Through Northwestern Medicine, we are creating a national epicenter for health care, education, research, community service and advocacy. Philanthropy inspires, supports and advances this vision.

**M.K. Pritzker’s Generous Partnership and Advocacy**

M.K. Pritzker has lent crucial support through the years to a variety of programs and projects at Northwestern Medicine, including the Prentice Ambulatory Clinic at Northwestern Memorial Hospital’s Prentice Women’s Hospital. She also has devoted her time, talents and resources to a number of ventures, including the Evergreen Invitational, a national equestrian Grand Prix show jumping event that raises funds for patient care programs at Northwestern Medicine and community organizations.

**Cyrus Chung Ying Tang Foundation Honors Dr. Lee Jampol with a New Professorship in Ophthalmology**

The Cyrus Chung Ying Tang Foundation recently made a $3 million gift to create the Cyrus Tang and Lee Jampol Professorship in Ophthalmology. This endowed academic position will recognize and honor the contributions of longtime faculty member Lee M. Jampol, MD, who is a renowned investigator and expert in diseases of the retina and age-related macular degeneration.

**Catapulting Alzheimer’s Disease Research Toward the Horizon**

In 2015, Northwestern Medicine announced an initiative to raise $10 million within the Cognitive Neurology and Alzheimer’s Disease Center (CNADC) to establish a robust endowment to support research and education, as well as provide much-needed additional space for the Center. The CNADC has raised nearly 50 percent of its goal after receiving several transformational gifts.

**IDP Foundation Gift Advances Heart Valve Disease Research**

The IDP Foundation, a philanthropic partner of Northwestern Medicine, recently made a $1 million commitment to advance heart valve disease research. Over the next five years, this IDP Foundation Cardiac Research Grant will support the Heart Valve Disease Research Program in the Center for Cardiovascular Innovation within the Division of Cardiology.

**Wesley and Sue Dixon: A Legacy of Support**

Wesley M. Dixon Jr., who passed away in January 2014, served for more than 50 years in numerous roles across the Northwestern Medicine health system. His wife, Sue, has pledged $1 million to construct and name a fountain in his memory and in recognition of his dedication at the new Northwestern Medicine Lake Forest Hospital, which is currently under construction.
With a caring heart, a creative spirit and a generous character as a catalyst for positive change, great things are possible. Even greater things can occur when all three of those assets exist together, working in concert within an individual who is dedicated to improving the wellbeing and lives of others—a person like M.K. Pritzker. A true philanthropist who is widely known and respected for her warmth, empathy and leadership, M.K. (short for Mary Kathryn) has lent crucial support through the years to a variety of programs and projects at Northwestern Medicine and in the surrounding community.

Propelled by a lifelong interest in the people and communities around her, M.K. strives to identify unmet needs and to understand how best to fill the gaps that often exist between “what is” and “what can be” in today’s realities and tomorrow’s potential.

“I grew up in Vermillion, South Dakota, a small town near the Missouri River, where everyone in town knew and truly cared about one another,” said M.K. “Following my parents’ example, as a young girl I learned to lend a hand to other people, to do whatever I could to leave a positive mark on my community and my neighbors. Today, my definition of community and neighbors has expanded significantly, and my husband and I find ourselves in the position to have a positive impact at a scale and in ways I never imagined when I was a young girl. But whether on a small or large scale, just as my parents taught me, I remain deeply committed to the pursuit of social justice and to shaping innovative and effective strategies for solving society’s most challenging problems.”

Married for more than two decades, M.K. and her husband, J.B. Pritzker, met during M.K.’s junior year at the University of Nebraska, when she participated in an internship in Washington, D.C. She and J.B. worked on the same floor in the Hart Senate office building. Today, J.B. is co-founder and managing partner of a highly successful investment firm known as Pritzker Group, as well as a leader in Chicago’s and the nation’s entrepreneurial and philanthropic communities. Together, the couple created the Pritzker Family Foundation, through which M.K. and J.B. have offered powerful support to initiatives in health care, human and civil rights, and early childhood development.

“Following my parents’ example, as a young girl I learned to lend a hand to other people, to do whatever I could to leave a positive mark on my community and my neighbors.”

— M.K. Pritzker
Its inception.

Raised a total of more than $5 million since Medicine’s major fundraising events, having jumping events and one of Northwestern has become one of the nation’s premier show successful event. The Evergreen Invitational in the history of this unique and highly Wisconsin, representing another milestone at the Pritzkers’ Evergreen Farm in Bristol, and throughout the Chicago area.”

Health programs and services at Northwestern much-needed funds for a variety of women’s of Grand Prix show jumping and to raise the pageantry and camaraderie of the sport mission: to bring people together to enjoy 2007, my goal was to realize a two-part and when we launched the event in fall had the idea for the Evergreen Invitational, show jumping,” M.K. remarked. “So, when I I am a lifelong equestrian, and I am passionate about sharing my love for horses, riding and show jumping,” M.K. remarked. “So, when I had the idea for the Evergreen Invitational, and when we launched the event in fall 2007, my goal was to realize a two-part mission: to bring people together to enjoy the pageantry and camaraderie of the sport of Grand Prix show jumping and to raise much-needed funds for a variety of women’s health programs and services at Northwestern and throughout the Chicago area.”

In addition to cultivating a family legacy of philanthropy, M.K. has independently pioneered a number of extraordinary philanthropic endeavors. Among the most notable of these ventures is the Evergreen Invitational, a full-scale, national equestrian Grand Prix show jumping event that raises funds for historically underfunded patient care programs at Northwestern Medicine and community-based partner organizations.

“I remain deeply committed to the pursuit of social justice and to shaping innovative and effective strategies for solving society’s most challenging problems.”
— M.K. Pritzker

Impacting Women’s Health at Northwestern Medicine

Demonstrating her belief in making a lasting difference in a challenging arena, M.K. has invested generously in the Prentice Ambulatory Clinic (PAC) at Northwestern Memorial Hospital’s Prentice Women’s Hospital. Through the PAC, women from traditionally underserved communities have access to a broad spectrum of essential services including gynecological, prenatal and postpartum care.

Moreover, proceeds from the Evergreen Invitational enable health care professionals at Northwestern Medicine and partnering organizations to advance their work in pioneering new approaches to women’s health issues. Through the Evergreen Invitational Women’s Health Grants Initiative, Northwestern researchers from a variety of fields have received crucial seed funding to launch an array of patient-centered studies and projects. Among these initiatives are pivotal clinical and educational initiatives such as the “Healthy Minds/Healthy Moms” Program, the mission of which is to provide crucial mental health services for pregnant and postpartum women living with HIV/AIDS. Other initiatives include: a program that focuses on empowering women to achieve stability in all aspects of their life, especially their health; a domestic violence screening and advocacy project designed to provide high-quality, hospital-based crisis intervention and counseling to patients who are victims of domestic violence; and front-line research studies in areas such as postpartum depression, ovarian cancer and fertility preservation, and breast cancer.

In 2010, M.K. and her Evergreen event team welcomed The Woman’s Board of Northwestern Memorial Hospital as a partner and host of the Evergreen Invitational. Through this partnership, M.K. and The Woman’s Board are bringing together the Board’s philanthropic spirit and emphasis on compassionate care with Evergreen’s mission of promoting quality and equality in health care. This year, for the fourth time, The Woman’s Board will serve as a proud presenting partner of the Evergreen Invitational.

A New Emphasis on Community Care

Displaying the vision, creativity and commitment that led to the creation of the Evergreen Invitational and that are among her personal hallmarks, M.K. recently added another chapter to her inspiring philanthropic story. She and J.B. have made an exemplary gift in support of three significant programs that Northwestern Medicine is developing in the area of community care:

- The Northwestern McGaw Family Medicine Residency Program is an innovative family medicine residency training program that is designed to meet the increasing demand for primary care on Chicago’s West Side and its surrounding communities.

- Through the Women’s Cancer Care Initiative, Northwestern Medicine plans to improve access to and delivery of women’s cancer services by implementing a community-based intervention rooted in the “4R” (Right Information and Right Treatment to the Right Patient at the Right Time) Care Delivery Model.

- The South Side Quality Care Initiative will begin with a thorough planning process to assess opportunities for developing and implementing strategies that will address the dearth of quality care on the South Side of Chicago.

“...the group and the community ever met, and they epitomize ‘philanthropic spirit.’ In everything M.K. does, she thinks of others—the group and the community first. Her most recent commitment to these important community-based health initiatives is further evidence of her dedication to her fellow human beings and her advocacy on behalf of those in need.”

He continued, “M.K. and J.B. are among the most generous and loyal people I have ever met, and they epitomize ‘philanthropic spirit.’ In everything M.K. does, she thinks of others—the group and the community first. Her most recent commitment to these important community-based health initiatives is further evidence of her dedication to her fellow human beings and her advocacy on behalf of those in need.”
Cyrus Chung Ying Tang Foundation Honors Dr. Lee Jampol with a New Professorship in Ophthalmology

Successful entrepreneur Cyrus Tang has always viewed good health as one of the key drivers of community progress. Starting his first company, Electronetics, in Chicago in 1960, Mr. Tang continually looked for ways to use his resources to benefit society at large. To ensure access to the best care available, he has supported healthcare initiatives around the globe—from his native China to the United States, a country he has called home for almost 70 years.

Recently, the Cyrus Chung Ying Tang Foundation made a $3 million gift to create the Cyrus Tang and Lee Jampol Professorship in Ophthalmology. This endowed academic position will recognize and honor the contributions of longtime Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine faculty member Lee M. Jampol, MD. Dr. Jampol is a renowned investigator and expert in diseases of the retina and age-related macular degeneration. He served as chair of the Department of Ophthalmology from 1983 to 2010, and currently serves as the Louis Feinberg Professor of Ophthalmology at Northwestern. He also is chair of the Diabetic Retinopathy Clinical Research Network, which spans the United States and Canada and comprises institutions performing diabetic clinical trials funded by the National Institutes of Health.

“I have always respected and admired Dr. Jampol’s dedication to and passion for his clinical work and research, I hope that this professorship will support and inspire others to follow in Dr. Jampol’s footsteps.”

—Cyrus Tang

“I have always respected and admired Dr. Jampol’s dedication to and passion for his clinical work and research,” said Mr. Tang. “I hope that this professorship will support and inspire others to follow in Dr. Jampol’s footsteps.”

“I am thrilled by Cyrus Tang’s decision to create and name this professorship in his and my honor. We have been able to accomplish so much in this field thanks to the generosity of Cyrus and people like him,” said Dr. Jampol. “The impact of this new position will be felt across the entire department.”

Breakthrough Research to Advance the Field of Vision Medicine

Vision loss through disease and aging greatly impacts the quality of life for millions of Americans. As the United States population ages, experts predict that the next 30 years will bring a significant increase in conditions affecting the eye and vision. Northwestern’s Department of Ophthalmology remains committed to providing the most advanced medical care, training the next generation of leaders in the specialty, and conducting high-impact research to gain new knowledge and develop novel therapies for vision-threatening diseases. At Northwestern, Dr. Jampol recently led a randomized clinical trial showing that the drug ranibizumab might represent an alternative treatment for some patients with proliferative diabetic retinopathy, a leading cause of vision loss. Diabetic retinopathy is characterized by the growth of blood vessels in the retina that are fragile and more likely to leak and bleed.

“The generosity of the Cyrus Chung Ying Tang Foundation will bring us closer to becoming one of the nation’s preeminent, research-intensive ophthalmology departments dedicated to treating blinding eye diseases,” said Nicholas Volpe, MD, chair and Tarry Professor of Ophthalmology. “This new professorship is the product of a relationship between a physician-scientist with a steadfast commitment to improvement and a visionary donor. The position will allow us to support the work of an exceptional faculty member to further strengthen our clinical and research efforts at Northwestern.”

This is not the first time Northwestern Medicine has benefited from the philanthropy of the Cyrus Chung Ying Tang Foundation. In 2008, Northwestern was the recipient of a $500,000 gift from the Foundation to further enhance patient care.

Mr. Tang established the Tang Foundations to give back to his homeland as well as his adopted country—particularly the city of Chicago, where he attended the Illinois Institute of Technology. The Tang Foundations, which include the Cyrus Chung Ying Tang Foundation, the Cyrus Tang Foundation and the Tang Foundation for the Research of Traditional Chinese Medicines, advance work in the areas of education, health care and community development. Mr. Tang’s philanthropy has provided scholarships for Chinese students, established the Tang Center for Herbal Medicine Research at the University of Chicago and supported culture and the humanities. In 2015, Chicago’s Field Museum of Natural History opened the Cyrus Tang Hall of China.

“Medical breakthroughs are often the result of equal parts hard work and opportunity,” said Mr. Tang. “It is my hope that this professorship provides someone a measure of support to make something that will benefit science as well as patients. Northwestern University is a leader in this field, and I truly believe that there will be many more accomplishments in the future. I would be honored if I am able to play some small part in it.”
Making Strides Toward Conquering Cancer

Across the Northwestern Medicine health system in May and June, thousands of people laced up their walking and running shoes to show their support for cancer survivors and for the physicians, researchers and other healthcare providers who touch the lives of countless people affected by cancer. A spirit of camaraderie, as well as highly successful fundraising, marked both celebrations. Fueled by the energy, generosity and caring of everyone who participated in these events, significant progress in the fight against cancer will continue, and more hope-filled futures will become realities for cancer survivors everywhere.

The Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center’s Cancer Survivors’ Celebration Walk & 5K

On Sunday, June 5, National Cancer Survivors Day, more than 4,000 cancer survivors and supporters came together in Chicago’s Grant Park to participate in the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern University’s 23rd Annual Cancer Survivors’ Celebration Walk & 5K. The event raised more than $325,000 to support the Lurie Cancer Center’s research and patient care at Northwestern Medicine. Participants shared experiences and words of encouragement with one another as they walked and ran along Chicago’s lakefront path.

On the morning of the Walk & 5K, Leonidas C. Platanias, MD, PhD, director of the Lurie Cancer Center and the Jesse, Sara, Andrew, Abigail, Benjamin and Elizabeth Lurie Professor of Oncology, welcomed the enthusiastic crowd and officially launched the event. “Through our Cancer Survivors’ Celebration Walk & 5K—the Lurie Cancer Center’s signature event—we have the opportunity to come together to recognize the strength and courage of cancer survivors and their loved ones, to raise awareness of the challenges that these survivors face and, above all, to celebrate life,” he said. “Year after year, this remarkable event inspires everyone who attends. It reminds us that, together, we can make many positive differences for cancer survivors; we can improve and even save lives, and we are a powerful opponent against cancer.”

LivingWell Cancer Resource Center’s Bridge Walk

Just a few weeks earlier, on Saturday, May 14, LivingWell Cancer Resource Center, a part of Northwestern Medicine, held its 11th Annual Bridge Walk in Geneva, Illinois, along the west bank of the Fox River. Like the Lurie Cancer Center’s Cancer Survivors’ Celebration Walk & 5K, the Bridge Walk brought together cancer survivors and those who care for them—family members, friends, neighbors, colleagues, physicians and others. The Bridge Walk netted an impressive $260,000 in support of LivingWell’s mission, programs, patients and families.

Motivated by the knowledge that nearly 14.5 million people in the United States and more than 32 million people worldwide are currently living with and beyond cancer, the Bridge Walk’s 1,600-plus participants took powerful steps—both literally and figuratively—to ensure that LivingWell will be able to continue to offer its full complement of 75 programs and services free of charge. Designed to benefit individuals living with cancer as well as families and caregivers, LivingWell’s myriad programs include professionally led support groups, bereavement counseling, educational workshops, nutrition and exercise classes, and offerings related to stress reduction and overall wellness.

“At LivingWell, we are dedicated to providing compassionate care and support to patients and families at every point in their personal cancer journeys,” said Nancy Vance, executive director of LivingWell Cancer Resource Center. “Through the Bridge Walk, we re-affirm our commitment to encouraging and empowering all those touched by cancer—a commitment that we share with our friends and colleagues across the Northwestern Medicine health system and throughout the national and global communities of cancer survivors and their advocates, supporters and loved ones.”
Scientists affiliated with the CNADC are at the cutting-edge of research on the causes and treatments of Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias, and have authored scientific publications that are among the most frequently cited in the world literature. CNADC researchers have made pivotal discoveries related to tau and amyloid, the two major proteins of Alzheimer’s disease. The CNADC also provides training in neurology, psychiatry, neuroscience, neuropsychology and social work in its unique, multidisciplinary setting.

A Campaign to Ensure the CNADC’s Future

In 2015, Northwestern Medicine announced an initiative to raise $10 million to solidify the Cognitive Neurology and Alzheimer’s Disease Center’s future and honor its founder, Dr. M. Marsel Mesulam. The funds raised will provide much-needed additional space for the CNADC, a setting that will integrate clinical research with basic research. Additionally, the fundraising initiative aims to create a robust endowment to support both research and education, as well as a professorship, which will aid in the recruitment of a leader in neurodegenerative medicine who will carry on Dr. Mesulam’s vision. The plan seeks to name the center after Dr. Mesulam, who is the Ruth Dunbar Davee Professor of Neuroscience, a fitting tribute to a renowned leader in Alzheimer’s disease research.

The custom-built space will enable a much-needed expansion of the research enterprise so that our patients can ultimately become the beneficiaries of the programs.”

“The future of the CNADC is bright thanks to the potential of this fundraising campaign,” said Dimitri Krainc, MD, the Aaron Montgomery Ward Professor, chair of the Department of Neurology and director of the Center for Rare Neurological Diseases. “It is our hope that the cutting-edge work of Dr. Mesulam and his team will continue to impact research and patient care well into the future. Thanks to a new collaborative space and endowed funds to ensure research and faculty support in perpetuity, this hope will be a reality.”

The CNADC has received several transformational gifts toward this initiative that have set the Center on a path toward success. Some of the individuals and organizations involved in these contributions are featured on the next page. Thus far, the CNADC has raised nearly 50 percent of its goal, still needing to reach its minimum for the endowed research and education fund and the laboratory construction.
Gloria LaGrassa of Basking Ridge, New Jersey, has been supporting Alzheimer’s disease research at Northwestern since 2003, when she made her first gift to the CNADC. Most recently, she made a $300,000 commitment to create an endowed research fund within the CNADC to support its work in perpetuity. It is the hope that this fund will reach $3 million.

Soon after selling his software development company, Mrs. LaGrassa’s husband, Carl, began slurring his speech. She also noticed his personality changing a bit and that he was physically unbalanced. After seeking answers at another institution and ultimately doing some of her own online research, Mrs. LaGrassa found Dr. M. Marsel Mesulam and the CNADC team. “Dr. Mesulam and his team were intelligent and kind, but also straightforward and pragmatic,” she said. “Even though the prognosis was not good, Dr. Mesulam and Carl developed a beautiful rapport.” Mr. and Mrs. LaGrassa came into the CNADC several times for tests and treatment before they could no longer travel to the city due to his deteriorating health. Mr. LaGrassa passed away in 2009, nine years after disease onset.

“Dr. Mesulam took us through those first terrible years in such a calm and positive way. At this most difficult time in our lives, he was there to help and guide us,” said Mrs. LaGrassa. “Dr. Mesulam is a caring and dedicated person. I know that his research is showing a lot of promise, and he did so well with Carl. I am happy to support him and his team.”

The LaGrassas met while working together in the stock brokerage field. She worked in insurance planning, and he started his own trading software development business. After Mr. LaGrassa’s diagnosis, the couple decided to open a restaurant together called The Pluckemin Inn in Bedminster, New Jersey. Pluckemin, which is still owned by Mrs. LaGrassa, has won numerous awards. “Carl was able to plan and build the restaurant, which I think kept him happy,” said Mrs. LaGrassa. “Even after he lost his ability to speak, he remained his opinionated-on-the-surface, soft-on-the-inside self. He communicated with a thumbs up or down. He was famous for that.”

“The new space will allow basic science laboratories of the CNADC to be located next door to laboratories for imaging and cognitive testing. Faculty from different disciplines will work collaboratively, learn from each other and train the next generation of clinicians and investigators.”

—Dr. M. Marsel Mesulam

The Davee Foundation has supported Northwestern University and the CNADC for over two decades. Most recently, the Foundation made two extraordinary gifts—$1 million to support Alzheimer’s disease research and $2 million to create an endowed professorship in Dr. Mesulam’s honor. To further intensify The Davee Foundation’s generosity, this new professorship was supported in part by alumni Patrick G. Ryan and Shirley W. Ryan through the Ryan Family Chair Challenge. The Challenge matches gifts made by other Northwestern supporters to establish new endowed professorships, also known as chairs, across a wide range of disciplines.

The Davee Foundation was established in 1964 by Ken M. Davee, an alumnus of Northwestern University, and his wife, Adeline Berry Davee. After Adeline’s death, Mr. Davee continued management of the Foundation with his second wife, Ruth Dunbar Davee, also an alumna of Northwestern. Ruth would go on to serve as president of the Foundation after Ken’s death. Through their philanthropy, the couple challenged organizations to be innovative and to set a very high bar for excellence.

“Ruth and Ken Davee were strong supporters of the medical school at Northwestern when they decided to create a professorship so that the school could recruit Dr. Mesulam to start the new Cognitive Neurology and Alzheimer’s Disease Center. They were consulted on the recruitment of Dr. Mesulam, and they could not have been more pleased to have him come to Northwestern,” said James W. Dugdale, president of The Davee Foundation. “All these years later, The Davee Foundation is delighted about the center’s growth and its national recognition. We are very excited to be creating a new professorship to bring the CNADC to a new level and, hopefully, have it named for Dr. Mesulam.”
On Saturday, April 30, nearly 200 members of the Nathan Smith Davis Society at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine came together to mingle, celebrate and to be recognized for their commitment to the medical school. Held during Alumni Weekend 2016, the reception took place at The Arts Club of Chicago and honored those who provide critical support for the growth, excellence and competitiveness of the medical school. The Nathan Smith Davis Society acknowledges and celebrates both monetary gifts and volunteer service to Feinberg. It is currently nearly 5,000 members strong, including alumni, faculty, staff and many friends of the medical school. The society is named for Dr. Nathan Smith Davis, one of the founders of Northwestern’s medical school, its first dean and a pioneer in medical education. Pictured above, from left to right, are: Nathan Smith Davis Society members and alumnae Catheryn Montgomery Yashar, ’91 MD; Holly Casele Holden, ’91 MD; Lynn R. Kong, ’91 MD, ’94 GME, ’97 GME; Diane B. Wayne, ’91 MD; and Farah Hashemi Fakouri, ’91 MD, ’92 GME.

On June 20, the Friends of Marlene welcomed more than 130 guests to “Summer in the City” at the new LondonHouse Chicago Hotel. In addition to honoring the life and legacy of Marlene Hetzel Palmerson, who bravely fought breast cancer and passed away in 2010, the Friends of Marlene raises funds to ensure that people affected by cancer have access to a range of supportive care services at all stages of treatment and recovery. Generously sponsored by Business Events Toronto, “Summer in the City” raised $27,000 for Northwestern Medicine’s Supportive Oncology Program at the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern University. Guests enjoyed live music from Nancy Hays and were inspired by heartfelt remarks from Timothy Pearman, PhD, director of supportive oncology at the Lurie Cancer Center, and Leonidas C. Platanias, MD, PhD, director of the Lurie Cancer Center and the Jesse, Sara, Andrew, Abigail, Benjamin and Elizabeth Lurie Professor of Oncology. Among the evening’s most significant highlights was the Friends of Marlene’s first “Fund-a-Need” paddle raise hosted by Jim Grillo of hereschicago.com. The Friends of Marlene board is pictured above.

The Lynn Sage Cancer Research Foundation (LSCRF) hosted its 25th Annual Play for the Cure Golf Outing at North Shore Country Club in Glenview, Illinois, on June 27. More than 80 golfers attended the event and enjoyed one another’s company as they played 18 holes. After an afternoon on the course, guests enjoyed dinner and a festive reception complete with announcements of raffle winners. Adding another meaningful chapter to LSCRF’s inspiring philanthropy, this year’s Play for the Cure event raised more than $135,000 in support of life-changing breakthroughs in breast cancer research and care at Northwestern Memorial Hospital and the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern University. Pictured above, from left to right, are: Julie Lampert, chair of the LSCRF Board of Directors; golf outing co-chairs Bari Anixter Mlodinoff and Melissa Mazzetta; and Brad Jarol, vice chair of the LSCRF Board of Directors.
The 7th Annual Minds Matter event, benefiting the Northwestern Brain Tumor Institute (NBTI), took place on May 20 at the Loews Chicago Hotel. Some 450 supporters came together to honor the journeys of individuals and families affected by brain and spinal cord tumors, and to celebrate another year of great strides in the realm of brain cancer research and patient care at Northwestern Medicine. Co-chaired by Bill Evannoﬀ, who was diagnosed with a brain tumor in 2003, and his wife, Viviane, the event powerfully celebrated life, courage and survivorship, and shone a well-deserved spotlight on the exceptional leadership of the NBTI’s co-directors, James P. Chandler, MD, Lavin/Fates Professor of Neurological Surgery at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, and Jeffrey J. Raizer, professor of Neurology and Hematology/Oncology at Feinberg. Guests enthusiastically participated in both a live auction and a “Fund the Cause” paddle raise event, demonstrating a spirit of generosity that will help to ensure the NBTI’s continued success in harnessing world-class expertise and resources to provide patients with the very finest, most comprehensive care. This year’s Minds Matter beneﬁt was a resounding success, netting more than $615,000 in funding for the NBTI. Pictured above, from left to right: Dr. Chandler; Mr. and Mrs. Evannoﬀ; Jason Knowles of ABC7 Eyewitness News, who served as the event’s Master of Ceremonies; and Dr. Raizer.

On June 20, over 100 people gathered for the 8th Annual Global Health Initiative (GHI) Golf Outing and Beneﬁt Dinner at the Evanston Golf Club in Skokie, Illinois. Patients, physicians and leadership from both the Feinberg School of Medicine and Northwestern Memorial Hospital took part in the event, which raised over $125,000 for the GHI. These funds will support medical trainee rotations, research priorities in global health and a variety of faculty-led global health endeavors at Northwestern. Since 2008, the GHI Fund has sent over 720 medical students and residents to 38 different low resource countries and to rural primary care clinics in the United States. Golfers photographed above from left to right are: GHI supporter Jim Crowley; Robert J. Havey, MD, assistant professor of Clinical Medicine and founder of the GHI; Harold J. Pelzer, MD, DDS, associate professor emeritus of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery at Northwestern; and GHI supporter John Bredemann.

On April 29, the members of Northwestern Medicine’s Lung Cancer Advisory Council (Lung Cancer Advisory Council) met at Northwestern; and GHI supporter John Bredemann.

The Lynn Sage Foundation’s In Good Taste
October 1-31, 2016

Participating Restaurants in the Chicagoland area
Info: Elizabeth Knollman, 312-503-1656 or elizabeth.knollman@northwestern.edu
www.lynnsage.org/in-good-taste

Friends of Marlene First Annual Golf Outing
October 3, 2016 | 10:00 a.m.
Stonebridge Country Club, 2705 Aurora Boulevard, Aurora, IL
Info: Northwestern Memorial Foundation Special Events, 312-926-7133
www.friendsofmarlenehp.org

Global Health Initiative Benefit Dinner
October 4, 2016 | 5:30 p.m. Cocktails | 6:30 p.m. Dinner
The Peninsula Chicago, 108 East Superior Street, Chicago, IL
Info: Cynthia Garbutt, 312-503-0761 or cynthia.garbutt@northwestern.edu

Richard A. Scott, MD, Lecture
October 11, 2016 | 4:00 p.m.
Baldwin Auditorium, Lurie Medical Research Center, 303 East Superior Street, Chicago, IL
Info: Elizabeth Knollman, 312-503-1656 or elizabeth.knollman@northwestern.edu
www.cgm.northwestern.edu/about/events

Lynn Sage Pink Path Run, 5K and Walk
October 15, 2016 | 9:00 a.m.
Diversey Harbor, Lincoln Park, Chicago, IL
Info: Emma Cowen, 312-926-4274 or lynnsage@nm.org
www.lynnsage.org

The Harold E. Eisenberg Foundation’s 18th Annual Dinner
October 18, 2016 | 5:30 p.m.
The Hilton Chicago, 720 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL
Info: Elizabeth Knollman, 312-503-1656 or elizabeth.knollman@northwestern.edu
www.eisenbergfoundation.org

Center for Primary Care Innovation Evening
October 20, 2016 | 5:30 p.m.
Method Atrium, 320 East Superior Street, Chicago, IL
Info: Cynthia Garbutt, 312-503-0761 or cynthia.garbutt@northwestern.edu

Lynd Sage Fall Benefit Luncheon and Purse-Sue the Cure Auction
October 25, 2016 | 11:00 a.m.
Hilton Chicago, 720 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL
Info: Northwestern Memorial Foundation Special Events, 312-926-7133
www.lynnsage.org

Hippocratic Cancer Research Foundation 2016 Gala
November 5, 2016 | 6:00 p.m.
Hilton Chicago, 720 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL
Info: Rodrigo Leanos, 312-926-7933 or rleanos@nm.org
www.lynnsage.org

Friends of Marlene Annual Friendraiser
November 9, 2016 | 5:00 p.m.
Prentice Women’s Hospital, 250 East Superior Street, Chicago, IL
Info: Northwestern Memorial Foundation Special Events, 312-926-7133
www.friendsofmarlenehp.org

The Women’s Board of Northwestern Medicine Lake Forest Hospital’s Annual Holiday Boutique
November 17-19, 2016 | 10:00 a.m.
Lake Forest Recreation Center, 400 Hastings Road, Lake Forest, IL
Info: Office of Philanthropy, 847-535-6111 or philanthropy@lfh.org

Lynn Sage “Be My Valentine”
February 12, 2017 | 10:00 a.m.
The Drake Hotel, 140 East Walton Place, Chicago, IL
Info: Northwestern Memorial Foundation Special Events, 312-926-7133
www.lynnsage.org
Recognizing Great Care

At Northwestern Medicine, we have the honor of receiving gifts of all sizes from individuals who want to ensure that the resources available to them or a loved one in a time of need are available to the community and our academic medical center in the future. These heartfelt gifts are often a celebration and recognition of a caregiver's skill and compassion, and they are crucial investments in a priority area that can benefit so many people and initiatives. We are pleased to highlight just a few of the many generous individuals and organizations who support Northwestern Medicine.

Susan Fous of Batavia, Illinois, has been making gifts in support of the Mary Beth Richmond, MD, Scholarship Fund since 2009. She also recently documented a $10,000 bequest to benefit the scholarship that, thanks to Ms. Fous and many other supporters, is now fully endowed to benefit generations of students. As the fund grows through donor support, it will be able to support even more Feinberg students who aspire to emulate Dr. Richmond’s example of professionalism and compassionate care.

After undergoing treatment at Northwestern for uterine cancer, Ms. Fous sought the care of a new primary care physician. Her neighbor recommended Dr. Richmond. Upon meeting her for the first time in 1993, Ms. Fous said, “I was immediately thrilled—she was a woman doctor, young and on the cutting-edge, and at the institution where I already received care.” Twenty three years later, Ms. Fous still lights up when she talks about Dr. Richmond. “She makes you feel like you are her only patient.” When asked about her decision to support the Richmond Scholarship Fund, Ms. Fous noted her desire to recognize Dr. Richmond for her care and compassionate attentiveness. “Dr. Richmond is special. She is not in it for the money or for the prestige. She really cares about people.”

Central DuPage Hospital Benefactors Enable Wheaton First Responders to Operate the First Mobile Stroke Unit in Illinois

Soon, when a 911 call is made for a possible stroke in the Central DuPage Hospital primary service area (Wheaton, Winfield, West Chicago, Carol Stream and Glen Ellyn), the Wheaton Fire Department will arrive on the scene with Illinois’s first Mobile Stroke Unit, bringing a specialized stroke team directly to the patient and reducing his or her time to treatment. This special ambulance is outfitted with a CT scanner, laboratory, and wireless and telemedicine connections, enabling the EMS team to conduct on-site tests, sending results directly to neurologists at Northwestern Medicine Central DuPage Hospital who can then recommend the appropriate treatment to be given en route to the hospital, saving valuable time. Over the course of several years, donors have generously given gifts designated to support strategic programs at Central DuPage Hospital. These gifts helped to fund the capital costs for this innovative community program to save lives.

Harish N. Shownkeen, MD, an interventional neuroradiologist at Central DuPage Hospital, said, “Timely treatment of a stroke is absolutely critical. Every minute lost before a diagnosis is made and treatment is given can cause a decrease in quality of life. Some studies equate every minute lost to almost three weeks of accelerated aging. A full year of life could be lost in 18 minutes. Think of the precious minutes saved by bringing the CT scan to the patient; what that means to them and to their families.”

A Cleveland Clinic study demonstrated that a response for a call for a possible stroke answered by a Mobile Stroke Unit totaled 55.5 minutes from alarm to treatment, as compared to 94 minutes when a standard ambulance answered a call. The goal of the Central DuPage Hospital Stroke Program is to provide patients with access to world-class health care that is guided by the latest research and supported by state-of-the-art technologies.
Hampshire, Illinois, resident Charles Kline did his homework before he selected Kishwaukee Hospital for his fourth joint replacement surgery. "Before making a decision, I did thorough research on hospital infection and recovery rates for joint replacements," said Mr. Kline. "Before committing to surgery at Kishwaukee Hospital, I knew it had outstanding scores. My wife, Kathleen, and I have an active lifestyle including golfing, skiing, roller skating and keeping up with seven grandchildren. It is great to have full use of my limbs again."

Just as they are thoughtful on healthcare decisions, Mr. and Mrs. Kline are contemplative about philanthropy. Following Mr. Kline’s surgery, the Klines made their first gift to Kishwaukee Hospital in honor of outstanding hospital service. "The nursing staff carefully coordinated my care while I was in the hospital. I was very impressed with the safety of the facility and the infection control measures that were evident to me in their practices," said Mr. Kline. "When a community service lives up to its promises, we like to give back. We entrust our funds will be used well by Kishwaukee Hospital for additional improvements to serve others."

Ensuring that patients have the most optimal outcomes, support from the Klines and others helps to provide the very best equipment, such as the hana® table, an innovative orthopaedic fracture surgical table that provides minimally invasive surgeries and reduced recovery time.

Thanks to the generosity of Chicago entrepreneur Jay Michael and Lifeway Foods, Inc., cancer patients at Prentice Women’s Hospital are able to enjoy complimentary frozen kefir. Mr. Michael, the co-founder of Cedar Street, a Chicago real estate development business, was only 34 years old when he passed away in January 2016 after a valiant fight against non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma. He was widely known and respected for his ingenuity and leadership, as well as for his passionate interest in healthy living, his concern for the needs of others and his philanthropic spirit. During his cancer journey at Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Mr. Michael greatly enjoyed frozen kefir and wanted to ensure that, for years to come, others battling cancer could experience its potential health benefits. Mr. Michael generously facilitated the purchase of the soft-serve kefir machine, which currently serves more than 60 patients every day at Prentice.

Lifeway, the nation’s leading supplier of kefir cultured dairy products, will provide the frozen kefir to serve for the next 10 years. Kefir is an excellent source of protein and probiotics, and may provide the added benefit of rebalancing patients’ gastrointestinal microorganisms — or “gut flora” — during cancer treatment.

“All of us who care for people with cancer and who are dedicated to providing the best possible treatments and finding cures are inspired by Mr. Michael’s and Lifeway’s commitment to improving patients’ quality of life and day-to-day experiences,” said Leonidas C. Platanias, MD, PhD, director of the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern University and the Jesse, Sara, Andrew, Abigail, Benjamin and Elizabeth Lurie Professor of Oncology. “Gifts like the frozen kefir and soft-serve machine are not only unique and creative, they also will leave positive, lasting impressions on many lives for years to come.”

Pictured above: Susan Fous Julie Smolyansky, president and chief executive officer of Lifeway Foods, Inc.
Medical research provides the vehicle for achieving breakthroughs for treating some of humankind’s most challenging diseases and disorders. Focused on catalyzing the development of innovative solutions to complex global issues via philanthropy, the IDP Foundation, Inc. of Chicago has long partnered with Northwestern Medicine to advance promising discoveries in cancer, dermatology, obstetrics and gynecology, and the neurosciences.

This invaluable relationship continues to thrive. The IDP Foundation recently made a $1 million commitment to advance heart valve disease research at Northwestern Medicine. Over the next five years, this IDP Foundation Cardiac Research Grant will support the Heart Valve Disease Research Program in the Center for Cardiovascular Innovation within the Division of Cardiology at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine. The IDP Foundation’s exceptional philanthropic commitment will go toward establishing a premier Cardiovascular Imaging Center. It also will support exciting initiatives aimed at improving patient outcomes through novel multimodality cardiovascular imaging, basic research and clinical applications that directly impact the care of patients.

“The IDP Foundation has been a longstanding partner of Northwestern, having a tremendous impact on pioneering research across our campuses,” said Eric G. Neilson, MD, vice president for medical affairs and Lewis Landsberg Dean at Feinberg. “The latest commitment will strengthen the generous impact that the IDP Foundation has cultivated across Northwestern, making possible so many of our shared achievements in medical research.”

A Lasting Partnership with Northwestern

The IDP Foundation is championing medical research through its grant programs that support a number of investigators at Northwestern Medicine. The newly created IDP Foundation Cardiac Research Grant joins several others, including the IDP Foundation Research Innovation Challenge Grants at the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern University. These “idea” or “seed” grants provide Lurie Cancer Center scientists and clinicians with crucial resources to explore novel research questions and new ideas relating to cancer.

“Thanks to this wonderful support from the IDP Foundation, our physicians and scientists will be able to significantly ramp up clinical and research efforts to ultimately build a leading-edge Cardiovascular Imaging Center,” said Clyde W. Yancy, MD, MSc, who serves as the Magerstadt Professor, chief of the Division of Cardiology and vice dean for Diversity and Inclusion. “This gift will have a profound impact on the health of those suffering from heart valve disease and other cardiovascular conditions.”

“Boosting Our Capabilities in the Treatment of Heart Valve Disease

Heart valve disease is the third most common cardiovascular condition in the United States. There are four valves in the heart that direct blood flow through the chambers of the heart. Heart valve disease can occur in any of the valves and often leads to heart failure if left untreated. In people with heart valve disease, a valve either fails to open properly (stenosis) or fails to close properly, allowing backward flow of blood (regurgitation or “leakiness”). Diseases of the mitral or aortic valves (the valves of the left side of the heart) are common, affecting more than five percent of the population.

Multiple imaging modalities—echocardiography (“echo”), CT scanning and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)—each offer unique advantages in the treatment of valvular disease. The Heart Valve Disease Research Program within the Center for Cardiovascular Innovation has several projects underway to improve outcomes in valve disease.

“Irene Pritzker

IDP Foundation Gift Advances Heart Valve Disease Research

“The grants we have made have always facilitated further funding for each of the researchers we have supported,” said Irene Pritzker, president of the IDP Foundation. “We see these grants as ‘seed capital’—investing in research that has the potential for widespread impact.”

Irene Pritzker
The Corporation for Plastic Surgery Education and Research recently made a $1 million commitment to Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine. This extraordinary gift will create the B. Herold Griffith, MD, Annual History of Medicine Lecture and the B. Herold Griffith, MD, Scholarship Fund, both in honor of Dr. B. Herold Griffith, professor emeritus of Surgery, who served as the chief of the Division of Plastic Surgery from 1970 to 1991.

Throughout the years, careful management of the Corporation for Plastic Surgery, which was established by Dr. Griffith in the early 1970s, has passed from him to several other faculty of the Division of Plastic Surgery, including Peter W. McKinney, MD, Pravin Kumar K. Patel, MD, ’93 GME, Otto J. Placik, ’87 MD, ’93 GME, and Victor L. Lewis Jr., ’68 MD, ’77 GME. All of these faculty and alumni were instrumental in the recent $1 million commitment.

“Dr. Griffith launched and nourished the plastic surgery residency program at Northwestern,” said Dr. McKinney. “He did it and he did it well. It is in his honor that we make this gift.”

Building and Supporting a World-Class Plastics Residency Program

Dr. Griffith was recruited to Northwestern from Cornell University in 1957 with the charge of creating a plastic surgery residency program at Wesley Memorial Hospital, one of two hospitals that formed Northwestern Memorial Hospital in 1972. He was joined in 1967 by Dr. McKinney. “We were a terrific team,” said Dr. Griffith.

Together, Drs. Griffith and McKinney worked to build the program, which grew in stature nationally and in volume of cases. Since its formal inception in 1970, the plastic surgery residency program at Northwestern has graduated 106 residents. Many of these residency alumni have gone on to careers in private practice as well as academic plastic surgery at some of the nation’s leading medical centers. These academic leaders have served as division chiefs in the United States and abroad.

“We’re proud of our residency program and proud of the residents who have gone through it,” said Dr. Griffith. “They are a loyal lot—most of them have kept in touch not only with us, but also with each other.”

Support Bolsters Future of Residency Program

During his time at Northwestern, Dr. Griffith and his team often performed plastic surgeries pro bono for patients who could not afford to pay for their care. In turn, the Corporation for Plastic Surgery accepted philanthropic gifts from these individuals when they were able to donate even a small amount. Over the years, these funds were used to support residents in the newly established plastics residency program at Northwestern. Today, this type of resident support comes directly from the University, but in those days it came from the various practice groups.

Additionally, the Corporation for Plastic Surgery grew thanks to proceeds from the plastic surgery review course. This set of lectures, taught by plastic surgery faculty at Northwestern as well as guest speakers, helped to prepare plastic surgery trainees for their board examinations. It was launched by Desmond A. Kernahan, MD, professor emeritus of Surgery, who was the chief of Plastic Surgery at Children’s Memorial Hospital, now Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children’s Hospital of Chicago.

“I really enjoyed working at Northwestern,” said Dr. Griffith, who was on faculty for a total of 38 years before his retirement. “I was fortunate to be surrounded by good and supportive people who were very receptive and helpful as we got this program off the ground.”

In the early days of the plastics residency and the Corporation for Plastic Surgery, many people encouraged Dr. Griffith to name one or both entities after himself. Ever honorable and modest, Dr. Griffith insisted that the program bear Northwestern’s name. “I may have started the program and helped with the fundraising, but it’s more than just me—it’s Drs. McKinney, Patel, Placik, and others,” said Dr. Griffith. “And it’s the wonderful residents whose tremendous work and care for others has touched people and communities around the globe.”

“I was fortunate to be surrounded by good and supportive people who were very receptive and helpful as we got this program off the ground.”

The B. Herold Griffith, MD, Annual History of Medicine Lecture

“All physicians-in-training should learn the history of their field,” said Dr. Griffith. “It is important to know how medicine has evolved so that you can know the best way to help it evolve going forward.” In honor of Dr. Griffith’s investment in this field of study, the Griffith Lecture will be an annual event offered for medical students through the Office of Medical Education at Northwestern. The lecture will be taught by Feinberg faculty and feature guest lecturers from time to time, and it will ensure the strengthening of Dr. Griffith’s legacy for generations of medical students to come.

The Inaugural B. Herold Griffith, MD, Scholar

Recent Feinberg graduate Nima Khavanin, ’16 MD, is the inaugural recipient of the B. Herold Griffith, MD, Scholarship. The scholarship will be given annually to a Feinberg graduate going into the field of plastic surgery. This summer, Dr. Khavanin started his plastic surgery residency training at Johns Hopkins University/University of Maryland Medical Center. “There are two things that made plastic surgery stand out from the other fields for me: the creativity that it demands and the ability to work on all parts of the body, from head to toe,” said Dr. Khavanin.

A native of Davie, Florida, a small town outside of Fort Lauderdale, Dr. Khavanin received his bachelor of science degree from Harvard University in chemical and physical biology, where he also played on the football team. “My years at Feinberg were some of the best of my life thus far,” said Dr. Khavanin. “Together, the students, faculty, patients and even the city itself create an environment that is unparalleled for growing and learning as both a physician and a person.”

“This award means so much to me because it recognizes the sacrifices and commitment of everyone who helped me get to where I am today—not just me, but my friends, family, mentors and patients,” said Dr. Khavanin. “This scholarship will go a long way in lightening my medical education debt.” Dr. Khavanin’s postgraduate plastic surgery training will take eight years or more.
Wesley M. Dixon Jr. was a visionary in every sense of the word and, through his leadership and philanthropic support, his commitment continues to pay dividends for Northwestern Medicine. Today, his family is proud to carry on the spirit and support that he ignited over his many years of service.

Mr. Dixon passed away in January 2014 at the age of 86. In memory and recognition of his dedication, his wife, Sue, has pledged $1 million to construct and name a fountain at the new Northwestern Medicine Lake Forest Hospital, which is currently under construction. Mrs. Dixon’s gift is a part of Lake Forest Destination for Health: Our Legacy. Our Future., a $150 million comprehensive campaign, which also supports We Will. The Campaign for Northwestern Medicine. Her pledge serves as a heartwarming tribute to her late husband and several of his passions: his community, the environment and health care.

A Natural Leader
For more than 50 years, Mr. Dixon served in numerous roles across the Northwestern Medicine health system. He was chair of the Lake Forest Hospital Board of Directors from 1975 to 1977, a timeframe marked by an energy crisis, high inflation and cost pressures ranging from construction materials to utilities and food. Simultaneously, the Health Maintenance Organization Act and a rapid population growth in Lake County added unique pressures to the hospital administration and its board leadership. Mr. Dixon noted at the time that “this hospital is a highly complex business now, with
demands placed on it continually from every possible direction.” His leadership helped to position Lake Forest Hospital as a healthcare leader, as noted by current president Thomas J. McAfee. “Mr. Dixon was instrumental in establishing Lake Forest Hospital as a pillar of our community. His unique blend of leadership, generosity and passion for health care influenced success that is still being realized by the hospital today.” As a life trustee of Lake Forest Hospital and a longtime friend of Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Mr. Dixon stayed closely connected to the strategic direction of the organizations. His commitment to exceptional health care also extended to Northwestern affiliate Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, where he served in a leadership capacity for 56 years.

Making Medical Dreams a Reality

Among the Dixons’ decades of philanthropy at Northwestern Memorial, 10 years ago the Dixons committed to a landmark $20 million gift to create the Dixon Translational Research Council. This competitive grants process seeks to promote innovative, multidisciplinary clinical, translational and implementation-oriented research, with the goal of improving how health care is delivered at a national level. Over the course of the last 10 years, every dollar of intramural awards invested toward the grants process has generated a return on investment (ROI) of 8:1 from the National Institutes of Health and other external granting agencies, with an additional 14:1 ROI currently pending.

In their hometown of Lake Forest, Illinois, the Dixons provided unwavering support of the hospital’s advancement, including the Lake Forest Health & Fitness Center. Established in the late 1990s when wellness and prevention became increasingly important to patient care, the Health & Fitness Center continues to offer medical fitness programs in conjunction with the hospital’s clinical services.

Making a Lasting Difference Through Philanthropy

Upon its completion, the new Lake Forest Hospital will deliver world-class health care in a community setting. The new hospital is being designed and built with Northwestern Medicine’s best thinking in patient care, technology and efficiency. As much more than a physical building, the hospital project also includes restoring and maintaining 116 acres of open space, a six-acre pond and nearly 700 new trees. A central feature of the new hospital is The Common, a large gathering space to allow everyone to take advantage of the natural beauty of the campus. Synonymous with their love for the environment, a fountain wall at the western end of The Common will recognize the lifelong dedication of Wesley and Sue Dixon.

Most important, the new hospital will honor the history of Lake Forest and its many benefactors who together have, as of July 31, enabled the campaign to reach 65 percent of its $75 million capital fundraising goal.