DEAR FRIENDS,

This past year has brought unprecedented challenges across the nation and the world, and to Duke Health. Yet, with your help, we are meeting the urgent needs of the COVID-19 pandemic with determination and success, even as we advance many other vital patient care, education, and research efforts. Every one of us at Duke Health is thankful for your support.

Please join me in recognizing all that we have accomplished together, especially during such challenging times. Because of you, we have launched new patient support and education efforts, provided transforming education to tomorrow’s health care leaders, and accelerated new discoveries and their translation to improving health.

Your partnership is essential to improving health and wellness in North Carolina and around the world. As we look to the future, I am particularly grateful for your commitment to Duke Health.

Thank you.
Sincerely,

Ellen Medearis
Vice President
Duke Health Development and Alumni Affairs

BECAUSE OF YOU
Duke Health delivers tomorrow’s health care today

Philanthropy like yours enhances patient care at Duke Health in many ways.

+ Support from David and HJ Brody helped launch a web-based community to provide support and education for parents of children with eating disorders. The web-based community serves more than 160 pilot subscribers, and the website has more than 1,200 unique users each month.

+ Being a child facing illness or hospitalization isn’t easy. Child and adolescent life professionals strive to make every child’s health care experience a positive one and help children cope through play, preparation, education, and self-expressive activities. With the help of philanthropy, they provide support to families and help children find opportunities for optimal development.

+ With the partnership of loyal donors, Duke Health & Well-Being, the new umbrella organization for Duke Integrative Medicine, Duke Lifestyle and Weight Management Center, and the Duke Health and Fitness center, inspires people to live their best life by promoting whole-person health.

+ Made possible by donor funds, the Duke Cancer Patient Support Program help patients and their loved ones cope with the impact of cancer on their lives. Services offered free of charge to patients include counseling, support groups, self-image resources, child life services, recreation therapy, Pets at Duke, volunteer companionship, and peer support.

+ With support from the Haller Family Foundation, kidney transplant providers have developed an online library of brief, patient-centric videos providing education both pre-transplant and post-transplant to caregivers and patients.

+ Philanthropic support for lung transplant patients and their families helps to offset the cost of travel, lodging, food, and basic necessities.

Because of you, we have launched new patient support and education efforts, provided transforming education to tomorrow’s health care leaders, and accelerated new discoveries and their translation to improving health.

For more than 90 years, Duke has educated generations of medical professionals who make groundbreaking discoveries, transform the face of health care, and restore health to untold numbers of people.

For many of these medical professionals, access to the education that fuels this success is attainable only thanks to scholarship funds. The average total aid awarded in scholarships, grants, and loans each year at Duke is almost $21 million.

Most of the assistance offered by Duke comes in the form of need-based grants and scholarships, which are largely supported through endowments established by donors.

“Every single day I feel awed by the doors that have opened up to me as a result of this scholarship. Without this financial support, I would not be at Duke — and I am thrilled and endlessly thankful that I am here! In addition to incredible financial support, the scholarship also provides access to a diverse, multidisciplinary community of scholars, all of whom are committed to their respective fields of study.”

Rose Feinberg, Duke University School of Nursing Student

“Thank you so much for making it possible for me to take a new journey in my life as a student physical therapist. I am forever grateful for your incredible generosity and I hope that my eventual work as a physical therapist to improve my patients’ health can be a living testament to this amazing opportunity and honor.”

Daniel Fleming, Duke University School of Medicine, Doctor of Physical Therapy Student

“To me, the opportunity to study medicine at Duke is a great privilege. I recognize that there are many advantages that come with being a student here and try not to take that for granted. Thank you for helping to make this a reality for me and promoting my future medical career.”

Drew Vista, Duke University School of Medicine Student
Duke Health aims to improve health in our communities, locally and globally. Fueled by our philanthropic partners, we support programs and projects with the highest potential for impact on the health and lives of populations around the world.

+ Longtime Duke Cancer Institute supporter Donna Bernstein’s giving to Duke Global Neurosurgery will ensure that underserved traumatic brain injury patients in Uganda will receive surgery quicker and with better outcomes, by using data collection and artificial intelligence to create a predictive algorithm to match the right patient with the right procedure at the right time. Visit bit.ly/becauseofyouglobalneurosurgery to learn more.

+ Duke nursing students have access to global immersion experiences that offer unique opportunities to deepen their knowledge of community health and wellness issues. Each experience meets specific program and academic objectives to complement the students’ development and learning. Donors like you make these experiences possible through scholarship and other educational support. Visit bit.ly/becauseofyouglobalnursing to watch a video about a nursing graduate whose work is helping at-risk children in Guatemala.
BECAUSE OF YOU

Duke Health accelerates discovery and its translation

It can take years to get clinical trials up and running, including acquiring federal grants, which often require researchers to gather a fair amount of pilot data. This is precious time that many patients do not have. That’s where private philanthropy can have a substantial impact.

+A gift from the Capel family propelled a clinical trial that holds great promise for building muscle mass in people with the progressive neurodegenerative disease ALS. The trial, which tests the effectiveness of the asthma drug clenbuterol, would not be possible without donor support. Visit bit.ly/becauseofyouALS to learn more.

+Donors with an interest in neurobiology are advancing research related to the retina that could not only change the lives of people facing blinding disease but also potentially help people facing neurodegenerative diseases such as Parkinson’s disease and Alzheimer’s disease.

+Investment in research by School of Medicine Board of Visitors Chair Carol Deane supports the school’s most pressing needs. In 2020, her gift advanced data sciences projects at AI Health, which conducts research on artificial intelligence and machine learning to answer the most urgent and difficult challenges in medicine and population health. In 2021, several researchers will receive bridge funding to continue work on projects in lung cancer, metabolism, and health equity during lapses in other funding related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Support from School of Medicine Board of Visitors Chair Carol Deane helps the school meet its most pressing needs.

Researchers Scott Kollins, PhD and Geraldine (Geri) Dawson, PhD, use machine learning to diagnosis autism.

Rick Bedlack, MD, PhD, works with an ALS patient.
From March through June 2020, nearly 700 donors gave to help Duke Health respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. Almost one third of COVID-19 donors are first time donors to Duke Health. Thank you for joining us at this critical time.

Critical needs were met because of you:
+ Studies on tissue samples from COVID-19 patients
+ Interventions to address the disproportionate affect of the COVID-19 pandemic on the Latinx community
+ Research to gain much-needed information about how COVID-19 affects children
+ Assistance with childcare for essential workers during our COVID-19 response efforts
+ Creation of a central storehouse of data and samples that will further our COVID-19 research
+ Coordinated and well planned approach to ensure biomedical research on other diseases can continue safely during the pandemic
+ Thousands of meals and masks for frontline workers.

In addition to contributions directly to COVID-19 support funds, because of donors’ unrestricted giving to the Duke Health fund, we were able to immediately meet the most pressing pandemic needs. Visit bit.ly/becauseofyouCOVID-19 to learn more.
In fiscal year 2020, donors to Duke Health made 47 planned gift commitments, representing more than $20 million in future support for research, education, and care.

Planned gifts are responsible for some of Duke Health’s most significant advances and are essential for our continued success. Planned gifts that came to fruition in fiscal year 2020 made an impact on advancing nursing and medical education, research into several types of cancer, ALS, and Alzheimer’s disease, and other priority areas. Visit bit.ly/becauseofyouplannedgiving to learn why 1977 Duke University Medical School graduate Richard Schatz, MD, made a planned gift.

“I never would have achieved anything if it weren’t for Duke. They took a huge risk accepting me in the first place, and they prepared me to succeed. I want to help them give that opportunity to others.”

Richard Schatz, MD
Research director of cardiovascular interventions in the Heart, Lung, and Vascular Center and director of cell therapy at the Scripps Clinic
About Duke Health

We live in a time of unprecedented potential in biomedical science, education, technology, population and community health, and health care delivery. As one of the world’s foremost academic health enterprises, Duke Health integrates the Duke University School of Medicine, Duke University School of Nursing, Duke University Health System, and health programs across the university. Duke Health advances these frontiers through state-of-the-art clinical care, health promotion and disease prevention, breakthrough basic and clinical research, and educational experiences that prepare the next generation of health leaders. Every donor is an important partner in that work, and every gift plays a role in helping Duke Health and its constituent units advance health together.