Impact

Dana-Farber.org and JimmyFund.org

THANKING THOSE WHO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Lustgarten Foundation names dedicated research lab with visionary $5 million grant

Pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma (PDAC) is an aggressive disease with limited treatment options. To improve outcomes for this patient population, the Lustgarten Foundation awarded $5 million to Brian Wolpin, MD, MPH, director of the Hale Family Research Center and co-leader of the Gastrointestinal Cancer Center, and the Robert T. and Judith B. Hale Chair in Pancreatic Cancer at Dana-Farber, to name a pancreatic cancer research laboratory in the Hale Family Research Center.

“With the Lustgarten Foundation’s support, Wolpin is assembling a multidisciplinary team of experts focused on performing patient-based research, exploring novel treatment approaches, enhancing early scientific discoveries to the clinic,” said Wolpin. “We are deeply grateful to the Lustgarten Foundation for making this work possible.”

Wolpin also stressed the importance of Lustgarten’s funding to pancreatic cancer research.

Continued on page 8

Breast Cancer Research Foundation surpasses $25 million in grants in 25th year of support

In 1994, the Breast Cancer Research Foundation (BCRF) awarded its first grant to Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. With 2018–2019 commitments exceeding $3.6 million, BCRF has reached the tremendous milestone of more than $25 million in grants to Dana-Farber breast cancer researchers.

“BCRF is committed to funding the brightest minds in science,” said BCRF President and CEO Myra Biblowit. “Dana-Farber’s world-class scientists continue to break barriers and make lifesaving breakthroughs. We’re proud to support these incredible investigators who will undoubtedly aid in achieving our mission to end breast cancer.”

In addition to Garber, BCRF funding was awarded to Myles Brown, MD, director of the Center for Functional Cancer Epigenetics and the Emil Frei III, MD, Professor of Medicine; Alan D’Andrea, MD, director of the Susan F Smith Center for Women’s Cancers and director of the Center for DNA Damage and Repair, William Kaelin, MD, the Sidney Farber, MD, MPH, who will lead the new laboratory, Lustgarten President and CEO Kerri Kaplan, William Hahn, MD, PhD, Dana-Farber’s chief research strategy officer, chair of the Executive Committee for Research, and chief of the Division of Molecular and Cellular Oncology.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute has been the top ranked cancer hospital in New England by U.S. News and World Report for 18 consecutive years, and is the only cancer center in the country ranked in the top 4 for both adult and pediatric cancer programs.

Celebrating a $5 million gift to name the Lustgarten Foundation Pancreatic Cancer Research Laboratory at Dana-Farber were (from left): Lustgarten Foundation Chief Scientist David Tussuop, MD, PhD; Dana-Farber Faculty Vice President for Academic Affairs and Stephen B. Kay Family Professor of Medicine Robert Mayer, MD, who is also a past chair of Lustgarten’s Scientific Advisory Board; Brian Wolpin, MD, MPH, who will lead the new laboratory, Lustgarten President and CEO Kerri Kaplan; and William Hahn, MD, PhD, Dana-Farber’s chief research strategy officer, chair of the Executive Committee for Research, and chief of the Division of Molecular and Cellular Oncology.

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Dear Friends,

As I step into my new role as Senior Vice President and Chief Philanthropy Officer, you may wonder what could lead a Southern California native to leave the sunshine for the Northeast—and in January, no less. As a loyal Dana-Farber supporter you will not be surprised to learn that I was drawn by the opportunity to work in partnership with an extraordinary donor community on behalf of cancer patients and their families, helping to ensure they benefit from the very best in world-class research and exceptional clinical care.

In my first few months at Dana-Farber and the Jimmy Fund, I have been impressed and inspired by the deep commitment of our donors, faculty, staff, leaders, and Trustees to the Institute and its mission, and by the breadth of its community of supporters. Even before my first day on campus, I was honored to meet with Trustees and donors in my home state whose connections to Dana-Farber go back years—in some cases to the very beginnings of Dana-Farber and the Jimmy Fund—and who remain deeply committed to this day. And I have been delighted to discover connections to the Institute in my own life. On learning of my planned move to Boston, my longtime friend and colleague, Steve Page, shared that for the last few years his adult son Mark has packed his bike onto a plane from San Jose to Boston to ride the 192 miles in the Pan-Mass Challenge, the nation’s most successful athletic fundraiser. Mark is planning to ride again this coming August because, even from 3,000 miles away, Mark knows that 100 percent of every rider-raised dollar supports Dana-Farber’s tireless commitment to finding cures for cancer.

This issue of Impact is full of such far-reaching and loyal connections. Our groundbreaking research and top-quality patient care inspired the generous Palm Beach community to raise $2.3 million at their 28th annual Discovery Celebration last month. California philanthropists Jonathan Orszag and Mary Kitchen gave $1 million to advance research in Waldenstrom’s macroglobulinemia. Seattle’s Paul G. Allen Frontiers Group and Jonathan Orszag and Mary Kitchen gave $1 million to advance research in Waldenstrom’s macroglobulinemia. Seattle’s Paul G. Allen Frontiers Group gave $1 million to advance research in Waldenstrom’s macroglobulinemia. Seattle’s Paul G. Allen Frontiers Group gave $1 million to advance research in Waldenstrom’s macroglobulinemia.

Closer to home, our unwavering commitment to the early detection and treatment of intractable cancers garnered $5 million from the Lustgarten Foundation for pancreatic cancer research, and the Breast Cancer Research Foundation marked a quarter century of partnership with grants that pushed them past $25 million in total giving to Dana-Farber. And these are just a few inspiring examples. I truly believe that philanthropy, through gifts large and small, will drive our groundbreaking research and exceptional clinical care.

In a recent study, however, scientists at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute showed that a personalized “neoantigen” vaccine can spur a response against glioblastoma, with immune T cells generated by the vaccine migrating into the brain tumor and creating a “hotter,” inflamed environment around the cancer cells. The neoantigen vaccine approach has been pioneered in the laboratory of Catherine Wu, MD, chief of the Division of Stem Cell Transplantation and Cellular Therapies at Dana-Farber.

“This is the first time it has been shown that a vaccine can generate immune cells that can travel from the bloodstream into a glioblastoma tumor,” said David Reardon, MD, senior author of the study and clinical director of the Center for Neuro-Oncology at Dana-Farber.

A hallmark of cancer is the presence of DNA mutations that cause abnormal cell growth. Some of these mutations cause cancer cells to display molecules called neoantigens on their surface. Because these neoantigens aren’t present on the surface of normal cells, they are ideal targets for recognition and attack by the immune system.

To create the vaccine for an individual patient, tumor tissue removed during initial surgery underwent DNA analysis and was compared with normal DNA from the patient to identify neoantigens expressed by the tumor cells. Proteins from the neoantigens were synthesized in a laboratory and formed the basis of the vaccine. When given to the patient, the neoantigens in the vaccine “trained” the immune system to detect and attack the glioblastoma tumor cells.

Although the patients in this small, early trial eventually died from progressive tumor, their survival was longer than typical in glioblastoma, and the results provide proof of principle for the personalized vaccine. The next step, Reardon says, is to add an immunotherapy drug called a checkpoint inhibitor, aimed at freeing the immune response from molecular “brakes” so the T cells can react more strongly against the tumor.

Support for the research was provided by the Ben and Catherine犁 Foundation; Hixson Family Foundation; ARK2 Foundation; Broad Institute SBIR; program; National Institutes of Health grants NCI-1RO1CA155010-02, NIH/NCI-SPORE-2P50CA101942-11A1; NCI-1RO1CA155010-02, NHLBI-T32HL007627; Francis and Adele Kittredge Family Immunooncology and Melanoma Research Fund; Fairfield Family Research Fund; NIH/NCI-1RO1CA155010-02, NHLBI-T32HL007627; Buckman STI Leadership Program; Boniwell Endowment Fund for the Advancement of Science; P50 CA165962 (SPORE) and P01 CA163205; DFCI Center for Cancer Immunotherapy Research Fellowship; and Howard Hughes Medical Institute Medical Research Fellows Program.

Sincerely,

Melany N. Duval
Senior Vice President, Chief Philanthropy Officer

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TOGETHER AGAINST CANCER

**UPDATE ON FEDERAL FUNDING AT DANA-FARBER**

# Neoantigen vaccine spurs immune response in glioblastoma

In immunological terms, glioblastoma is referred to as a “cold” tumor because it contains very few immune cells, which must be present in order to generate an immune response against the tumor.

In a recent study, however, scientists at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute showed that a personalized “neoantigen” vaccine can spur a response against glioblastoma, with immune T cells generated by the vaccine migrating into the brain tumor and creating a “hotter,” inflamed environment around the cancer cells. The neoantigen vaccine approach has been pioneered in the laboratory of Catherine Wu, MD, chief of the Division of Stem Cell Transplantation and Cellular Therapies at Dana-Farber.

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Legere challenge raises $4.5 million to fuel cancer precision medicine

T-Mobile CEO John Legere has long championed innovative cancer research at Dana-Farber. A competitive runner in high school and college, the Massachusetts native first joined the Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge team in 2004. In the decade that followed, he became the team’s all-time leading fundraiser, providing much needed support for Institute investigators exploring the genetic and molecular foundations of cancer.

Now a Dana-Farber Trustee, Legere has leveraged his fundraising prowess with a Match Challenge Campaign through which he is personally giving at least $1 million to Dana-Farber, establishing the Legere Family Fund for Profile. Under the direction of Dana-Farber Chief Scientific Officer and Lindie Family Professor of Medicine Barrett Rollins, MD, PhD, the gift will support Dana-Farber’s Profile initiative—one of the broadest and most comprehensive enterprise-level, patient-based cancer genomics projects in the world.

Launched in 2011, Profile gives all patients seeking cancer treatment at Dana-Farber and its affiliated hospitals the opportunity to have in-depth genetic analyses performed on their malignancies. The endeavor, now directed by Matthew Meyerson, MD, PhD, has yielded genetic data on more than 25,000 tumor and leukemia samples. Results from these tests reveal cancer-promoting mutations that can sometimes be blocked by existing medicines targeted to that mutation. Dana-Farber clinicians use Profile data to try to match patients with the appropriate targeted therapy, the hallmark of precision medicine. In some cases, this has caused patient tumors to shrink or even disappear, demonstrating the power of this therapeutic approach. Also, Dana-Farber researchers explore the database of genetic reports to discover new relationships between gene mutations and the clinical behavior of cancers.

After meeting with Rollins and hearing about the remarkable impact of targeted therapies, Legere was inspired to support Profile in hopes of extending the benefits of precision medicine to more patients.

“I’ve never been so moved and inspired as I am by the groundbreaking work of Dr. Rollins and his colleagues,” Legere said. “It’s amazing what they’ve already accomplished, and I know they can do much much more. A lack of resources should never stand in the way of cancer research, and I’m fortunate enough to be in a position to help this important effort, so I am.”

Turning to his vast social media network, Legere launched a $2 million “#Match to Conquer Cancer” campaign in support of the Profile program. To show his own commitment and to generate enthusiasm from donors, Legere is personally matching at least $1 million, pledging to match every dollar raised for Profile in the month of December. As an added incentive, he vowed that if he reached his fundraising goal, he would dye his hair T-Mobile’s signature color, magenta, for a week. The campaign ultimately raised a total of $4.5 million.

“We are living through an absolute revolution in the treatment of cancer,” said Rollins. “Thanks to precision medicine, I’ve seen some patients go from a hospice bed to having a child. That’s what we want to be able to do for everybody. John’s gift and the generosity of his loyal followers will help us get there.”

M. Louise Choulian Estate provides unrestricted funding to Dana-Farber

W hen M. Louise Choulian graduated from Tufts University in 1956 with a major in economics, she began her career at the First National Bank of Boston and rose to become that institution’s first female vice president. A Boston native, she was also an avid Red Sox and Patriots fan.

Coming from a family with roots in the medical field, Louise saw firsthand how medicine helped people, and she didn’t like to see anyone suffer from cancer, especially children, according to her cousin, William H. Zovickian, DDS. As a young woman, Louise lost her father to pancreatic cancer and a close cousin to Hodgkin lymphoma.

Because of her personal experience with the disease, Louise wanted other families to never go through what she did. She decided to remember Dana-Farber and the Jimmy Fund in her estate plans and became a member of the Dana-Farber Society—a community of forward-thinking individuals that provides a legacy of support and dependable resource of funding for Dana-Farber’s future.

Before Louise passed away in 2018, she arranged for Dana-Farber to receive more than $250,000 in unrestricted funds from her retirement plans. Louise’s thoughtful planning provided Dana-Farber with flexible funding that will advance the Institute’s lifesaving research and care.

“Her objective with this gift was to inspire people to support Dana-Farber’s mission,” said William Zovickian. “She was hopeful that one day there would be successful treatments for all cancers.”

Ebert named Canellos Professor

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute celebrated the establishment of the George P. Canellos, MD, and Jean S. Canellos Professorship in Medicine and the appointment of Benjamin Ebert, MD, PhD, Dana-Farber’s chair of Medical Oncology, as the inaugural incumbent. A prominent leader in hematologic oncology, Ebert’s research focuses on leveraging genomic technologies to reveal the drivers of blood cancers and inform the development of more effective treatment approaches.

The professorship honors the tremendous contributions made by George and Jean Canellos to improving the lives of cancer patients and their families through cancer research and care, philanthropy, and volunteerism. It was established by George and Kaitly David and their children, Harry David, Anastassis David, and the late Nicola David-Pinedo, with leadership support from the Stavros Niarchos Foundation and numerous gifts from the Canellos family, friends, patients, colleagues, and the Greek community. Above, at the celebration (from left): Benjamin Ebert, MD, PhD, Jean Canellos, and George Canellos, MD.
Palm Beach Discovery Celebration raises $2.3 million

Each year, generous members of the Palm Beach community gather for a weekend of events to support the lifesaving mission of Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and the Jimmy Fund. During this year’s 28th annual Discovery Celebration, Institute Trustees and area philanthropic, civic, and business leaders celebrated another successful year with $2.3 million raised to fund the Institute’s groundbreaking research and compassionate patient care. Since 1991, the Palm Beach community has raised more than $40 million to create a world without cancer.

“Dana-Farber holds a special place in our hearts here in the Palm Beach community. So many of us have benefited from their cutting-edge patient care and research, whether through a loved one’s treatment, or through being patients ourselves,” said Vicki Loring, who chaired this year’s Discovery Celebration with her husband, Arthur. “We are pleased and honored to help advance Dana-Farber’s lifesaving mission and improve outcomes for patients everywhere.”


The 18th annual Breakfast with the Doctors, chaired by Institute Trustee Judie Schlager and her husband, Larry, and Institute Trustee Eric Schlager and his wife, Beth, was held the next morning. During a panel discussion with notable physician-scientists from Dana-Farber including President and CEO Laurie H. Glimcher, MD, guests learned about the Institute’s latest research initiatives aimed at improving outcomes for patients.

The three-day celebration concluded Feb. 9 with an evening of elegance and entertainment for 500 guests at The Breakers Hotel, featuring a special performance by Grammy-Award nominated singer, songwriter, and actor Josh Groban.

The Discovery Celebration was a tremendous success thanks to the passionate support of generous Chairs, Grand Benefactors, and Grand Patrons depicted below, as well as Grand Patron Qatari Ambassador to the United States His Excellency Sheikh Meshal bin Hamad Al-Thani (not pictured) and all who supported the weekend of events. Special parting gifts were provided by The Gardens Mall.
Faircloth fuels immunotherapy research in melanoma

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o further propel research into immunotherapy treatments for melanoma patients, Georgia philanthropist Bob Faircloth has renewed his investment in the work of Patrick Ott, MD, PhD, clinical director of the Melanoma Center and the Center for Immunology-Oncology, with a gift of $250,000 to the previously established Faircloth Family Research Fund.

From 2013 to 2017, Faircloth’s late wife, Jean, was treated by Ott for melanoma with several therapies, including an early phase trial of the immunotherapy drug pembrolizumab, which was subsequently approved by the FDA to treat metastatic melanoma and other cancers bearing a specific biomarker.

“Jean had excellent care and the clinical trial was a life extender for her,” said Faircloth. A 17-year prostate cancer survivor himself, Faircloth understands the importance of investigating new and better treatment options. “I’m very committed to the immunotherapy concepts. I believe in the research, in Dana-Farber, and the work Patrick has done in melanoma,” he said.

Ott and his colleagues are leading clinical trials on a range of new immunotherapeutic strategies to help patients attain longer-lasting, durable responses. One such treatment, developed by Ott in collaboration with a Dana-Farber colleague, is a personalized vaccine that trains the immune system to identify cancer.

“There are so many things I could not do without philanthropic support,” said Ott. “Bob’s generous gift will help us continue improving immunotherapies for melanoma patients like Jean.”

Beyond Boston: A decade of creating powerful possibilities in women’s cancers

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ince the Executive Council of the Susan F. Smith Center for Women’s Cancers held its first Beyond Boston luncheon in 2008, their goal has been to raise awareness and funding to advance research and treatment of breast and gynecologic cancers. More than 225 patients, survivors, donors, and Dana-Farber doctors attended the fall 2018 event, which is on track to meet its $225,000 fundraising goal.

Eric Winer, MD, chief of the Division of Breast Oncology, senior vice president for medical affairs, and Thompson Chair in Breast Cancer Research, moderated a faculty discussion about expanding the Institute’s reach.

“The whole idea,” he said, “is to deliver care, Dana-Farber style, all around New England” through satellite locations, regional collaborations, and other partnerships.

Getting treatment at Dana-Farber/Brigham and Women’s Cancer Center in clinical affiliation with South Shore Hospital, closer to her home, has helped patient speaker Lisa Kane regain control over her life. “That goes out the window with a cancer diagnosis. To have some kind of control really does have a positive impact on quality of life when you’re going through treatment,” she said.

Kane’s perspective was “inspiring,” said Pamela Martin, who co-chaired the luncheon with Kimberly Amsden and Meredith Beaton-Starr. Martin noted that the funds raised will “ensure that Smith Center doctors have enough resources to do innovative research, launch new trials, discover new therapies, and develop means for early detection and prevention.”

St. Baldrick’s tops $10 million in grants to Dana-Farber

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Pediatric cancer treatment has made extraordinary advances in recent years, and the mission of St. Baldrick’s Foundation is to keep that progress moving. Funding projects they deem the most promising in pediatric cancer research, St. Baldrick’s has granted more than $10 million to Dana-Farber physician-scientists since 2008.

Recently, St. Baldrick’s made $392,000 in new grants to Dana-Farber, including one to Neekesh Dharatia, MD, PhD, who was named a St. Baldrick’s Fellow. Researchers are beginning to identify potential vulnerabilities in pediatric cancers by systematically deleting each gene in cancer cells, and Dharatia’s grant will fuel his team’s identification of specific vulnerabilities in high-risk neuroblastoma, Ewing sarcoma, and rhabdomyosarcoma.

Rani George, MD, PhD, received a research grant from St. Baldrick’s to further her examination of the MYCN gene, which is abnormal in over half of patients with high-risk neuroblastoma and can cause tumor growth by shutting off protective immune mechanisms. This work could lead to discovery of more effective immunotherapies.

“Our partnership with St. Baldrick’s has fueled a deeper understanding of the biology underlying childhood cancers and enabled us to accelerate the most effective treatments for our young patients,” said Laurie H. Glimcher, MD, Dana-Farber president and CEO.

Babe Ruth Baseball names Jimmy Fund to Hall of Fame

Babe Ruth Baseball, a youth sports program for players age 13 to 16, named the Jimmy Fund to its International Hall of Fame in a special ceremony at Fenway Park last fall. This honor recognizes the Jimmy Fund’s 50 years of partnership with the program, which, thanks to dedicated players, coaches, and officials throughout New England, has raised more than $1.3 million for cancer research and patient care at Dana-Farber since 1969.

Presenting the Hall of Fame plaque, along with nearly $36,000 in funds raised in 2018, were (from left): Steven Silverstein, president and CEO, Babe Ruth League Inc.; George R. Lally Jr., member at large, Babe Ruth League Inc.; William Slifkin, incoming Babe Ruth Jimmy Fund director succeeding William Pullen, who retired after many years in the role; Phil Marcoux, Connecticut state commissioner and assistant regional commissioner; Babe Ruth Baseball; and Barry Jordan, New England regional commissioner and International Board member.
Mary Kitchen and Jon Orszag have made a major commitment to support research into Waldenström's macroglobulinemia at Dana-Farber. Their generous gift of $1 million also provides early momentum to the Institute's planned comprehensive campaign."The most innovative research in this disease is happening at Dana-Farber," says Treon. "Their new gift comes at a pivotal time when we are on the cusp of taking what we know about patterns of inheritance and making it actionable for patients with Waldenström's, and potentially those with other hematologic malignancies as well."

Mary and Jon live in California, but chose to support Dana-Farber based on their personal interest in Treon and Hunter's research, and also because Jon, a native of the Boston area, has deep respect for the medical community in this region. (Jon's father had been a professor at MIT for two decades.) Although their past philanthropy has often been made anonymously, they decided to go public with their support for Dana-Farber. "This research is very personal to our family," says Mary and Jon, "and it's important to us to teach our three daughters to give back to the community."

The Mary Kay Foundation supports promising breast cancer research

Mary Kay Ash was an icon in American entrepreneurial history, starting a small cosmetics business which eventually grew into a multibillion-dollar global company, and priding herself on creating career opportunities for women. In 1996, Ash established The Mary Kay Foundation®, choosing research into treatment of women's cancers as one of its primary missions. The Mary Kay Foundation has made several grants to researchers at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, most recently to Judith Agudo, PhD, whose goal is to uncover the mechanism that would unleash the power of patients' immune systems to find and kill cancer cells that escape breast cancer tumors and travel to other parts of the body. "Our hope is that this approach will eradicate these cells before they have the chance to grow new, lethal metastatic tumors," says Agudo, who received a $100,000 grant. "We're grateful to have The Mary Kay Foundation's support for this work."

"The Mary Kay Foundation was founded to help find a cure for cancers affecting women, and we are proud to continue supporting Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Dr. Agudo's breakthrough research," says Michael Lunceford, Mary Kay Inc. senior vice president of public affairs and president of The Mary Kay Foundation. "Through this grant, and Dr. Agudo's research, we hope to move one step closer to a cure and a world without cancer."

Generous legacy from grateful patient

Beloved children's librarian, world traveler, talented knitter—Betsy Mosher was always busy. Working at a Massachusetts library for 37 years, Mosher instilled a love of reading in hundreds of children through creative programs, and spent her free time traveling to exotic destinations like New Zealand, the Galapagos, and the Panama Canal. Although Mosher's diagnosis of endometrial cancer in her early 60s was devastating, she faced chemotherapy, radiation, and multiple surgeries with courage and grace, according to her brother, Michael Mosher. She found great comfort in the expert care and compassionate manner of her Dana-Farber oncologist, Susan Campos, MD, MPH. "She loved Dr. Campos," recalls Michael. "Betsy always said she was 'just wonderful.'"

Mother and her brother, who accompanied her to appointments, were impressed with everyone they met at Dana-Farber, from the parking attendants and dining pavilion staff to the physicians. "She couldn't say enough about the care she received there," says Michael. When, after seven years, Mosher's cancer became resistant to treatment, she and Campos worked together to plan her end-of-life care. In appreciation, before her death in 2017, Mosher arranged a generous legacy of more than $140,000 to Dana-Farber from her estate. 

Mary Kay Foundation has made a legacy gift to Dana-Farber in gratitude for her excellent care.
Melanoma Research Alliance makes a tremendous investment in Dana-Farber research

As the largest nonprofit funder of melanoma research, the Melanoma Research Alliance (MRA) supports projects in the areas of prevention, diagnosis, and treatment, with the majority of its giving allocated for melanoma treatment.

According to the MRA, melanoma is the deadliest form of skin cancer, and disease rates have tripled over the last 30 years. Dana-Farber investigators, including Patrick Ott, MD, PhD, clinical director of the Melanoma Center and of the Center for Immuno-Oncology, and Catherine Wu, MD, chief of the Division of Stem Cell Transplantation and Cellular Therapies, are conducting innovative studies aimed at improving outcomes for patients with this all-too-common disease.

NeoVax, which was developed at Dana-Farber by Ott and Wu, is a promising new tool in the arsenal against cancer. NeoVax is a “personal” vaccine that works by training a patient’s immune system to identify and attack that patient’s cancer cells. Ott previously led the first-in-human study of NeoVax in patients with melanoma, where he found that the therapeutic vaccine can stimulate and strengthen the immune system’s response against cancer. The earliest NeoVax studies were aimed at preventing recurrences in patients with surgically removed, high-risk disease. Thanks to a tremendous BJ’s Wholesale Club-MRA Team Science Award of $900,000 from the MRA, Ott, Wu, Osama Rahma, MD, and their colleagues are now expanding their research to study NeoVax in patients with metastatic melanoma. For this study, the team aims to speed up the process of making the vaccine and to better optimize the therapy for each patient. By testing NeoVax in combination with other drugs, they will be able to determine if this approach could trigger an even greater immune response against the cancer cells.

“The Melanoma Research Alliance is honored to support this innovative research at Dana-Farber that might improve the effectiveness of the immune system to fight melanoma in advanced stage patients,” noted MRA’s Chief Science Officer Marc Hailbert, PhD. “MRA funding is highly competitive to acquire, through our rigorous peer review process, and a mark of honor for Dr. Ott and his colleagues, and demonstration of the significance of their research for melanoma and all of cancer research.”

A family’s commitment to funding the underfunded

Lung cancer is by far the leading cause of cancer death for both men and women, claiming more lives than breast, colon, and prostate cancers combined according to the American Cancer Society. Yet it continues to be one of the most underfunded areas of research.

For Stephen Schaubert, this imbalance was unacceptable. Having been treated for small cell lung cancer at Dana-Farber, Stephen was well aware of the inherent need to fuel lung cancer research so, in 2014, he established the Stephen J. Schaubert Family Lung Cancer Research Fund. Sadly, unrelated to lung cancer, Stephen passed away in 2015, but his legacy lives on thanks to his wife, Eileen Schaubert.

“One of the motivations for Steve’s generous giving was his awareness of the relatively low funding for lung cancer research,” said Eileen. “While he’s no longer with us, I want to continue to give as much support as I can to the important efforts under way at Dana-Farber.”

To honor her late husband and keep the momentum going, Eileen recently contributed an additional $500,000 to Stephen’s fund under the direction of David Barbie, MD. Barbie will use Eileen’s latest gift to further investigate effective immunotherapy approaches for lung cancer patients.

“Eileen’s contribution is coming at a pivotal time for moving the needle forward in lung cancer research,” said Barbie. “We’re extremely grateful for her generosity, which will allow us to validate our previous findings, and help further the utilization of precision medicine in lung cancer treatment.”

Barbie and his colleagues in the Carole M. and Philip L. Lowe Center for Thoracic Oncology recently created a device that uses patient-derived organotypic spheroids, known as PDOTS, to help overcome the significant obstacles faced when studying immunotherapy treatments in thoracic oncology. With Eileen’s recent gift, they hope to demonstrate the implications PDOTS have for testing new combination therapies that could aid in delivering more effective treatment, more rapidly.

“Our family is extremely impressed by the work being done by Dr. Barbie and his team, and I know Steve would be thrilled to know we’re helping to make a difference,” said Eileen.

Dana-Farber B.A.A. Half Marathon® team raises nearly $660,000

More than 475 runners hit the pavement last October as part of Dana-Farber’s official team in the 2018 B.A.A. Half Marathon®. This determined group of runners raised nearly $660,000 to fund innovative research at Dana-Farber and support exceptional patient care, bringing the team’s 16-year cumulative total to more than $7.5 million.

The 13.1-mile course started and ended at White Stadium in Boston’s Franklin Park, looping around the scenic roads and rolling hills of the city’s Emerald Necklace park system. Dana-Farber had the only official team in the race of more than 9,000 runners.

Dana-Farber team members can run as individuals or form fundraising groups, all with the common goal of advancing the fight against cancer. Team Jenna was Dana-Farber’s top fundraising team in the 2018 B.A.A. Half Marathon. Through the race, the 30-member group raised more than $55,000 in memory of Jenna Swaim, who passed away in July 2018 after a four-year battle with ovarian cancer.

Jenna’s husband, Derek, said he and the rest of Team Jenna were moved by the experience of race day and impassioned to support Dana-Farber and Jenna’s doctor.

“Jenna and our family experienced firsthand the amazing care provided by Dr. Ursula Matulonius’ team at Dana-Farber, and we also saw how dramatically underfunded ovarian cancer research is,” said Derek. “Team Jenna wanted to do our part to support Dana-Farber’s critically important ovarian cancer research initiatives.” Matulonius is chief of the Division of Gynecologic Oncology in the Susan F. Smith Center for Women’s Cancers and the Brock-Wilson Family Chair at Dana-Farber.

Derek said he found race day to be both inspiring and empowering, being surrounded by other Dana-Farber runners and volunteers, all united by a shared motivation to prevent and cure cancer.

While some participants and groups, like Team Jenna, choose to support specific disease areas, most raise flexible funds to support the Institute’s lifesaving mission. Every runner on Dana-Farber’s B.A.A Half Marathon team plays an important role in supporting leading-edge research and the highest quality patient care at Dana-Farber.
Haymakers for Hope works to win the fight against cancer

Cancer treatment is often referred to as a battle, and an organization called Haymakers for Hope (H4H) was created by athletes who wanted to fight for a cure. Julie Anne Kelly, a survivor of Hodgkin lymphoma, and Andrew Myerson, who lost a close friend to cancer, met several years ago while training for the New York Golden Gloves tournament. That chance meeting resulted in their joint creation of H4H, which has given more than $1 million to Dana-Farber since 2009, including more than $173,000 from their recent event, Belles of the Brawl. H4H’s concept is unique: they train novice boxers—new participants each year—to compete in a charity boxing event and raise funds that will help to fight cancer. Participants, who commit to both a rigorous training process and a high level of fundraising, find it both a physically demanding and emotionally rewarding experience. H4H holds two annual Boston-based events, Belles of the Brawl and Rock ‘N Rumble, as well as events in New York City and Denver. Dana-Farber has received funds raised by boxers from every H4H event since the first in 2009.

“Haymakers for Hope exists to literally knock out cancer,” said co-founder Julie Anne Kelly. “We believe that funding Dana-Farber’s cutting-edge research and patient care is one of the most effective ways to accomplish that mission.”

H4H funds are used to support the Lustgarten Foundation’s cancer research. Brian Wolpin, MD, MPH, is leading a multidisciplinary, patient-centered initiative to translate laboratory findings into clinical care to help patients.“This lab is a hub for advancing translational research that is impacting patient outcomes in real time. There has never been a more hopeful time for patients.”

Gross-Lohs support young talent and novel research in lung cancer

For David and Christine Gross-Loh, supporting underserved areas of cancer research is most important. “We’re interested in the rarer forms of cancer,” said David. “Where the incidence rate is lower and there’s a smaller pool of patients—or where there’s a stigma attached, like smoking in lung cancer—there’s a greater need to support the research.”

To help ensure lung cancer research gets the support it needs, the Gross-Lohs have established the Gross-Loh Research Fellowship at Dana-Farber under the direction of David Barbie, MD, with a gift of $300,000. These crucial funds are enabling Barbie to mentor a talented young researcher who is accelerating investigations in a specific, niche area of lung cancer.

In Barbie’s lab, inaugural Gross-Loh Research Fellow Erik Knelson, MD, PhD, focuses on small cell lung cancer (SCLC), a subtype of the disease that makes up 15–20 percent of all lung cancer diagnoses. Approximately 80 percent of patients with SCLC develop a brain metastasis, for which effective treatment options are urgently needed.

“I’m learning so much in Dr. Barbie’s lab studying SCLC brain metastases, which is a dire, unmet clinical need,” said Knelson.

“Dr. Knelson is the first researcher in our lab to focus on this particular area of lung cancer,” said Barbie. “Thanks to the generosity of the Gross-Lohs, we are shedding light on the drivers and vulnerabilities of this disease.”

Lustgarten Foundation continued from page 1

detection strategies, and molecularly characterizing a range of pancreatic cancer specimens. In one of these ambitious studies, Wolpin will expand on an effort to offer rapid-turnaround DNA and RNA sequencing to patients with pancreatic cancer, delivering genomic insights to physicians to guide treatment decisions in real time. In addition, this sequencing effort will illuminate how molecular subtypes of PDAC could help predict treatment response, allowing physicians to tailor therapeutic interventions to improve outcomes.

As part of this personalized medicine program for pancreatic cancer, Wolpin plans to initiate a multi-arm trial for patients with metastatic pancreatic cancer in collaboration with the laboratories of Andrew Aguirre, MD, PhD, and William Hahn, MD, PhD, Dana-Farber’s chief research strategy officer, chair of the Executive Committee for Research, and chief of the Division of Molecular and Cellular Oncology. Each patient’s tumor will be rapidly grown as an “organoid,” which is a cutting-edge model that contains a patient’s own tumor cells grown in three-dimensional cultures. Researchers can then test therapeutic agents on these organoids to identify new treatment options for patients. The principle is that sensitivity to a specific drug in the laboratory will be an indicator of how the patient’s tumor will respond to that drug in the clinic.

In addition, Wolpin will build on his recent study with Matthew Yurgelun, MD, that found nearly 10 percent of patients with pancreatic cancer harbored inherited genetic variations or mutations that may have increased their susceptibility to the disease. At the same time, some of these mutations were associated with more favorable responses to PARP inhibitors. Wolpin will direct some of these funds to identify more patients who might benefit from PARP inhibition and thus enroll them on the Dana-Farber trial led by James Cleary, MD, PhD, testing the PARP inhibitor niraparib in patients with certain subtypes of pancreatic cancer.

A powerful supporter of Dana-Farber, the Lustgarten Foundation shares a longstanding partnership with Wolpin. Indeed, the foundation provided the initial funding for the rapid-turnaround DNA sequencing platform that is influencing patient outcomes today. Through visionary philanthropy such as this, the Lustgarten Foundation furthers its mission to advance the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of pancreatic cancer.

“It is a privilege to be funding Dr. Wolpin and his team through the new Lustgarten Foundation Pancreatic Cancer Research Laboratory at Dana-Farber,” said Kerri Kaplan, president and CEO of the Lustgarten Foundation. “This lab is a hub for advancing translational research that is impacting patient outcomes in real time. There has never been a more hopeful time for patients.”

— KERRI KAPLAN, president and CEO, Lustgarten Foundation
W

ith a $1.5 million award from The Paul G. Allen Frontiers Group, Dana-Farber researcher David Weinstock, MD, has been named an Allen Distinguished Investigator. He will use his award to study why some people with lymphoma are cured, while others relapse.

As an Allen Distinguished Investigator, David Weinstock, MD, will study why some patients with lymphoma are cured, while others relapse.

“We with this new class of Allen Distinguished Investigators, we are honored to uphold Paul’s vision for accelerating scientific discovery. Our new investigators all think outside the box to tackle big challenges and find new insights about disease and health.”

— KATHY RICHMOND, PhD, MBA, director, The Paul G. Allen Frontiers Group

The Paul G. Allen Frontiers Group is part of the Allen Institute, which was founded by philanthropist Paul G. Allen, who died of non-Hodgkin lymphoma in 2018. Weinstock was one of 10 investigators from research organizations in the United States, Canada, and Portugal to receive awards. He will share his award with Scott Manalis, PhD, a scientist at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

“It is a tremendous honor to be named an Allen Distinguished Investigator,” said Weinstock. “It is particularly poignant because of Mr. Allen’s recent death from lymphoma, and I hope our work can serve as part of his remarkable legacy.”

Weinstock and Manalis will tackle the difficult problem of cancer relapse by studying the tiny amounts of lymphoma cells left behind, also known as minimal residual disease (MRD), when patients go into remission. They have developed technology that can isolate rare MRD cells, detect genetic mutations, and test their responses to drugs.

Many of the nearly 20,000 people who die of lymphoma every year in the U.S. die of relapsed disease due to MRD. Weinstock and Manalis will study MRD cells in animal models and patient biopsies taken before and after they go into remission. By understanding what makes these few straggler cells resistant to treatment, their project could ultimately identify ways to prevent lymphoma from coming back.

“With this new class of Allen Distinguished Investigators, we are honored to uphold Paul’s vision for accelerating scientific discovery. Our new investigators all think outside the box to tackle big challenges and find new insights about disease and health.”

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tlygirl P.A.R.T.S. 5K advances ovarian cancer research

Girlygirl P.A.R.T.S. 5K Run/Walk raised $137,550 in 2018 at their 9th annual event. Girlygirl P.A.R.T.S., which stands for “Pre-screening Awareness Required to Silence” ovarian cancer, supports the work of Ursula Matulonis, MD, chief of the Division of Gynecologic Oncology in Dana-Farber’s Susan F. Smith Center for Women’s Cancers and the Brock-Wilson Family Chair at Dana-Farber. To date, the event has raised more than $730,000.

Girlygirl P.A.R.T.S. 5K Run/Walk began in 2009 when the late Jill Dr-Tommaso and her friend Laura Smith founded the event over coffee. Dr-Tommaso was diagnosed with stage IIIIC ovarian cancer and passed away in 2015 after an eight-year battle with the disease. Knowing that early detection is critical to improving outcomes in ovarian cancer, which is difficult to detect in its earliest stages, Smith continues to run the event since her friend’s passing, to advance Matulonis’ research into a pre-screening tool for this disease.

Presenting the proceeds of the 2018 girlygirl P.A.R.T.S. 5K Run/Walk (from left): Mary Bettis, Roxanne Roberts, Mary Kaulis-Thompson, Erica Kuzniel, Laura Smith, Jodi Pete, Mary McCaughlin, and Trish Cundiff.

The fifth annual awards were presented in four categories: Rookie of the Year Award, to Team DFCI@SSH, captained by Jane Worrell, RN, MSN, OCN; Pacesetter Power Award, to Team Novel Targets, co-captained by Jennifer Hedglin, RN, BSN, and Afton Kent; Excellence in Fundraising Award, to Team Neuro, captained by Deb LaFrankie, RN, OCN, since 2004; and Staff Spotlight Award, to Paige Malinowski, Young Adult Program team.

Above (from left): Co-Captains Afton Kent and Jennifer Hedglin, RN, BSN, and Ketki Bhusan, MPH, of Team Novel Targets.

Girlygirl P.A.R.T.S. 5K advances ovarian cancer research

Dana-Farber’s Weinstock named a new Allen Distinguished Investigator

Dana-Farber employees celebrated at Golden Sneaker Awards

The Golden Sneaker Awards, held last fall at the Yawkey Center for Cancer Care, welcomed Dana-Farber walkers, Virtual Walkers, and volunteers to celebrate the 63 employee-led teams who participated in the 2018 Boston Marathon® Jimmy Fund Walk presented by Hyundai, raising more than $887,000 of the $8.5 million total raised through the Jimmy Fund Walk for the Institute.

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Above (from left): Co-Captains Afton Kent and Jennifer Hedglin, RN, BSN, and Ketki Bhusan, MPH, of Team Novel Targets.
Edward P. Evans Foundation commits to advancing targeted therapies in MDS

Continuing a years-long partnership, the Edward P. Evans Foundation recently committed an additional $200,000 to Dana-Farber to support research into the genetic drivers of myelodysplastic syndromes (MDS). Approximately 10,000 people in the United States are diagnosed with MDS each year, according to the American Cancer Society. MDS is a group of diverse bone marrow disorders in which the bone marrow does not produce enough healthy blood cells resulting in anemia, infection, bleeding, and bruising.

A. Thomas Look, MD, will use this Discovery Grant to continue his research into drugs that target MDS stem cells harboring a mutant disease gene that causes MDS, but does not affect normal blood stem cells. “After promising results from previous studies, I am excited to study drugs that eliminate malignant blood stem cells with mutated TET2 tumor suppressor genes in patients with MDS,” said Look. “This grant ensures my team can pursue targeted therapies to curb this disease.”

“We are pleased to continue our partnership with Dana-Farber and Dr. Look to find cures for myelodysplastic syndromes,” said Michael Lewis, PhD, president of the Edward P. Evans Foundation. “Dana-Farber’s collaborative approach and expertise in blood disorders makes this a strong investment for our organization, which aims to improve the quality of life and survival rates for those diagnosed with MDS.”

Look hopes that this research will generate enough evidence to justify a clinical trial of drugs in patients with TET2-mutant MDS.

Five years of empowering the young and strong

Meeting other young women with breast cancer was a turning point in Maggie Loucks’ treatment. Diagnosed with invasive ductal carcinoma at 28 while studying to become a nurse practitioner, Loucks was treated by Ann Partridge, MD, MPH, who introduced her to The Program for Young Women with Breast Cancer at Dana-Farber’s Susan F. Smith Center for Women’s Cancers, which Partridge founded and directs.

Through the program, Loucks quickly formed a friendship with fellow patient Meghan Martin, who agreed there was a need for more research funding for breast cancer in young women like them. “We wanted to take our experiences and turn them into something positive for Dr. Partridge and her program,” Loucks said. “We also wanted to come together and celebrate living and thriving, despite cancer.”

With this goal in mind, Loucks and Martin joined Partridge and fellow patients Kelley Tuthill and Carrie Capossela to organize the first Celebrating Young and Strong event in 2013 to honor all young women faced with a breast cancer diagnosis. In 2018, its fifth year, the evening raised a remarkable $275,000 to support Partridge’s research into the young women population and to support programs for patients.

“This event grows every year, and the same people keep coming back to support it,” Loucks remarked. “Women continue to be diagnosed with this disease, so we need to continue to raise funds to support all of those who come behind us.”

Dana-Farber UnMask Cancer surpasses $1 million

The fifth annual Dana-Farber UnMask Cancer presented by The Herb Chambers Companies took place in October 2018 at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel in downtown Boston. More than 400 guests attended the rainforest-themed “party with a purpose,” enjoying dinner by the bite, fabulous cocktails, a silent auction, and entertainment. Billy Costa, co-host of Matty in the Morning on KISS 108 FM and the Dining Playbook on NESN, served as host for the exotic evening, which featured live music by country singer Jessee Chris; Billboard’s 2018 artist to watch. Legendary DJ Joey Carvello performed throughout the night as guests danced and mingled.

UnMask Cancer has raised more than $1 million in five years, with this year’s event raising more than $250,000 to support adult and pediatric cancer care and research. “This event is a way to thank and give back to my outstanding care team at Dana-Farber, to the researchers who originated my clinical trial, and to the rest of the Institute to whom I will be forever grateful,” said Michele Nadeem-Baker, a spokesperson and committee member of UnMask Cancer. “The more money we raise, the more research can be conducted to help patients today and in the future. I am one of the multitude of patients alive today thanks to the leading research happening right here.”

This event grows every year, and the same people keep coming back to support it,” Loucks remarked. “Women continue to be diagnosed with this disease, so we need to continue to raise funds to support all of those who come behind us.”

Special Events Appreciation Night honors event organizers

In 2018, people of all ages, all across the country, hosted more than 290 events and raised over $7.9 million for Dana-Farber and the Jimmy Fund. Last fall, event organizers gathered at Special Events Appreciation Night at Fenway Park to celebrate the advances their dedication and generosity make possible, and to be recognized for their tremendous contributions to cancer research and patient care at Dana-Farber.

The band Old Dog New Tricks, represented above by drummer Kevin Choinard, was recognized for five years of hosting its annual Band Against Cancer event, to celebrate the advances their dedication and generosity make possible, and to be recognized for their tremendous contributions to cancer research and patient care at Dana-Farber.

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Alex’s Lemonade Stand Foundation brings hope to children fighting cancer

Alexandra “Alex” Scott never let her diagnosis of neuroblastoma get in the way of her courageous and generous spirit. She held her first cancer fundraiser at just 4 years of age. She died from the disease at age 8, having raised $1 million for pediatric research care.

Established by her family, Alex’s Lemonade Stand Foundation (ALSF) is dedicated to fulfilling Alex’s dream of finding cures for childhood cancers. The enduring 14-year partnership between ALSF and Dana-Farber is built on that shared mission.

“We are committed to funding critical and innovative research that will have the most impact on children with cancer,” said Liz Scott, co-executive director of ALSF. “We continue to fund the talented researchers at Dana-Farber because of the hope they are providing to these children and their families.”

Recently, ALSF made grants totaling $800,000 to Dana-Farber, investing in the work of senior faculty as well as that of young researchers beginning their careers. The impact of these grants is felt throughout Dana-Farber—and the advances made here thanks to ALSF help pediatric patients everywhere.

Loren Walensky, MD, PhD, a principal investigator in the Department of Pediatric Oncology and the Linde Family Program in Cancer Chemical Biology, received an ALSF grant for his study of a novel way to inhibit and disarm RAS mutations, a protein mutation found in many forms of childhood leukemia that causes chemotherapy resistance and reduced survival.

ALSF also made Young Investigator grants to four Dana-Farber junior researchers taking on challenges in pediatric cancer. Serine Aravayan, MD, PhD, is studying the steps that cause leukemia to form. Both Adam Dubin, MD, PhD, and Mark Zimmerman, PhD, are building on recent discoveries in neuroblastoma, the disease that took Alex’s life and is one of the most common childhood solid tumors. Dubin is identifying ways to inhibit a group of proteins that drive neuroblastoma, and Zimmerman is seeking to determine the core transcription factors responsible for gene expression. Maxim Pimkin, MD, PhD, is characterizing the pathways that cause acute myeloid leukemia, to identify new targets for drug development.

Dana-Farber Holiday Cards & Gifts make spirits bright

For many people, the holidays are a time for giving back. Since 2003, Dana-Farber Holiday Cards & Gifts presented by Amica Insurance has offered exclusive seasonal gifts that bring hope to cancer patients throughout the year. Supporters are invited to purchase holiday gifts for friends, family, colleagues, and Dana-Farber patients, with 100 percent of the proceeds benefiting cancer care and research. The program raised nearly $670,000 this past holiday season and more than $9 million cumulatively.

The 2018 collection included festive cards, jewelry, gift towers, candles, ornaments, and more. Items were available September through December online; at the Friends’ Corner Gift Shop and Yawkey Center for Cancer Care; and at leading retailers including The Paper Store, Stop & Shop, Terrazza, Crafty Yankee, Long’s Jewelers, ‘47 Brand, and Cooper Jewelers. In addition to traditional Red Sox and New England Patriots ornaments, this year Boston sports fans enjoyed a limited-edition Red Sox ornament celebrating the World Series win. This one-of-a-kind item allowed fans to relive a phenomenal baseball season while making a tangible difference in the lives of cancer patients.

Another popular gift in the collection was Waffles, a cinnamon colored, plush teddy bear. The huggable Waffles was dressed in a navy blue t-shirt designed by Alyssa, age 10, a patient in Dana-Farber’s Jimmy Fund Clinic. Customers also had the opportunity to purchase Waffles as a gift for a Dana-Farber patient, or send Addie the cuddly Labradoodle or a cozy blanket instead.

Each selection featured artwork by a patient in the Jimmy Fund Clinic. This year, generous supporters sent holiday gifts to 958 grateful Dana-Farber patients, a true testament to the spirit of the season. “Amica Insurance is pleased to continue its support of Dana-Farber as the presenting sponsor of this wonderful program,” said Patti Genovese, lead sponsorship coordinator at Amica. “Through this program, we stand together in the fight against cancer, while also supporting local businesses and spreading holiday cheer.”

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For questions, or to be removed from our mailing list, please contact:
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute & the Jimmy Fund Division of Philanthropy
10 Brookline Place West, 6th Floor
Brookline, MA 02445-7226
617-632-3019 or 800-52-JIMMY
or visit jimmyfund.org/get-out

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute provides expert, compassionate care to children and adults in a home to groundbreaking cancer discovery. Since its founding in 1947, the Jimmy Fund has raised millions of dollars through thousands of community efforts to advance Dana-Farber’s lifesaving mission.

For more information, visit jimmyfund.org

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Jan Levetier

Assistant Vice President, Philanthropy Communications
Mel Stadtfeld

Impact Editor
Eli Dougherty

Art Director
Shane Vore

Production Coordinator
Ryan Alago, Joanne Vieria

Contributors
Jane Anderson, Brian Bertoldo, Anika Carlson, Christine Casefin, Jerome Connaght, Chika Capp, Monica Delvalle, Kim de La Cruz, Caroline de Lacivier, Scott Edwards, Margaret Evans, Ingrid Lopez, Robin O’neath, Maureen Quin, Casey Ras, Richard Siska, Jennifer Segal, Carol Shemin, Meghan Summerton, Christine Tiesman, Shannon Weber

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SPRING 2019 | Impact
In February six-time Super Bowl champion, Tom Brady, got his playoff beard shaved in the name of charity at Gillette’s world headquarters in Boston. Together, Gillette and Brady made generous gifts to three nonprofits, including Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, which Brady commended for "the tireless research and treatment of a disease that’s affected so many, including my own family."

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

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

**APRIL–AUGUST**

**Jimmy Fund Little League**
Presented by Extra Innings and Franklin Sports

Little League teams throughout New England can fundraise to strike out cancer while continuing their season of play. Contact Jonathan Clark at 617-632-5381 or JimmyFund Little League@dfci.harvard.edu.

**APRIL–SEPTEMBER**

**PMC Kids Rides**

Many kids, many bikes. Kids ages 2–15 find fun, camaraderie, and inspiration in bringing us closer by the mile to cure cancer at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Find a ride near you at kids.pmc.org or start a ride in your town by contacting Justine Darmanian at justine@pmc.org.

**MAY 1**

**Music Heals the Soul**

Support Dana-Farber’s Leonard P. Zakim Center for Integrative Therapies at this annual event featuring a special musical performance, fabulous food, and demonstrations of complimentary therapies that support cancer patients through their treatment. Contact Jillian Davis at 617-632-5091 or Jillian_Davis@dfci.harvard.edu.

**JUNE 1**

**Dinner with Friends**

Dinner with friends celebrates friendship, food, and philanthropy. Guests will delight in food, cocktails, and demonstrations from our host, Chef Jeremy Sewall, and his celebrity chef friends, while raising vital funds for Dana-Farber. Contact Dawn Belizaire at 617-632-3909 or Friends@dfci.harvard.edu.

**JUNE 4–6**

**Jimmy Fund Scooper Bowl®**
Presented by Valvoline Instant Oil Change®

The nation’s largest all-you-can-eat ice cream festival features entertainment, music, and bottomless sweet treats from America’s leading ice cream brands. Noon–8 p.m. at Boston’s City Hall Plaza. Contact Jillian Davis at 617-632-5091 or Jillian_Davis@dfci.harvard.edu.

**JULY 15**

**Haymakers for Hope Rock ‘N Rumble IX**

Haymakers for Hope gives everyday men and women the chance to fight back against cancer by training for and competing in charity boxing events. Help Dana-Farber knock out cancer at Rock ‘N Rumble IX at the House of Blues Boston. Contact Maryann Zschau at 617-632-5461 or Maryann_Zschau@dfci.harvard.edu.

**JULY 21**

**Jimmy Fund 5K & Fun Run**
Presented by Bayer

Get the whole family moving, have fun, and support the Jimmy Fund. Choose the 3.1-mile 5K or the half-mile Fun Run, then enjoy the post-race party, all at Millennium Park in West Roxbury, Mass. Contact Emily Falconer at 617-632-1970 or Emily_Falconer@dfci.harvard.edu.

**JULY 22–SEPTEMBER 1**

**A Chance for Kids & Families®**

Give $1 at the registers of participating Burger King® and Valvoline Instant Oil Change® locations and receive a promotion card with a guaranteed prize, proving everyone’s a winner when you support the Jimmy Fund. Contact Mike O’Brien at 617-582-9675 or MichaelT_Obrien@dfci.harvard.edu.

**AUGUST 3–4**

**Pan-Mass Challenge**
Presented by New Balance and Red Sox Foundation

Ride, volunteer, or give to the 40th Pan-Mass Challenge and help to raise $58,000,000 for Dana-Farber and the Jimmy Fund. 100 percent of every rider-raised dollar supports research and patient care at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Register and learn more at PMC.org.