

EXPANDING THE IMPACT OF PRIVATE PHILANTHROPY...

The Robert C. Byrd Health Sciences Center at West Virginia University is the state's flagship institution for education, research, and service in the health sciences. Our goal is to make a difference in the life of patients and students, and in the advancement of knowledge.

We are on the move to being recognized among the top ranks of America's medical colleges. To accelerate this journey, Arthur J. Ross, III MD, MBA Dean of the WVU School of Medicine has identified five fund-raising priorities:

The Mary Babb Randolph Cancer Center
The Use of Simulation in Medical Education
Student Scholarships
Leadership Enhancement
Interdisciplinary Research

▪ THE MARY BABB RANDOLPH CANCER CENTER

The Cancer Center is committed to growing its research platforms in basic, clinical, and population sciences in order to recruit the best faculty, align research platforms based on the needs of West Virginia residents, and achieve excellence in targeted cancer research and clinical pursuits.

The 100,000 square foot expansion to the Mary Babb Randolph Cancer Center is nearing completion and will double the space available for patient care and research. Donor support is necessary to equip this new space, and retain and recruit the best scientists and clinicians in cancer. Each gift helps us ensure that residents of the state and the region will have access to the latest treatments and anticancer therapies.

▪ THE USE OF SIMULATION IN MEDICAL EDUCATION

Phase 1 of the new Clinical Simulation Center is currently under construction. It will provide a world class, state-of-the-art, multidisciplinary simulation training and research center that will improve the quality and safety of medical care provided throughout the state of West Virginia.

The Simulation Center will include high-tech classrooms; surgery, intensive care unit, emergency room and pediatric simulation labs; and patient mannequins capable of 72,000 human reactions, including everything from trembling and sweating to bleeding or giving birth. WVU physicians will train along side nurses, pharmacists and dentists to improve their analytical, diagnostic and crisis-intervention skills.

Private dollars are needed to purchase the latest simulation equipment. Several naming opportunities also exist.

▪ STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

The WVU School of Medicine has a long tradition of excellence. We compete with other top-notch medical schools for the best-qualified and most promising students. There are over 1,500 students in the School of Medicine. More than 90% of them receive some form of financial aid (a majority in the form of student loans).

Closely matching the trends of medical school tuition costs across the country, WVU School of Medicine tuition has doubled in less than ten years. The average indebtedness of a WVU SoM graduate is \$126,738, slightly higher than the national average. Scholarship support is vital for the continued recruitment of great students who become great doctors.

One of the many ways donors can provide scholarship support is through the Mountaineer Mentor program. Mountaineer Mentors provide annual scholarship assistance to qualifying medical students over a four-year period. An annual gift of \$5,000 or more will help defray the financial burden many students face upon graduation. Additionally, many mentors establish a relationship with their student over the four-year period, lending advice, support and the benefit of real-world experience.

▪ LEADERSHIP ENHANCEMENT

As an academic medical institution, it is imperative for us to retain and recruit the best clinician scientists to lead our teaching, research, clinical care and service missions. Endowed support for our leaders ensures that we are able to provide our patients with not only the best care, but also the latest therapies and cures discovered through cutting edge research. Additionally, our medical students are given the opportunity to engage in both research and patient care along side great leaders.

▪ INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH WV RESEARCH TRUST FUND

WVU is growing a clinical and translational research program that fosters collaboration between basic scientists and physicians. Basic science discoveries guide the physician in considering treatment options for patients. More specifically, one research mission is to address health disparities in West Virginia, including diabetes, some cancers, heart disease and respiratory illness.

Several new research facilities are either recently completed or nearing completion. Chief among these are the Erma Byrd Biomedical Research Center and the Mary Babb Randolph Cancer Center addition. The Cancer Center expansion will house a clinical trials research unit, an important conduit to link basic research to clinical care.

Funds are needed to equip these research areas and to recruit expert clinician scientists. Private donations in support of research endowments can be matched dollar-for-dollar by the West Virginia Research Trust Fund, established by the WV state legislature. For the next five years, WVU is eligible to receive \$35 million from this fund which, when matched by private donations, will provide \$70 million to be used at WVU to support research endowments that will help our clinicians and scientists train the next generation of health professionals and expand treatment options for West Virginians and those beyond our borders.

For Every Gift We Are Grateful

Arthur J. Ross, III MD, MBA, WVU School of Medicine Dean

The WVU School of Medicine will become nationally recognized as a leader among academic health care organizations by cultivating a tradition of excellence and innovation in education, research, patient care and service.

To everyone who supports this vision, we are grateful.

To everyone who contributes to our journey, thank you.