2023
Donor Impact Report

Because of You
Improving Care of Complex and Chronic Disease: A new gift from the Mario Family Foundation

Duke Health is at the forefront of transforming world-class patient care, providing exceptional education, and innovative research for our trainees, staff, and faculty. Duke Health could not be more grateful.

Partnering with you has allowed us to provide quality care to patients and their families while accelerating new discoveries and treatments to improve human health. Your contributions help make Duke a top choice for tomorrow’s health care leaders and a better, brighter place to live. Thank you.

Because of you, we are improving health care for all – families while accelerating new discoveries and provide world-class patient care here at home and around the world. Many of our learners depend on scholarships and career education — an education that fuels both their own success and the success of Duke Health. Most of the assistance Duke offers comes from need-based grants and scholarships that are supported by the resources necessary to provide Duke University Health System with the funds to continue improving care coordination and patient navigation for people with complex and chronic diseases.

A Master Fundraiser: George Grody's long-term giving has multiplied its impact many times over. Grody's long-term giving has expanded the reach of Duke Eye Center’s Mobile Imaging Center and created fundraisers for multiple programs. He has given generously to improve patient care.

Mobile Imaging Center Increases Access: A $200,000 pledge from LC Industries Foundation and the Mario Family Foundation to provide Duke Eye Center's Mobile Imaging Center. The Center — a state-of-the-art mobile imaging device — will play an important role in improving the health of our patients.

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“Getting into Duke was the best Christmas present of all my life. And I can save one person, two, or three. And because I can’t do everything, I refuse to not do the something. And because I can’t do everything, but I can do something. And because I can’t do everything, but I can do something. And because I can’t do everything, but I can do something. And because I can’t do everything, but I can do something.

Because of you, Duke Health creates transformative education

TOMORROW’S HEALTH
DUKE HEALTH DELIVERS
BECAUSE OF YOU,

“Because of you, Duke Health delivers transformative education

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Breakthroughs, discoveries, and new treatments don’t happen on their own. They require perfect timing with the right people in the right place asking the right questions. Private philanthropy can jump-start new projects, recruit world-class scientists to our teams, and foster the transformative basic and translational research that leads to better clinical care.

Fueling Innovative Research: Duke faculty have been awarded two of this year’s 10 Hartwell Biomedical Research Awards, which recognize early-stage, innovative, and cutting-edge biomedical research with the potential to benefit children’s health. Each award includes $300,000 of research funding from The Hartwell Foundation.

New Professorships to Fuel Discoveries: Endowed professorships are a key tool for recruiting and retaining top talent. This year, Duke is高兴 to announce new professorships in immunology, cell biology, and infectious disease research.

Sarah Armstrong and Chris Newgard have been awarded the Marion Stein Professorship supporting medical physics.

Thaddeus V. Samulski Assistant Professorship supporting neurology.

Stewart, Hughes, and Wendt Full Professorship supporting medical physics.

Unlocking Alzheimer’s Beginnings: Doug and Stefanie Kahn’s most recent gift establishes the Kahn Family Alzheimer’s Disease Research Center Fund to support operating expenses of the recently established Alzheimer’s Disease Research Center (ADRC). The Center, a collaboration with the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, is one of a network of only 33 National Institutes of Health-funded ADRCs in the country, and the only one focused on gathering data in pre-symptomatic, young, and diverse populations.

Recent gifts have been awarded to support medical physics.

Supporting Children’s Nutrition: Swann Lee left the bulk of her $11 million estate to Duke, with a stipulation that it be used solely to support research into nutrition and health maintenance for children. Sarah Armstrong, MD, and Chris Newgard, PhD, are using a portion of that gift to launch an innovative new project aimed at understanding what is known as the “food insecurity-obesity paradox.”

Fueling Innovative Research:

George McLean, MD’73, considered his time as a student and trainee at Duke to be his happiest. In appreciation, his estate has made an endowed gift to support medical physics.

Mark Stavish first came to Duke with a detached retina that required emergency surgery. Mark and his wife Wendy were so impressed with Mark’s surgeon, Lejla Vajzovic, MD, that when they learned of her research to address retinal issues in children, they wanted to help. They recently made a $1 million gift to support Vajzovic’s research to use state-of-the-art imaging with machine learning analysis for early diagnosis and treatment of pediatric retinal disease.

In fiscal year 2023, donors to Duke Health made 46 new planned gift commitments representing $36,966,000 in future support for research, education, and care. Planned gifts that came to fruition in fiscal year 2023, including realized bequests, trust income, and other deferred gifts, represent over $23,540,487 in current impact.

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Sarah Armstrong and Chris Newgard

Swann Lee

George McLean

Wendy and Mark Stavish

Margolis Family Foundation’s latest gift of $10 million seeks to leverage and extend the work of the Margolis Center for Health Policy as it works to improve health policy here and around the world. To inspire other donors, each new endowment established for the center will be matched by the Margolis Family Foundation.

The Duke Endowment has awarded Duke Health as in partner-ship with the Durham County Department of Public Health, a $750,000 grant to fund the Partnership for a Healthy Durham’s collaborative efforts to improve the health and well-being of Durham residents with chronic health issues.
HERO FOR HOPE
DONORS ARE TRANSFORMING LIVES

Hero for Hope, a program begun at Duke Children’s, now benefits all of Duke Health. Hero for Hope donors provide reliable, monthly support that can be put to work where it is needed most.

In fiscal year 2023, 165 donors supported Duke Health monthly. We look forward to welcoming many more in the coming year.

Because of You, Duke Cancer Institute Celebrates 50 Years of Changing Lives

Duke Cancer Institute (DCI) completed its celebration of five decades of life-changing discovery and care with a gala on Oct. 14, 2023. Hosted by DCI Executive Director Michael Kastan, MD, PhD, the event featured inspiring stories from several cancer survivors, a guest appearance by former Duke basketball coach Mike Krzyzewski, and a performance by four-time Grammy award-winning actress, singer, and philanthropist Kristin Chenoweth. The gala event raised $105,000 and unveiled that more than $86 million, including $32.7 million in planned gifts, was raised for cancer research and care during the anniversary celebration time frame.

+ New Drug to Treat Advanced Breast Cancer: DCI research was instrumental to the development of a new endocrine therapy for breast cancer — the first approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration since 2002.

+ Building Trust: In her practice caring for breast cancer patients in rural North Carolina, Hannah Woriax, MD, focuses first on building trust between her patients and staff, communicating the importance of working within the patient’s means and abilities.

+ Truly Cured: After his bone marrow transplant, Kameron Kooshesh developed severe graft versus host disease that didn’t respond to standard treatment. Through the efforts of Joanne Kurtzberg, MD, he was approved for a compassionate-use authorization of an experimental drug in clinical trials. “Just a couple of infusions of this drug, and I was cured,” he said; “truly cured” Kooshesh believes he wouldn’t have been able to access the experimental drug at another institution. “Dr. K. is absolutely unbelievable,” he said. “She has a mastery of basic science and clinical and translational medicine that few others have.”

+ Giving at Any Level Helps Duke Give Back to the World: Duke alum Leslie Graves' most recent gifts honor DCI’s 50th anniversary. “I come from a long line of Blue Devils,” Graves said. “Duke Cancer Institute allows you to help Duke give back to the rest of the world. I can’t do what Dr. Michael Kastan and his fabulous team can do, but I can help them do it.”

Because of You, Duke Children’s Celebrates Annual Donors

At Duke Children’s, annual donors are critical to helping us help children and their families. Last year, Duke Children’s Society members, who give $2,500 or more annually, contributed 40% of the total annual funds raised by Duke Children’s. At the second annual celebration of these important donors, attendees were the first audience to meet the 2023-2024 Champion Patient Ambassadors and to hear from patient families, like the Forrest family, who shared their incredible Duke Children’s experience and support for pediatric urology research to help more children like their son.
Patient Care

Duke University School of Medicine, Duke University School of Nursing, Duke University Health System, Duke-NUS Medical School in Singapore, Duke Global Health Institute, and Margolis Center for Health Policy comprise Duke Health, a world-class academic health care and research center. Duke Health advances its clinical mission by delivering care across three hospitals — Duke University Hospital, Duke Regional Hospital, and Duke Raleigh Hospital — and outpatient services including Duke Primary Care and Duke Health Integrated Practices, Duke HomeCare & Hospice, Duke Health and Wellness, and multiple affiliations.