

impactCancer

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY COMPREHENSIVE CANCER CENTER –
ARTHUR G. JAMES CANCER HOSPITAL AND RICHARD J. SOLOVE RESEARCH INSTITUTE



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The James



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
WEXNER MEDICAL CENTER

Welcome



It's easy to feel helpless when faced with seemingly insurmountable obstacles, but we don't have that problem within Ohio State's cancer program.

Continuing growth and advancement—thanks in large part to the continuous support we receive from a caring community—have bolstered our capacity for changing the landscape of cancer care and research in Ohio and beyond.

And that's a good thing, because our cancer program faces the challenge of being centered in a state whose population of 11.6 million people is on average poorer, less educated, and less racially and ethnically diverse than the rest of the United States. Statistics show that Ohioans, especially in the Appalachian region, also smoke more, have more incidences of human papillomavirus (HPV) and experience higher rates of lung, breast, prostate and colorectal cancer than much of the rest of the nation. Our responsibility is to change that landscape.

With the help of substantial outside funding resources and incredible philanthropic support from the community, we are doing just that through a formula for success that involves targeted investment in transdisciplinary research, scientific collaboration, committed researchers and medical professionals, and multidisciplinary patient care.

This formula is reflected in stories within this issue that touch on: the importance of a multimillion dollar support grant that we will once again receive from the National Cancer Institute through our redesignation as a comprehensive cancer center; the recent presentation of a check for \$23,659,675 from Pelotonia, our annual grassroots bicycle tour that raises money for cancer research at Ohio State; other private research gifts we have received; and the invaluable contributions of our venerable volunteers.

Thanks again for the important role that you play in our formula for success as we continue our journey together toward a cancer-free world.

Michael A. Caligiuri, MD

Director, The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center
CEO, James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute



THE POWER TO CREATE A CANCER-FREE WORLD LIVES IN US ALL.

We can all make lasting impacts through legacy planning. While this is not an easy topic of conversation, having discussions now with the people—and the organizations—whom you care for can ensure that your wishes and intentions are fulfilled.

At Ohio State's Comprehensive Cancer Center – James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute, we ask that you consider us in your legacy planning.

Your gift will give our patients a chance to fulfill their personal legacies
...as cancer survivors.

For more information on charitable estate planning, please contact Maria Miller at (614) 293-3752 or maria.miller@osumc.edu.

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impactCancer is published three times each year by the Development and Marketing departments of The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center – Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital and Richard J. Solove Research Institute.

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from a Grateful Patient

A Mother's Legacy Will Live On

Sarah Leopold remembers feeling anxious before her mother's appointment with Hope's Boutique, a full-service retail shop catering to women with cancer at the Stefanie Spielman Comprehensive Breast Center.

Her mother, the late Lynn Yoho, an elementary school teacher, had been diagnosed in the summer of 2012 with metastatic breast cancer, for which the only treatment is chemotherapy. Though metastatic breast cancer can be maintained, it is considered incurable, meaning that Yoho would have to receive chemotherapy for the rest of her life.

"My mother understood that she would never have hair again, but she wanted to maintain a sense of dignity throughout the entire process, and losing her hair took a toll on her. The women at Hope's Boutique were so supportive. They helped her pick out the perfect wig and made her feel beautiful again. That meant so much to me," says Leopold.

Experiences such as these motivated Leopold to create a fundraising page for the breast center for playing such a vital role in her mother's battle with cancer. As of today, she has raised more than \$6,200.

As a PhD candidate in speech and hearing science at The Ohio State University, Leopold understands the importance of research funds, but her donation to the breast center goes beyond that.

"We all think about the cure. But my mother's cancer wasn't curable, and what was important to us was the care she received during her time there."

— Sarah Leopold



Sarah, on her wedding day, with her mother Lynn Yoho.

"We all think about the cure," she says. "But my mother's cancer wasn't curable, and what was important to us was the care she received during her time there. I want other women who are going through similar situations to receive the same level of support. I want them to know that they are still who they are and that they are still beautiful."

When asked what giving back to the breast center means to her, Leopold sums it up in one word: gratifying.

"I know my mother's legacy will continue on from all the lives that she touched. I wanted to give back to the place that touched her life," she says.

Leopold's mother died on May 27, 2015, three years after beginning her second fight with breast cancer, but she remains in the hearts of her family, her friends and everyone she touched through teaching.

For more information about creating a fundraising page, visit go.osu.edu/JamesHonorPages.

Still Exceptional: Ohio State's Cancer Program Earns NCI Top Rating & CCC Redesignation

The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center – James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute (OSUCCC – James) received a multimillion dollar support grant from the National Cancer Institute (NCI) after earning the NCI's highest rating, "exceptional," as well as a perfect 10 numeric score and being redesignated as a comprehensive cancer center following a 2015 site review.

"For over a year, leadership and members of our Comprehensive Cancer Center—from all corners of campus—worked together as a team to create and submit, in January 2015, the nearly 2,000-page competitive application to renew our NCI designation," says OSUCCC Director and James CEO Michael A. Caligiuri, MD.

Accompanying the redesignation will be five more years of NCI grant support for OSUCCC – James scientific leadership and administration, shared technology and research resources, development of scientific goals, and collaboration among the more than 300 researchers in the OSUCCC's five interdisciplinary research programs.

The five research programs are: Cancer Control; Leukemia Research; Translational Therapeutics; Molecular Biology and Cancer Genetics; and Molecular Carcinogenesis and Chemoprevention. Caligiuri says the support grant is critical to helping investigators in these programs continue translating research discoveries to innovative patient care and prevention strategies for people in Ohio and beyond.

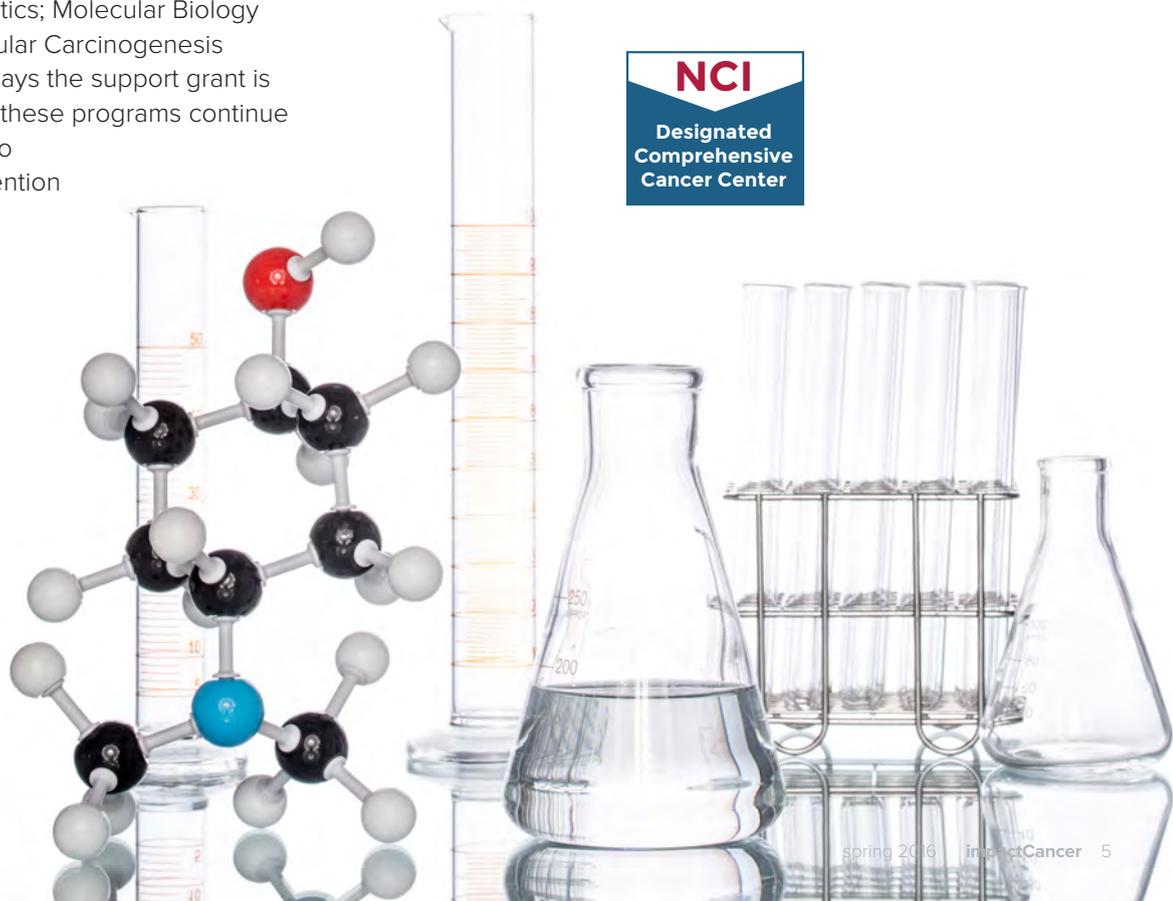
"Last May, a peer-review team of cancer experts from across the nation selected by the NCI visited us for a day and a half to further evaluate all aspects of our center and the progress we have made over the last five years," Caligiuri adds. "Based on our success in achieving a perfect score, I feel that the research work our researchers are doing at OSU is now being

recognized at the national level as impactful and changing the landscape of cancer research."

Ohio State thus retains its status as one of only 45 NCI-designated comprehensive cancer centers, a distinction the university has competitively maintained since 1976. It is also the second consecutive time the cancer program has earned the NCI's top rating, having done so following the 2010 site review.

"Our second consecutive 'exceptional' rating moves us into an elite group of cancer centers and represents amazing peer recognition that now spans a decade," Caligiuri notes, "I sincerely congratulate all of our faculty and staff for the incredible work they do in advancing cancer research and, ultimately, cancer care."

Caligiuri also praises members of the central Ohio community "who work tirelessly on our behalf to help support our innovative research through their incredible leadership and fundraising efforts. The OSUCCC – James is very fortunate to have such wonderful partners helping us pursue our vision of a cancer-free world."



Alec Wightman's Longevity of Leadership: Making Connections to Strengthen the OSUCCC – James



Alec Wightman, partner at BakerHostetler, was a young attorney in the late 1980s when the Ohio Cancer Foundation led by Arthur G. James, MD, called seeking representation on its foundation board.

Alec recalls the awe and intimidation he felt in that first meeting, sitting across from the titans of business and politics in Columbus—men such as John G. McCoy, John Walton Wolfe, Dave Thomas and Len Immke. When another new board member handed a significant check to Dr. James, Alec made up his mind: he couldn't match that level of giving, so he would contribute his time.

When the Ohio Cancer Foundation succeeded in opening the only freestanding cancer hospital in central Ohio in 1990, now The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center – Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital and Richard J. Solove Research Institute (OSUCCC – James), Dr. James charged Alec with building the next generation of leadership. Says Alec, “I took it seriously right from the beginning.”

In his more than 25 years of service on the James Foundation Board, including four years as chair during a major fundraising campaign that led to the creation of the Solove Research Institute, Alec has done just that—giving generously of his time and helping to raise funds that enable the OSUCCC – James to make an impact. The key to successful fundraising? “Listening,” says Alec. “I’ve got all the elevator speeches in the world about The James, but where you really connect is when you hear how cancer has touched somebody’s life. That’s when you know they will have an affinity for the cause.”

It is the relationships he has made along the way with others who share his enthusiasm for fighting cancer that have made his past 25 years of service worthwhile. He has continuously sought ways to connect others to the OSUCCC – James’ mission.

A recent example: Alec’s friends Bob and Peggy Walter called last year for his advice on how they could best honor David Schuller, MD, then-vice president of the Medical Center Expansion and Outreach, upon his retirement. Because of Alec’s longtime association with the OSUCCC – James and knowledge of what matters most to the Walters



Alec, also the Board Chair of the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, met with musician Sheryl Crow when she toured The James in November. (See page 8 for the full story.)

in their philanthropy, he helped to facilitate conversations with OSUCCC – James leadership that arrived at a decision that made everyone happy. The Walters honored Dr. Schuller by creating the David E. Schuller, MD Professorship for Patient Compassion. Inspired by Dr. Schuller’s incredible kindness toward patients and their families, the professorship will enhance caregivers’ training on the importance of compassionate patient care.

And while Alec is quick to minimize his role in securing the Walters’ gift, it underscores the best of what a Foundation Board member can do on behalf of the OSUCCC – James: listening to others and making the right connections that help move the cancer program forward.

Another major accomplishment of Alec’s is the role he played in revamping the Foundation Board’s membership guidelines. “The only purpose of the Foundation Board is to raise money,” says Alec. “It’s an honor to be on this board, and always has been. We decided that if people were going to join, we needed to create expectations.” Through his leadership as chair of the Governance and Nominating Committee, the board has raised the requirements for giving and meeting attendance, as well as other changes that have elevated the board’s performance and now serve as a model to other foundation boards and philanthropic advisory committees throughout The Ohio State University.

Michael A. Caligiuri, MD, director of Ohio State’s Comprehensive Cancer Center and CEO of The James, cannot say enough about Alec’s legacy of leadership. “Alec has been with The James since the beginning, and that means he has just as much institutional knowledge as he has passion for cancer research and care. No question, his leadership has absolutely strengthened The James and helped make it what it is today.”

Alec’s dedicated service to the OSUCCC – James has even inspired others to give in his honor, like the major gift from the late John Drinko, former executive partner of BakerHostetler, that created the Kathy and Alec Wightman Endowment Fund for Cancer Research Genetics. Incredibly moved by the act of generosity, Alec and his family have contributed to the fund, as well.

Looking back at the advances he has witnessed through his years serving on the James Foundation Board—from Dr. Schuller describing his vision for a molecular genomics program in the mid-1990s and then making it a reality, to the recruitment of world-class oncologists like Albert de la Chapelle, MD, PhD, and Clara Bloomfield, MD,—Alec is stunned by all that has been accomplished at The James.

“It’s almost unbelievable when you think that this hospital was literally built from scratch, and today is one of the top cancer treatment and research centers in the world. It’s amazing—and solely a result of the people who have worked there and the philanthropy that supports it.”

James Foundation Board Members

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 Kenton Bowen
 Michael Caligiuri, MD
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 Don Casey
 Nick Coe
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Pelotonia 15 Brings 7-Year Total to More than \$100M: Musician Sheryl Crow Joins in on the Celebration

Sheryl Crow is now a member of the growing Pelotonia community.

“Next year, I’m going to ride the 100 miles,” Crow announced on Nov. 18, and the crowd at the Schottenstein Center roared in approval.

Crow, the star of the Pelotonia 15 Check Celebration, was caught up in the adrenaline rush as thousands of people came together to celebrate raising \$23.7 million in 2015 and \$106.1 million since 2009. Every dollar raised by Pelotonia goes to fund life-saving research at The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center – James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute (OSUCCC – James).

“I’m coming back to fight the fight,” Crow, a breast cancer survivor, promised her new Pelotonia pals, and then launched into a heartfelt rendition of “The First Cut is the Deepest.”



Ted Teknos, MD, leads Sheryl Crow’s tour of The James.

In other words: It was an amazing night.

“And we’re truly just getting started,” Dan Rosenthal, Pelotonia’s board chairman, told the 8,000 members of the Pelotonia community gathered at the Schott. “One day we’ll come together to celebrate raising \$100 million in a single year.”

Come on, \$100 million in one year?

While this dream may sound unreachable, think back to 2009, the first year of Pelotonia, when riders raised \$4,511,868, about a fifth of the total that riders, virtual riders and volunteers raised in 2015. Rosenthal might be on to something.

Or, as Michael A. Caligiuri, MD, director of the OSUCCC and CEO of The James, told the crowd: “Anything is possible.”

Crow’s Pelotonia day began with a tour of The James, which she called “a place of hope.”

“(The new James) opened in December, which coincided with Doug’s arrival,” Ted Teknos, MD, told Crow as he led the tour. He was referring to Doug Ulman, Pelotonia’s CEO/president and a longtime friend of Crow.

“He did tell me you built a brand-new hospital just for him,” Crow smiled.

She made a surprise visit to Pelotonia rider Bob Scherer, who was a couple of hours out of prostate surgery and disappointed he wouldn’t be able to attend the Check Celebration party that night.

“I’m so sad I don’t have my guitar,” Sheryl told Scherer, and then gave him a hug and posed for photos with Scherer and his family.

“That touched me beyond anything,” Scherer, 61, later said of the surprise visit. By the way: He’s doing great, and the three-time cancer survivor plans to ride in Pelotonia 16 along with his son, Mike, also a cancer survivor and James patient.

How’s this for a coincidence: Teknos treated Bob Scherer back in 1994 after he was diagnosed with a malignant, Acinic cell carcinoma (ACC) in his neck.



Sheryl took a moment during her tour to visit with a patient and his family.

“We’re alive because of The James,” said Mike Scherer, who was successfully treated for testicular cancer.

The doors of the Schott opened at 6 p.m., and a steady stream of Pelotonia people began to arrive. William Dessert and his wife, Marissa, headed over to the Write a Note booth sponsored by Lifestyle Communities. There were 600 cards – and people wrote notes that will be delivered to James patients.

“My boss is here, at The James, and got a stem cell transplant today,” Marissa Anderson-Dessert said after she wrote a note.

“I think when you get a letter of encouragement, even from a complete stranger, it allows you to keep going and keep smiling,” her husband added.

Tracey Gerber struck a pose at the Selfie Station, holding the I’m In For 2016 sign as a prop. “I ride every year for my mom, who is battling esophageal cancer,” she said.

In seven years, 19,749 riders have ridden 3,013,665 miles. Pelotonia has received more than 450,000 individual donations.

These numbers are amazing, but what’s even more impressive is the passion and commitment of the Pelotonia community, Ulman said. “Numbers can’t even come close to describing the individuals we ride for.”

The message is clear, Caligiuri told everyone from the stage: “We are committed to ride and raise until this dreaded disease is behind us.”

After the new Pelotonia video was shown, which displayed the 2015 and cumulative fundraising numbers, Crow took the stage. The Schott went dark, illuminated by thousands of Pelotonia-green glow sticks.

Between songs, Crow talked about her bout with cancer.

“In February, I’m 10 years cancer free,” she declared and the crowd cheered. Crow felt a connection with the crowd and was comfortable talking about her breast cancer experience in a very personal manner.

“It’s enhanced and informed my life, and I now know what it means to be alive,” she said, adding that a lot of “people in this room know what I’m talking about.”

Sheryl called the doctors and researchers at The James and Ohio State’s Comprehensive Cancer Center the “real rock stars.” Playing on stage for thousands is “cool,” she said, but “doesn’t hold a candle” to finding cures for cancer.

The entire party was streamed live to the 300 patients in The James—and Bob Scherer was watching from his room.

“At the concert, she gave me a shout out,” Bob said. “She said, ‘Hey Bob, I hope you’re still awake.’”

He was, barely, with a big smile.

During “Are You Strong Enough to Be My Man,” Sheryl changed the lyrics to: “Are you strong enough to be my research doctor?”

And, toward the end of her hour-long, emotion-filled performance, Sheryl again promised she’d be back to ride in August “I have two small children, so I have to believe our best days are ahead of us,” Sheryl said, which pretty much sums up why we ride. It sure does sound like Sheryl is now a member of the Pelotonia community.

Bob Poe:

Dedicated to Finding a Cure for Small-Cell Carcinoma

When Bob Poe, of Lebanon, Ohio, talks about his wife, his face lights up. The love of his life and wife of 19 years could only be described as “my special person.”

Martina Poe was diagnosed with scleroderma, an autoimmune disease that causes hardening of the skin and potentially of organs. During her regular treatment for the scleroderma by her local rheumatologist in Dayton, an MRI revealed a small spot on her lungs. After a series of additional tests and doctor visits, the spot was determined to be small-cell carcinoma. She immediately was seen by a local oncologist and then referred to Erin Bertino, MD, and Nina Mayr, MD, at The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center – Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital and Richard J. Solove Research Institute (OSUCCC – James).

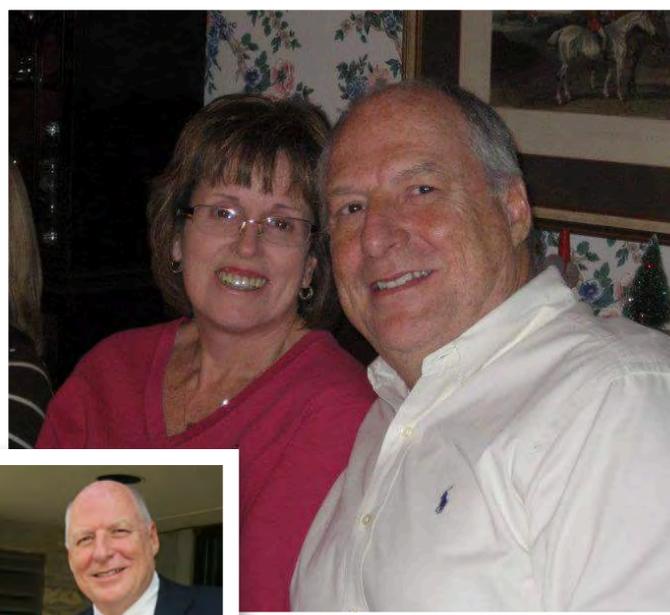
Small cell carcinoma, a very rare form of lung cancer, has a stigma for being associated with smoking, but Martina had never smoked.

Over the course of three years, she had an aggressive and courageous fight against her cancer. She received more than 33 radiation treatments as well as multiple chemotherapy treatments. Knowing they faced an uphill battle, Bob and Martina remained optimistic.

“Someone has to make the 4-6 percent survival rate,” Bob says.

Martina’s admirable fight came to an end in August 2015. “She was courageous to the end, always remaining positive that her strength would come back to her... but by her coming to the [OSUCCC – James], we both knew she was getting the best treatment possible. It made it easier to cope with the loss knowing you did everything you could,” Bob says.

After Martina’s death, Bob was encouraged to do something to memorialize her. Seeing an article in *impactCancer* that mentioned a husband who set up an endowment fund in honor of his wife, Bob contacted the OSUCCC – James to learn more.



Above: Martina and Bob celebrating a holiday with family and friends. Left: Martina and Bob, with their niece Kate at her first communion last year.



He then established the Robert and Martina Poe Small Cell Carcinoma Endowment Fund at the OSUCCC – James, a fund dedicated specifically for small-cell lung cancer research. He created the fund knowing that no other fund of its type existed here and wanting no other person

to experience the grave loss he did. “Had someone started a fund like this five or ten years ago, my story may have had a different ending,” says Bob.

“It is a hope of mine that I have given [the OSUCCC – James] a tool to use going forward to help with small-cell lung cancer research and treatment.”

To learn more about how you can join Bob and support small-cell lung cancer research, please visit go.osu.edu/poefund.



Members of Sherry's family and friends gather at a Steps for Sarcoma event.

Sherry Buchsteiner: Stepping Up in the Sarcoma Fight

After noticing a lump in her arm and occasional numbness in two of her fingers, Sherry Buchsteiner of Bryan, Ohio, made an appointment with a local nurse practitioner to get it examined. An MRI revealed that Sherry had sarcoma in her arm.

She was referred to Joel Mayerson, MD, of The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center – Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital and Richard J. Solove Research Institute (OSUCCC – James). Initially, Sherry was reluctant to receive treatment and care so far from home. Columbus is nearly three hours from Bryan.

“You have to be open to moving on. At first I pleaded with my physician to care for me in my hometown, but I am so thankful I was referred to Ohio State,” Sherry recalls. Looking back, she is glad she stepped out of her comfort zone and encourages others with the same trepidation to do so as well.

Sarcoma is a cancer of the connective tissue in the body such as muscle, bone, fat or blood vessels. Dr. Mayerson presented Sherry with two treatment options: a complete arm amputation or an aggressive surgery to remove the tumor, which in older patients could result in limited mobility and feeling in her arm. Opting for the surgery and 11 days in the hospital,



Sherry was resilient and defied the odds to beat her cancer.

She cites not only the OSUCCC – James for helping her beat her cancer, but also the immense love and support she received from her family, and her faith. From day one, Sherry's family was by her side during her cancer journey. “My daughter stayed at my bedside for the 11 days I was a patient at The James. My husband even learned to curl my hair,” recalls Sherry. “Not everyone has family support, but I did, I do and I am so grateful,” says Sherry.

Following her recovery, Sherry and her family wanted to do something in support of her cancer care team, so she became involved with Steps for Sarcoma, a running and walking event that benefits sarcoma research at the OSUCCC – James. “I have personally benefited from people who have given before. Giving back is a very minimal way of saying thank you to so many involved with sarcoma at Ohio State,” she says.

Now in her third year of survivorship, Sherry and her family continue to be active in giving and fundraising for Steps for Sarcoma. “I encourage any person touched by cancer to get involved in fundraising. Opportunities are abundant. Giving for me is my way of responding to the gifts and love that I have been so freely given in my life,” says Sherry.

Creating a Legacy to Others with Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia: The Filbert's Story

Dave Filbert and his wife, Sandy, were surprised when he was diagnosed with chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL) in 1999, but not for the reasons you might expect. Dave's mother and maternal grandmother both had CLL, so Dave knew CLL could one day affect him. But the women in Dave's family were not diagnosed until late in life. Dave was diagnosed at age 50—far earlier than the typical CLL patient.

"My mother and grandmother lived with their diagnoses until they passed away for reasons unrelated to CLL. Being diagnosed so young meant a 50/50 chance of a shortened lifespan, depending on the disease's progression," he says.

Dave's oncologist recommended a wait-and-see approach that included regular monitoring of his white blood cell count. At age 62, Dave's white blood cell count began to elevate steadily. Within a year, the count had doubled. That's when Dave's oncologist referred him to John C. Byrd, MD, at The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center – Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital and Richard J. Solove Research Institute (OSUCCC – James).

Byrd holds the D. Warren Brown Designated Chair in Leukemia Research and is an international leader in CLL research. He ran tests that Dave had never had before, including genetic tests that zero in on cells that are causing the problem. The result?

"We came away very, very happy," says Sandy. "Dr. Byrd suggested we continue the wait-and-see approach because Dave was otherwise healthy. He didn't want to start any



Dave Filbert



Sandy Filbert

Dave's experience at the OSUCCC – James has given the Filberts a deep appreciation for the value of medical research. They have chosen to leave a charitable gift in their will to support Byrd's research with the hope of helping future patients.

chemo treatments unless it became absolutely necessary."

It was not just Byrd's good news that satisfied the Filberts. It was the individualized attention and Byrd's easy demeanor that put them at ease. Sandy describes talking to Byrd is like chatting with a friend in the living room.

Upon learning that CLL ran in Dave's family, Byrd recommended that Dave's immediate relatives have blood samples taken routinely and be monitored by their primary care physicians. To date, Dave is the only one in his family living with this disease. Closely monitoring immediate relatives in a family with a history of CLL may provide Byrd with information that can help CLL patients or families in the future.

Today, Dave is on a new drug called IMBRUVICA® (ibrutinib) and has been since this recently FDA approved drug was a nameless drug in a clinical trial. Dave only qualified for this clinical trial after a different clinical trial was unsuccessful in treating his rapidly rising white blood cell count. IMBRUVICA® (ibrutinib) has reduced his count to 11,600, just barely above the normal range, and the drug causes very few side effects. This is a significant improvement since Dave started his journey through the ibrutinib clinical trial with a white blood count of 365,000.

"When sitting down to think about our wills, we wanted to leave something for our close friends and family, and to those charities we feel we owe our gratitude. And, well, we couldn't be any more grateful than we are to Ohio State and Dr. Byrd. When you see this kind of result, you know they're doing good things," says Sandy.

Don and Angie Ward:

Motivating Others to Join the Fight

“We contribute so they can cure,” says Don Ward. “That’s our philosophy.”

Don and his wife Angie Ward have been supporting The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center – Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital and Richard J. Solove Research Institute (OSUCCC – James) for more than 10 years, but in November 2015 they decided to take a new approach in honor of Giving Tuesday.

Giving Tuesday is a global day of generosity, celebrated on the first Tuesday after Thanksgiving. The concept, which kicked off in 2012, is a day when individuals, families and organizations come together to give back.

As passionate philanthropists in the fight against cancer, Don and Angie committed \$50,000 to match all gifts to the OSUCCC – James on Giving Tuesday. The Wards were delighted and surprised by the generosity their matching gift inspired. Excluding the Wards’ match, donors gave over \$150,000 in a single day, which is more than triple the amount raised for the OSUCCC – James during Giving Tuesday 2014.

“A lot of people don’t realize that \$20 or \$50 can multiply and make a difference. That’s what it’s all about,” says Angie.

“That \$20 makes a difference when it’s added with everyone else’s \$20. It all adds up.”

Don and Angie say that the Stefanie Spielman Fund for Breast Cancer Research inspired them to make their first gift to the OSUCCC – James.

“Our kids are about the same age as Chris and Stefanie, and we lived in a neighboring county. We’ve been following Chris’ career from the very beginning. We got to meet Stefanie on a tour of The James, and it was a special moment.”

The annual meeting of the Knox County Alumni Association was a turning point for Don and Angie’s philanthropy. There, they met renowned physician and professor David E. Schuller, MD. As director emeritus of the OSUCCC and CEO emeritus of The James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute, Dr. Schuller has been a leader in the fight against cancer for over four decades.

“Dr. Schuller came to the meeting to speak about cancer research and the great work being done at The James, and it struck a chord. I wanted to get involved,” says Don.

From there, Don contacted Dr. Schuller to find out what he and Angie could do to help. Among their gifts to the OSUCCC – James, Don and Angie made a gift as a tribute

to their daughter who passed away in 2010. The OSUCCC – James named the Kelly Ward Lancaster Care Team Education Center, located on the 21st floor of The James, to honor their gift. And the Ward family connection doesn’t end there.

“Our godson teaches in a fellowship program from that room, and we know it’s a very busy space,” says Don. “We wanted to create a living tribute, and a space for learning seemed fitting.”

Angie adds that they feel good about supporting the OSUCCC – James because, “You know the bulk of it is going to research. It all comes back to credibility. We trust them to use our gift properly, in a way that truly makes a difference.”

The Wards pause at the ribbon cutting for their named space in The James.



Enveloping Chemotherapy Patients In a Blanket of Care



“When you place the blanket on a patient, you can noticeably see their fear and anxiety go down several notches.”

— Andrea Linhart, BSN, RN, OCN,
OSUCCC – James Clinical Resource Unit Nurse and
founder of the patient blanket program

It’s well known that the nursing staff at The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center – Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital and Richard J. Solove Research Institute (OSUCCC – James) cares deeply about their oncology patients.

Now, nurses in the OSUCCC – James Clinical Resource Unit, 5 James Infusion and the Clinical Trials Unit are taking patient care to a whole new level of impact through a Blanket Project that creates and distributes blankets for new chemotherapy patients.

Inspiration for the project struck a decade ago as OSUCCC – James Clinical Resource Unit Nurse Andrea Linhart was driving in her car. “The idea seemed very divine and specific,” she recalls. “I realized that I wanted to make fleece blankets for our patients that said ‘Covering You with Care.’” While it took a number of years before Andrea and a dedicated team of other nurses, administrators and volunteers could pull together the resources to execute this vision, their dogged persistence and a supportive administration got the grassroots effort off the ground.

The project was challenging at first. The team held bake sales to collect money for the fabric and supplies; and, as Andrea describes, “It took us forever to make the blankets. We’d have to roll out the bolts of fabric and hand cut each of the little fringe pieces. We’d be so proud when we made a dozen in two hours.”

A fortuitous connection with L Brands—a longstanding partner to the OSUCCC – James, including through sponsorship of Pelotonia—led to much-needed donations of fabric and other assistance, thanks to Dean Jakobowski and his team in operations and logistics. Dean and his team worked with L Brands’ vendors to source materials that reflect Ohio State’s scarlet and gray colors and maintain a high quality of fleece, enabling what Dean describes as “maximum cuddle factor.”

Says Dean, “This project has a special place in our hearts. The idea is to provide intimate care for the patient. Outreach is a crucial part of L Brands culture, and the Blanket Project is exactly what my team and I want to be involved with.”

Indeed, the project helps to create a strong bond between a patient and his/her primary nurse, as the nurse presents the patient with the blanket and explains its significance. “When you place the blanket on a patient,” says Andrea, “you can noticeably see their fear and anxiety go down several notches.”

Leah Salyer, assistant nurse manager on the James Clinical Resource Unit, says that the experience is in line with the relationship-based model of care that OSUCCC – James nurses employ. “This model is about building relationships through care of self, care of colleagues, care of patients and care of community. This project has totally changed our organization.”

In addition to the embroidering of “Covering You with Care,” generously provided by Goodman Uniform at a reduced price, the blankets also have a tag that describes how the project “was born out of love and inspiration for our James oncology patients to show our devotion.”

The James Patient Experience department recruits volunteers to come in and assemble the blankets—a much

Right: OSUCCC – James Associate Chief Nursing Officer Jamie Tippett (center, with blanket), along with L Brands representative Dean Jakobowski and OSUCCC – James Nursing Staff during the initial roll out of the blankets and the first day of delivery to patients. Below: Volunteers (from left) Jane Thompson, Joyce Hallet, Judy Tuckerman, Lesley Sowle, Robin Porter and Jenn Loughnane display their completed blanket.

quicker and easier process now that L Brands donates pre-cut fabric. The Ohio State University men’s swim team, OSU students, a junior-high youth group, students from Capital University, and The James nursing staff are just some of the groups who have enjoyed the blanket assembly experience. Says Regina Wicks-Frank, volunteer program coordinator at The James, “The volunteers love doing it. Many of them are survivors. They’ve been through chemo and know what the process is like, and now they want to help other patients.”

Dean, whose team at L Brands has also assembled blankets, describes it as an “emotional, hands-on experience. Everybody can get involved, and there is more of a connection because of it. When you can give a little bit of yourself, it’s a little more special.”

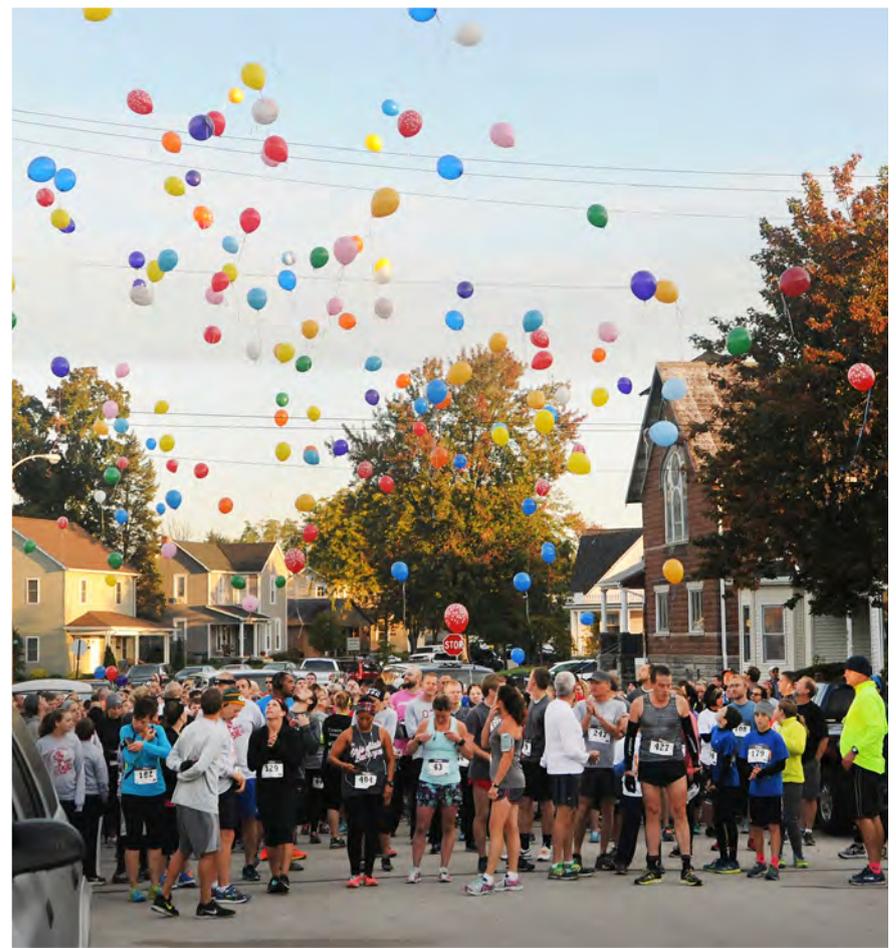


Community Partners

The OSUCCC – James Community Partners Program consists of corporations, individuals and community groups who raise funds in support of our vision to create a cancer-free world. From corporate initiatives to local events, our more than 400 Community Partners bring in significant dollars to further research, education and patient care at the OSUCCC – James. To learn more, please contact The James Development Office at 614-293-2120, communitypartnerevents@osumc.edu, or visit go.osu.edu/JamesCommunityPartners.

St. Marys Tailgate for Cancer

The town of St. Marys, Ohio, held its 7th Annual Tailgate for Cancer on October 9-10, 2015. The St. Marys Tailgate for Cancer is an annual event organized entirely by volunteers with support from generous sponsors and donors throughout the area. The 2015 two-day event raised \$105,000 to benefit the Buckeye Cruise for Cancer and the Urban and Shelley Meyer Fund for Cancer Research at the OSUCCC – James. The fun-filled weekend featured a Friday night kickoff party with bands and entertainment, a Saturday morning 5K run, and finally the main tailgate event with the Ohio State football game on the big screen, tailgate food and beverages, live music, and silent and live auctions. Of their event, St. Marys Tailgate for Cancer Committee Board of Trustees President Traci Lauth said, “We are all very passionate with our fight against cancer and truly believe that together we will win!” Dates for the 2016 event have been set for Oct. 14-15, 2016, for the OSU vs. Wisconsin game. Visit Tailgateforcancer.com to learn more.



Roosters Charitable Golf Outing

The 5th annual Roosters Charitable Golf Outing was held on Friday, Aug. 21, at The Golf Club of Dublin. According to Roosters President Dan Ponton, “Everybody that works at Roosters has been so fortunate in that business has been very good and we just want to be able to give some of that back to the community.” Their annual golf tournament is one way that they are able to give back. A great time was had by all who attended the event with an amazing turnout of loyal customers, friends and supporters. The full day on the course included an abundance of food and fun, along with giveaways, raffle and a silent auction. Roosters’ 2015 efforts raised a record \$115,000 to benefit the Urban and Shelley Meyer Fund for Cancer Research at the OSUCCC – James. The whole Roosters team gets involved with the event because, according to Ponton, “It’s not one person’s idea, it’s everybody in the Roosters organization, they want to give back. It’s kind of a corporate philosophy or a corporate culture; we just enjoy doing it.”



Buckeye Cruise for Cancer

The 9th Annual Buckeye Cruise for Cancer set sail from Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, February 20-25 aboard Royal Caribbean’s Navigator of the Seas, with stops in beautiful Labadee, Haiti, and Ocho Rios, Jamaica. More than 3,300 Buckeyes, including Coach Urban and Shelley Meyer and Dr. Michael Caligiuri were on board to raise funds for the Urban and Shelley Meyer Fund for Cancer Research at the OSUCCC – James. Highlights of this year’s cruise included on board talks from OSUCCC – James physicians and researchers, a 3 mile run/walk on Royal Caribbean’s private island Labadee, and a fun-filled night of Karaoke featuring some Buckeye greats! Each year the cruise sets a goal to purchase a piece of technology for The James through the Fund a Need Auction. This year, Buckeye

Cruisers raised more than \$350,000 to help purchase a QTOF LC-MS System for Improved Metabolomics Studies. The 2016 Buckeye Cruise raised more than \$1.5 million for the Urban and Shelley Meyer Fund for Cancer Research and the OSUCCC – James and since its inception the Buckeye Cruise for Cancer has raised nearly \$7 million for the OSUCCC – James. Dates have been set for the 10th Anniversary Buckeye Cruise for Cancer, February 25 – March 2, 2017. Visit BuckeyeCruise.com to learn more.



For more on our Community Partners, including upcoming events and promotions, and information about becoming a Community Partner, visit go.osu.edu/JamesCommunityPartners

James Ambassadors Society

The James Ambassadors Society is an action-oriented group that embraces education, awareness and engagement to help further our shared vision of creating a cancer-free world.

Actions of a James Ambassador

Advise

Teach

Encourage

Stimulate

Help

Listen

Enthuse

Entertain

Lead

Educate

Motivate

Study

Provide

Serve

Reassure

Manage

Love

Inspire

Plan

Excite

Support

*Each performed in an effort to
create a cancer-free world.*

Join the James Ambassadors Society!

Contact JamesAmbassadors@osumc.edu or call 614-685-5966.



Upcoming EVENTS

CELEBRATION FOR LIFE

May 14, 2016

**Smith & Wollensky
Easton Town Center
4145 The Strand West
Columbus, Ohio 43218
www.go.osu.edu/CelebrationForLife**

Celebration for Life is an annual event chaired by Judy and Steve Tuckerman. More than \$15.3 million has been raised for The James Fund for Life since it was established in 2002.

Benefiting the James Fund for Life

MOVEMMORE 5K & 1 MILE RUN/WALK (JAMES 5K RACE SERIES)

June 4, 2016

**Wolfe Park
105 Park Drive
Columbus, OH 43209
www.mmore.org/MoveMMORE/Columbus/2016.html**

MoveMMORE is a family-friendly, community-wide event open to runners and walkers of all abilities.

Benefiting Multiple Myeloma research at the OSUCCC – James

THE JACK ROTH ROCK & RUN/WALK (JAMES 5K RACE SERIES)

June 5, 2016

**Bexley, Ohio
www.jackrothfund.com**

Enjoy the historical brick streets of beautiful Bexley for the 11th annual race. Be sure to peruse the many offerings at the vendor marketplace before or after your run.

Benefiting lung cancer research at the OSUCCC – James

INAUGURAL LUNG CANCER AWARENESS POKER RUN

June 25, 2016 | 9 a.m.

**Harry Buffalo
6150 Sunbury Road
Westerville, Ohio 43081
www.jackrothfund.com**

This event will host live entertainment, food, silent auction and 50/50 raffle. For more information, contact Katherine.hughes@osumc.edu.

Benefiting the Blue Beautiful Skies Lung Cancer Research Fund at the OSUCCC – James

CLUNGER BEATS 5000 (JAMES 5K RACE SERIES)

August 28, 2016 | 10 a.m.

**Ohio Stadium
411 Woody Hayes Drive
Columbus, OH
CLungerbeats5000.com**

An event to honor the memory of Cory Lunger and raise much-needed funding for acute lymphoblastic leukemia. The day includes a raffle, DJ and OSU fans coming together to support the fight.

Benefiting Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (ALL) research at the OSUCCC – James

PELTONIA 16

August 5-7, 2016

**Various Routes Between
Columbus and Gambier
Pelotonia.org**

Find more information and register to ride, virtually ride or volunteer at Pelotonia.org.

Benefiting cancer research at the OSUCCC – James



HERBERT J. BLOCK MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT

September 12, 2016

**Scioto Country Club
Columbus, OH
go.osu.edu/blockmemorialtournament**

Since its inception in 1982, the tournament has raised more than \$5 million for Ohio State's cancer program.

Benefiting the OSUCCC – James cancer program

STEPS FOR SARCOMA (JAMES 5K RACE SERIES)

September 18, 2016

**Chemical Abstracts Service
2540 Olentangy River Road
Columbus, OH 43202
StepsforSarcomaevent.com**

More than 1,200 participants gather to support this annual walk/run, a family and pet-friendly event Steps for Sarcoma has become the largest run/walk in the nation for sarcoma support.

Benefiting the Steps for Sarcoma Walk/Run fund at the OSUCCC – James

COLUMBUS DONUT RUN (JAMES 5K RACE SERIES)

October 30, 2016

**Genoa Park
Columbus, OH
Joansfoundation.org/donutrun**

Participants can enjoy donut holes at every kilometer, and donuts and Starbucks coffee at the finish line.

Benefiting head and neck cancer research at the OSUCCC – James

Read *impactCancer* online and find out more about the inspiring philanthropy happening at the OSUCCC – James by visiting

cancer.osu.edu/waystogive



The James



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The James



The moment...

You realize your bike carries more than just your story.

PELTONIA 16 → AUGUST 5-7, 2016

100% OF THE DOLLARS RAISED BY RIDERS BENEFITS CANCER RESEARCH AT OHIO STATE.

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