at the Longwood Center, a state-of-the-art facility housing Dana-Farber's basic research, chemical biology, and drug development programs.

A hub of creative, collaborative, and cutting-edge research, the Longwood Center provides the ideal environment for accelerating innovative investigations and advancing groundbreaking cancer therapies. Richards spearheaded Dana-Farber's acquisition of space in this building, negotiating a favorable leasing arrangement that has enabled the Institute to purchase 49 percent of the Longwood Center as a condominium—saving funds that could be redirected toward cancer research while allowing Dana-Farber to continue growing its footprint within the facility. As Dana-Farber further optimizes the Longwood Center for speeding the delivery of novel cancer treatments to patients and bolstering the recruitment and

retention of top faculty, the importance of Richards' support cannot be overstated.

Along with his work with the Longwood Center, Richards has made a concrete and enduring impact on Dana-Farber through his skilled brokerage of other key lease transactions such as research space at the Center for Life Sciences, Dana-Farber's administrative hub at 10 Brookline Place, and 140,000 square feet at the Life Time Center in Chestnut Hill, which will provide cutting-edge space for patient care. Collectively, these lease acquisitions have enabled the advancement of Dana-Farber's scientific and clinical excellence and helped to position the Institute to lead the fight against cancer for years to come. According to Wendy Gettleman, Dana-Farber vice president of facilities management and real estate, Richards remains an invaluable partner in transforming the Institute's campuses and building for the future. "Bob's real estate experience, tenacity, and creativity continue to benefit Dana-Farber on many levels," she said. "We are so grateful for this amazing gift to the Longwood Center and appreciative of his unrivaled advocacy."

For his part, Richards is pleased to support Dana-Farber's lifesaving mission, play a role in its continued growth, and make a difference in the lives of its patients and families. "Dana-Farber is an amazing institution that offers hope to so many," he said. "The dedication and commitment of its people

make it a very special place, and we are extremely proud to be part of the Dana-Farber team." ■



Bob Richards, partner at Transwestern | RBJ, has made a lasting impact on Dana-Farber through his generous support of capital projects.

## Foundation supports research in rare bone marrow disease



**Fanconi anemia (FA) is an inherited** DNA repair disorder of the bone marrow that affects children, teens, and young adults, and often progresses to cancer. Many patients do not survive past their early 30s. The only cure currently available for FA is a stem cell transplant, a risky procedure that is not an option for all patients.

The Fanconi Anemia Research Fund (FARF) was founded by Lynn and Dave Frohnmayer, who sought information on this rare disease that threatened, and ultimately claimed, the lives of three of their five children. Over the past three decades, they developed an international support network of FA-affected families and raised significant funds for research into the disease's root causes and the development of effective treatments.

Recently, FARF renewed its support of Alan D'Andrea, MD, director of Dana-Farber's Center for DNA Damage and Repair, with a grant of \$175,000 to build on his lab's previous discoveries in FA.

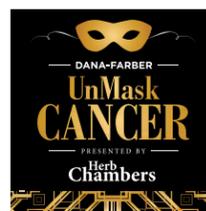
"This generous grant will help us further advance our understanding of the cause of bone marrow failure in FA patients and evaluate the impact of a promising drug that may offer a new avenue for treatment," said D'Andrea, who is also director of the Susan F. Smith Center for Women's Cancers.

"This project is on the cusp of translating from basic science to clinical science," said Bradley Preston, PhD, scientific director of FARF. Acknowledging that investing in early stage research is often high-risk, high-reward, he added that D'Andrea's work is "one of the best things we have going, so we're willing to take that risk." ■

**"This project is on the cusp of translating from basic science to clinical science."**

— **BRADLEY PRESTON, PhD,** scientific director, Fanconi Anemia Research Fund

## UnMask Cancer celebrates a magical evening



**The fourth annual Dana-Farber UnMask Cancer** presented by Herb Chambers unfolded at the beautiful Mandarin Oriental Hotel in downtown Boston on Saturday, Oct. 21. More than 400 party-goers enjoyed dinner by the bite, fabulous cocktails, a silent auction, and entertainment. Overall, the art deco-themed event raised more than \$300,000 to support adult and pediatric cancer care and research at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

UnMask Cancer featured live entertainment from vocalist Jenna Holiday, 16, winner of the New England Sings competition hosted by former American Idol judge Kara DioGuardi. DJ Rich DiMare performed throughout the evening, and nail artist Nina Park and sketch artist Anthony Kerin entertained guests as they danced and mingled.

"Dana-Farber UnMask Cancer was a magical, whimsical evening filled with joyful people supporting a great cause," said event committee member Richard Walsh. "Being part of the UnMask committee provided me with a forum where I could raise money for cancer research at Dana-Farber while celebrating and dancing the night away with friends old and new." ■



Members of the event committee who helped to raise more than \$300,000 at Dana-Farber UnMask Cancer presented by Herb Chambers.

## Dana-Farber B.A.A. Half Marathon® team surpasses \$7 million

Last October, more than 400 runners on Dana-Farber's official team powered through 13.1 miles to complete the 2017 B.A.A. Half Marathon®. This determined group of runners raised more than \$566,000 to support exceptional patient care and fuel innovative research at Dana-Farber, bringing the team's cumulative total to more than \$7 million raised over 15 years.

Dana-Farber team members can run as individuals, or form fundraising groups, all with the common goal of advancing the fight against cancer. One such group, Team Ari, has run the B.A.A. Half Marathon for the past six years in honor of Ari Goldwasser, a former pediatric patient at Dana-Farber. Just 19 months old when diagnosed with T-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia, Ari underwent more than two years of chemotherapy and radiation under the care of Lewis Silverman, MD. Since completing treatment, Ari has lived cancer-free, and in July 2017 celebrated his much-anticipated, five-year post-remission anniversary.



Last fall, the B.A.A. Half Marathon team raised more than \$566,000 to fund innovative cancer science and exceptional care at Dana-Farber.

Team Ari runners are proud to have raised more than \$16,000 this year, and nearly \$200,000 overall during their six years of participating in the B.A.A. Half Marathon. "Ari was so lucky to be treated at this world-class institution, and his parents are so thankful that he received care at Dana-Farber," said Team Ari captain and runner Rachel Glazer. "Our motivation as a team is to ensure that other kids like

Ari are able to beat this terrible disease and be cured."

While some participants choose to support specific disease areas, most raise flexible funds to be used where there is greatest need. Every runner on Dana-Farber's B.A.A. Half Marathon team plays an important role in supporting leading-edge research and the highest quality patient care at Dana-Farber. ■

## Stand Up To Cancer grant fuels immunotherapy research



While immunotherapy has revolutionized the treatment of metastatic melanoma and other cancers, not all patients respond to this kind of therapy, and many who do respond eventually become resistant to it.

Rizwan Haq, MD, PhD, a translational researcher in Dana-Farber's Melanoma Center, is using a \$750,000 Innovative Research Grant from Stand Up To Cancer (SU2C) to

identify and target mechanisms of resistance to immunotherapy. SU2C's Innovative Research Grants fund early career scientists whose research might not receive support from traditional sources.

"Dr. Haq is one of our 2017 class of Innovative Research Grant recipients, focused on high-risk, high-reward research in immuno-oncology," said SU2C President and CEO Sung Poblete, PhD, RN. "We are very excited about his efforts to understand why people respond differently to immunotherapy, how we can predict who will benefit most from the treatment, and tease out ways to make immunotherapies work for more people."

Haq is studying the mechanisms behind patients' varied responses

to immunotherapy drugs so that those who are more likely to respond favorably to the treatment can be identified before beginning therapy. He is also identifying novel drug targets that have the potential to overcome resistance to the therapy.

"We have identified genetic changes in some patients' tumors that make them resistant to immunotherapy," said Haq. "This SU2C grant is helping us to determine which immunologic drugs are going to defy resistance and be most effective in a given patient."

Haq has developed a tool to recreate mutations found in melanoma patients that are resistant to PD-1 immunotherapy in a laboratory model. Cancer cells use the PD-1 pathway to escape detection

by the immune system. Haq is using this platform to evaluate whether a drug currently in clinical trials can overcome such resistance. ■



Rizwan Haq, MD, PhD, is using an SU2C Innovative Research Grant to study resistance to immunotherapy.

## Spreading holiday cheer while fighting cancer

### Dana-Farber Holiday Cards & Gifts



Dana-Farber Holiday Cards & Gifts presented by Amica Insurance brought smiles to the faces of families, friends, colleagues, and patients while raising more than \$400,000 this past holiday season and more than \$8 million cumulatively for Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and the Jimmy Fund.

In 2017, gifts included festive greeting card designs, "Addie" the stuffed labradoodle, candles, Boston Red Sox and New England Patriots ornaments, and more. From September to December 2017, the items were available for purchase online, at Dana-Farber's Friends' Corner Gift Shop and Yawkey Center for Cancer Care, and at leading retail locations including The Paper Store, Stop & Shop, The Crafty Yankee, Terrazza,

The Christmas Dove, '47 Brand, Cooper Jewelers, and Marathon Sports' Wellesley store.

Addie the labradoodle made her debut as one of the most popular gifts. The soft stuffed animal sported a red bandana designed by Allisa, age 10, a cancer survivor who was treated at Dana-Farber's Jimmy Fund Clinic. Customers had the option of buying the dog as a gift for a Dana-Farber patient, and this year, more than 850 did—a true testament to the generosity of Dana-Farber supporters.

Another special item in the 2017 collection was the exclusive Luca + Danni Tree of Life bracelet. Luca + Danni's relationship with Dana-Farber Holiday Cards & Gifts is especially meaningful: the family-owned business was started by Fred Magnanimi in memory of his brother, Danny, who was treated at Dana-Farber. Luca + Danni has participated in the Holiday collection since 2016.

Another loyal partner is Amica Insurance, which once again served as presenting sponsor for the program. "We're happy to help support the fight

against cancer and promote local businesses, all while spreading holiday cheer," said Patti Genovese, lead sponsorship coordinator at Amica. "Our strong bond with Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and the Jimmy Fund has made this an incredibly rewarding partnership over the years." ■



Jimmy Fund Clinic patient Jack, age 2, was among more than 850 adult and pediatric patients who received a gift of Addie the labradoodle, purchased by generous donors.

# Discovery Celebration raises more than \$2.7 million

The Discovery Celebration is a weekend of events celebrating the hard work and dedication of the doctors and researchers at Dana-Farber, as well as that of our generous Palm Beach supporters. For 27 years, members of the Palm Beach community have graciously provided support to Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and the Jimmy Fund and 2018 was no exception, with an incredible \$2.7 million raised for our lifesaving mission. Led by Institute Trustees and joined by area philanthropists and businesses, the Palm Beach community has raised more than \$38 million since 1991.

“Dana-Farber is a special place that has touched so many of us in Palm Beach, whether we ourselves or our loved ones have just received care there, or have benefitted from a drug or treatment protocol pioneered there,” said Institute

Trustee Phyllis Krock, who chaired this year’s Discovery Celebration. “The dedicated support of the Palm Beach community has led to exciting breakthroughs, and will continue to advance important cancer research and care at Dana-Farber.”

The Discovery Celebration weekend opened with an intimate dinner generously hosted by Institute Trustee Michele Kessler and her husband, Howard, at their home. Guests enjoyed remarks by Gen. Colin L. Powell, USA (Ret.), who spoke candidly about his own experience with cancer.

The following morning, the 17th annual Breakfast with the Doctors was held with distinguished physician-scientists from Dana-Farber. President and CEO Laurie H. Glimcher, MD, shared news of the Institute’s latest research breakthroughs aimed at improving outcomes for patients.

The weekend culminated with the 27th annual Discovery Celebration at The Breakers. Approximately 600 guests enjoyed a thrilling performance by Academy Award-winning actress, Grammy-winning recording artist, and best-selling author Jennifer Hudson, as well as dinner and dancing.

The Discovery Celebration weekend was a tremendous success thanks to the passionate support of generous Chairs, Grand Benefactors, and Grand Patrons depicted below, as well as those not pictured, including Grand Benefactors Rush and Kathryn Adams Limbaugh and Suffolk Construction; Grand Patrons The Schlager-Weinsten Family and Suzanne and Robert Tomsich; and corporate in-kind sponsors Saks Fifth Avenue Palm Beach with de GRISOGONO. ■



Discovery Celebration Chair and Institute Trustee Phyllis Krock (right) with award-winning recording artist and actress Jennifer Hudson, who performed at the Discovery Celebration.



Institute Trustee Michele Kessler and her husband, Howard (left), Pre-Celebration Dinner Chairs and Discovery Celebration Grand Benefactors, with Gen. Colin Powell, USA (Ret.), Pre-Celebration Dinner guest speaker.



Paul and Phyllis Fireman, Discovery Celebration Co-Chairs and Grand Benefactors.



Institute Trustee Harvey Berger, MD, and his wife, Chrysanthi, Discovery Celebration Grand Benefactors.



Roberta and Stephen R. Weiner, Discovery Celebration Co-Chairs and Grand Patrons.



Judy and Jim Harpel, Discovery Celebration Co-Chairs and Grand Patrons.



Howard Cohen, trustee of The Fishman Family Trust – Sandra Fishman, a Discovery Celebration Grand Benefactor, with Marian Mandel.



Dana-Farber President and CEO Laurie H. Glimcher, MD, with Institute Trustee Robert Kraft.



Larry Schlager and his wife, Judie, an Institute Trustee, Discovery Celebration Grand Patrons and Breakfast with the Doctors Co-Chairs.



Vicki and Arthur Loring, Breakfast with the Doctors Co-Chairs.



Eileen and Jack Connors, Discovery Celebration Grand Patrons.



Christopher and Lori Alf, Discovery Celebration Grand Patrons.



Ambassador Meshal bin Hamad Al-Thani, Discovery Celebration Grand Patron.



Institute Trustee Sandra Krakoff, Discovery Celebration Co-Chair and Silent Auction Chair.



Tom Quick, Discovery Celebration Co-Chair.

## Major investment from the Ambrose Monell Foundation helps launch new Center for Precision Immuno-Oncology

The Ambrose Monell Foundation, a longstanding supporter of the Institute, recently made a major commitment to Dana-Farber's new Center for Precision Immuno-Oncology with a grant of \$1.75 million.

The Ambrose Monell Foundation was established in 1956 by Maude Monell Vetlesen to honor her late husband, a distinguished business leader, metallurgical engineer, and World War I Army colonel, and is committed to making grants that further the condition of humanity throughout the world. Since 2002, the foundation has consistently provided the Institute with flexible funding to be used in the areas of greatest need.

Compelled by rapid advances made in immunotherapy and precision medicine, the foundation has now chosen to direct major support to precision immuno-oncology. "We are pleased to support this new initiative, which we believe has enormous potential to improve cancer medicine," said Ambrose K. Monell, president of the foundation and grandson of its namesake.

Dana-Farber is uniquely poised to combine immunology and precision medicine to defeat cancer. We know

that distinct genetic mutations drive the development of each patient's tumor, and in precision medicine, oncologists attempt to match the right drugs to the mutation driving the patient's cancer to yield the best possible clinical outcomes. Recent advances in our understanding of the immune system have shown that many patients can also develop immune responses that could destroy their cancers, but these potential attacks

are blocked by the disease itself. New drugs that remove these blocks have produced impressive results in some patients, but are not yet effective in all patients or in all cancers.

Dana-Farber believes that a holistic, systematic approach to precision medicine would combine an analysis of the immune status of patients and their cancers with their genetic profiles to develop safe, effective, and lasting immune

responses against more cancer types. Through the Profile project, launched in 2011, all adult and pediatric patients at the Institute are given the opportunity to have their tumors tested for genetic mutations, and more than 17,000 patients have done so. Extending this testing to include immune profiling will allow us to understand who responds to immune therapies, who is resistant to them, and who suffers from side effects.

Dana-Farber President and CEO Laurie H. Glimcher, MD, a world-renowned immunologist, has made the launch of the Center for Precision Immuno-Oncology a strategic priority for the Institute. "This program represents an opportunity to leverage Dana-Farber's scientific, technological, and intellectual resources to begin a new era in cancer therapy," said Glimcher. "The Center for Precision Immuno-Oncology will lead efforts to understand the role of the immune system in each patient's cancer and then develop and deliver treatments designed to bolster an individual's natural immune response. We are grateful to the Ambrose Monell Foundation for helping to make these advances a reality." ■



F. Stephen Hodi, MD, director of Dana-Farber's Center for Immuno-Oncology (left), and Scott Rodig, MD, PhD, are among the faculty leaders launching groundbreaking initiatives to apply precision medicine technology to profiling of patient immune systems, with the goal of making immunotherapies more effective for more patients.

## The Big Game Battle reels in funds for Dana-Farber

Last summer, anglers from all over New England attended the Big Game Battle invitational fishing tournament to support Dana-Farber and the Jimmy Fund. Participants raised more than \$193,000 for research and patient care at Dana-Farber.

The three-day event, held each year at the Nantucket Boat Basin on the historic island of Nantucket, began in 2002 as a three-boat fishing tournament among friends. Since then, the event has grown significantly. It concludes each year with an awards ceremony and dinner, live music, a silent auction, and opportunity drawings to support a charity of the event committee's choice.

At the 2017 event, special tribute

was made to former patient Donald J. O'Neill and his care team at Dana-Farber. His sons, Don and Jeff O'Neill, were among the founders of The Big Game Battle 16 years ago, and after O'Neill died of cancer in 2017, the event committee chose to honor his memory by naming Dana-Farber as the event beneficiary. Funds raised established the Big Game Battle Fund for Leukemia Research and Patient Care in memory of Donald James O'Neill. "After a tough year with the loss of our dad, it means everything to us to direct this year's proceeds toward Dana-Farber in his honor, and we are truly hopeful that the funds we've raised will help end leukemia forever," said Don and Jeff O'Neill. ■



Members of the Big Game Battle Family on a recent visit to the Institute.

## Belles of the Brawl event raises funds to clobber cancer



Fighting in a boxing match was at the top of Jacqui Berardi's bucket list after watching a friend raise funds for Dana-Farber in the 2012 Haymakers for Hope Belles of the Brawl event. Last October, after a rigorous training regimen, the 34-year-old mother and restaurateur achieved her goal, helping the 2017 Belles of the Brawl at the House of Blues, Boston, raise \$183,000 for Dana-Farber. In fact, Berardi shattered Haymakers for Hope's all-time female fundraising record by raising more than \$50,000.

Haymakers for Hope combines the efforts of first-time amateur boxers, local gyms, volunteers, and donors to give everyday people like Berardi a chance to knock out cancer.

"It's amazing to see people from all walks of life training to fight for a cure," said Berardi, whose life was first touched by cancer at age 5 when she lost her 6-year-old cousin Jamie to brain cancer. "There isn't a day that goes by that I don't think of her and what it would've been

like to have her here through all life's milestones."

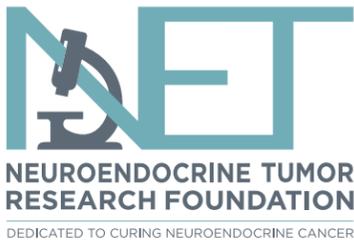
"We want to give researchers the resources they need to fully focus their efforts on finding a cure for this terrible disease," said Julie Anne Kelly, Haymakers co-founder and Hodgkin lymphoma survivor.

Haymakers holds four boxing fundraisers annually and has raised more than \$1.5 million for Dana-Farber since its inception in 2010. ■



Jacqui Berardi raised more than \$50,000 in the 2017 Haymakers for Hope Belles of the Brawl event.

## \$1.2 million gift powers search for cause of neuroendocrine tumors



While most cancers originate from harmful genomic alterations, the molecular causes of small intestinal neuroendocrine tumors (SI-NETs) remain unknown. In an effort to elucidate the genesis of this major cancer subtype of the small intestine, the Neuroendocrine Tumor Research Foundation has awarded a 2017 Accelerator Grant to Matthew Meyerson, MD, PhD, director of Cancer Genomics and the Center for Cancer Genome Discovery at Dana-Farber. Totalling more than \$1.2 million, this award will support Meyerson's groundbreaking research, which pairs advanced genomic technologies with the latest clinical

observations to better understand the underlying mechanisms driving SI-NETs.

Meyerson has studied the genomic and biochemical drivers of SI-NETs since 1999, and was part of the first group to perform comprehensive genomic analysis of this type of cancer. His work resulted in the first identification of a recurrent mutation in SI-NETs, a regulatory gene called *CD-KN1B*. He and his collaborators have also compiled a powerful collection of SI-NET samples, an impressive feat considering the rarity of the disease. This new gift will help Meyerson and his team build upon this strong foundational research.

Co-leading a multidisciplinary team of physician-scientists, Meyerson will employ advanced technologies including single-cell sequencing, which will reveal the genetic makeup of individual cells within the tumor. They will also use a sequencing technology known as systemic

transcriptomic analysis, which will help determine which genes are turned on and off, and which genes are over- or under-expressed. The investigators will particularly focus on enterochromaffin cells of the gut, which are thought to be key to the development of SI-NETs.

"We're so grateful for the support from the Neuroendocrine Tumor Research Foundation, which is helping us gain a fresh understanding of the biology of SI-NETs," said Meyerson. "Their dedication will help us gain clinical insights that can be translated into therapeutic benefit for patients."

Established in 2005, the Neuroendocrine Tumor Research Foundation has fueled breakthrough research in neuroendocrine cancer for more than a decade. Their Accelerator Grants are awarded to physician-scientists conducting research with the potential to transform understanding of neuroendocrine cancers and/or have substantial promise to lead to

improved treatments and diagnostics for patients. "We are pleased to support Dr. Meyerson's research to bring to light the fundamental biology underlying neuroendocrine cancers," said the foundation's Chief Executive Officer Elyse Gellerman. "His past findings have been essential to help crack the code of this uncommon and poorly understood disease." ■



The Neuroendocrine Tumor Research Foundation awarded a 2017 Accelerator Grant to Matthew Meyerson, MD, PhD.



## Volunteers help walkers raise \$8.7 million

Last October, the Boston Marathon® Jimmy Fund Walk presented by Hyundai hosted a special celebration at the Yawkey Center for Cancer Care to thank volunteers for helping to make the 2017 event a resounding success, with more than \$8.7 million raised. Guests at Volunteer Appreciation Night enjoyed dinner and a guided tour of Dana-Farber's main campus, and learned how their volunteer efforts made a difference in the 29th Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk presented by Hyundai.

Andres Tejada and Paola Martin (left) were two of the more than 1,000 volunteers who can be credited with ensuring the event ran smoothly and triumphantly. Tejada and Martin were a part of the Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Foundation team that distributed medals at the Copley Square finish line.

## DANA-FARBER SOCIETY 28th Annual Recognition Dinner

Tuesday, May 8, 2018

Honoring those who have included Dana-Farber and the Jimmy Fund in their estate plans through their will, trust, beneficiary designation, life income arrangement, or other charitable provision.

FEATURED SPEAKER

**Atul Gawande, MD, MPH**  
Surgeon, researcher, and *New York Times* best-selling author

For more information, please contact Kathleen Sullivan at 617-632-4052 or KathleenE\_Sullivan@dfci.harvard.edu

### Impact | SPRING 2018 | Volume 21 Issue 2

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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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# Impact

THANKING THOSE WHO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

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The Boston Red Sox Caravan recently traveled to Dana-Farber's Jimmy Fund Clinic, to the delight of patients like Cameron, 16. Wally the Green Monster, his sister, Tessie, and Red Sox players distributed gifts, joined in art projects, and helped to brighten the day for our youngest patients. Top row, from left: Brian Johnson, Robby Scott, and Matt Barnes; front row, from left: Heath Hembree, Austin Maddox, and Deven Marrero.

## 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)

APRIL 14

### B.A.A. 5K®

Conquer cancer by supporting the Dana-Farber B.A.A. 5K fundraising team as they run 3.1 miles around Boston's scenic Back Bay. To support the team or learn more, contact Hayley Fishman at 617-632-1970 or [Hayley\\_Fishman@dfci.harvard.edu](mailto:Hayley_Fishman@dfci.harvard.edu), or visit [RunDanaFarber.org](http://RunDanaFarber.org).



APRIL 15 – 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 2018 home game, as well as other great prizes. Contact Jillian Davis at 617-632-5091 or [Jillian\\_Davis@dfci.harvard.edu](mailto:Jillian_Davis@dfci.harvard.edu).



APRIL 16

### Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge



Support the Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge in running the 2018 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](mailto:dfmc@dfci.harvard.edu), or visit [RunDFMC.org](http://RunDFMC.org).

APRIL – AUGUST

### Jimmy Fund Little League

Presented by Extra Innings and Franklin Sports

Little League teams throughout New England can fundraise to strike out cancer while extending their season of play. Contact Brendan Monahan at 617-582-7255 or [BrendanT\\_Monahan@dfci.harvard.edu](mailto:BrendanT_Monahan@dfci.harvard.edu).



MAY 1 – 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. Contact Katherine Bahrawy at 617-632-3190 or [KatherineL\\_Bahrawy@dfci.harvard.edu](mailto:KatherineL_Bahrawy@dfci.harvard.edu).



JUNE 2

### John Hancock Fenway Fantasy Day

Live out your baseball dreams at historic Fenway Park while fighting cancer. Choose a batting or fielding package, or sponsor a patient to play. Contact Teresa Dabrila at 617-582-8342 or [Teresa\\_Dabrila@dfci.harvard.edu](mailto:Teresa_Dabrila@dfci.harvard.edu).



JUNE 5 – 7

### Jimmy Fund Scooper Bowl®

Presented by Valvoline Instant Oil Change<sup>SM</sup>

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. Noon – 8 p.m. at Boston's City Hall Plaza. Contact Katherine Bahrawy at 617-632-3863 or [KatherineL\\_Bahrawy@dfci.harvard.edu](mailto:KatherineL_Bahrawy@dfci.harvard.edu).



JUNE 8 – JULY 26

### Jimmy Fund Theatre Collections

Volunteer for the Jimmy Fund's most enduring fundraiser and pass collection canisters at National Amusements and other participating movie theaters. Contact Suzanne Crane at 617-632-5344 or [Suzanne\\_Crane@dfci.harvard.edu](mailto:Suzanne_Crane@dfci.harvard.edu).



JULY 22

### NEW! Jimmy Fund 5K & Fun Run

Presented by Bayer

Get the whole family moving this summer while having fun and supporting the Jimmy Fund. Choose the 3.1-mile 5K or the half-mile Fun Run, then celebrate at the post-race party, all at Millennium Park in West Roxbury, Mass. Contact Emily Falconer at 617-632-1970 or [Emily\\_Falconer@dfci.harvard.edu](mailto:Emily_Falconer@dfci.harvard.edu).

