

Senior faculty and Institute leaders give generously in support of upcoming capital campaign

With the launch of a new Strategic Plan for Dana-Farber earlier this year, the Institute has set out to transform the field of cancer care through discovery and innovation. The Strategic Plan lays the foundation for a planned comprehensive capital campaign to help realize this ambitious vision and bring us closer to a world without cancer.

One hundred percent of Dana-Farber's Executive Leadership Team, Faculty Campaign Committee, Chiefs and Chairs, and Senior Vice Presidents have already stepped forward to make philanthropic gifts totaling nearly \$1 million in support of the upcoming campaign. At the forefront of this effort are President and CEO Laurie H. Glimcher, MD, President and CEO Emeritus Edward J. Benz Jr., MD, and President Emeritus David G. Nathan, MD.

"Every day, our faculty and staff devote their time and talents to the care of our patients and the search for cures," said Glimcher. "To also see such outstanding participation and personal generosity from so many of our senior physician-scientists and

executive leaders speaks volumes for how deeply they believe in Dana-Farber and the future of our institution. That level of commitment this early in the planned campaign timeline is truly extraordinary."

These gifts provide critical momentum in the campaign's early phase and will help fuel the goals of the Strategic Plan: transform the science of cancer, expand the breadth of exceptional care, and expedite our progress.

"So many of Dana-Farber's faculty and staff have given generously through the years, helping to bring us where we are today," added Benz. "These new gifts earmarked for the next campaign show that our colleagues continue to have high confidence in Dana-Farber's ability to make transformative progress against cancer. We hope these contributions will inspire many other donors to make their own campaign gifts so that, together, we can discover tomorrow's cures, provide the finest care to patients today, and, ultimately, save more lives."

Nathan added, "All of us at Dana-Farber understand how important philanthropic dollars are to our work. Dr. Sidney Farber himself was an



President and CEO Laurie H. Glimcher, MD, President and CEO Emeritus Edward J. Benz Jr., MD, and President Emeritus David G. Nathan, MD, are among the Dana-Farber leaders making early gifts to our planned comprehensive capital campaign.

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— LAURIE H. GLIMCHER, MD, president and CEO, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

exceptional fundraiser. Charitable giving is in the Institute's DNA. I am proud to be a Dana-Farber donor, and I know my colleagues feel the same."

Helping inspire meaningful contributions to the campaign from fellow senior faculty and leaders are

co-chairs of the Faculty Campaign Committee, Stephen Sallan, MD, chief of staff emeritus and the Quick Family Chair in Pediatric Oncology at Dana-Farber, and Deborah Schrag, MD, MPH, chief of the Division of Population Sciences. ■

Partnership funds pediatric brain cancer research



A Kids' Brain Tumor Cure
PLGA Foundation

FUNDING RESEARCH ► FINDING CURES

Three nonprofits, established by families and friends of children battling brain cancer, are collaborating to make a difference. With a transformative grant of \$300,000, A Kids' Brain Tumor Cure, Why Not Me?, and Thea's Star of Hope will support research pursuing more effective, less toxic treatments for kids with brain cancer.

Low-grade gliomas, the most common type of pediatric brain tumors, are notoriously difficult to treat. However, Dana-Farber researchers have identified a new drug, called TAK-580, which they have shown in the lab to be effective in targeting the most common mutation found in these tumors. TAK-580 therefore has potential to become a customized, targeted therapy for young patients with this disease.

A trial under the direction of Daphne Haas-Kogan, MD, clinical director of the PLGA Program at

Dana-Farber, and Karen Wright, MD, MS, will test the efficacy of this promising new compound. If successful, this study will transform care for children with low-grade gliomas and dramatically improve their prognoses.

"Limited resources to fund pediatric brain cancer clinical trials are a national health issue," says Amy Weinstein, executive director of A Kids' Brain Tumor Cure. "Collaborating with Why Not Me? from Pennsylvania and Thea's Star of Hope from New Jersey supports Dana-Farber's groundbreaking work, which will affect all children battling brain cancer, regardless of where they reside. We are grateful to our nonprofit partners for their trust in Dana-Farber." ■

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— AMY WEINSTEIN,
A Kids' Brain Tumor Cure

Derby Day Party raises fun and funds for melanoma research

Sharon Crowley Martin was a remarkable woman who possessed a lively sense of humor and fun-loving personality. Sadly, she passed following a courageous battle with stage IV melanoma. Still, her festive spirit endures in her family's annual Derby Day Party fundraiser, which honors her memory and supports the Sharon Crowley Martin Memorial Fund for Melanoma Research at Dana-Farber.

Held at the Prowse Farm in Canton, Mass., this year's celebration raised \$170,000 and brought the five-year cumulative total raised to more than \$550,000 in funding for innovative investigations led by Sharon's doctor, F. Stephen Hodi, MD, director of the Melanoma Center and the Center for Immunology and the Sharon Crowley

Martin Chair in Melanoma at Dana-Farber. Spearheaded by Sharon's three children and a loyal committee of family and friends, the party put the "fun" in "fundraising" through lawn games, cocktails, a drawing, music and dancing, and a viewing of the Kentucky Derby. The day also featured remarks from Sharon's daughter, Susie Mitchell, and Hodi, who thanked everyone and emphasized the impact of their generosity on his team's pursuit of novel melanoma treatments.

Mitchell underscored her family's gratitude for Hodi's outstanding care of Sharon, along with an aunt whose life Mitchell credits him with saving. "Dr. Hodi has truly been a hero to our family," she said, "and we are committed to equipping him with the funding he needs to advance his critical work." ■



The Martin and Crowley families and friends celebrate the annual Derby Day Party to support melanoma research led by F. Stephen Hodi, MD.