

A Publication of **The Foundation of UMDNJ, a New Jersey Health Foundation Affiliate**

Patching a Hole in the Safety Net

Like other federally qualified health centers, the Eric B. Chandler Health Center in New Brunswick provides routine primary care services to an economically disadvantaged population. But the Center's staff found that a very important need of its patients, who are primarily Latin American immigrants, was not being met.



(l-r) Joel Cantor, Carlos Cordero and Mariela Herrera-Cifelli, social worker.

While more than 1,000 patients at the Center are seen by a social worker each year, those in need of mental health services are referred off-site for follow-up care. Unfortunately, for a variety of reasons, many do not follow through to access this crucially needed treatment.

Now, a \$75,000 grant from the Rutgers Community Health Foundation (RCHF) will assist these patients to get the help they need.

The grant will fund the hiring of a full-time social worker/case manager. The social worker, who will be based at the health center, will provide counseling and ensure follow through with other health care providers. In addition, the social worker will be a bilingual, culturally competent familiar face — someone they can come to know and trust.

"Finding outside appointments for our clients is hard," says Carlos A. Cordero, LCSW, director of social services for the Chandler Center, which is operated jointly by the Eric B. Chandler Health Center Community Board, Inc. and Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. "By providing these

services on site, we can help ensure that patients get appropriate treatment and follow through when needed."

According to Mr. Cordero, patients at the Chandler Center often come in complaining of sleep problems or other symptoms. The social worker may uncover postpartum depression, anxiety disorders related to employment status or other issues. Cordero believes that many of the center's patients are reluctant to seek treatment due to the stigma attached to mental illness and a general lack

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Foundation of UMDNJ Scholar Society Inducts 10 New Members

Ten new members from the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences (GSBS) have been inducted into the Foundation of UMDNJ Society of Research Scholars as they begin their doctoral studies at the School.

The Society was founded last year. The program continued this year with a second award of \$330,000 to provide scholarships for students who have demonstrated excellence in their undergraduate courses and research. The awards originate from the Foundation of UMDNJ's Program Committee, which provides grants and scholarships to support research and education at the University.

"Through the Society of Research Scholars the Foundation continues to meet our mission of supporting excellence at the University," George F. Heinrich, MD, vice chair and CEO of the Foundation, told the gathered group. "We are proud of the accomplishments of these 10 new inductees and look forward to hearing about their successes as they continue their studies in the GSBS program."

Each student received a scholarship of \$26,500, plus an additional \$5,000 to be used for educational expenses. Inductees were Stacey Cifelli, Caroline Palavicino-Maggio, Lauren Rota and Michelle Wasserman from GSBS at New Jersey Medical School; Allen Alcivar, Sabrina Engler, Tatiana Kazdoba and Jeffrey Overton from GSBS at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School; and Betty Chung and Stephen Kim from GSBS at the School of Osteopathic Medicine.

"These 10 students have been identified as biomedical science leaders of the future," said Kathleen Scotto, PhD, vice president for research and interim dean of GSBS, during the induction ceremony. "We are sincerely grateful to the Foundation for funding their first year of study."

If you would like to help support this exciting program, contact Denise Gavala, vice president for development, at (866) 448-6365 or dgavala@njhf.org.



2009 Foundation of UMDNJ Society of Research Scholars with Dr. George F. Heinrich and Dr. William F. Owen, Jr., MD, president of UMDNJ

Campbell Soup Foundation: Nourishing a Community

When the Campbell Soup Foundation received a proposal to fund the Latino Health Initiative at Saint Luke's Catholic Medical Services in Camden, "we were intrigued," said Amanda Tolino, manager, community service at Campbell Soup Company.

Since 2005, the Camden-based company has given \$115,000 to support the initiative, which focuses on controlling diabetes and its complications.

St. Luke's is based in North Camden, a medically underserved neighborhood in one of the nation's poorest cities. Operating as a private practice, St. Luke's provides quality, compassionate and culturally competent care to 1,400 patients, regardless of ability to pay.

Started in 1983 by Father Mark Aita, a Jesuit priest and internist, the School of Osteopathic Medicine (SOM) developed a formal affiliation with St. Luke's in 2000 and appointed Lesly D'Ambola, DO, medical director. Dr. D'Ambola recently received Campbell's Unsung Hero Award for her selfless dedication to her patients.

"Dr. D'Ambola is compassionate as well as a great care provider," said Ms. Tolino.

The incidence of diabetes in Camden is staggering: 10 percent of the city's Latino population has the disease. A nurse educator — who is at St. Luke's thanks to the generous support of Campbell and other donors — teaches patients diabetes self-management skills.

The program has been highly successful. In a group of closely followed patients, none were hospitalized for complications from diabetes at the end of 18 months, compared with 13 percent who required hospitalization prior to the program. The program has demonstrated a statistically significant drop in patients' blood sugar levels and initial results from a modified patient education protocol show even more dramatic improvement in another patient group: no hospitalizations, while 25 percent were hospitalized prior to the program.

"As a company focused on health and wellness, part of our mission is to nourish peoples' lives every day," says Ms. Tolino. "We know the Latino Health Initiative at St. Luke's is doing this. Our dollars are being put to good use by a program that is very unique and solving a significant community problem."

Other generous donors to the Latino Health Initiative at St. Luke's include Langan Engineering, the Danellie Foundation, ShopRite Sybase Classic and Holcim, U.S., Inc.

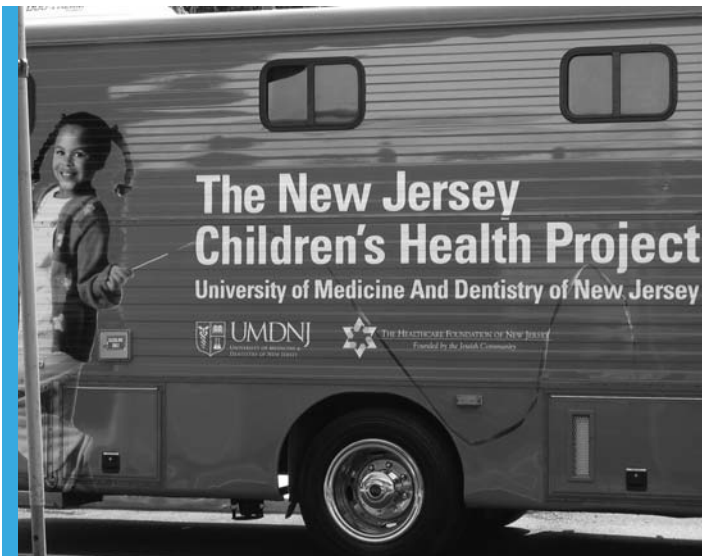


*Dr. Lesly D'Ambola
with Jerry S. Buckley,
chairman, Campbell
Soup Foundation.*

Children's Health Fund Supports Mobile Van Thanks to "Idol Gives Back"

When Dr. Irwin Redlener, president of the Children's Health Fund (CHF), heard that CHF was going to receive funds from the **American Idol** "Idol Gives Back" charity concert for the second year in a row, it was music to his ears.

It meant that CHF could provide more funding for The New Jersey Children's Health Project, a project of the Children's Health Fund run by the UMDNJ-School of Nursing.



"We were honored that the people involved in making **American Idol**, which has become an enormous cultural phenomenon, have recognized the charitable spirit of its viewers and sponsors," said Dr. Redlener. "Thanks to their generosity, CHF has been able to increase comprehensive services across the country, including increasing our support of the mobile van project in New Jersey."

CHF's gift in 2007 helped expand The New Jersey Children's Health Project by providing a fully equipped mobile van so that hundreds of children and adults in Newark and Elizabeth could get the health services they desperately needed. With the recent gift from **American Idol**, CHF increased support for the program to the tune of \$110,000.

"Of the 8.4 million residents of New Jersey, 1.1 million are without healthcare. Bringing services to underserved residents using the mobile van often circumvents the personal and social barriers that would prevent them from getting care," explained Gloria McNeal, PhD, program director, professor and associate dean for community and clinical affairs at the School.

With initial financial support from the School of Nursing, The Healthcare Foundation of New Jersey, the Children's Health Fund and the federal government, by early 2009 The New Jersey Children's Health Project had served more than 1,700 clients, registered more than 2,000 client visits and involved more than 20 community-based organizations in outreach activity.

In the near future, the New Jersey Children's Health Project, with continued support from CHF, hopes to expand its scope and reach. Recent funding from Johnson & Johnson enabled the project to begin plans to expand service to families in the greater New Brunswick community.

To support the mobile van project, contact Liz Ketterlinus, vice president for development, at the Foundation of UMDNJ, at (866) 448-6365 or eketterlinus@njhf.org.

Volunteers Called, Angels Answered

When someone believes passionately in a cause, even a lack of funds can't stop them from achieving their goals. It certainly didn't stop Steve Kantor, executive vice president of KEH Insurance; Christine Messina of allRisk Property Damage Experts and other members of the CARES (Child Abuse Research Education and Service) Institute Advisory Board from organizing their own gala, even when the Institute itself had no budget for one.

"We said, 'let's just throw a party and see what happens,'" said Mr. Kantor.

They created an advisory board of business leaders that shared their passion for helping the CARES Institute. As a group, they started making calls to local businesses and corporations and were overwhelmed by the response. More than 350 people attended the "Calling All Angels" gala and the event raised more than \$75,000 to help abused and neglected children who are being treated at the CARES Institute.

"We are heartened when we find individuals in our community who see the importance of the work we do and step up to the plate to help us do more for these kids," said Martin Finkel, DO, CARES co-director.



*CARES Institute
Advisory Board Members
(front) Christina Messina,
(back l-r) Steve Kantor,
John Stefankiewicz and
Jenny Ryan*

Patching a Hole in the Safety Net

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of knowledge about mental health in the immigrant population. "The attitude is often, 'families take care of themselves. Why go to treatment?,' he explained. "This makes it difficult to get patients to seek further help."

RCHF was a natural for funding this project, due to its emphasis on improving health services in New Brunswick.

"Our focus is on improving the health of vulnerable residents in the New Brunswick area," says Joel Cantor, ScD, RCHF president. "Chandler is one of the most important sources of care for populations that don't have other opportunities. We hope to address these issues by helping them to embed mental health services in the general medical setting."

To help support Chandler Health Center, contact Tammy Hojeibane, associate director of development, at (866) 448-6365 or thojeibane@njhf.org.

NJDS Receives \$50,000 for Special Care Treatment Center

Thanks to two recent gifts from Ronald McDonald House Charities® of the New York Tri-State Area (RMHC-NYTSA), the Special Care Treatment Center at New Jersey Dental School (NJDS) will be able to accommodate more young patients than ever before.

RMHC-NYTSA recently awarded \$25,000 to the School. The gift was then matched by Ronald McDonald House Charities Global, bringing the total donation to \$50,000.

The gifts will equip two additional operatory rooms in the Special Care Treatment Center, which treats more than 1,700 patients a year from New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware and New York. The vast majority are children and young adults with developmental disorders, such as mental retardation, autism, cerebral palsy and Down syndrome. Those with physical disabilities, like muscular dystrophy, spinal cord injuries, brain injuries and other complex medical problems are also treated at the Center.

“The lack of access to dental services for special needs patients has long been recognized within the medical community as a serious problem,” explained Dean Cecile Feldman, DMD, MBA. “Often their oral health conditions are more complex than those of the general population and NJDS is one of very few facilities in the state equipped to serve them. We also train graduate students in this area and have our own dental school students rotate through the Center in an effort to interest them in this field.”

Ronald McDonald House Charities of the New York Tri-State Area began supporting the Dental School in 2007, when it funded its first operatory in the Center.

The mission of RMHC is to create, find and support programs that directly improve the health and well-being of children in the areas of health, education, civic and social issues and the arts.

“Supporting New Jersey Dental School is a reflection of our mission,” noted Margaret Berger, executive director of RMHC-NYTSA Chapter. “Our Chapter is proud to partner with non-profit organizations serving the needs of children and working to improve their well-being.”

For information about RMHC-NYTSA, visit www.rmhcnewyorktri-state.org or call (973) 287-1476.

To support the Special Care Treatment Center, contact Andrea West, director of development at the Foundation of UMDNJ, (866) 448-6365 or awest@njhf.org.



Wal-Mart Sponsors Provider Education on Caring for Abused Children

Wal-Mart, the retail giant, recently donated \$28,000 to the CARES (Child Abuse Research Education and Service) Institute to support two programs that are valuable resources for hundreds of mental health therapists, physicians and social workers working to save children and families from the devastating effects of all forms of abuse and neglect.

Wal-Mart's contribution came at a crucial time, when federal budget cuts would have otherwise caused the Statewide Best Practice Symposium and the Experts in Child Abuse and Neglect Lecture Series to be cancelled.

"At Wal-Mart, we have a strong belief in protecting the needs of our community, especially the safety and welfare of children," said Jennifer Hoehn, Wal-Mart's senior manager of public affairs in NJ. "This contribution will advance the CARES Institute's work and provide a safer world for our children."

To help support CARES, contact Farah Stith, director of development at (866) 448-6365 or fstith@njhf.org.

Foundation News



Bruce A. Harris, Esq., of Chatham Borough, has been elected to the Boards of New Jersey Health Foundation and its affiliate, the Foundation of UMDNJ, announced Roger S. Fine, board chair and retired vice president and general counsel of Johnson & Johnson.

Mr. Harris is of counsel with Greenberg Traurig, LLP, in Florham Park, specializing in commercial and asset based lending, real estate and construction financing, syndicated loans and letters of credit in bond transactions. He previously practiced with Riker, Danzig, Scherer, Hyland & Perretti, LLP, where his specialization was working in commercial lending and public finance.

"I believe UMDNJ is vital to the State of New Jersey, both as a health care provider and as an educational institution," commented Mr. Harris. "I am very honored to be elected to the Foundation boards and I look forward to

working with the other trustees and the Foundation staff on programs that will help UMDNJ fulfill its mission."

Mr. Harris received his law degree from Yale Law School; his MBA with Honors from Boston University Graduate School of Management and his BA Magna Cum Laude from Amherst College.

He is a member of the Chatham Borough Council, the Chatham Borough Historic Preservation Commission and the Chatham Borough Environmental Commission and was a member of the Morris County Open Space Preservation Trust Fund Committee in 2007 and 2008. He was president of the Chatham Borough council in 2007.

"We look forward to working with Mr. Harris as he serves on our Boards," said Mr. Fine. "Both his legal and financial experience will be great assets as we advance our mission of supporting programs at the University."

Friends Help Reynolds Lab

Thanks to the continued generosity of Tim Reynolds and three of his friends, researchers at the Tim Reynolds Family Spinal Cord Injury Laboratory have made significant progress.



(l-r) Dr. Robert Heary with
Tim Reynolds

“This has been a breakthrough year for our laboratory,” explained Robert F. Heary, MD, director of the Spine Center of New Jersey at New Jersey Medical School. “Thanks to the generous support of the Reynolds family and their friends, we recruited key faculty and began exciting experiments.”

During the past year, the noted neuroscience researcher Stella Elkabes, PhD, a member of the New Jersey Medical School faculty, joined the lab. In addition, three projects based on a rodent spinal cord injury model developed at the lab were initiated, all of which Dr. Heary hopes will move them closer to finding better treatments and a cure for spinal cord injuries.

The laboratory was established in 2006 thanks to a \$1 million gift from Mr. Reynolds following a devastating car accident that left him paralyzed. He made the initial gift to help find a cure for spinal cord injuries and to express his gratitude to Dr. Heary for saving his life.

Since that time, the Reynolds family has made gifts totaling \$3 million. And friends of Mr. Reynolds have also given generously to move Dr. Heary’s research forward.

“When I heard how much faith Tim has in Dr. Heary’s ability to find a cure for spinal cord injuries, I felt the best support I could give to Tim was to support Dr. Heary,” explained Stuart Milsten, a longtime friend and co-worker of Mr. Reynolds.

Mr. Milsten, who resides in Oklahoma, Keith Goggin of New York and James Hansen of San Francisco have together provided more than \$300,000 to advance the laboratory’s vital work.

“I am deeply touched that my friends have reached out to support Dr. Heary’s research,” Tim Reynolds said. “Finding a cure for spinal cord injury is an awesome challenge that nobody will meet alone. It’s exhilarating to be part of a growing team of doctors and scientists working together to help hundreds of thousands of people walk and lead productive and satisfying lives. I have incredible faith in Dr. Heary’s ability, dedication and work ethic and am confident we will make a huge difference.”

To support Dr. Heary’s research, contact Liz Ketterlinus, vice president for development, at (866) 448-6365 or eketterlinus@njhf.org. To donate on-line, visit <http://njms.umdnj.edu/research/reynolds.cfm> and click on On-Line Donations at the bottom of the page.

FVCG Invests To Improve Cancer Treatments

James M. Golubieski, president of Foundation Venture Capital Group, LLC, a New Jersey Health Foundation affiliate, announced that the company has made a \$500,000 commitment to Longevica Pharmaceuticals, Inc., a company involved in developing kinase inhibitors that may keep normal cells healthy during chemotherapy or radiation treatments.

“Despite the tremendous progress in chemotherapy and radiation used to treat cancer patients, most drugs available today are extremely toxic, not only killing cancer cells but also killing normal cells,” explained Alexey Ryazanov, PhD, founder and president of Longevica and a professor in the department of pharmacology at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. “Our company is working to develop approaches to help protect normal tissue during chemotherapy and radiation treatment.”

Longevica scientists discovered that if the EF2 kinase (a protein involved in the regulation of protein synthesis in human cells) can be rendered inactive, normal cells could be protected from dying during chemotherapy and radiation treatment. Not only does this process protect normal tissues from dying, says Dr. Ryazanov, but it also renders the cancer-killing treatment more effective.

“The work of Dr. Ryazanov and his team is exciting because there is no such therapy currently available,” explained George F. Heinrich, MD, vice chair and CEO of Foundation Venture Capital Group. “A breakthrough in the use of this kinase could positively affect millions of people undergoing cancer treatments.”

Preliminary studies also indicate the same drug can be used to help patients who have had strokes by protecting cells and tissues from cell death in the heart and brain. It may also prevent the progressive loss of neurons in patients with Alzheimer’s or Parkinson’s disease.

Foundation Venture Capital Group was founded in 2006 to invest in commercially viable new start-ups developing technology at UMDNJ. In addition to Longevica, it has invested in Snowdon Pharmaceuticals and CellXplore, Inc.

For more information, contact Mr. Golubieski at (866) 448-6365 or jgolubieski@njhf.org.



(l-r) Vince Smeraglia, director of UMDNJ patents and licensing; James M. Golubieski; Dr. Alexey Ryazanov and Dr. George F. Heinrich



The Columbian Foundation, a non-profit organization founded in 1941 by business and professional men of Italian descent, continued its tradition of supporting New Jersey Medical School students when they awarded \$20,000 in scholarships this year.

Here, (l-r) Dr. Joseph DiTrollo, immediate past president, New Jersey Medical School Alumni Association; Columbian Foundation member Joseph D'Errico; Dr. Lawrence Feldman, senior associate dean for academic affairs at New Jersey Medical School and Columbian Foundation member Benjamin DelVento join scholarship recipients (l-r) Andrew Gaydo, Chris Mecoli, Sandro Corti and Anthony DeCicco to congratulate them on their awards.



sanofi-aventis recently donated another \$622,000 to The Children's RESPIRA Education Program to allow the continuation of this bilingual program to educate Latino asthmatic children and their families about asthma triggers, symptoms and disease management. To acquaint sanofi-aventis employees with the program and to provide them with health information, the Children's RESPIRA Education Program and the New Jersey Children's Health Project mobile medical unit participated in a recent employee health fair. Ann Isom, senior director, U.S. philanthropy & relationship management at sanofi-aventis U.S., (second from right) coordinated the visit.



Enthusiastic support of the **Eric B. Chandler Health Center** was evident at the gala held to celebrate its 20th anniversary when \$125,000 was raised for healthcare and community outreach programs offered through the Center. Here, Yesenia Hernandez, board chair, and Dr. Eric Jahn, medical director, take a minute out to smile for the camera.



IDT Retail in Newark used the \$1,600 they would have spent on their holiday party to make a difference in the community by purchasing snowsuits for newborns and infants leaving The University Hospital. Nearly 50 babies were able to stay warm this winter thanks to their generosity.

In Support of University Hospital

As information about the severity of the financial crisis facing University Hospital has become front and center, it is up to all who care about this vital community resource to step up to help in any way possible.

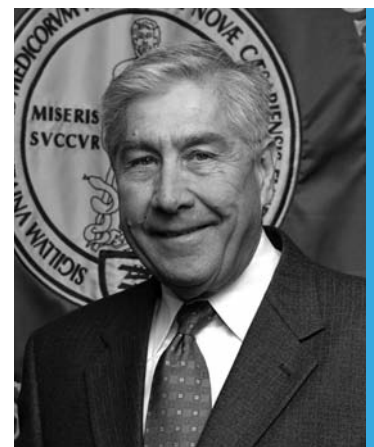
That is exactly what happened after William Owen, Jr., MD, University president, issued a call to action to the University community.

Joseph Muscarelle, a member of the Board of Trustees of the Foundation of UMDNJ, answered the call with an unsolicited gift of \$15,000. Mr. Muscarelle, who has supported the University since 1978, has given more than \$2,228,000, primarily to provide scholarships for UMDNJ students. He also has the distinction of establishing the first Endowed Deanship at the University to support the Dean of New Jersey Medical School.

This time, his gift was focused on helping charity care patients at the hospital. Mr. Muscarelle, who has always been a person to lead by example, is hopeful that his gift will encourage others to do the same.

“I have not been directly involved with University Hospital but I am heeding Dr. Owen’s call by assisting in a way that I can,” he said. “I know this gift is small in comparison to the magnitude of the need but I am hoping it will encourage others to help as well. It is up to each of us to help in any way we can because, as Dr. Owen said, closing the hospital is not an option.”

To follow Mr. Muscarelle’s example by providing financial support to University Hospital, contact Liz Ketterlinus, vice president for development at the Foundation of UMDNJ, at (866) 448-6365 or eketterlinus@njhf.org.



Joseph Muscarelle

Please Note Our New E-Mail Addresses:

Due to an upgrade of our computer system, Foundation staff on all campuses have new e-mail addresses.

To contact any member of the Foundation staff via e-mail, please use his/her new address, which is:
 First Initial of First Name
 Last Name
 @njhf.org

For example, James Golubieski, president of the Foundation, can be reached at jgolubieski@njhf.org

One exception: Dr. George Heinrich can still be reached at heinrich@umdnj.edu or at heinrichmd@njhf.org.

Trying To Go Green?

If you would like to receive Outlook electronically, or if you’d like us to update your donor record, please send your name and current e-mail address to Dale Heffler at dheffler@njhf.org. If you are an alumnus/ae of a UMDNJ school, also include your school and year of graduation.

The Foundation of UMDNJ always respects your privacy. Be assured that your information will never be sold or exchanged.



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Join Our Team at the Susan G. Komen North Jersey Race for the Cure

The Foundation of UMDNJ invites you to join more than 20,000 participants at the second annual Susan G. Komen North Jersey Race for the Cure on Sunday, April 26, 2009 at Branch Brook Park.

Beneficiaries will include the New Jersey Medical School/ University Hospital mobile cancer screening vehicle, which provides breast cancer screening and education to hundreds of previously under-served women in our area.

To register visit www.komennorthjersey.org and search for TEAM FUMDNJ. If you cannot register on-line, you can register on-site the day of the race.

To donate rather than participate that day, send your donation to: Susan G. Komen North Jersey, 785 Springfield Avenue, Summit NJ 07901 or call 908-277-2904 to make a gift by phone. Be sure to mention The Foundation of UMDNJ so that your gift can be added to our totals.

Please join our team or form a team of your own. Contact Liz Ketterlinus, vice president for development, Foundation of UMDNJ, at eketterlinus@njhf.org or call (866) 448-6365 with questions.