

Circle *of* Support



Circle 1000

*Raises over
\$1.05 million in 2018*



Circle 1000
Hoag Family Cancer Institute

"Life can change in an instant. It is much too short not to celebrate it and surround ourselves with love and laughter."

I don't know about you, but I've never laughed so much in one hour as I did when stand-up comic Karen Mills, our keynote speaker, shared her ovarian cancer story with us at the 31st Annual Circle 1000 Founders' Celebration Brunch. She has been in the laughter business for over 21 years, and that didn't change when she was diagnosed with ovarian cancer. Karen took on the disease with hope and humor. While cancer is no laughing matter, she touched our hearts with her anecdotes and observations. Now cancer free, Karen travels all over the country to share her story.

Karen's closing words will stay with me for many years to come: "If you ever find yourself facing this terrible disease, please remember your spirit shines through your smile, not your hair, and even when your body is weak, your spirit can be strong. And, whatever you do, never ever order a wig on the internet!"

Thank you so much to Sue Werner for her lovely tribute to our dear friends, Nora Jorgensen and Margaret Larkin. They were among the first group of philanthropists who joined Sandy Sewell in her mission to raise money for Hoag Family Cancer Institute. Last year, these beautiful, accomplished and determined women left us a legacy of service, generosity and graciousness. I will miss them both, but our work will continue to honor them for many years to come.

This year, I'm very excited to report that Circle 1000 raised over \$1.05 million to benefit Hoag Family Cancer Institute. Our total support now stands at \$19 million since our founding. I take great pride in knowing that together, we helped Hoag to be the first community hospital in Orange

County to offer Phase 1 clinical trials and to achieve national recognition from *U.S. News & World Report* as a 'high performing' cancer program.

The 31st Annual Circle 1000 funds will be designated to the following areas in the Hoag Family Cancer Institute:

- \$400,000: Research Infrastructure Including Sustainability of Trials
- \$200,000: Precision Medicine
- \$170,000: Breast Navigator Assistants
- \$150,000: GYN Nurse Navigator
- \$50,000: Sandy Sewell Nursing Scholarship Endowment
- \$30,000: Annual Nursing Symposium
- \$30,000: Bereavement
- \$30,000: Non-Nursing Staff Travel and Education

For many of us, cancer is personal. My parents were treated at Hoag. I experienced the excellent level of care, compassion and understanding that makes Hoag a beacon of hope and healing for Orange County. Thanks to the generosity of our community and the incredible physicians and nurses who take care of our loved ones, we have an important resource for healing, education and prevention.

I wish to thank the 31st Annual Founders' Committee for making this year's brunch an inspiring and joyful celebration. When I stood on the stage and looked out at all of you, I was overcome with emotion to be part of such an extraordinary group of philanthropists and friends. We have touched so many lives and, while we may never meet them or know their names, we know that at the end of the day, we made a difference in their fight against cancer.

Sincerely,



Mary V. Buckingham
Circle 1000 Chair, 2018



Mary V. Buckingham & Karen Mills



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Front: Terry Callahan & Sandi Mitchell



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In Support of Patient-Centered, Personalized Cancer Care

For 31 years, Circle 1000 has helped Hoag Family Cancer Institute offer patients what few community hospitals can. Thanks to your support, our community enjoys the level of advanced, comprehensive cancer prevention and treatment that is typically found at major academic medical centers.

Your generosity in 2017 provided the following:

\$240,000: Developmental Therapeutics Program

Hoag Family Cancer Institute offers patients clinical trials for life-saving drugs (developmental therapeutics) that are not yet on the market. These investigational therapies may prove to be effective cancer treatments and become a standard approach to care.

Thanks to philanthropy, Hoag currently has 21 Phase 1 clinical trials through an alliance with USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center. Growth is one of the most important elements of a successful program and Hoag expects to grow to more than 30 clinical trials by 2019.

One example of a Phase 1 clinical trial now active at Hoag Family Cancer Institute is a study of a unique new drug that is directly injected into a tumor combined with two other approved cancer drugs. The study drug has a special property that enhances the efficiency of the two other cancer drugs. It also has the added benefit of recruiting immune cells into the tumor for an immune system boost against cancer.

“These trials bring promising new drugs to patients whose cancers have become resistant to standard therapy or novel combinations of approved and investigational drugs for patients who are earlier in treatment,” said Diana Hanna, M.D., an oncologist who provides oversight for Hoag’s Phase 1 clinical trials. “These treatments have become increasingly targeted to an individual’s tumor type and genomic profile and are being integrated with immunotherapy as well.”



Burton L. Eisenberg, M.D.

Grace E. Hoag Executive Medical Director Endowed Chair, Hoag Family Cancer Institute



Burton L. Eisenberg MD
Grace E. Hoag
Executive Medical Director
Endowed Chair
Hoag Family Cancer Institute

\$120,000: Precision Medicine Program

We can't wait for answers. And, thanks to Circle 1000, we don't have to. Precision medicine is an emerging approach to disease treatment and prevention that considers an individual's genes, environment and lifestyle.

Previously available only at large academic medical centers, Hoag Family Cancer Institute utilizes precision medicine, through such practices as genomic profiling, to home in on the precise molecular abnormalities that create and sustain cancerous tumors. This specific knowledge about the patient's tumor leads to more targeted treatment approaches.

"For us at Hoag, our goal is to make the traditional approach to cancer treatment a thing of the past," said Michael Demeure, M.D., program director of Precision Medicine. "Research and innovation have caused us to evolve our understanding and, in many cases, treatment of an individual's cancer based on its particular genomic makeup with precision medicines. These treatments offer better outcomes with less toxic side effects, so they are particularly mindful of the person we are treating."

Dr. Demeure has led an active research lab for over 20 years. In his role at Hoag, Dr. Demeure leads the strategy and development for the Precision Medicine Program including identifying new partners, developing a molecular tumor board and assessing new software that provides oncologists with vital information at the point of care.

Recently, using precision medicine through a Caris panel, Hoag oncologists identified simultaneous gene mutations in a lung cancer patient's genomic profile that would render standard treatment completely ineffective.

Armed with that information, the patient's oncologist recommended a newly approved drug that would be much more effective given her genetic profile. With precision medicine, the right drug was given to the right person at the right time.



Michael Demeure, M.D.
Program Director of Precision Medicine

Your Generosity Also Supported

\$170,000: Nurse Navigation Program expansion

\$150,000: Arden Flamson Breast and GYN Cancer Nurse Navigator

\$145,000: Cancer Early Detection and Prevention Program

\$100,000: Patient Outcomes Analyst

\$50,000: Sandy Sewell Nursing Scholarship Endowment

\$30,000: Annual Oncology Nursing Symposium

\$30,000: Education for non-nursing oncology staff

\$10,000: Educational video for chemotherapy patients

\$5,000: Recovery jackets for all cancer patients

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Ginny Ueberroth and guests



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* Past Chairs

Names highlighted in bold designate members of the original 1987 Circle 1000 Founders' Committee.



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Karen Mills – 2018

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