The Osher Center for Integrative Medicine was founded in 1997 as Northwestern Memorial Hospital's official integrative medicine program. Since then the clinical program has grown to see thousands of patients every month; the research team investigates the benefits and mechanisms of how integrative medicine works; and it has become the trusted "go-to" resource on integrative medicine for the Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern Medicine and the Chicago-area community. The Osher Center is proud to be recognized by the Bravewell Collaborative as one of the leading integrative medicine centers in the country. In April 2014, the program was named the Osher Center for Integrative Medicine in recognition of a generous gift from Bernard Osher. With this gift, the center joined a family of integrative medicine centers – all affiliated with esteemed teaching hospitals and universities. In addition to the center at Northwestern, the Osher Centers are:

- University of California at San Francisco (UCSF), San Francisco, California
- Harvard Medical School & Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, Massachusetts
- Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee
- The Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, Sweden
- University of Miami, Miami, Florida
- University of Washington, Seattle, Washington

The vision for the future of individual care and ultimately, the healthcare system revolves around introducing new integrative care models into the mainstream. The Osher collaborative is working together to create innovative clinical models of care, advance medical education, and collaborate on research initiatives. The staff is dedicated to taking a leadership role alongside the four other Osher Centers for Integrative Medicine to make a mark on academic medicine, community outreach, and public policy.

**IM AWARE**

The Osher Center’s advisory council has adopted the name IM AWARE, which stands for: Integrative Medicine: Advising With Awareness, Resources and Education. IM AWARE’s vision is to help Integrative Medicine become everyone’s everyday medicine and to raise awareness, provide guidance and contribute funds in support of the Osher Center.

The advisory council is critical in sustaining the operations of the Osher Center. While the center receives funding from Northwestern Medicine, the National Institutes of Health and other funders, quite a few of our programs depend on philanthropic support. Without adequate funds, these programs would be discontinued.
If you are passionate about advancing the practice of integrative medicine and are seeking an opportunity to network with other young professionals through regular meetings, educational and social events, please consider joining the newly formed Junior Board of IM AWARE.

**BENEFITS OF JOINING THE JUNIOR BOARD OF IM AWARE:**

- Stay informed about the latest developments in integrative medicine and learn better ways to take care of yourself and your family
- Attend informative events with noted experts discussing integrative medicine, some of which is focused on outreach to the community
- Learn how to leverage your personal connections, professional networks and resources on behalf of the Osher Center
- Know that you’re helping fund vital research and educational opportunities for medical students and interns

**OUR IDEAL JUNIOR BOARD MEMBERS:**

- Serve as an active ambassador for the Osher Center through recruitment of new members, increasing public awareness of integrative medicine and more
- Work to identify and actively develop new sources of financial support and partnerships necessary to advance the mission
- Help identify personal connections who can benefit the organization’s fundraising and reputational standing
- Participate fully in one or more workgroups or sub-committees
- Commit to an individual fundraising minimum of $500 annual give/get
- Participate in 3 of 4 meetings per year plus one on-boarding session which will occur in the fall
- Participate in the following proposed activities for 2019-2020:
  - Inaugural meeting (proposed for October)
  - Endowment campaign launch (date TBD)
  - Dr. McGregor Book signing event on March 7, 2020

**YOUR CONTRIBUTION**

Like the IM Aware advisory council members, Junior Board members will consider the Osher Center a philanthropic priority and make annual gifts that reflect that priority. So that the Osher Center can credibly solicit contributions from foundations, organizations and individuals, the Osher Center expects to have 100 percent of council members make an annual contribution. In addition, advisory council members are expected to contribute their time and talents to one or more workgroups.

For more information, please contact Molly O’Neil at molly@mpoweringhealth.com or 847-710-6276