

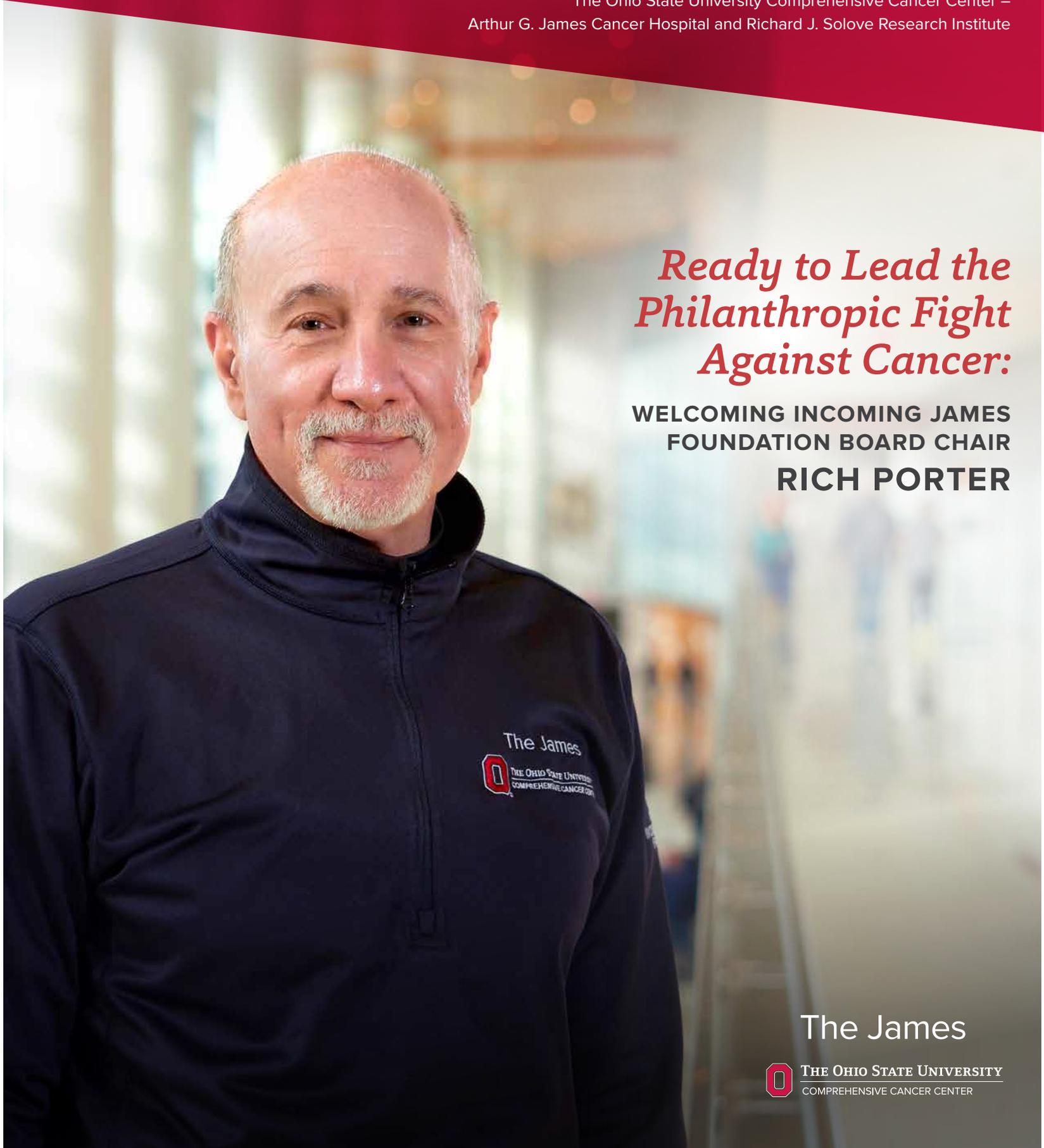
impactCancer

CREATE A CANCER-FREE WORLD WITH US

The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center –
Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital and Richard J. Solove Research Institute

*Ready to Lead the
Philanthropic Fight
Against Cancer:*

**WELCOMING INCOMING JAMES
FOUNDATION BOARD CHAIR
RICH PORTER**



The James

 THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
COMPREHENSIVE CANCER CENTER

IN THIS ISSUE

WINTER 2019
EDITION

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The James

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Welcome

Welcome to our freshly updated *impactCancer*. Starting with this winter 2019 issue, you'll find more visual storytelling and features than before, but all are delivered in the same spirit of celebrating the remarkable generosity, hard work and dedication of our donors and friends.

In this issue you'll learn about some of the incredible cancer research made possible by philanthropy. We'll also introduce you to incoming James Foundation Board Chair Rich Porter, whose passion for supporting the OSUCCC – James vision of creating a cancer-free world was ignited by his participation in the inaugural Pelotonia in 2009. Additionally, this issue highlights philanthropic champions who make our work possible through community partner and fundraising events.

We hope you will enjoy reading the newest *impactCancer* and that you will share our excitement over the good things in store for our cancer program in 2019 as we continue working to assist all who turn to us for help and hope. Thank you for your continued support.

William B. Farrar

William Farrar, MD
Interim CEO, James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute



R. E. Pollock

Raphael Pollock, MD, PhD
Director, The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center



Region's First Proton Therapy Facility to Treat Cancer Patients

The OSUCCC – James and The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center are collaborating with Nationwide Children's Hospital (NCH) to bring the first proton therapy treatment facility to central Ohio.

The new proton center, which will be located at the new 340,000-square-foot outpatient facility planned for Ohio State's west campus, will offer state-of-the-art radiation oncology treatment for adult and pediatric cancer patients at one location. The center, to be managed by radiation oncology experts from The James, is targeted to open in 2021.

Proton therapy is an advanced type of radiation treatment that uses protons (positively charged particles) instead of X-rays to kill cancer cells. A machine painlessly delivers a high-energy proton beam through the skin from outside the body.

"As central and southern Ohio's only National Cancer Institute-designated comprehensive cancer center, we have a duty to bring advanced, evidence-based treatment options like proton therapy to the region for the benefit of patients who need this type of subspecialized care," says William Farrar, MD, interim chief executive officer of The James.

This therapy can be used alone or in combination with other therapies to treat several localized cancers, including prostate, brain, head and neck, lung, spine and gastrointestinal cancers in adults, as well as brain cancer, lymphoma, retinoblastomas and sarcomas in children.

"It's important to note that traditional targeted radiation therapy techniques are still highly effective for many solid tumors, but proton therapy is an exciting new option for localized tumors. It allows us to deliver the highest concentration of treatment directly to cancerous tissue while sparing delicate surrounding tissue that, if damaged as a side effect of cancer treatment, could result in quality-of-life-impacting toxicity," says Arnab Chakravarti, MD, chair of the Department of Radiation Oncology at Ohio State.

The proton therapy facility will occupy approximately 55,000 square feet of the new outpatient facility and will cost about \$100 million. NCH has committed to provide up to half of the expected cost.

Not only will the proton facility enable patients in the region to receive this subspecialized treatment closer to home, but it will also spark research, clinical trials and academic partnerships that will lead to improved cancer care.

72-Bed Expansion Project Complete

The 72-bed expansion of shelled space in The James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute is complete. This expansion increases the number of cancer and noncancer critical care and acute medical-surgical care/progressive ICU care beds, giving patients greater access to services. With this expansion, The James has 344 total cancer inpatient beds and continues to be the country's third-largest cancer hospital.

Among the features on the new units are electronic white boards in patient rooms and digital signage outside the rooms. The digital door signage will display important patient and staffing information and safety factors. The electronic white boards will display general patient and staffing information along with daily goals, activities, pain management, allergies and discharge goals for the patient. The digital signage is designed to enhance the level of patient care and improve patient and staff communication.

Lapalombella Appointed as Pelotonia Fellowship Program Director

Rosa Lapalombella, PhD, has been named as the new director of the Pelotonia Fellowship Program (PFP), which provides funding that enables Ohio State students in any discipline and at all levels of scholarship to conduct cancer research in the labs of faculty mentors.

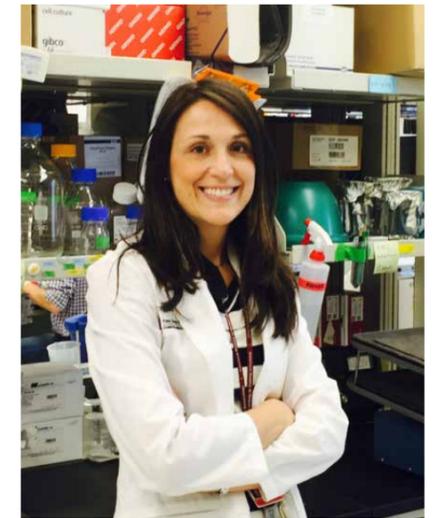
Lapalombella, an associate professor in the Division of Hematology at Ohio State and member of the Leukemia Research Program at the OSUCCC – James, succeeds former PFP Director Joanna Groden, PhD, who is now vice chancellor for research at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

In announcing Lapalombella's appointment, OSUCCC Director Raphael Pollock, MD, PhD, and OSUCCC Deputy Director Peter Shields, MD, described her as a highly skilled and much-respected scientist whose lab team is dedicated to identifying therapies for hematologic malignancies—including acute myeloid leukemia, chronic lymphocytic leukemia

and non-Hodgkin lymphoma—that arise from nongenetic influences on gene expression. Her team also focuses on developing therapies for patients with sickle cell anemia and Richter syndrome.

Pollock and Shields also noted that Lapalombella has a history of mentorship; she has mentored a number of fellows and junior faculty in obtaining career-enhancement grants. Her students and postdoctoral fellows have received scholarships and awards to support their salaries. "We believe this experience puts her in a position to effectively mentor a wide range of trainees in her new role as PFP director," they stated.

In this role, Lapalombella will oversee the peer-review process used to evaluate student applications for Pelotonia fellowships and identify those with the highest scientific merit for funding. As a component of the OSUCCC – James Intramural Research Program, the PFP has trained many students to become independent



Rosa Lapalombella, PhD

cancer researchers under the guidance of Ohio State faculty. Since 2010, the program has invested more than \$15 million of funds generated by Pelotonia in fellowships for 484 cancer research projects undertaken by students across multiple colleges at Ohio State, including 223 undergraduates, 143 graduates, 112 postdoctoral fellows and six professional students.

James Sickle Cell Program Gains Nation's Only Joint Commission Disease-Specific Certification

The Sickle Cell Program at the OSUCCC – James recently received the nation's only disease-specific certification for sickle cell from The Joint Commission following a two-day on-site survey that yielded no findings. The certification is typically valid for up to two years.

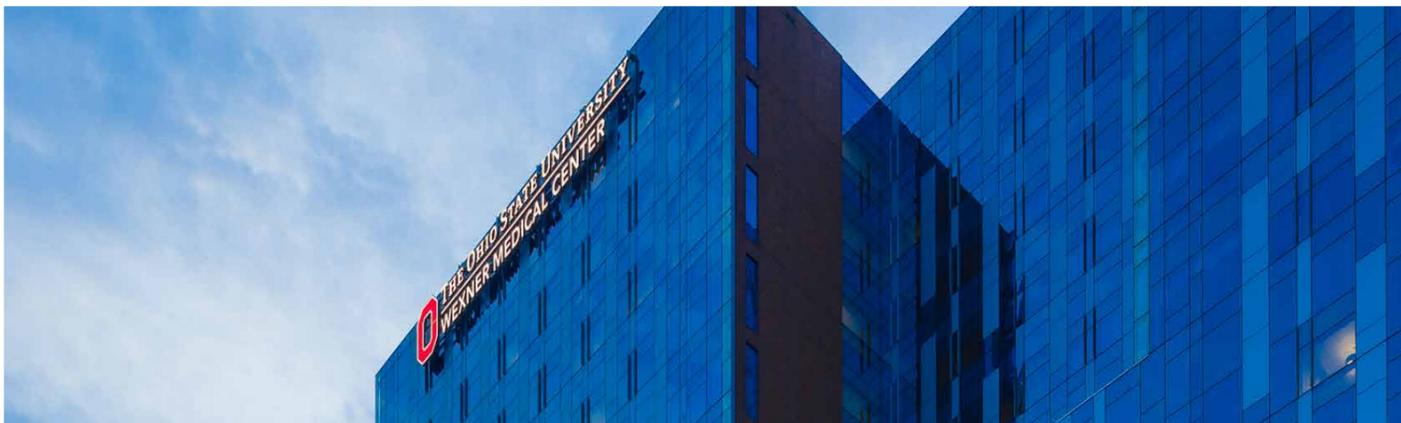
According to The Joint Commission website, the Disease-Specific Care certification program evaluates clinical programs across the continuum for compliance with Joint Commission requirements. Organizations seeking certification are examined during an onsite survey by reviewers who assess how clinical outcomes and other performance measures are used to identify opportunities for improving care, whether organization leaders commit to improving quality of care, how patients and caregivers are



educated and prepared for discharge, and whether evidence-based guidelines for clinical care are incorporated into daily practice.

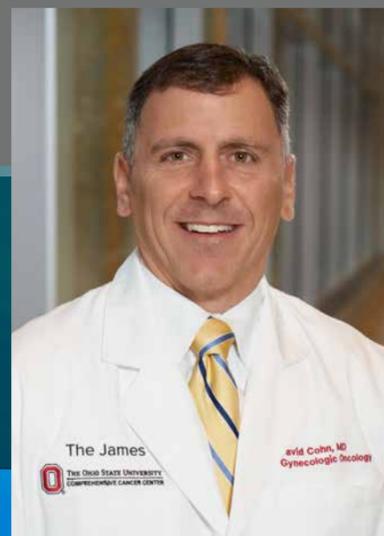
"I can't express enough my excitement for the program, staff and most importantly our patients," wrote **Stephanie Cottrill, MHA, BSN, RN**, nurse manager for 21 James and interim director of accreditation and compliance at the OSUCCC – James.

Payal Desai, MD, associate professor in the Division of Hematology and director of the Ohio State Adult Sickle Cell Program, also expressed excitement and gratitude. "This is an incredible moment not just for The James, but for the entire sickle cell community," Desai says. "We get to set the example nationally to move the field forward."



PITCHING PHILANTHROPIC GIVING AT THE OSUCCC – JAMES:

DR. DAVID COHN



David Cohn, MD, chief medical officer at the James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute, is an avid cyclist and athlete. It's apt then, that he uses a sports analogy to explain his new leadership position as medical director of philanthropy at the OSUCCC – James.



“In baseball, the pitching coach strategizes how to put the right pitcher on the mound in the right situation,” Cohn says. “We have an outstanding cadre of physicians on our team, and my job is to help put them in the game to explain the great work we’re doing and inspire others to support this work.”

to improve the standard of care and save lives.

What motivates Cohn to take on new challenges is simple.

“The greatest joy for me is taking care of patients, and everything else I’ve done—the research and the leadership roles—comes from that,” he says. “Our vision is to create a cancer-free world; that’s what drives me.”

sibilities, as well as demonstrating the importance of finding time to exercise, engage in outside-work activities, meditate and spend quality time with family, friends and colleagues.

“This level of support is necessary for our remarkable team to continue delivering the high quality of care for which The James is known,” he says, adding that maintaining physician wellness partly involves a shift in habits. “When you start your job, after your residency or fellowship, all you know how to do is work 80 hours a week. Trying to find that sweet spot between your professional and personal life is difficult. It took me several years to figure it out.”

Cohn has found that sweet spot with the help of cycling. “Cycling has changed my life for the better,” he reflects. “I’m in much better shape physically, which is so important, and mentally. It keeps me sharp, it’s my form of meditation and it allows me to more effectively care for my patients.”

In this new role, Cohn says he will “connect with members of the community to give them a better understanding of what we do in terms of our research and patient-care priorities.”

Two of the more immediate research priorities, Cohn says, are creating an institute of immuno-oncology that will be a world leader and change the way cancer is treated, and developing a cancer engineering center. Longer-term plans include an onco-geriatrics center and a cancer prevention center.

Cohn’s new duties also include explaining the value of giving to programs that support patients at all stages of their cancer journeys—such as psychosocial oncology, oncology rehabilitation, palliative medicine, survivorship programs and JamesCare for Life. “These are often programs that don’t pay for themselves but are vital to the long-term quality of life of our patients,” he says.

In addition to his new title, Cohn directs the Division of Gynecologic Oncology at Ohio State. This skilled surgeon also treats patients, and he is involved in cutting-edge research at the OSUCCC – James. He co-leads the Ohio Prevention and Treatment of Endometrial Cancer (OPTEC), a statewide program funded by Pelotonia that provides genetic testing to Ohio women diagnosed with endometrial (uterine) cancer and members of their families. The goal is

As chief medical officer at The James, Cohn makes physician wellness—an often-overlooked facet of medicine—one of his top priorities. “Our culture at The James is to take care of patients, each other and ourselves, but taking care of ourselves can fall by the wayside with a remarkable team of physicians and staff who sacrifice themselves for their patients on a daily basis,” says Cohn.

Focusing on physician wellness is critical for a myriad of reasons. Physicians who provide cancer care can experience higher rates of burnout. From working tirelessly to deliver patient care, having to deliver bad news and frequently dealing

It’s also another way Cohn personally contributes toward the OSUCCC – James vision of a cancer-free world. He has ridden in all 10 of the Pelotonia cycling events that have taken place since 2009—events that have collectively raised more than \$184 million for cancer research at Ohio State. Further demonstrating his athleticism, he recently traveled to France and climbed several of the most challenging cols (mountain passes) of the Alps.

As medical director of philanthropy, Cohn takes on a new challenge: deepening connections between the OSUCCC – James, the central Ohio community and beyond. “Once you

“Once you share with people the life-changing research and the holistic and compassionate care being delivered here, the enthusiasm is contagious.”

with suffering, these physicians can find themselves in need of improved work/life balance so they can continue to provide the highest levels of compassionate care.

“It’s imperative that our physicians take care of themselves,” says Cohn, noting that those efforts will entail making some adjustments in logistical respon-

share with people the life-changing research and the holistic and compassionate care being delivered here, the enthusiasm is contagious. They want to do what they can to support the vision of creating a cancer-free world,” he says. “It makes engaging people to be a part of the ‘James team’ an absolute pleasure. The key to this type of career is to love what you do.”

New Onco-Palliative Clinic Transforming Symptom Management for Patients with Cancer:

A GENEROUS DONOR *Makes the Difference*

Ever committed to delivering the highest quality patient care, The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center – James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute (OSUCCC – James) recently opened a new Onco-Palliative Clinic—a first-of-its-kind pilot study that is already transforming the way lung cancer patients’ symptoms are managed.

The clinic focuses on improving quality of life for patients, who often experience symptoms like anxiety, fatigue, depression, loss of appetite and pain because of their cancer and the side effects of treatment. By incorporating palliative

medicine into lung cancer patients’ regular oncology appointments, experts in symptom relief are able to work side by side with oncologists to address the holistic needs of the patient in one seamless appointment. And thanks to a generous gift from longtime OSUCCC – James donor Vicky Lippert, the clinic will be studied to ensure it is sustainable and translatable to other cancers.

Vicky, an Ashland, Ohio, native who has given nearly \$250,000 to lung cancer research at the OSUCCC – James, was honored in September 2018 during the Onco-Palliative ribbon-cutting ceremony. She understands the importance of the clinic firsthand, having lost her husband Larry Lippert to lung cancer in 2007. Even her years of working as a nurse at Ohio State’s medical center couldn’t have prepared her for the challenges of taking care of a terminally ill spouse. “I can’t change my husband’s outcome, but maybe we can change the outcome for other people,” Vicky says.

Vicky was already a strong supporter of the OSUCCC – James, especially through her gift to create the Larry L. and Vicky L. Lippert Lung Cancer Endowment Fund for Early Detection and Prevention to honor her husband’s memory in 2016. When she learned about the need for funding for the

Onco-Palliative Clinic, she jumped at the chance to make a major gift that will prove the return on investment of this palliative care model over time.

The idea for the clinic was inspired by Carolyn Presley, MD, MHS, assistant professor of medical oncology specializing in the treatment of older adults with advanced lung cancer. Before being recruited to the OSUCCC – James last year, she experienced the benefits of an oncology-palliative care model at the VA Connecticut Healthcare System, where she did her clinical rotation following her training at the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth and Yale School of Medicine. At the VA, she saw patients with a palliative care nurse practitioner whose expertise helped ease patients’ symptoms. “It was wonderful because the palliative care team has expertise that really augments the cancer care patients are getting,” says Presley.

Knowing that she could help start a similar clinic at the OSUCCC – James contributed to Presley’s decision to join Ohio State’s faculty this past year. “When I interviewed, I met Dr. Ellin Gafford, the division director of palliative medicine, and I told her about the model I was currently practicing in and the need for co-management. She was totally on board, and that was one of the deciding factors in coming to Ohio State. I knew there would be a collaborative environment.”

That collaborative environment includes thoracic oncology leaders who have supported the clinic’s mission, as well as a team of researchers, clinicians,

clinic managers, nursing staff and pharmacists. In particular, the clinic was made possible with support from David Carbone, MD, PhD, director of The James Thoracic Oncology Center, Erin Bertino, MD, thoracic oncologist, and Christy Eastep, BSN, clinic manager.

All of this adds up to better care for patients with lung cancer, who are now seen by a palliative care expert during their regular oncology appointment—with no need to make a separate appointment or travel to another location. It’s one-stop care.

First, Presley or Bertino sees the patient and addresses their cancer treatment. The physician also asks some preliminary questions about how the patient is feeling and shares that information with Julia Agne, MD, who comes in next and delves deeper into the patient’s symptoms. Sometimes Presley and Agne see a patient together—especially if there is a difficult conversation about a change in the cancer. “The patient may walk out with treatments and medicine adjustments from one or both of us, and we know exactly what the other person is recommending and saying,” says Presley. “It makes it much more consistent for the patients.”

It may sound intuitive, but the OSUCCC – James is one of only a few cancer centers in the nation employing this collaborative approach to oncologic and palliative care. “Our patients are really satisfied because they can accomplish a lot in one trip to The James. They’re getting my cancer expertise, but they’re also getting symptom

collaborations and federal grants, and already we’re helping the sarcoma and breast cancer groups to pilot this in their clinics as well.”

It’s easy to imagine that Vicky’s late husband—a businessman known for his quiet generosity to those in need—would have approved of her support. “Larry’s philosophy was that helping someone

“My philanthropy and my heart are here at The James.”

management expertise,” says Presley. She is grateful to Vicky Lippert for supporting the research that will ensure this model is sustainable.

“A few institutions have tried similar models and found them not to be sustainable, but it’s unclear why because they weren’t studying the model in a rigorous way,” says Presley, who will study the OSUCCC – James’ model with co-principal investigator Erin Bertino, MD. “That’s why it’s so important that Vicky Lippert is supporting research. Her seed funding will lead to more

in need may not change your life, but it might change theirs. That’s something I have passed on to our children and grandchildren,” Vicky says.

At the ribbon-cutting ceremony (pictured above), Vicky and her family met with Presley, Agne, Bertino, Gafford and the other staff members running the clinic. “I am super impressed with everyone I’ve met—their genuineness and caring and how grateful they are. And I am grateful for them! My philanthropy and my heart are here at The James.”



In addition to her support for the OSUCCC – James, Vicky is an avid Buckeye fan and steadfast supporter of the Department of Athletics.



Pelotonia Ends First Decade With RECORD - BREAKING RIDE



Doug Ulman got a bit emotional as he surveyed the crowd gathered around him at the recent Pelotonia Check Celebration.

“You have changed the landscape of cancer research,” said the three-time cancer survivor and the president/CEO of Pelotonia, the organization that raises money for cancer research at the OSUCCC – James.

“There are people alive today because of you.”

Minutes later, Pelotonia revealed the 2018 fundraising total: a record \$27.4 million that raised the 10-year total to an amazing \$184 million.

“We see the impact every day, and every dollar we raise has a tremendous impact on saving lives and curing cancer,” says William Farrar, MD, interim CEO of the James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute.

Farrar has been a Pelotonia rider since the inaugural edition in 2009.

“I’m not a fast rider,” he says. “So, I meet and talk to a lot of people and hear their stories while we ride. It’s so touching to hear all these stories and to know you’re riding and raising money for something that has an impact on all these people’s lives.”

It wasn’t a given back in 2009 that thousands and thousands of riders, virtual riders, volunteers and donors would embrace the new cycling event.

“The word I use is ‘audacity,’” Ulman told a group of 10-year Pelotonia participants at the celebration. “To show up 10 years ago and participate in something that didn’t have a track record ... and to believe in something brand new and to keep coming back year after year is so amazing. You have transformed the field of cancer research.”

Every dollar raised by Pelotonia riders and virtual riders funds cancer research at the OSUCCC – James, supporting six major areas:

- **Idea Grants:** These peer-reviewed grants have been awarded to 145 OSUCCC – James research teams.
- **Pelotonia Fellowship Program:** Almost 500 undergraduate, graduate, medical school and postdoc students have received these fellowships.
- **Recruitment:** Pelotonia funds have helped bring 141 junior and senior investigators to the OSUCCC – James.
- **Instruments of Discovery:** Funds are used to purchase state-of-the-art equipment necessary for cutting-edge cancer research.
- **Statewide Initiatives:** Pelotonia has funded three statewide clinical research studies on colorectal cancer, lung cancer and endometrial cancer.
- **Strategic Research Investments:** Pelotonia-funded research programs include the Drug Development Institute and the Digital Pathology initiative.

Pelotonia’s 2018 event included a record number of riders (8,470) and volunteers (3,057).

“Everyone is so passionate about Pelotonia because everyone is connected in some way to cancer,” says Chris Scarcello, director of research operations at the OSUCCC – James and a 10-year Pelotonia rider. “We’re blessed to live in a community that is so generous and committed and rallied around Pelotonia.”

This sense of community drew in Stephen Steinour, president and CEO of Columbus-based bank Huntington, which is one of Pelotonia’s major funding partners. This generous funding support enables every dollar raised by Pelotonia riders and virtual riders to go toward cancer research at the OSUCCC – James.

“This community was ready for something like Pelotonia because we’re lucky to have The James here, and because one in three women and one in two men will be diagnosed with cancer,” Steinour says.

“Pelotonia created an outpouring of support,” he adds, “and the way they set it up made everyone feel so welcome and part of this amazing community.”

“[Pelotonia is] one of the best weekends of the year, every year. It’s a very uplifting experience to meet so many people and hear their stories and to see all the signs that say, ‘I’m cured because of The James,’ or ‘The James saved

my wife’s life.’ That’s very emotional, and all these connections and experiences are why Pelotonia keeps building and growing and getting better every year.”

\$27.4M
raised in 2018

\$184M
raised over 10 years



Improved Survival:

Lung Cancer Prevention and Treatment Efforts at The James

As lung cancer continues to claim tens of thousands of lives each year, our researchers remain focused on treatment innovation and prevention efforts that can improve outcomes for today's patients while reducing cases in the future.

The nation's leading cause of cancer-related deaths in the United States (approximately 165,000 per year), lung cancer is the second most commonly diagnosed form of the disease; around 266,000 new American cases were expected in 2018. Of those cases, 80 to 90 percent will be linked to smoking, according to the Centers for Disease Control.

Despite these daunting numbers, progress in lung cancer care is underway, with researchers hard at work developing new therapies while doctors promote screening and healthy habits to prevent people from becoming patients.

Early Detection

Early detection—which can reduce the mortality rate by 20 percent, according to national studies—is the goal of the OSUCCC – James Lung Cancer Screening Clinic, which performs screenings for at-risk patients.

At-risk patients are men and women, ages 55 to 77, who have smoked at least two packs per day for 15 years, or one pack per day for 30 years, as well as ex-smokers with similar smoking histories who have quit within the past 15 years.

“There are so many benefits to catching it early,” says Michael Wert, MD, director of the OSUCCC – James’ Lung Cancer Screening Clinic and a member of the Division of Pulmonary, Critical Care and Sleep Medicine at Ohio State.

Many healthcare plans cover these screenings. For those that don't, and for people without health coverage, the OSUCCC – James has a program to help offset the costs.

“Our goal is to make lung cancer screenings as well-known as mammograms and colonoscopies,” Wert says. “Screenings are so important—they save lives.”

Beating Lung Cancer in Ohio

The Beating Lung Cancer in Ohio (BLC-IO) initiative is a cutting-edge program aimed at saving and extending lives in the Buckeye State through prevention and clinical trials.

“About 2,300 lung cancer patients in Ohio will be part of this program,” says Peter Shields, MD, deputy director of the OSUCCC and a lead investigator of the BLC-IO.

All the patients in BLC-IO have Stage 4 lung cancer—a status that, among the general population, comes with a median life expectancy of four to six months. That span rises to 10 to 12 months for patients enrolled in clinical trials.

About **2,300** lung cancer patients in Ohio will be part of the BLC-IO.

“About 25 to 30 percent of these patients could have a genetic mutation that can be treated by a drug already approved by the FDA, or they could be enrolled in a clinical trial,” Shields says. “This will add two or three years to their lives, and by then, new drugs and clinical trials could extend their lives even longer.”



Lung Cancer AT-A-GLANCE

165,000 deaths per year

266,000 new American cases were expected in 2018

80-90% of these cases will be linked to smoking

A smoking cessation program for the patients with Stage 4 lung cancer also will be part of BLC-IO.

“Smoking is the number-one risk factor for lung cancer,” Wert says.

Immunotherapy

There were few active therapies for lung cancer when David Carbone, MD, PhD, began his medical career in the mid '80s, says the now-director of the James Thoracic Oncology Center. “There was some chemotherapy available, but back then it wasn't even offered to most lung cancer patients because the survival prolongation was so short and the side effects so severe.”

Now, thanks in large part to researchers like Carbone, there are more and more chemotherapy options for lung cancer patients that target specific mutations. The next step is immunotherapy, a process that reinvigorates the body's immune system to help it detect and kill cancer cells.

“It was found that an important immunologic checkpoint was PD-L1,” Carbone says. “It acts like a force field around the cancer cell. If you have a drug that blocks PD-L1, a checkpoint inhibitor, it allows the immune system to see and kill cancer.”

Around 25-30 percent of Carbone's lung cancer patients have tumors with a high expression of PD-L1. “The response [to treatment] is 45-50 percent in the patients with the highest PD-L1 markers, which means shrinkage or total elimination of the tumors.”

Early detection can reduce the mortality rate by **20%**

Risk Levels

HIGH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 55-74 years old • 30 or more pack years of smoking • Quit smoking less than 15 years ago
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over 55 years old • 20 or more pack years of smoking • Other risk factor(s) (other than second-hand smoke)
MODERATE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over 50 years old • 20 or more pack years of smoking or contact with second-hand smoke • No other risk factors
LOW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less than 50 years old and/or • Less than 20 pack years of smoking

STOVER LAB LIFTOFF:

Year One of a Cancer Research Lab at the OSUCCC – James

DANIEL STOVER, MD

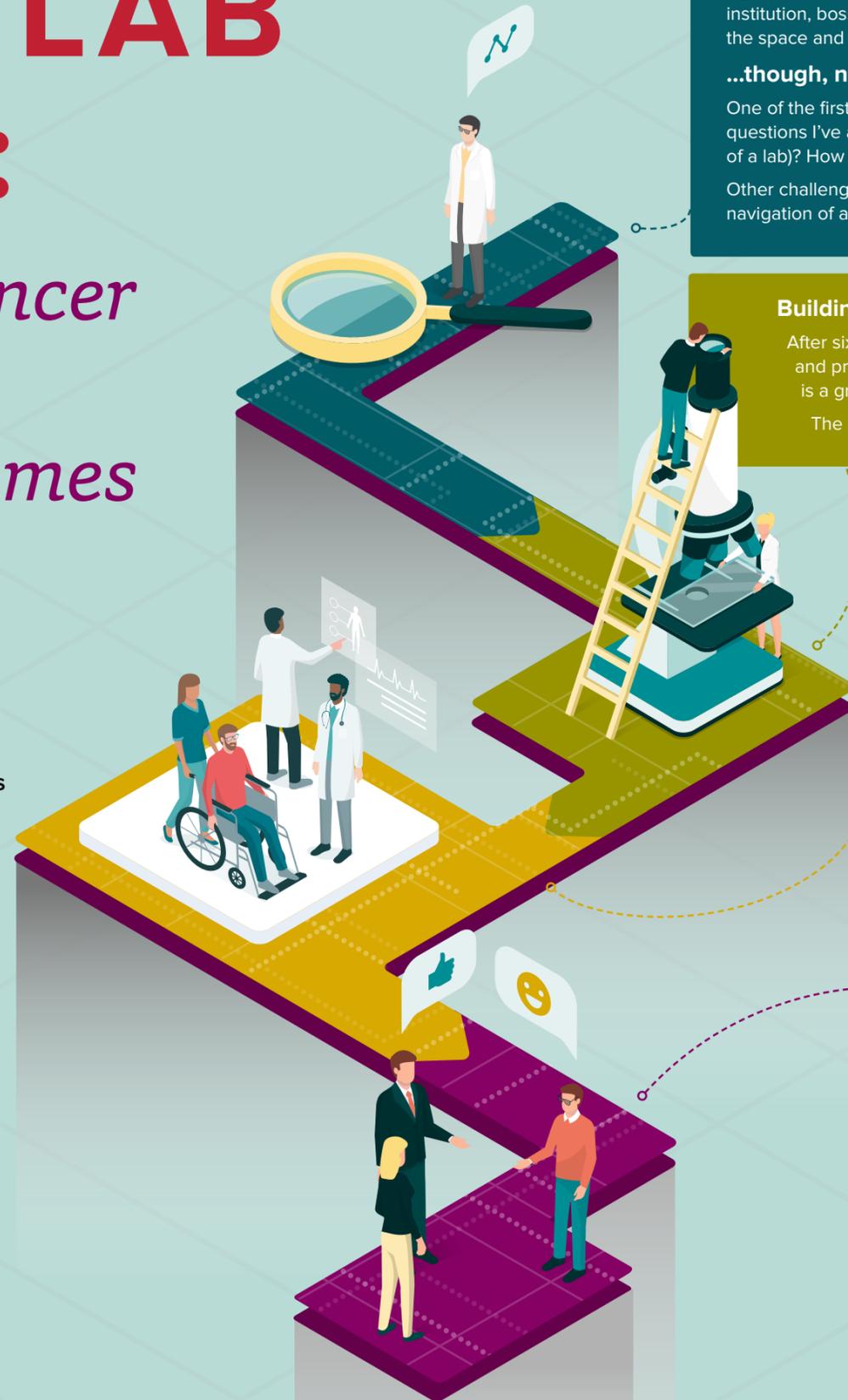
Experts at the OSUCCC – James are teaming up to take on cancer through dedicated groups focused on core components of care and research.

These teams—called “labs”—are made up of specialists in disease, research and/or treatment types working closely together to provide the best cancer care for today’s patients while striving to improve therapies and reduce incidence in the future.

My lab focuses on clinical computational oncology, the application of computational approaches to leverage available and potential data from tumor genomic profiling to improve outcomes.

To mark the lab’s one-year anniversary at the OSUCCC – James, join me for a quick look at how we grew from a team of one to a group of smart, talented people working every day to help create a cancer-free world through innovative research.

Here’s the story of year one of the Stover Lab.



Starting out on the right foot...

My decision to come to the OSUCCC – James was heavily influenced by the knowledge that my new institution, bosses and colleagues had a clear vision for me. This shared direction helped me secure the space and clinical responsibilities that allowed me to establish and operate my lab.

...though, not without some struggles

One of the first things I learned—and still struggle with—is that imposter syndrome is real. Among the questions I’ve asked myself: Do I really deserve to be a principal investigator (or “PI,” the lead scientist of a lab)? How can I compete with other teams? How will I ever get all of this done?

Other challenges included prioritization (grants vs. papers, team management vs. hands-on work) and the navigation of a new institution and its staff and systems. Oh, and I still had to build my team.



Building a lab team is hard

After six months, I was still a one-man lab, but it turned out great. I stayed productive by writing grants, finishing papers and providing patient care while taking the time to properly put together a team dedicated to a shared vision. The result is a group made up of stellar, hard-working people.

The bottom line: it’s ok to go slow while growing a lab.

Patient care is also a team effort

Patient care is very important to me, and I could never combine my clinical and lab work without my amazing team, both in the Stover Lab and throughout the OSUCCC – James. How do they help? Every lab member shadows in clinic, and members of the clinic team discuss our work and share in our successes.

The work-life balancing act

The hardest but best part of year one has been balancing the work schedules of two doctors with new jobs—my wife is also a physician—while spending time with each other and our two wonderful kids, along with the responsibilities of home ownership (spoiler: I’m not handy).

In a world of A+ parents, it can be hard not to feel like a C-, but we’ve made it work by partnering together, leaning on others (grandparents, babysitters, friends) and letting go of the pursuit of perfect parenting. We have a bazillion years of education, but our 3-year-old never made it to consecutive swimming lessons. Hey, there’s always next year!

Mentors meant a lot

I sought guidance and advice from lots of mentors during the lab’s first year, including a senior PI and other young PIs and MDs, along with a science coach. With the help of these peers and voices of experience, I was able to avoid the “going it alone” feeling while getting started.

Final thoughts

- I love my family. Making them my first priority has kept me upright.
- I love my job.
- I love my team.
- Always bet on yourself.
- I’m not there yet, but I’m on my way.



Central Ohio native Daniel Stover, MD, is a medical oncologist at the OSUCCC – James who specializes in the treatment and research of breast cancer. Follow him on Twitter @StoverLab to stay up-to-date on his work.



A million-dollar milestone and the amazing life that inspired it:

THE JOAN BISESI FUND

for Head and Neck Cancer Research

Mira Bisesi is the spitting image of her mother—from her beautiful smile to her down-to-earth personality. Sadly, the 17-year-old shared only 10 weeks with her mother, Joan Bisesi, who passed away from a recurrence of head and neck cancer in 2001 at age 34. “You know that personality traits are passed on genetically when you see someone who never really got to know her mom turn out to be so much like her,” says Phil Bisesi, Mira’s father.



Mira Bisesi and her father, Phil Bisesi

By all accounts of Joan’s tremendously giving spirit, the similarity to her mother bodes well for Mira. “She was a caring, unselfish person. And a lot of fun,” says Joan’s father, Ed Levy. Joan’s legacy of generosity lives on through the fund she and Phil started with the OSUCCC – James during her treatment.

Pregnant with Mira at the time, Joan had urged her family and friends to donate to research instead of sending flowers to her hospital room, saying, “I love flowers and cards, but I would rather be cured and be able to see the

flowers at Mira’s wedding than to see them now.” This past summer, the Joan Bisesi Fund for Head and Neck Cancer Research reached \$1 million—an incredible milestone that the family hopes the fund will reach many times over in the future.

A life full of promise, cut short

Joan’s cancer journey began with a trip to the dentist. She’d put off the appointment, fearing she would need to have her wisdom teeth removed. The dentist flagged a canker sore as suspicious and sent her to an oral surgeon for a biopsy. At age 29, she was diagnosed with squamous cell carcinoma.

Following a surgical procedure to remove a small portion of her tongue and some work with a speech pathologist, Joan’s life returned to normal. She went back to work as a corporate educator

and met attorney Phil Bisesi through a mutual friend. The two hit it off right away and married in 1999, settling down in the Columbus suburb of Bexley. Their newlywed bliss was cut short when, in 2000, Joan learned her cancer had returned. David Schuller, MD, then the chair of the Department of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery at The Ohio State University, CEO of The James and Joan’s surgical oncologist, waited until Joan and Phil had returned from a dream trip to Italy to share the terrible news.

In the following months and year, Joan, her family and her tight-knit group of friends were quickly introduced to the devastation of head and neck cancer. Joan endured numerous procedures, including a surgery to place a part of her fibula in her jaw, and she never complained. “Head and neck cancer affects a person’s appearance, their ability to eat and to speak,” says Lee Levy, Joan’s mother. “It’s hard to think of what Joan went through—and the pain and discomfort connected to it.”

While undergoing treatment, Joan learned she was pregnant. She was overjoyed but faced a difficult pregnancy. Mira Sophia was born in September 2001, induced early so that Joan could undergo one final surgery to try to save her from the cancer that had spread to her brain. Joan passed away on Thanksgiving, her favorite holiday.

Pouring grief into action

Family and friends poured their grief into fundraising, quickly bolstering the fund Joan and Phil had started months before her death past the threshold required for starting an endowed fund with the OSUCCC – James. With endowments, the principal of the fund is invested and only the interest is spent, so the fund will continue to impact head and neck cancer research in perpetuity.

It’s a fitting tribute to the care Joan received at the OSUCCC – James. “She had a great relationship with Dr. Schuller,” recalls Phil. “He had such a passion for The James, and we wanted to be a part of that. All the nurses, the social workers, everyone at Ohio State was terrific—and years later, after Joan passed away,

they were still showing up and donating to her fund.”

Indeed, Lee remembers Dr. Schuller speaking at the first fundraiser following her daughter’s passing. “There were probably 150 people there, and Mira was there in her little infant seat sitting right next to Dr. Schuller. I don’t think there were any dry eyes in the room. We raised \$16,000 that evening.”

Joan’s legacy continues to inspire philanthropy—and the fundraising in her memory hasn’t slowed down. Through the years, a dedicated group

Joan’s daughter Mira, a junior in high school, has become involved in the run, traveling to Ohio from her home in Florida to attend. She also led a jewelry fundraiser to benefit her mother’s fund—which reached a major milestone this past summer as it surpassed \$1 million.

It’s an extraordinary accomplishment, particularly given that the bulk of support has come from modest donations. “From the beginning this fund has been made up of small donations from Joan’s friends, family, physicians, nurses, social workers and other Ohio State staff, as well as survivors of head and neck cancers and

This past summer, the fund reached \$1 million—an incredible milestone that the family hopes the fund will reach many times over in the future.

of family and friends has put on galas, golf tournaments, Super Bowl parties, art shows and more to raise money for the fund, but it is the Columbus Donut Run that has become the signature fundraiser.

The 5K Donut Run started in 2014 with 350 runners, but it attracted more than 2,000 runners at the most recent Oct. 28 event in downtown Columbus’ Genoa Park. It’s a lot of work for volunteers to gather and package the thousands of donuts baked fresh by area bakers and distribute them during and after the race, but a partnership with Columbus Running Company has streamlined much of the logistical management of the popular event.

The event draws those who knew Joan personally and miss her—including a contingency of the OSUCCC – James faculty and staff who continue to honor her memory—as well as the Columbus running community. “Word has spread that it’s a fun event,” says Lee. “We have a DJ and dancing donuts, and runners get a donut hole at each mile and a pack of six donuts at the end. It’s a family-friendly event. There are serious runners but also people pushing their kids in strollers.”

others who never knew Joan but were touched by her story,” says Phil. “I hope it keeps going and that soon we’re talking about the fund reaching \$2 million.”



The Columbus Donut Run raises money for the The Joan Bisesi Fund for Head and Neck Cancer Research.

Joan Bisesi's enduring impact on head and neck cancer research at the OSUCCC – James

A CONVERSATION WITH JAMES ROCCO, MD, PHD,
*The Mary E. and John W. Alford Research Chair in Head and Neck Cancer;
Chair, Department of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery*

Dr. James Rocco never had the opportunity to meet Joan Bisesi. He came to the OSUCCC – James in 2015 after 14 years at Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary and Massachusetts General Hospital, and following his MD/PhD training at Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai and residency at The Johns Hopkins Hospital. But he thinks about Joan a lot.

That's because her fund enables research into head and neck cancer that would not otherwise be possible. It's a gift he does not take for granted. Here, Dr. Rocco describes his passion for helping patients with head and neck cancer—and the impact of Joan Bisesi's philanthropy.

On why he decided to study head and neck cancer

I did my MD/PhD at Mount Sinai in New York, followed by my ENT residency at Johns Hopkins. Both have strong, well-established head and neck programs. I was influenced by the complexity of the cases and the challenges patients faced. I really empathized with these patients and saw that my clinical and surgical skills could make a difference in the quality of their lives.

On being a clinician and a scientist

I like the balance between being a clinician and a scientist. As a clinician, you can help people immediately. You go home each day thinking you made things a little better for patients. On the science side, you're trying to solve problems for a whole bunch of people—people you may never even meet. It's a slower burn to see the impact on some of your research efforts, but ultimately science is how we're going to fix this problem.

On the research breakthroughs the Joan Bisesi Fund could help advance

In head and neck cancer, we have one type related to HPV infection,

which tends to be more curable and generally happens to people without the traditional risk factors of smoking and drinking, and another type related to smoking and drinking. A small subset of young women like Joan also get these cancers without any risk factors and with no real evidence for a role of the HPV virus. We don't understand a lot about this, but sequencing studies have shown similar genetic targets to the cancers impacting smokers and drinkers. Philanthropy can help us perform research that may explain how this is happening.

On the importance of researchers being connected to philanthropy

Many people who have PhDs study cancer as a puzzle or problem and may not fully understand the clinical horror of cancer and its impact on families—people missing their kids growing up, losing their spouse, not seeing their grandchildren. What we do in the lab is not just a job; we're not just trying to understand all aspects of cancer. If you're a clinician or a scientist with philanthropic support, you meet the families, understand the disease's impact and understand the sadness. It's a powerful tool that keeps you



James Rocco, MD, PhD

focused. Families are looking to us with hope. And how magnanimous of people who have seen their loved ones suffer—like Joan's family—to give to prevent others from suffering. It's a really good reminder for scientists to understand that.

On participating in the Donut Run benefitting the Joan Bisesi Fund

Even before the race started, I was so impressed by the number of people there. It was inspiring to see so many of my physician colleagues running, as well as nurses, nurse practitioners and staff from The James. It's really amazing—the energy. And there were people dressed as giant donuts. We're here for this very serious, noble cause, but there's also the joy of human behavior on display.

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8.2.19–8.4.19



Pelotonia is a three-day experience that includes a weekend of cycling, entertainment, and volunteerism. Through its first ten rides, the Pelotonia community raised more than \$184 million for cancer research. Join the Greatest Team Ever by registering as a rider, virtual rider, volunteer, or making a donation.

pelotonia.org

Ready to Lead the Philanthropic Fight Against Cancer:

Incoming James Foundation Board Chair **Rich Porter**



To say that incoming James Foundation Board Chair Rich Porter is accomplished is an understatement. The self-described “private equity guy” is president and partner of TE-CO/Mitee-Bite/Raptor Products, LLC, which manufactures workholding equipment for the metalworking industry. He’s also an avid cyclist, dedicated husband to wife Robin and father to daughter Michelle, and has a reputation for leadership—including as a member of The James Foundation Board.

Still, as he prepares to take over the role of The James Foundation Board chair following Cindy Hilsheimer’s years at the helm, he is humbled by the big shoes to fill. “Cindy is the prototype model of a foundation board chair,” says Rich. “She has tremendous energy, she’s very intelligent, and she has an enormous sense of giving and kindness around her. I joke to her, ‘If I’m 80 percent of you, that’s a success.’”

Rich and his colleagues on The James Foundation Board provide financial assistance to the OSUCCC – James, raising millions of dollars each year to help the institution pursue its vision to create a cancer-free world. “These are big-brain people—smart, intelligent,” says Rich of his fellow board members and the OSUCCC – James development team that supports their work. “You give your wisdom and applied knowledge that’s part of your life experience, and you learn from their experience and wisdom.”

For the record, Cindy has full confidence in Rich’s abilities—which she has seen in action since he joined the board in 2014 and became vice-chair in 2016. “Rich has a ‘get it done’ spirit, complemented by an eye toward disciplined execution and a focus on the key funding priorities,” says Cindy, who will continue as a member of the board. “He will ably guide our board as we continue to support our talented development team with ongoing fundraising efforts.”

A Passion for the OSUCCC – James

Rich’s passion for the OSUCCC – James was ignited during the first Pelotonia cycling event in the summer of 2009. Inspired by Lance Armstrong’s participation, Rich signed up for the race on a whim. It seemed like a great way to give back—and indeed, he was one of the race’s top 50 fundraisers that inaugural year—but he had no idea the ride would change his life.

“Lance Armstrong was the hook,” says Rich, “but with the crowd and the speakers, you just had that feeling that this was much bigger than a bike ride. It was a community coming together with one goal in mind. It was one of those ‘aha’ moments when you realize: This is bigger than me.”

The OSUCCC – James was eager to channel Rich’s newfound enthusiasm into action. As a resident of Miami County, he had the connections and influence to help the OSUCCC – James reach a wider swath of Ohio. Rich and Robin began hosting community outreach events in the Dayton region, where OSUCCC – James leaders would speak about research, treatment and the importance of getting second opinions. The Porters were among the first

members of The James Ambassadors Society, the premier advocacy arm of the OSUCCC – James. With hundreds of people attending the Porters’ community events, it’s no coincidence that philanthropy from the Dayton area substantially increased.

The Porters have another connection to the OSUCCC – James; their daughter, Michelle, recently started as a nurse practitioner helping patients with acute blood cancer. They could not be more proud of her chosen career path and employer.

Maybe it’s his background in athletics—Rich ran track at Indiana State University—or maybe it’s his experience acquiring companies for his private equity firm, but he doesn’t like to lose. “The agony of defeat motivates me much more than the success of winning,” says Rich. “I cannot stand to lose. I cannot stand to get beat.”

Against a foe as formidable as cancer, that’s the necessary attitude, says Mandy Porcher, campaign operations director at The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center. “That’s motivation, and that’s what we want to do in the big picture: create a cancer-free world. It’s a big task, and we’re looking forward to Rich’s leadership to help steer us forward.”



Robin, Michelle and Rich Porter



Rich Porter and Cindy Hilsheimer

Rich Porter’s 3 GOALS in his tenure as chair:

1

Launch fundraising for a **new world-class institute of immuno-oncology**, positioning the OSUCCC – James as a top immunotherapy program in the nation and creating a new frontier of treatments and cures.

2

Raise critical funding for a **new outpatient care center**.

3

Focus on **strategic development** to increase philanthropy to the OSUCCC – James.

“You get small wins up front, gain some momentum—and then small wins lead to big wins,” says Rich.

Swing Classic



More than 155 donors and friends gathered at The Ohio State University Golf Club on Aug. 13 for the 13th Annual Value City Furniture Swing Classic. The incredible day of golf benefited endometrial cancer research at the OSUCCC – James. More than 61,000 women are diagnosed with endometrial (uterine) cancer annually across the United States, and more than 17 percent of patients die of the disease. Endometrial cancer is the most commonly diagnosed of all gynecologic oncology cancers.

David Cohn, MD, a gynecologic oncologist who serves as chief medical officer at the James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute, extended his gratitude. “It is critically important that we escalate our efforts to understand this disease and develop new therapies to treat patients. We are grateful to Value City Furniture and their continued support,” Cohn said.

Total raised in 2018
\$147,000

Total raised in 13 years
\$1.5M+



Joey Schottenstein (and sons), special guest speaker Coach Chris Holtmann, Gerry Hammond and Scott Weisman



Ray Sielski, Scott Rives, Al Bialek and Rob Miller



Keith Hamilton takes a shot

Columbus Mac & Cheese Festival



Over 2,000 people and representatives from 16 restaurants attended the 3rd Annual Columbus Mac & Cheese Festival held at Easton Town Center on Oct. 5. The event raised more than \$65,000 to support adolescent and young adult (AYA) cancer research and programming led by Maryam Lustberg, MD, MPH, associate professor in the Division of Medical Oncology and medical director of survivorship for the OSUCCC – James.

The Columbus Mac and Cheese Festival is hosted by the NextGen committee, a subgroup of The James Ambassadors Society, which is the premier advocacy group for the OSUCCC – James. NextGen is a group that develops, connects and empowers young professionals aged 21-39 who have an affinity to end cancer.

Total raised in 2018
\$65,865

Total raised in 3 years
\$203,627



JEGS Foundation Award of Excellence



JEGS Automotive Inc., one of the largest and most successful automotive equipment companies in the nation and a record-breaking racing team, founded The JEGS Foundation to help fund cancer research. The Coughlin family, owners of JEGS Automotive, recognized that cancer touches almost everyone in the world. Their own experience with cancer is the foundation of their commitment to raise public awareness about prevention while generating funding for cancer research. Through their Delaware, Ohio-based JEGS Mail Order business and Team JEGS Racing, JEGS Foundation for Cancer Research promotes access to information.

The JEGS Foundation Award of Excellence recognizes a member of The Ohio State University community for commitment to and passion for creating a cancer-free world. This person goes above and beyond to honor the mission of the OSUCCC – James and the JEGS Foundation.

The recipient's name is added to the trophy that sits in the JEGS Foundation Lobby at The James.

PAST RECIPIENTS

2017 | Arthur G. James, MD, (posthumously) and Kris Kipp, MSN, RN

2016 | Norma Flesher

2015 | David Schuller, MD

2014 | Kathy Zets



Judy and Steve Tuckerman (center) with members of the Tuckerman and Coughlin families



2018 RECIPIENTS:

JUDY AND STEVE TUCKERMAN

Always driven to help us move closer to a cancer-free world, Judy and Steve Tuckerman have been honored by Team JEGS for their years of steadfast support for cancer care and research. Congratulations to the Tuckermans on their 2018 JEGS Performance Award of Excellence.

Community Partners are passionate individuals, groups and corporations who share our vision of creating a cancer-free world. More than 400 Community Partners are raising critical funds to further research, education and patient care at the OSUCCC – James. This past year, nearly \$3.5 million has been raised through corporate initiatives, promotions and local events.

PAPA JOHN'S CHARITY CHALLENGE



More than \$100,000 raised
for the Urban and Shelley Meyer Fund for Cancer Research

The central Ohio franchisee group, Johnco Inc., hosted its second annual Papa John's Charity Challenge Golf Outing at the Medallion Club in Westerville, Ohio, on Aug. 27.

"Our success could not have been achieved without the support from our sponsors, golfers, volunteers and communities. The commitment is truly humbling," says Charles Burris, Johnco Inc. vice president and operating partner.

papajohnscharitychallenge.com

BUCKEYE SPECTACULAR OF TREES



\$150,000 raised
for The Buckeye Cruise For Cancer and the McComb Family Cancer Research Fund

The Buckeye Cruise for Cancer hosted its second annual Buckeye Spectacular of Trees in The Huntington Club at Ohio Stadium, kicking off the holiday season with live auctions of gorgeously hand-decorated Christmas trees and silent auctions of wreaths and other holiday décor.

The over 250 guests in attendance were treated to Christmas carolers, a spectacular dinner catered by Giant Eagle, handcrafted ornaments and boxes of sweet treats provided by Cheryl's Cookies and Marsha's Buckeyes. A huge thank-you is extended to the presenting sponsor, Heartland Bank, and to Dan Ponton from Roosters, who won this year's Spirit of Christmas Award.

BRIGHTER DAYS INVITATIONAL



\$50,000 raised
for the Thoracic Surgery Oncology Fund and the Thoracic Oncology Center Support Fund

The Brighter Days Foundation, founded by PGA TOUR player Jason Day and his wife Ellie, hosted the third annual Brighter Days Invitational on Oct. 7 at the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium. The event provided guests with an up-close-and-personal encounter with wildlife, along with a surprise mini-concert from Pat Monahan, lead singer and songwriter of the band Train. The evening led into a private concert by American Idol finalist Gabby Barrett and headlined by platinum-selling and 10-time No. 1 hit country music superstar Cole Swindell.

The following day, Brighter Days held its Celebrity Golf Invitational at Double Eagle Club. Over 40 celebrity golfers, including Jason Day, were paired with teams to make the experience unforgettable.

www.brighterdaysfoundation.com

STEPS FOR SARCOMA



More than \$165,000 raised
for Steps for Sarcoma Research Fund

Race participants and spectators cheered prior to the kickoff of the 9th annual Steps for Sarcoma on Sept. 23 as a banner hanging at the start line was unveiled to celebrate a significant milestone: \$1 million raised in less than a decade. The banner read, "Thank You Supporters \$1 Million Dollars Raised."

Steps for Sarcoma grows each year and is one of the largest sarcoma races in the nation. Some 1,500 guests and over 200 dogs attended the special day at Chemical Abstracts Service. The race owes its success to the event chair, committee, staff and volunteers who work year-round to make this event a reality for our patients, families and sarcoma friends.

www.stepsforsarcomaevent.com

Learn more about becoming a Community Partner:

go.osu.edu/JamesCommunityPartners
communitypartnerevents@osumc.edu
614-293-2120

The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center – Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital and Richard J. Solove Research Institute congratulates the 2018 recipient, Craig B. Thompson, MD.

23rd ANNUAL
Herbert and Maxine Block
MEMORIAL LECTURESHIP
Award
FOR DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT IN CANCER

The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center – James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute (OSUCCC – James) is proud to work with the Block family to recognize leadership in the field of cancer through the Herbert and Maxine Block Memorial Lectureship Award for Distinguished Achievement in Cancer. The lectureship supports an international competitive process that annually identifies an individual whose contributions to cancer research, patient care and/or education have received international recognition.

The Block family is an exemplary model of a family working together to channel their energies toward eradicating this disease. Since its inception in 1981, the Herbert J. Block Memorial Tournament has provided more than \$6 million for cancer research and education at the OSUCCC – James, including the establishment and support of this annual lectureship.

THE 2018 LECTURE:

The Metabolic Origins of Cancer



presented by
Craig B. Thompson, MD

President and Chief Executive Officer
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
Dr. Thompson is the newest addition to a long list of distinguished recipients.

The James



UPCOMING EVENTS

March
1

ALPHA TAU OMEGA CASINO NIGHT

March 1, 2019
The Ohio Union, Archie M. Griffin Grand Ballroom

alphatauomegasosu.com

Proceeds benefit the Urban and Shelley Meyer Fund for Cancer Research

March
2

ROCKIN' TO BEAT LEUKEMIA

March 2, 2019
Nationwide & Ohio Farm Bureau 4-H Center

lumemorialfund.com

Proceeds benefit the Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML) Research Pilot Program Fund

April
6

BREATH OF HOPE CELEBRATION

April 6, 2019
L Brands, Columbus, OH

breathofhopeohio.org

Proceeds benefit the Blue Beautiful Skies Fund for Lung Cancer Research

June
9

JACK ROTH 5K ROCK'N'RUN/WALK

June 9, 2019
Cassingham Elementary, Bexley, OH

jackrothfund.org

Proceeds benefit the Jack Roth Fund for Lung Cancer Research



To see all community events that benefit the OSUCCC – James, please visit go.osu.edu/JamesCommunityPartners.

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OSUCCC – James Earns 3rd Consecutive Press Ganey Guardian of Excellence Award®

The OSUCCC – James has earned a 2018 Press Ganey Guardian of Excellence Award® for achieving and sustaining excellence in patient experience for the third consecutive year.

The Guardian of Excellence Award recognizes top-performing healthcare organizations that have achieved the 95th percentile or above for performance in patient experience and is a nationally recognized symbol of achievement in health care.

Presented annually, the award honors clients who consistently sustained performance in the top 5 percent of all Press Ganey clients for each reporting period over one year as measured by the Centers for Medicare/Medicaid's Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (HCAHPS).

“This award reflects the high priority we place on patient satisfaction and reaffirms our ability to deliver an exceptional patient experience,” says William Farrar, MD, interim CEO of the James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute.

“Earning it three years in a row is a tribute to the emphasis that our faculty and staff place on our relationship-based care model and to our continuous efforts to improve the patient experience.”

“We are proud to partner with the OSUCCC – James to support their mission to provide safe, high-quality, patient-centered care,” says Patrick T. Ryan, CEO of Press Ganey. “They are dedicated to delivering exceptional care in the communities they serve. Their commitment to capturing and acting on patient-experience feedback is a powerful demonstration of this.”

