Welcome to this special issue of The Philanthropist, in which we proudly celebrate gifts of all sizes to Northwestern Medicine. Each and every supporter plays a vital role in shaping the future of medical education, research, care and outreach.

Through We Will. The Campaign for Northwestern Medicine, we are working together with individuals, foundation and corporate partners and communities of supporters to make a meaningful difference in Chicagoland and beyond. Thanks to thoughtful gifts, large and small, beneficiaries across the medical school and our healthcare system are advancing their efforts and propelling our missions.

We are grateful to the donors featured in this issue, as well as the thousands more who are making an impact at Northwestern Medicine and in the communities we serve through their generous support.
Leadership Giving

The trajectory of accomplishment in clinical medicine, research, education, advocacy and community service at Northwestern Medicine is remarkable. Gifts from committed partners help us to change the world through capital projects, research program development, faculty recruitment and scholarships. Philanthropy truly has the power to change the future of health care.

A champion of equality, Neil G. Bluhm has spent his life assisting those in need, striving to leave a positive mark on society. Guided by these values, Mr. Bluhm has cultivated an inspiring legacy of philanthropy that encompasses support for health care, the law, education, the arts, social justice and community-based initiatives. In June, Mr. Bluhm deepened this legacy in a remarkable and enduring way by making a transformative gift of $25 million to Northwestern Medicine’s Bluhm Cardiovascular Institute.

The exceptional cardiovascular program that bears Mr. Bluhm’s name is located throughout the Northwestern Medicine health system and is currently ranked seventh in the nation by U.S. News & World Report. With this most recent gift from Mr. Bluhm and the Bluhm Family Charitable Foundation, Bluhm Cardiovascular Institute will be able to: (1) further elevate its national and international profiles, (2) continue to provide the finest, most contemporary cardiovascular care and services and (3) enter new frontiers of innovation. Notably, the gift will help to launch a first-of-its-kind center that will focus on harnessing the power of artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning to improve diagnosis, treatment and research for cardiovascular disease.

“Mr. Bluhm’s gifts have allowed us to rapidly improve our options for better and safer care for the many patients who face the life-threatening condition of heart disease,” said Dr. McCarthy. “On behalf of our team, I thank him for his trust, his gifts and his unwavering belief that the burden of cardiovascular disease can be lessened through innovation, research and quality patient care.”

For Mr. Bluhm, the experience of seeing his vision and hopes for Northwestern’s cardiovascular program grow into reality has been deeply rewarding.

“There is no question that Mr. Bluhm’s most recent commitment will enable clinicians and scientists to blaze new trails in the understanding and treatment of cardiovascular disease. With AI representing the next realm of breakthrough medicine, Northwestern Medicine is becoming a leader in this area as it works to incorporate emerging technology throughout its cardiovascular programs. In one example of AI use, Bluhm Cardiovascular Institute recently partnered with Bay Labs, Inc., a technology company in San Francisco, to create an AI-based system to help clinicians interpret complex cardiac ultrasound images.”

“None of us at Northwestern Medicine are so grateful for this transformative gift from Mr. Bluhm and his family, and we will continue to strive toward the best possible results and the safest, most novel treatments for all cardiovascular patients,” said Dean M. Harrison, president and chief executive officer of Northwestern Memorial HealthCare.

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“My support of Northwestern’s cardiovascular program has helped to spark a spectacular transformation, creating one of the top programs in cardiac care in Chicago, the Midwest and the nation,” said Mr. Bluhm, founder and president of Chicago-based JMB Realty Corporation and Northwestern University Life Trustee. “I am particularly gratified that the people of Chicago and the surrounding region have access to the very best care and do not have to travel for complex treatment.”

In 2005, with an initial investment of $10 million, Mr. Bluhm partnered with Patrick McCarthy, MD, executive director of Bluhm Cardiovascular Institute and Heller-Sacks Professor of Cardiothoracic Surgery at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, to create Bluhm Cardiovascular Institute. Mr. Bluhm and Dr. McCarthy remain guided by the shared belief that residents of Chicago and the Midwest deserve world-class cardiovascular care close to home.

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“Dr. McCarthy and the entire team at Northwestern have turned my investment into a reality in which patients are receiving world-class care, and investigators are making new discoveries around heart and vascular disease treatments every day,” said Mr. Bluhm. “The success of this program has exceeded my high expectations, and I could not be prouder to be making this additional investment at Northwestern Medicine.”

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Renowned orthopaedic surgeon S. David Stulberg, MD, has served on faculty at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine for nearly 40 years, and his generosity toward the medical school goes back almost as many years.

Most recently, Dr. Stulberg and his wife, Jann, established the S. David Stulberg, MD Professorship in Advanced Surgical Education within the Department of Surgery. This professorship will support faculty leadership and expertise in the area of complex surgical treatment of disease.

“The Department of Surgery at Northwestern has a longstanding history of vigorous scientific investigation and exemplary clinical care. Through this gift, we hope to play a role in its even brighter future,” said Dr. Stulberg.

A clinical professor of Orthopaedic Surgery at Feinberg, as well as founder and director of the Joint Reconstruction and Implant Service at Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Dr. Stulberg is a pioneer in computer-assisted, minimally invasive surgical techniques. He is universally recognized as being one of the world’s top orthopaedic surgeons. Dr. Stulberg also co-founded Operation Walk Chicago, a nonprofit volunteer medical organization that provides hip and knee replacements, free of charge, across the globe for impoverished patients with debilitating joint disease. Operation Walk Chicago also educates community healthcare providers around the world on the most advanced treatments for these conditions.

The vision behind the Stulbergs’ professorship gift extends not only to the Northwestern Medicine community, but also beyond. They are aiming to improve surgical education and care on an international scale through the new Institute for Global Health at Northwestern.

“This transformative gift from the Stulbergs will aid in the development of cutting-edge treatments and state-of-the-art technologies in surgery by investing directly into surgical education,” said Nathaniel J. Soper, MD, Loyal and Edith Davis Professor and chair of the Department of Surgery. “In collaboration with academic institutions and partners worldwide, this highly developed surgical education will be made available to trainees and faculty for the benefit of surgical patients everywhere.”

Eric S. Hungness, MD, associate professor of Medical Education and Surgery in the Division of Gastrointestinal Surgery, was recently named Stulberg Professor at Feinberg. His areas of specialty are advanced minimally invasive surgery and surgical education and simulation. Dr. Hungness’ work in surgical simulation through the Institute for Global Health will have far-reaching, powerful effects on surgical education at Northwestern collaborative sites in Nepal, Vietnam, Brazil and Bolivia.

“The Stulberg Professorship—A History

Max Cooper, a patient and subsequent friend of Dr. Stulberg, originally suggested and underwrote the Stulberg Professorship for Advanced Surgical Education. Max was 89 years old when, in order to remain active and mobile, he underwent major revision bilateral total hip surgery. He continued to be vigorously involved in his business and a number of philanthropic organizations until his death at 99 and a half years of age. Max had a genuine interest in and enthusiasm for creative ideas, which formed the basis for his support of a professorship at the medical school committed to furthering the innovative advancement of surgical care.

“Jann and I are grateful and pleased to be able to add to Max's original vision and contribution. We believe that, in doing so, we will stimulate and facilitate the professorship to expand its impact locally, regionally, nationally and, perhaps most importantly, internationally.”

—Dr. S. David Stulberg
Dr. O'Connor has been on faculty as a medical educator at Northwestern for nearly 20 years. Primary care medicine is his true passion, and he places great emphasis on caring for his patients. “I am deeply invested in the personalized, patient-focused model of care,” said Dr. O’Connor. “It allows me to listen carefully to my patients, think critically and preserve the highest quality health care.”

The gift in honor of Dr. O’Connor will help to establish and endow the O’Connor Resident Education Fund to benefit generations of general internal medicine residents in the Department of Medicine. Currently, there are 124 residents in this nationally recognized program, which focuses on intensive clinical training, a comprehensive educational program and opportunities to participate in research. During their training, general internal medicine residents teach medical students, lead conferences and form lasting relationships with faculty mentors. The program philosophy is that the best residency training occurs when professional responsibility and autonomy increase commensurate with demonstrated competence within a supportive environment. The O’Connor Resident Education Fund will help to support education initiatives that make this program even more distinct.

A portion of this gift also will kick off the creation of an endowed scholarship fund carrying Dr. O’Connor’s name. Named scholarships are a top priority at the medical school because they help Feinberg to compete with other peers nationally and attract exceptional, diverse and talented students, regardless of financial constraints. These awards give students the freedom to consider paths after graduation, such as internal medicine, that are not based on a need to pay down significant education debt.

Earlier this year, a Chicagoland family pledged $1 million to honor two faculty members at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine who are highly regarded physicians at Northwestern Medicine: Sean D. O’Connor, MD, FACP, clinical assistant professor of Medicine in the Division of General Internal Medicine and Geriatrics, and Rod S. Passman, MD, MSCE, FACC, FHRS, professor of Medicine and Preventive Medicine in the Division of Cardiology.

“I have personally benefited from medical education and research. Because of the work of Drs. O’Connor and Passman, I am alive today,” said the donor. “This gift is my way of paying it forward, and I hope that it will inspire others to similarly honor their physicians and invest in future medical breakthroughs that will save lives.”

“We are so grateful for this gift recognizing two outstanding members of our faculty,” said Douglas S. Vaughan, MD, Irving S. Cutter Professor of Medicine and chair of the Department of Medicine at Feinberg. “At Northwestern, whether at the bedside, in the classroom or in the laboratory, we are constantly striving for excellence, and both Drs. O’Connor and Passman embody this mission.”

This recent commitment also is supporting leading-edge atrial fibrillation research at the medical school, led by Dr. Passman, who has been on faculty at Feinberg for 20 years. Dr. Passman is a cardiac electrophysiologist who treats atrial fibrillation (or abnormal rhythms of the heart) within Northwestern Medicine’s Bluhm Cardiovascular Institute.

“Northwestern places a high value on innovative research that improves patient care,” said Dr. Passman. “This gift to support my research in atrial fibrillation is most meaningful, and I am honored that it was given in my name.”

Dr. Passman and his colleagues are leading studies that will change the standard of patient care for those afflicted with atrial fibrillation. Atrial fibrillation is a difficult condition to treat as individuals may feel only a small number of their episodes (or may be completely asymptomatic), and episodes can be quite intermittent in nature. Dr. Passman’s group has been working to develop and validate artificially intelligent algorithms that allow people to detect atrial fibrillation using “smart” watch technology. The group also is examining novel techniques for atrial fibrillation ablation designed to control the abnormal rhythm without the need for medications. Dr. Passman and his research team have recently been named as one of four national Atrial Fibrillation Strategically Focused Research Network grant recipients by the American Heart Association.

“The focus on specialized, integrated care at Northwestern is important to me,” said Dr. Passman. “Every patient is unique, and new technologies are allowing us to tailor a patient’s care in ways that were previously unimaginable.”
According to the National Institutes of Health, more than one in 10 American adults experience chronic pain, which is more than 25 million people, and about 11.2 percent of the population.

One such person, after seeking help for years with pain management, came to Northwestern to meet David R. Walega, MD, associate professor of Anesthesiology. Dr. Walega serves as chief of Pain Medicine and vice chair for Research in the Department of Anesthesiology at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine. So inspired by Dr. Walega’s care and dedication to cutting-edge research in the field, this individual—who wishes to remain anonymous—made a $100,000 gift to support Dr. Walega’s investigations.

“This donor seeks ways to impact the clinical science world through research, with a true desire to help move the needle forward,” said Dr. Walega. “I think my passion and excitement for research in this area were palpable, and he wanted to help make this work come to fruition.”

This gift is funding research associated with quality of life issues related to pain, such as acquired side effects of surgery, radiation therapy, chemotherapy and so on. This is a novel realm of research for pain specialists, and Northwestern is leading the way.

For example, one project studies hot flashes in breast cancer patients resulting from chemotherapy and chronic aromatase inhibitor therapy, which blocks estrogen. The study concluded enrollment in June 2018. The results will be used to submit an R01 grant proposal to the National Cancer Institute and the Department of Defense, hopefully resulting in more funding.

Dr. Walega also is principal investigator of a study investigating the clinical effectiveness of stellate ganglion blockade on vasomotor hot flashes in peri-menopausal women.

“Philanthropic partners are crucial in enabling our faculty to initiate innovative research investigations to bring their studies and trials to the next level of development,” said Charles W. Hogue, MD, James E. Eckenhoff Professor and chair of Anesthesiology. “Cutting-edge research like David’s is what sets Northwestern Medicine apart as a leader in academic medicine and propels new treatment options for patients across the country.”

The Department of Anesthesiology is a recognized leader in the field and is at the forefront of important contributions to research and teaching. Members of the anesthesiology faculty, like Dr. Walega, are committed to promoting the health and well-being of patients, advancing research to inform new treatments and pain management, applying pain management techniques to novel applications and providing exceptional training for the leaders of tomorrow.
Inspired by their gratitude for the exceptional, personalized care that they have received at Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Barbara and John Cizza decided that an unrestricted estate gift would be the perfect fit for them. The Cizzas' gift will be directed toward areas of greatest need at Northwestern Memorial, as determined by hospital leadership, and will help to ensure that all patients receive the very same access to and quality of health care, regardless of financial challenges or other potential obstacles.

Having lived in Chicago on and off for 30 years, the Cizzas care deeply about their community and are strong believers in the importance of both quality and equality in health care. “One day, when we were waiting in the Emergency Department, we looked around and realized how fortunate we are in having health insurance,” explained Mr. Cizza. “We want to support the hospital and its ability to not turn people away.”

By making a generous commitment through their estate plan, the Cizzas hope to make positive differences in many lives for years to come. “Above all, we want the value and impact of our gift to be larger than the monetary value of our gift,” said Mr. Cizza. “We feel confident that our money will be used in the best way that it can be used.”

The Cizzas are particularly appreciative of the personal interest and concern demonstrated in every conversation and interaction with Northwestern Memorial’s physicians, nurses and staff. Through their philanthropy, the Cizzas want to say “thank you” and shine much-deserved light on the care and services that set Northwestern Memorial apart from so many other hospitals.

“We have had to come to Northwestern Memorial at all hours of the day and night,” remarked Mr. Cizza. “It means so much to be welcomed by people who recognize us—doctors, nurses, even the late-night security guard who has said, ‘Hello, Mr. and Mrs. Cizza, you’re back!’ That kind of personal attention and sincerity are very rare. None of us wants to be in a hospital if we can avoid it, so being surrounded by kind and caring people makes a big difference.”

Reflecting on his and Mrs. Cizza’s lives, wishes and plans, Mr. Cizza observed, “We are fortunate to have each other and a loving family, plus many interests and opportunities. Barbara is a talented painter and a Master Gardener who also knits and crochets. I retired in September 2016 from a job that I loved—I was senior vice president of an international reinsurance company—and now I have more time for favorite hobbies like photography and reading science fiction. Barbara and I know how lucky we are, and we want to give back.”

As the Cizzas look forward to all that the future holds, they welcome the chance to contribute to brighter, healthier futures for others. “We hope that our gift will allow other people to have the same opportunities and benefits we have experienced at Northwestern Memorial,” said Mr. Cizza. “If we can make a significant difference for even just one person, then we have done a good thing.”
Jane Curry has served as an educational model at the Northwestern University Prosthetics-Orthotics Center (NUPOC) since 2012. She is a valuable resource for students, particularly as a transhumeral (above the elbow) amputee, which is difficult to find among educational models at NUPOC. In addition to her dedication to serve as a model, Jane recently pledged an estate gift to support the most pressing operational costs at NUPOC, as well as scholarships within the center.

“Working as an educational model with faculty, fellow amputees and especially students has given me not only a new and invaluable perspective on this important profession, but also on myself, which is very cool,” said Ms. Curry. “Scholarships help bring students to NUPOC. This is my ‘thank you’ to them for the gift of purpose they give to me.”

“Jane’s consistent generosity and foresight reflect her deep sense of selflessness and her desire to have a significant impact on the lives of others in the future,” said Elliot J. Roth, MD, chair of the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation and Paul B. Magnuson Professor of Rehabilitation Medicine. “Her participation as a volunteer patient model in our training program assists future practitioners to better help their patients. This generosity of spirit is made even more meaningful by her recent gift, which will help to support the successful training of these professionals to enable them to help their patients with disabilities in the future.”

In 2017, Ms. Curry was invited to give a commencement address for Northwestern’s graduating master of prosthetics and orthotics students. She shared: “Put simply, I am having so much fun being an educational model at NUPOC. There is nothing sweeter than taking what by most measures is a deficit—a missing arm—and being able to turn it into an uproariously useful asset. It does not get any better than this.”

**Northwestern University Prosthetics-Orthotics Center**

Founded in 1958 to advance the quality of life for persons who use prostheses and orthoses, NUPOC is the largest and oldest accredited prosthetics-orthotics training institution in the hemisphere. It combines innovative blended learning and a cutting-edge research program that responds to the rapid pace of advances in science, technology and health care. Many noteworthy advances in prosthetic and orthotic rehabilitation have resulted from work done within NUPOC laboratories.
From left to right: Sofia Bishop, president of the George M. Eisenberg Foundation for Charities board; Dr. Eric Neilson; and Dean J. Marussis, director of the George M. Eisenberg Foundation for Charities

On May 4, members of the George M. Eisenberg Foundation for Charities gathered with Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine leadership to celebrate the naming of the George M. Eisenberg Gallery. The gallery is the corridor on the Chicago campus that leads from Method Atrium in the Morton Medical Research Building to the Montgomery Ward Memorial Building. It was dedicated in honor of the Foundation’s nearly 30-year partnership with the medical school and its generosity, now nearing $4 million in philanthropic support.

“This gallery is a fitting representation of the connections formed by your support,” said Eric G. Neilson, MD, vice president for Medical Affairs and Lewis Landsberg Dean of Feinberg. “These connections will help to fuel discoveries and lead to breakthroughs.”

On May 19, LivingWell Cancer Resource Center, a part of Northwestern Medicine, held its 13th annual Bridge Walk in Geneva, Illinois, along the Fox River. The Bridge Walk raised nearly $314,000 in support of LivingWell and brought together cancer survivors and those who care for them—family members and friends, neighbors and colleagues, physicians and others. Motivated by the knowledge that nearly 14.5 million people in the United States are currently living with and beyond cancer, the Bridge Walk’s 1,600-plus participants took powerful steps to ensure that LivingWell will be able to continue to offer its full complement of 107 programs and services free of charge. Designed to benefit individuals living with cancer as well as families and caregivers, LivingWell’s many programs include presentations led by medical and radiation oncologists, professionally led support groups and individual counseling, art programs, nutrition and exercise classes, massage therapy and much more. “Through our Bridge Walk, we re-affirm our commitment to encouraging and empowering all those touched by cancer,” said Nancy Vance, executive director of LivingWell. “We are so inspired by the energy, generosity and caring of everyone who participates in the walk. Together we can help to create more hope-filled futures for everyone who is experiencing a journey through cancer.”

On June 3, National Cancer Survivors Day, nearly 4,000 cancer survivors and caring supporters laced up their running and walking shoes and came together in Chicago’s Grant Park to participate in the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern University’s 25th Annual Cancer Survivors’ Celebration Walk & 5K. The event raised more than $317,000 to support the Lurie Cancer Center’s research and patient care at Northwestern Medicine. “All of us share a commitment to improving the lives of cancer patients, now and in the years to come,” said Leonidas C. Platanias, MD, PhD, director of the Lurie Cancer Center and Jesse, Sara, Andrew, Abigail, Benjamin and Elizabeth Lurie Professor of Oncology. “Our goal is not only to have more survivors every year, but also to help people live longer, healthier, better lives.” The festive event also featured music, a picnic, a performance by the Jesse White Tumblers and memorable speeches from cancer survivors. Ann Lurie remarked, “It is great to see so many survivors. The more progress medical research makes, the more survivors we will have. And hopefully, someday, everyone who is diagnosed with cancer will be a survivor.”

The fourth annual Diane Cole, Breathe for Life fundraising event took place on May 4 at Gibson’s Chicago. Attended by nearly 90 people, the event raised more than $50,000 to support the Northwestern Medicine Thoracic Oncology Advisory Council’s mission of advancing innovative lung cancer research at the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern University. This year’s event was dedicated to the memory of the late event co-chair, Gabrielle Weisberg, who passed away suddenly in April. Guests welcomed opportunities to reach out to one another, to pay tribute to both Ms. Weisberg and Diane Cole and to share personal memories of these two inspiring women.

Demonstrating great support for the patients and physicians of the Northwestern Medicine Digestive Health Center, more than 400 guests attended the Digestive Health Foundation at Northwestern Medicine’s third annual gala on June 9. The event took place at the Four Seasons Chicago and raised $2.41 million to help transform digestive disease into digestive health. In addition to benefiting the Digestive Health Center, the event honored Steven J. Stryker, MD, a colon and rectal surgeon at Northwestern Memorial Hospital and professor of Clinical Surgery at Northwestern University, as well as his wife, Andréa J. Schwartz, vice president of Media Relations for Macy’s, United States. A special announcement highlighted the creation of the Steven J. Stryker Gastrointestinal Surgery, Education and Research Endowment, which was recently established through a generous gift of $1 million from Judith Blazer. “Everyone who supported this year’s gala is crucial to the missions of both the Digestive Health Foundation and the Digestive Health Center,” said Stephen B. Hanauer, MD, an internationally recognized gastroenterologist and Clifford Joseph Barborka Professor of Medicine at Feinberg, who serves as medical director of the Digestive Health Center. “Thanks to the generosity of our friends and donors, the center’s three pillars of research, patient care and education are only growing stronger.”

From left to right: Dr. Leonidas Platanias; event co-chair Nancy Labinger; and Thoracic Oncology Advisory Board member Chuck Maniscalco

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The fourth annual Diane Cole, Breathe for Life fundraising event took place on May 4 at Gibson’s Chicago. Attended by nearly 90 people, the event raised more than $50,000 to support the Northwestern Medicine Thoracic Oncology Advisory Council’s mission of advancing innovative lung cancer research at the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern University. This year’s event was dedicated to the memory of the late event co-chair, Gabrielle Weisberg, who passed away suddenly in April. Guests welcomed opportunities to reach out to one another, to pay tribute to both Ms. Weisberg and Diane Cole and to share personal memories of these two inspiring women.

Demonstrating great support for the patients and physicians of the Northwestern Medicine Digestive Health Center, more than 400 guests attended the Digestive Health Foundation at Northwestern Medicine’s third annual gala on June 9. The event took place at the Four Seasons Chicago and raised $2.41 million to help transform digestive disease into digestive health. In addition to benefiting the Digestive Health Center, the event honored Steven J. Stryker, MD, a colon and rectal surgeon at Northwestern Memorial Hospital and professor of Clinical Surgery at Northwestern University, as well as his wife, Andréa J. Schwartz, vice president of Media Relations for Macy’s, United States. A special announcement highlighted the creation of the Steven J. Stryker Gastrointestinal Surgery, Education and Research Endowment, which was recently established through a generous gift of $1 million from Judith Blazer. “Everyone who supported this year’s gala is crucial to the missions of both the Digestive Health Foundation and the Digestive Health Center,” said Stephen B. Hanauer, MD, an internationally recognized gastroenterologist and Clifford Joseph Barborka Professor of Medicine at Feinberg, who serves as medical director of the Digestive Health Center. “Thanks to the generosity of our friends and donors, the center’s three pillars of research, patient care and education are only growing stronger.”
On May 11, more than 450 friends and supporters gathered for the annual Minds Matter Benefit Dinner to raise funds for the Northwestern Medicine Lou and Jean Malnati Brain Tumor Institute of the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern University at Northwestern Memorial Hospital. This year’s fundraiser at The Ritz Carlton, Chicago, raised nearly $650,000. Attendees honored the institute’s 10-year anniversary, celebrating breakthrough research, expertise and treatment in the fight against brain and spinal cord tumors, as well as the recent naming of the institute by the Lou Malnati Cancer Research Foundation.

Under the leadership of co-directors James F. Chandler, MD, vice chair for Clinical Affairs and Latin/Fates Professor of Neurological Surgery, and Roger Stupp, MD, chief of the Division of Neuro-Oncology in the Ken and Ruth Davee Department of Neurology, the Malnati Brain Tumor Institute is a nationally recognized leader in the fight against brain and spinal cord tumors. The institute offers patients the most advanced clinical trial and treatment options available by uniting the world-class resources of the National Cancer Institute-designated Lurie Cancer Center with the research and medical expertise of faculty at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine and physicians at Northwestern Memorial Hospital.

Nearly 240 generous alumni, faculty and friends of the medical school joined student scholars of Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine on April 28 to celebrate a wonderful year of support for scholarships and for Feinberg medical students. "We are humbled to thank and honor so many donors—living and deceased—who have decided to pay it forward by committing funds in support of the next generation of Northwestern-trained physicians," said Diane Wayne, ’91 MD, vice dean for Education, chair of the Department of Medical Education and Dr. John Sherman Appleman Professor of Medicine.

During the luncheon, some special Feinberg donors were applauded for their long-standing generosity to the medical school: Charles R. Snorf, ’58 MD, ’63 GMER, and Leslie Snorf; Joseph J. Gugenheim Jr., ’72 MD, and Terri Gugenheim; and Muneer Satter ’83 and Kristen Hertel ’86.

Later that evening, nearly 225 members of the Nathan Smith Davis Society at Feinberg came together at the Arts Club of Chicago to mingle, celebrate and be recognized for their commitment to the medical school. The Davis Society acknowledges and celebrates both monetary gifts and volunteer service to Feinberg, which provide critical support for the growth, excellence and competitiveness of the medical school. The society is currently more than 2,000 members strong and includes alumni, faculty, staff and many friends of the medical school.

"This reception is one of our favorite events. It gives us the opportunity to thank you in person for your commitment to our medical school, for your generous philanthropy and for your volunteerism," shared Alan Krensky, MD, executive for Development at Northwestern Medicine and vice dean for Development and Alumni Relations at Feinberg.

**Central DuPage and Delnor Hospitals Gala, benefiting the new LivingWell Cancer Resource Center in DuPage County**
*September 22 | 6 pm*
The Westin Lombard, 70 Yorktown Shopping Center, Lombard, IL
Info: Holly Kulikowski, 630.933.6986 or holly.kulikowski@nm.org

**Global Health Initiative (GHI) 11th Annual Benefit Dinner**
*September 26 | 5:30 pm*
The Peninsula Chicago, 108 East Superior Street, Chicago, IL
Info: Cindy Garbutt, 312.503.0761 or cynthia.garbutt@northwestern.edu

**Les Turner ALS Walk for Life**
*September 29 | 9:30 am*
Soldier Field, 1410 Museum Campus Drive, Chicago, IL
Info: Lauren Pedi, 312.503.4635 or lauren.pedi@northwestern.edu

**The Campaign for the Institute for Global Health and the GHI**
*October 4 | 6 pm*
The May Fair Hotel, Stratton Street, Mayfair, London, UK
Info: Cindy Garbutt, 312.503.0761 or cynthia.garbutt@northwestern.edu

**2018 Adrienne and Arnold Brookstone Conference**
*October 19 | 8 am-3:15 pm*
Prentice Women's Hospital, Third Floor Conference Center 250 East Superior Street, Chicago, IL
Info: Marleena Cross, 312.926.9127 or mcross@nm.org

**The Campaign for the Institute for Global Health and the GHI**
*October 22 | 6 pm*
Kimpton Sawyer Hotel, 500 J Street, Sacramento, CA
Info: Cindy Garbutt, 312.503.0761 or cynthia.garbutt@northwestern.edu

**Marianjoy Rehabilitation Hospital Gala**
*November 3 | 6 pm*
Embassy Suites, 1823 Abriter Court, Naperville, IL
Info: Suzanne Skala, 630.909.7509 or suzanne.skala@nm.org

**Friends of Prentice Benefit**
*November 3 | 6:30 pm*
Radisson Blu Aqua Hotel, 221 North Columbus Drive, Chicago, IL
Info: Julianna McHale, 312.926.6577 or julianna.mchale@nm.org

**Hippocratic Cancer Research Foundation’s Third Annual Gala, The Wings to Cure**
*November 10 | 6 pm*
Navy Pier, 600 East Grand Avenue, Chicago, IL
Info: Kristyn Eskridge, 312.926.7133 or keskridge@nm.org

**The Campaign for the Institute for Global Health and the GHI**
*November 14 | 6 pm*
The Pierre, A Taj Hotel, New York, 2 East 61st Street, New York, NY
Info: Cindy Garbutt, 312.503.0761 or cynthia.garbutt@northwestern.edu

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**Davis Society members, from left to right: Teri Jo Lientz, MPT ’95, DPT; Tasha Weatherspoon, MPT ’98; Rebecca Farrell, MPT ’00, DPT ’02, Kristin Liebl, DPT ’05; and Suzanne Semanson, DPT ’96**

**The Malnati family (left to right): Rick and Tina Malnati, Jean Malnati Miller, and Jeanne and Marc Malnati**

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**Thank You!**
The Harold E. Eisenberg Foundation, a longtime supporter of gastrointestinal (GI) cancer research at the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern University, has committed $1.5 million to renew its support of Northwestern and to initiate the Harold E. Eisenberg Foundation GI Cancer OncoSET Program at the Lurie Cancer Center. The program will help to advance the development of novel clinical trials in GI cancers, as well as crucial translational (bench-to-bedside) research and genomic profiling activities.

The Lurie Cancer Center’s GI Cancer OncoSET is a part of the overall OncoSET Program, the flagship clinical and research program at the Lurie Cancer Center that was launched in 2015 as our commitment to precision medicine. Through an innovative three-step process—Sequence, Evaluate, Treat—the program combines oncology with genomic sequencing to provide cutting-edge cancer care, which is personalized for each patient. By identifying the unique features of a patient’s tumor, physicians can offer treatment plans that better target specific genetic abnormalities. On a broader scale, through collection and analysis of extensive genomic data, OncoSET informs ongoing cancer drug discovery and helps to advance pre-clinical research not only at Northwestern, but also around the world.

“This is truly a remarkable commitment from the Eisenberg Foundation, and we thank you,” said Leonidas C. Platanias, MD, PhD, director of the Lurie Cancer Center and Jesse, Sara, Andrew, Abigail, Benjamin and Elizabeth Lurie Professor of Oncology at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine. “There have been so many advances that are allowing us to do amazing things. Differentiating cancers by sequencing tumors is something we could not have done just a few years ago.”

The Harold E. Eisenberg Foundation (HEEF) was founded to honor the life and legacy of Harold (Hal) Eisenberg, a leader in the world of real estate who passed away suddenly from liver cancer in 1999. In addition to providing hands-on educational programming for real estate students, HEEF is dedicated to funding breakthrough GI cancer research at the Lurie Cancer Center.

“We have developed a true partnership with Northwestern,” said Peter Eisenberg, president of HEEF and son of the late Harold E. Eisenberg. “We are excited about the progress we have been able to support and excited for propelling even more. All of the pieces are in place for an incredible future working together.”

This latest commitment will create new opportunities at the Lurie Cancer Center, following in the footsteps of the Foundation’s other impactful philanthropic gifts totaling $3 million at Northwestern.
Adrienne and Arnold Brookstone

For more than six decades, Adrienne and Arnold Brookstone have sought to make positive differences in the lives of others by responding to unmet needs and exemplifying generosity, loyalty and commitment. True philanthropists, the Brookstones have offered support to a broad array of worthy causes and initiatives over the years, including a number of programs and clinical areas at Northwestern Medicine.

Most recently, the Brookstones made a significant gift to establish the Adrienne and Arnold Brookstone Conference within the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences. An annual event that focuses on issues and challenges in adolescent psychiatry, the Adrienne and Arnold Brookstone Conference first took place in 2016 and already has earned acclaim as a unique and meaningful educational opportunity. In addition to bringing together expert clinicians and investigators from around the world who specialize in adolescent psychiatry, the Adrienne and Arnold Brookstone Conference welcomes care providers and trainees from many different fields, including psychiatry, psychology, nursing and social work, as well as members of the public, free of charge.

“The Adrienne and Arnold Brookstone Conference is opening new doors that should make it easier for young people and their families to find the help they need during a mental health crisis.”
—Dr. John Csernansky

“Adrienne and I wanted to be sure that the Adrienne and Arnold Brookstone Conference was as inclusive as it could possibly be, so it was especially important to us that the event be open to the whole community,” said Mr. Brookstone. “Our whole approach to life is about reaching out and trying to do as much good as we can, for as many people as we can. Through the conference, we hope to help people learn more and talk openly about mental health challenges that young people face, and we want everyone who attends to feel welcome and supported.”

The first Adrienne and Arnold Brookstone Conference featured keynote speaker Patrick McGorry, MD, PhD, a world-renowned scientist in the area of early psychosis and mental health. Dr. McGorry is known for being a key architect of the process that reformed mental health services for young people with emerging mental illness in Australia. In fall 2017, the second annual Adrienne and Arnold Brookstone Conference welcomed Antonello Bonci, MD, an Italian-born neurologist and neuropsychopharmacologist who now serves as scientific director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse in Bethesda, Maryland. Dr. Bonci’s address on the theme “Helping our Youth when Addiction and Mental Illness Collide” was exceptionally well-received. The third annual conference, entitled “Childhood Trauma: Pathways to Better Mental Health Outcomes,” will take place on October 19, 2018. The keynote speaker will be Julian Ford, PhD, director of the National Child Traumatic Stress Network Center for Trauma Recovery and Juvenile Justice.

“The Adrienne and Arnold Brookstone Conference is opening new doors that should make it easier for young people and their families to find the help they need during a mental health crisis.”
—Dr. John Csernansky

Save the Date

Adrienne and Arnold Brookstone Conference
October 19, 2018
8 am–3:15 pm
Prentice Women’s Hospital, Third Floor Conference Center
250 East Superior Street, Chicago, IL
Info: Marleana Cross, 312.926.9127 or mcross@nm.org
Thanks to the generosity of many donors, Northwestern Medicine Central DuPage Hospital was able to acquire the first Mobile Stroke Unit in Illinois. In January 2017, the Mobile Stroke Unit (MSU), a state-of-the-art ambulance, began providing vital, often life-saving services for people experiencing symptoms of a stroke.

The MSU contains specialized staff and equipment to facilitate the rapid diagnosis of a stroke on-site, when every moment matters and “time is brain.” In addition to a 16-slice CT scanner that takes detailed images of the brain, the MSU is equipped with blood clot-busting medication known as tPA and a direct telemedicine connection to neurologists at Central DuPage Hospital, who can swiftly receive and interpret the results of tests conducted by emergency medical services personnel.

“For every minute that the brain is deprived of oxygen—which occurs during an acute stroke—you lose 1.9 million neurons, and your aging process is accelerated by 3.1 weeks,” said Harish Shownkeen, MD, an acclaimed interventional neuroradiologist who serves as medical director of the Stroke and Neurointerventional Surgery Programs at Northwestern Medicine Central DuPage Hospital. “A major stroke destroys about 1.2 billion neurons and accelerates aging by 36 years. By diagnosing and treating stroke patients faster, we are greatly improving the odds that they will suffer minimal to no long-term deficits.”

The goal is to diagnose and treat a stroke within the “Golden Hour,” the first 60 minutes following onset of symptoms, when a patient has the greatest chance of a positive outcome. A recent study, published in the Journal of the American Medical Association, found that less than one percent of patients ultimately treated with tPA in the United States received the medication within the critical “Golden Hour.” By comparison, during its first year of service, Northwestern Medicine’s Mobile Stroke Unit administered tPA to 27 percent of eligible patients within one hour of symptom onset—a remarkable achievement that underscores both the need for and the effectiveness of the MSU.

“Before the Mobile Stroke Unit, I did not think that we could ever bring the hospital to the patient, but now we truly are doing that. We are initiating treatment the fastest way we possibly can,” remarked Dr. Shownkeen. “Our whole MSU team is enormously grateful to all of the caring people who made contributions that allowed us to bring this life-saving service to Northwestern Medicine Central DuPage Hospital and to the members of our communities. We want to keep reaching more people and saving more lives. That is our daily mission.”

### NM Mobile Stroke Unit Data
(mid-January 2017 through February 2018)

- **Number of Dispatches:** 400
- **Dispatch to Arrival On-Scene:** 10 minutes
- **Scene to CT Completed:** 20 minutes
- **Dispatch to CT Results:** 34 minutes
- **Dispatch to Administration of tPA:** 52 minutes

Collective support from individuals throughout our communities can help to shape programs across Northwestern Medicine. By coming together with others as a part of a donor community, individuals can make an incredible impact on myriad areas and programs through philanthropic gifts of all sizes. Likewise, those who give to unrestricted funds or support broad initiatives can make a real difference by empowering us to address the most pressing needs of our faculty physicians, trainees and patients.
GoBabyGo!, a national, community-based design and outreach program, is putting differently abled children in the driver’s seat at Marianjoy Rehabilitation Hospital, a part of Northwestern Medicine. Thoughtful philanthropists are the power source behind this unique opportunity.

Founded in 2012 by Dr. Cole Galloway at the University of Delaware, the GoBabyGo! program modifies battery-powered ride-on cars for young children affected by cerebral palsy, Down syndrome and other physical and cognitive challenges in order to help them develop their independent mobility, improve their social development and strengthen their self-confidence.

Thanks to generous gifts from many donors, the GoBabyGo! chapter at Marianjoy—the only chapter in Chicago’s western suburbs—is a thriving initiative that is bringing hope and enjoyment to ever greater numbers of children and families. One three-year-old boy, Kycen Schimandle, from Plano, Illinois, was recently identified as an ideal candidate for a GoBabyGo! car through the coordinated efforts of staff members at Marianjoy and Northwestern Medicine Valley West Hospital.

Kycen is affected by Opsoclonus-Myoclonus Syndrome (OMS), a rare neurological disorder believed to be the result of an autoimmune process that affects the nervous system. Children with OMS often require wheelchairs and experience developmental delays. Since being introduced to his GoBabyGo! car, however, Kycen is exploring all kinds of new avenues, becoming more mobile and independent every day.

Kycen’s mother, Stephanie Kaspar, shared, “When we were contacted about a GoBabyGo! car for Kycen, we were so excited. This opportunity has done so much for him, and we are so grateful to everyone whose generosity brought the GoBabyGo! program to Marianjoy and to our family. Kycen is so happy when he is zooming along in his Jeep!”

“Once Kycen was in the car and was able to push the button and go, we were all in tears. I just cannot put into words what this experience means to Kycen and our whole family. It is a gift for all of us, for years and years to come.”

—Stephanie Kaspar

Kycen Schimandle in his GoBabyGo! car
Through We Will. The Campaign for Northwestern Medicine, we have been partnering with new and longtime benefactors to raise crucial funds to build the new Simpson Querrey Biomedical Research Center. This complex will provide critical space for scientists researching cancer, heart disease, neurodegenerative disorders, diabetes and other significant illnesses and conditions. Designed by Chicago architectural firm Perkins+Will, with a completion goal of late 2018, the center features a curved glass exterior with flexible floor plans for laboratories. The tower profile references and updates the soaring traditional Gothic buildings on Northwestern's Chicago campus, presenting a striking profile on the city's skyline and leading the way for future campus development.
Year after year, Northwestern Medicine’s Comprehensive Transplant Center (CTC) is recognized as a leader in the field of organ transplantation, consistently reaching new milestones in terms of numbers of transplants performed, positive patient outcomes and leading-edge research initiatives. To continue to advance the essential work of the CTC, Northwestern Medicine launched the Transplant Innovation Endowment Campaign in 2015, with an ambitious fundraising goal of $10 million. The power of philanthropy—the generosity of many benefactors—has fueled remarkable progress and achievements within the Transplant Innovation Endowment Campaign and at the CTC as a whole.

A Message from Michael Abecassis, MD, MBA

“Our mission is to occupy the pinnacle of academic excellence, such that the CTC is considered synonymous with the best clinical practice: high-impact, innovative research; and the most desirable training program in both traditional and non-traditional areas of transplantation. Our hero benefactors give us support, energy and the confidence that we will continue to break new ground in transplantation and to create better, brighter futures for more and more people who have organ disease, or who have undergone or need transplants. Thanks to our heroes and their generous philanthropy, we are making today where tomorrows begin.”

Transplant Endowment Campaign

Thanks to the contributions of many caring supporters, we now have raised more than $5 million in the campaign. We are grateful for such generosity and confident that, with the continued support of our heroes, we will meet our $10 million goal.

Thanks to philanthropy...

Northwestern has become the first center in the world to apply minimally invasive surgery procedures to living liver donors, and the third in the United States to apply these procedures to living kidney donors. These techniques are now the standard of care worldwide.

A team of investigators was recruited to the CTC and performed the first-of-its-kind clinical trial to investigate human immune tolerance. The findings from this trial allowed surgeons at the CTC to perform successful transplants on patients who are now thriving without any anti-rejection medication.

The CTC has created one of the leading teams in the nation focused on building and repairing both kidneys and livers. Faculty at the CTC also are skilled at 3-D organ printing and regenerating organ tissue.

In 2018, the CTC...

1. Was the site of a momentous 12-person kidney exchange in which Northwestern Medicine surgeons transplanted kidneys from six donors into six people in need of healthy kidneys. The six pairs consisted of three sets of friends, an aunt and a niece, second cousins and a Good Samaritan.
2. Will celebrate the 25th anniversary of the first liver transplant at Northwestern.
3. Will perform its 2,000th liver transplant.
4. Will perform its 5,000th kidney transplant.

On April 21, more than 1,400 people—including approximately 475 living organ donors from around the world—gathered in Millennium Park near the “Cloud Gate” sculpture to try to break the Guinness World Record for the largest gathering of living organ donors. And they did it! The number of living donors who attended the event was almost double the number needed to break the previous record. Among the attendees was Chicago Police Superintendent Eddie Johnson, who received a kidney from his son in 2017. Superintendent Johnson put into words the feelings of so many people who gathered together that day: “My son is my hero. He gave me a second chance at life.”