

SPRING 2025

# Rounds

Historic fundraising  
campaign launched

Joint venture  
completed

Destination: Grand  
groundbreaking



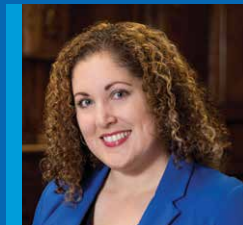


# Rounds

**Managing Editor**  
Rose Tokatlian

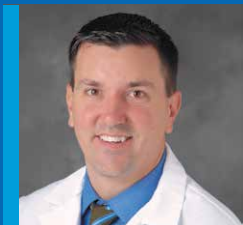
**Associate Editor and  
Contributing Writer**  
Brooke Werdlow

**Art Director/Designer**  
Nikki Wyrembelski  
NW Journey LLC  
nikkiwjourney.com

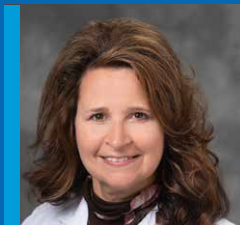


**Amanda Bennett**  
Director, Annual Giving and Alumni Relations  
abennet6@hfhs.org  
(313) 876-8407  
henryford.com/alumni

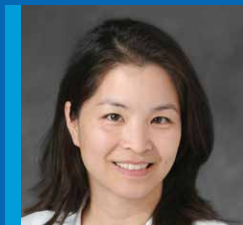
## Henry Ford Medical Group Alumni Association Executive Committee



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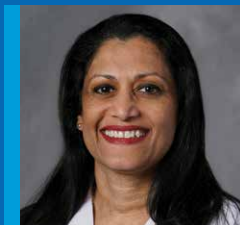
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## From the President



As I reflect on the past year, I can't help but be astonished by the many remarkable milestones we've hit as an organization during 2024.

Among those milestones was the finalization of our joint venture with Ascension Michigan – welcoming nearly 20,000 team members to the new Henry Ford Health. Today, we're a much different organization than we were just one year ago. Our unwavering commitment to improving lives through the science and art of health care and healing, remains the same.

Amid this exciting growth and momentum, we also publicly launched our largest fundraising campaign ever – *Rising Above, Reaching Beyond: The Campaign for Henry Ford Health*. In this edition we'll learn more about how this comprehensive campaign to raise \$750 million will transform medical care, training, research and community health and well-being in the future.

We also broke ground on a foundational element of our Future of Health vision, Destination: Grand, the expansion of Henry Ford Hospital that will create a world-class healthcare destination right here in the heart of Detroit.

And, on the subject of world-class care – learn more about Henry Ford Health's cancer research enterprise as we hear from Dr. Farzan Siddiqui and other leaders in oncology about cancer research and treatment innovations, including our novel gene therapy program.

Leading-edge education and training are what enable us to deliver the superior medical care that our team is known for. In this edition, Drs. John Mitchell and Chris Clark discuss Henry Ford Hospital's HERALD Lab and how they're trailblazing technologically advanced training methods to help students and clinicians hone their clinical skills. We'll also hear about the Sim Center, another incredible practice space that bolsters our training capabilities.

In "Behind the white coat," Neurosurgery Department Chair, Dr. Ellen Air, discusses what motivates her as a physician, the exciting future of neurological care, and how a deep-seated compassion for patients drives what we do every day as clinicians.

Despite the historic year we've had, I know that the best is yet to come. It's a great time to be a member of the Henry Ford Medical Group – and I'm grateful to be part of an organization revitalizing health and well-being in our communities and beyond.

Sincerely,

**William Hakeos, M.D.**

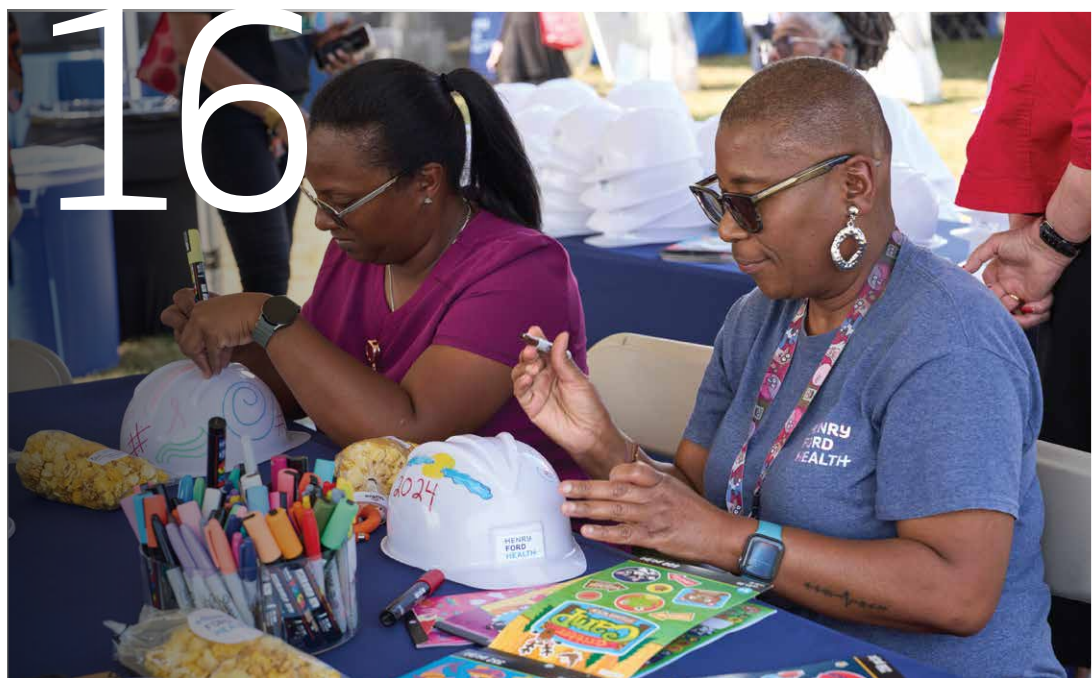
*President*

Henry Ford Medical Group Alumni Association

SPRING 2025

# Contents

- 06 **Joining together to improve community health**
- 12 **Rising Above, Reaching Beyond**
- 16 **Destination: Grand**
- 20 **Creating the cancer care of tomorrow, today**
- 27 **Innovative surgical skills training**
- 34 **Behind the white coat with Ellen Air, M.D., Ph.D.**
- 36 **Henry Ford Stars**
- 38 **Obituaries**
- 40 **News**



06



# Joining together to improve community health

Henry Ford Health and Ascension Michigan officially launch joint venture

Henry Ford Health and Ascension healthcare facilities in Southeast Michigan and the Greater Flint area joined forces on Oct. 1, 2024 – marking the beginning of a joint venture that seeks to improve health and wellness in the communities the combined organization serves. Fueled by a shared commitment to making better healthcare accessible for Michigan residents, the joint venture will prioritize population health and value-based care – improving outcomes, care equity, access and experiences while advancing innovation, academic medicine and complex care.

The newly expanded Henry Ford Health, under the leadership of President and CEO Bob Riney and governed by a Board of Directors representative of both organizations, now employs 50,000 team members at over 550 sites across Michigan, including 13 acute care hospitals; three behavioral health facilities including two world-class addiction treatment centers; a state-of-the-art orthopedics and sports medicine facility; and multiple cancer care destinations. Patients and families will also benefit from more provider options than ever.

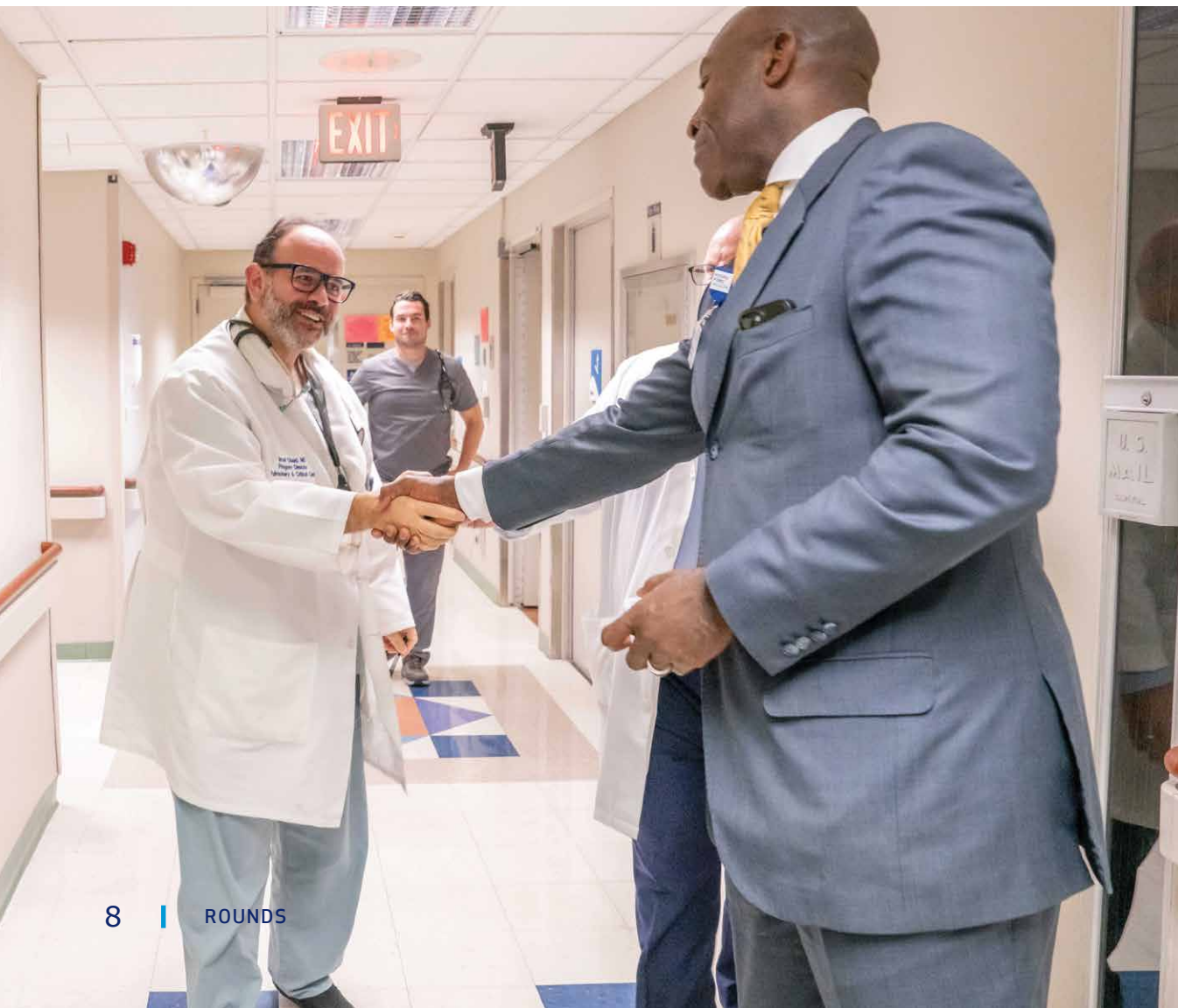
“Today, we embark on a new chapter in our journey,” said Ascension Senior Vice President Carol Schmidt, who will support the first phase of transition and integration as Senior Integration Advisor, Henry Ford Health. “This joint venture will not only enhance our capabilities, but also set the stage for sustainable growth and success. By combining our strengths, we are better equipped to innovate and respond to the evolving needs of those we are privileged to serve.”

## ■ JOINING TOGETHER

The legacy Ascension acute care hospitals now rebranded and part of Henry Ford Health are Henry Ford Genesys Hospital, Henry Ford Warren Hospital, Henry Ford Madison Heights Hospital, Henry Ford Providence Southfield Hospital, Henry Ford Providence Novi Hospital, Henry Ford Rochester Hospital, Henry Ford River District Hospital and Henry Ford St. John Hospital – along with the Henry Ford Brighton Center for Recovery.

Patients have been able to continue to see their existing doctors, make appointments, and visit facilities as they always have. At the same time, the joint venture now provides more options for those who may want to transition to providers or sites closer to home; discover enrollment options for groundbreaking clinical trials and research; explore insurance plans from Health Alliance Plan (HAP) or take advantage of other healthcare retail options within the Henry Ford Health suite of offerings, such as eye care and pharmacy.

*(Continued on page 11)*



## Joint venture gets a sweet start with Day 1 caramel apples

As Henry Ford Health President and CEO Bob Riney thought about the start of the joint venture with Ascension Michigan in the fall of 2024, a couple things came to mind: That this was a wonderful thing for the state of Michigan, and that the moment itself – in which the two organizations were to begin their journey together – would be sweet.

“That led to my next thought,” Riney said, “which was: what’s sweeter – and more Michigan – than a caramel apple?”

It was then the idea was hatched – to give out true-blue Michigan caramel apples to the expanded organization’s team members to celebrate and commemorate the start of the historic partnership. But that would mean ordering, preparing and delivering tens of thousands of caramel apples in short order – and in the midst of the busy fall season.

Enter Blake Farms, home to Blake’s Orchard and Cider Mill, one of the area’s most well-known and well-loved institutions. The Armada-based family farm joyfully accepted the challenge, noting it would be their largest single order in their company’s history.

“When we first heard about the plan to provide caramel apples to all team members, we were genuinely excited,” said Andrew

Blake, CEO of Blake Family of Companies. “This partnership felt like a natural fit, with two Michigan-based companies supporting one another.”

The breadth of the job was truly amazing. Over a period of nine days, the crews at Blake’s dipped, spun and sprinkled more than 41,000 Granny Smith apples from their farm using

122 batches of their special kettle-cooked caramel – each batch coats roughly 350 apples. At a rate of up to 1,000 apples an hour, at one point they were able to produce 8,300 caramel apples in a single day. After packaging, boxing and labeling the tens of thousands of caramel apples, they were sent out to the Henry Ford Health sites of care; 83 pallets, six days



## JOINING TOGETHER

and seven truckloads later, the distribution was complete. The caramel apple team at Blake's was proud beyond measure to have played such a sweet role in something so important to the community – the celebration of two healthcare institutions uniting for the betterment of Michiganders.

"It felt great to be part of an initiative that would bring joy to everyone and strengthen

our connection with the Henry Ford Health team," Andrew Blake said. "It's rewarding to work together to spread a bit of local cheer, and we're grateful for the opportunity to work with an organization that has been a long-time supporter of our brand."

For Riney, delivering caramel apples to new and existing team members felt like the perfect way to start the relationship.

"Having been a Henry Ford Health team member since I was in college, I can definitely say that we have a deep and strong culture of connection here," Riney said. "It was so important to me that we extended that kindness – that simple, sweet gesture – from day one. The caramel apple started as an idea, but with the help of our friends at Blake's, it blossomed into a beautiful symbol of partnership and new beginnings."



"From the very beginning, we have been committed to ensuring a seamless transition for our patients and communities," said Adnan Munkarah, M.D., Henry Ford Health's President, Clinical Enterprise & Chief Physician Executive. "At the same time, we are very excited to begin coordinating existing care and expanding services to surround our patients and members with everything they need to live healthy lives – rooted in improving access, experience and value."

In November, just over one month into the joint venture, the Henry Ford Medical Group (HFMG) officially welcomed all legacy Ascension Medical Group physicians as Clinical Partners. The clinical partner designation allows physicians to pursue an expedited pathway for full HFMG senior staff faculty status, but will also confer many benefits, including access to a large referral network, multidisciplinary tumor

boards, installation of Epic electronic medical record, and inclusion in the "Find a Doc" listing on henryford.com. All Henry Ford-led academic pursuits, including clinical trials, will also be available to HFMG Clinical Partners.

By coming together, the combined organization will also offer expanded career pathways and increase opportunities for career development and advancement. Already among Michigan's top funded academic institutions, Henry Ford Health is also poised to expand its academic enterprise – focused on complex care and research with immediate clinical applications, particularly in cancer care; growing population health learnings and capabilities; and expanding health equity and health disparities research in multiple areas, including maternal and fetal health. ■

# Rising Above, Reaching Beyond

Henry Ford Health launches historic fundraising campaign

Since its founding in 1915, philanthropy has played a key role in Henry Ford Health achieving its mission. From caring for patients to state-of-the-art facilities and leading-edge research to everything in between, our community of philanthropists have helped drive success throughout our history.

On September 10, 2024, Henry Ford Health publicly launched *Rising Above, Reaching Beyond: The Campaign for Henry Ford Health*. The comprehensive fundraising campaign is the largest in the organization's 109-year history and aims to secure \$750 million or more in philanthropic commitments by 2027 to invest in opportunities supporting four key pillars: superior, seamless patient-centered care; research, discovery and innovation; leading-edge clinical education; and community health equity.

To date, the Rising Above, Reaching Beyond campaign has raised over \$530 million, enabling investments throughout the system, including:

- The Henry Ford Health + Michigan State University Health Sciences Research Center, advanced by a generous gift from Ron and Heather Boji, and will also be home to the Nick Gilbert Neurofibromatosis Research Institute.
- The Janet & Jim Riehl North Tower at Henry Ford Macomb Hospital.
- The Al Glick Scholars, a workforce development fund for Henry Ford Jackson Hospital.



## Philanthropy supports Henry Ford + MSU partnership

Henry Ford Health and Michigan State University have worked tirelessly to improve human health and well-being. Joining forces brings together exclusive assets held by each institution that represent some of the world’s most advanced technologies and equipment to enhance our expert clinical care and propel new innovations. A new state-of-the-art research center will physically unite resources and our rigorous academic missions and research commitments. Donor generosity toward the partnership is forging the future of health innovation.

In 2022, in a generous display of support for the Henry

Ford Health + Michigan State University Health Sciences partnership, Detroit-area philanthropists Ron and Heather Boji made a foundational donation of \$5 million. The gift, directed toward the Henry Ford + MSU joint research center, marked the first major philanthropic commitment toward Henry Ford’s partnership with Michigan State University.

Margot LaPointe, Ph.D., recently retired Vice President of Research for Henry Ford Health and Vice Chair of the Henry Ford + MSU Health Sciences Research Committee, made a blended charitable gift – part cash, part estate – to support the Margot C. LaPointe Early

Career Investigator Award and Henry Ford Health’s research enterprise. Her generous gift will be directed toward wet-bench, basic science cardiovascular research; dry-bench studies for stroke, neurological injury or prostate cancer; and will endow the annual Early Career Investigator Award for budding scientists through the Margot C. LaPointe Early Career Investigator Award fund.

Both of these remarkable gifts are helping create an epicenter of discovery and health sciences research right here in Detroit.



*Dr. LaPointe (left) presents urology researcher Jitender Monga, Ph.D., with the inaugural Dr. Margot C. LaPointe Early Career Investigator Award.*

- Enhancements to rehabilitation services through a partnership with the Gilbert Family Foundation and Shirley Ryan AbilityLab, including three floors of dedicated space in the new Henry Ford Hospital tower.
- The Shari & Stanley Finsilver and Family OncoStat, a program that provides cancer patients same-day support for the side effects and symptoms of treatment.

“These are just a few examples of how philanthropy is allowing us to rise above even our current level of excellence and reach beyond to forge a new path toward the cost-effective, accessible, superior care our communities deserve,” said Mary Jane Vogt, Executive Vice President & Chief Development Officer. “Our incredible donors – many of whom wish to keep their generosity anonymous – are helping us make the impossible possible.”

As a non-profit academic medical center, Henry Ford Health operates on slim margins and relies on philanthropy to drive transformational progress, innovations and advancements in care delivery, programs, technology and facilities – positioning Henry Ford for future growth. Philanthropic support also helps Henry Ford Health achieve its mission of improving lives through the science and art of health care and healing – better serving patients, team members and whole communities.

Also advanced by the support of donors through the campaign is Destination: Grand – a major expansion of Henry

Ford Hospital in Detroit spanning 1.2 million square feet on the south side of West Grand Boulevard. The expansion includes a 20-story patient tower with 432 all-private patient rooms, three floors of dedicated inpatient rehabilitation in partnership with Shirley Ryan AbilityLab, five floors of specialized ICU rooms, and an expanded emergency department.

The launch of Rising Above, Reaching Beyond was celebrated at Destination: Grand Ball, an annual fundraising gala with this year’s proceeds benefitting Destination: Grand – capping off a week of systemwide campaign activity.■



*To make a gift or learn more about the Rising Above, Reaching Beyond campaign, visit [www.henryford.com/aboveandbeyond](http://www.henryford.com/aboveandbeyond).*



# Destination: Grand

Henry Ford Health breaks ground on  
\$2.2 billion hospital expansion project

In September 2024, Henry Ford Health broke ground on Destination: Grand – the \$2.2 billion Henry Ford Hospital expansion plan, adding a new, state-of-the-art facility that will span 1.2 million square feet on the south side of West Grand Boulevard across from the legacy campus.

Leaders, team members, patients, neighbors, community members and partners gathered to celebrate the construction of the historic project, which marks the single largest healthcare investment in Detroit's history. A day-long celebration on the lawn next to the Brigitte Harris Cancer Pavilion welcomed team and community members with live music, food trucks and free activities such as meet and greets with Hooper and the Detroit Pistons dancers and drumline; silent disco yoga hosted by Detroit-based City Glow Yoga; health screenings; physical rehabilitation equipment demonstrations with Shirley Ryan AbilityLab; mural painting for the new hospital facility and much more.

"What we're doing isn't just a transformation of space," said Steven Kalkanis, M.D., Executive Vice President, Henry Ford Health, CEO, Henry Ford Hospital and CEO, Henry Ford Medical Group. "It's a transformation of place, of potential and of impact. I believe every major American city needs a premier academic medical campus, and this will put Detroit on the global map as a destination for the most complex care provided by the most talented medical minds in the business."

The expansion includes a 20-story patient tower with 432 all-private patient rooms; 18 interventional procedure labs; an expanded emergency department with 100 private treatment rooms; five ICU floors with 180 beds; 28 operating rooms; and three floors dedicated to inpatient rehabilitation in partnership with Shirley Ryan AbilityLab – made possible through a remarkable, nearly \$130 million investment by the Gilbert Family Foundation, whose co-founder, Dan Gilbert,





received care at Shirley Ryan AbilityLab in Chicago after having a stroke in 2019.

Within the campus expansion, Henry Ford Health is also building a 185,000-square-foot shared services building, which will house the hospital's kitchen, loading dock, sterile processing and more; a new 1,500-space parking structure; and a 46,000-square-foot Central Energy Hub, which will sustainably heat and cool the new facilities through a hot and chilled water pump system. This system eliminates the need for natural gas and will enable the expanded Henry Ford Hospital to become one of the largest fully electric-capable hospitals in the nation.

This expansion project is a centerpiece of the Future of Health: Detroit – a sweeping community development powered by Henry Ford Health along with partners, Tom Gores and the Detroit Pistons and Michigan State University, to turn Detroit's New Center neighborhood into a vibrant, walkable community with green space and residential, commercial, retail, recreational and healthcare amenities. The project includes the Henry Ford Health + Michigan State University Health Sciences Research Center, an epicenter for joint research, innovation and discovery across multiple disciplines which broke ground in June 2024.

“Our vision – to build the healthcare campus of the future, a place where people from down the street or across the globe alike can come to receive the very best care in the very best facilities – is one we've been cultivating for decades,” said Bob Riney, President and CEO of Henry Ford Health. “We are creating a place like no other in the state, and through this major expansion of our campus, we are cementing our commitment to our Detroit community for the next century and beyond. Detroit deserves this.”

The new hospital facility is expected to open in 2029. ■



# Creating the cancer care of tomorrow, today

How a systemwide commitment to cancer innovation, bolstered by philanthropy, is ensuring the future of cancer care is innovated here

By Brooke Werdlow

When Henry Ford Health and Michigan State University joined forces in a 30-year partnership in 2021, the organizations committed themselves to a bold vision to advance a new standard of health. The combined research enterprise is actualized in the joint Henry Ford Health + Michigan State University Health Sciences research center, on which construction began in June 2024.

With cancer rates on the rise especially throughout urban and rural communities in Michigan, a primary focus of this partnership is investing in cancer research.

Through the Cancer Seed Funding Program, Henry Ford + MSU Health Sciences has provided close to \$2.7 million in funding to date toward collaborative cancer research projects led by Henry Ford and MSU principal investigators. Having successfully established a collaborative cancer research task force, the partnership is charting a path toward their ambitious goal of one day achieving National Cancer Institute (NCI) Comprehensive Cancer Center Designation – of which only two others exist in Michigan.

In February 2024, the partnership was named to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) clinical trials network to evaluate emerging technologies for cancer screening,



with the goal of reducing cancer-related illnesses and deaths. The Cancer Screening Research Network (CSRN) will support the Biden-Harris Administration's Cancer Moonshot initiative by investigating how to identify cancers earlier. Henry Ford + MSU Health Sciences is one of just eight organizations that received funding from the NCI to carry out the initial activities of the network.

### Philanthropy paving a way

What laid the groundwork for Henry Ford's clinical research expertise – enabling the powerful progress and impactful partnership epitomized by Henry Ford + MSU Health Sciences today – was a foundational \$100 million grant from the Ford Foundation in 1973. The gift catapulted Henry Ford Health's research enterprise, creating a robust institution teeming with laboratories and bioscientific team members integrated within the health system's clinical mission to accelerate bench-to-bedside research.

Since then, philanthropy has continued to propel research efforts, including in the Hermelin Brain Tumor Center, Henry Ford Pancreatic Cancer Center and the Lisa & Christopher Jeffries Precision Medicine Center – all of which were established by philanthropic gifts and have since helped change the landscape of cancer care and survivorship.

Beyond the clinic walls, Game On Cancer's peer-to-peer fundraising helps local patients and families with the financial burdens that come with a cancer diagnosis. It leverages a dynamic approach to cancer care that supports patients directly through covering the costs of bills, transportation and food, and connecting patients with supportive oncology services and clinical trials – as well as bolstering cancer research through seed funding that helps principal

investigators obtain larger grant funding and work toward future breakthroughs. Last year, funding from Game On Cancer advanced six research projects.

These efforts and more are advancing Henry Ford Health's long history of impactful cancer research and care innovation – a history that has been accelerated by the generosity of Henry Ford Health's donor community combined with the dedicated ingenuity of our scientists and clinicians.

### Pioneering cancer gene therapy

In a competitive cancer research funding landscape and decline in federal research funding, philanthropic contributions can accelerate intermittent progress to pacesetting innovations.

Innovations such as gene therapy utilize vectors to deliver therapeutic genes directly into cancer cells. While gene therapy has applications for various genetic conditions, its role in cancer treatment involves introducing genes that are specifically toxic to cancer cells, effectively targeting and eradicating them. Furthermore, gene therapy has the potential to enhance the effectiveness of conventional treatments like chemotherapy and radiation, creating a synergistic approach to combatting cancer.

Henry Ford Health has been trailblazing cancer gene therapy research efforts for nearly three decades. The program started in the mid-1990s with clinical trials underway by the early 2000s. A Phase I study published in 2002 – evaluating the efficacy of an adenoviral vector to deliver "suicide genes" into cancer cells for treatment of locally recurrent prostate cancer – was the first ever human gene therapy trial using a replication-competent virus. When injected into tumors, the adenoviral vector – derived from the common cold virus – infects the cells and multiplies within them, having an oncolytic or cancer-killing effect.

The Henry Ford gene therapy program utilizes a three-pronged approach combining the oncolytic viral therapy, suicide gene therapy and radiation therapy. Suicide genes are the therapeutic genes that are inserted into the cancer cells. Patients take a medication called a prodrug which converts the expressed genes into active local chemotherapeutic agents. The drugs also have a radio-sensitizing effect, which means that when combined with radiation treatment, cancer cells are killed at an even higher rate.

In the past few years, Henry Ford Health's gene therapy program has added a pro-inflammatory cytokine called interleukin-12 (IL-12) – a protein which circulates throughout the body in times of stress, causing inflammation – into its research. IL-12 stimulates the immune system to kill cancer cells.

The aim is to harness these advancements in gene therapy to achieve better outcomes

than traditional treatments such as surgery, chemotherapy and radiation. Phase I and II clinical trials have demonstrated the potential for gene therapy to improve outcomes for patients with prostate cancer and metastatic pancreatic cancer.

"This is what they call bench-to-bedside. Everything we develop in the lab is taken to the clinic. We started almost three decades ago and we have continuously and steadily been working on this," said Farzan Siddiqui, M.D., Ph.D., Director, Head and Neck Radiation Oncology, Vice Chair, Radiation Oncology and Chair of the Henry Ford Medical Group Board of Governors.

### The Wendell W. Anderson Endowed Chair for Gene Therapy Research

Dr. Siddiqui also holds the esteemed position of Chairholder of the Wendell W. Anderson Endowed Chair for Gene Therapy Research. This chair



## Anonymous gift boosts lung cancer research

In 2023, an anonymous donor made a groundbreaking \$10 million gift that will support the creation of a robust, diverse lung cancer biorepository to store collected samples of lung cancer tissue



and blood. This project, led by Shirish Gadgeel, M.D., Medical Director, Thoracic Oncology, will support data collection and future lung cancer

research at a molecular level to drive treatment innovation. Data derived from the biorepository will help in obtaining R01 grant funding – which can support research breakthroughs in the diagnosis and treatment of lung cancer for patients in Michigan and beyond.

According to the National Cancer Institute, lung cancer is the third most common cancer diagnosis in the United States and is the leading cause of cancer deaths. This generous gift is inspiring hope for future discoveries that can alter the course of survivorship and outcomes for patients with lung cancer.

“We hope this gift becomes a foundation upon which our robust clinical and research programs will build,” said Dr. Gadgeel. “I am overwhelmed with gratitude and optimism as we look to define the next generation of lung cancer treatment.”

was established by the late philanthropic and business leader Wendell W. Anderson to advance the innovative translational gene therapy program. Since its inception, the Endowed Chair has provided reliable funding for clinicians and scientists within the gene therapy program year after year. This ongoing support not only sustains a robust research team but also enables them to conduct experiments and generate data essential for publications and applications for larger-scale funding opportunities.

Dr. Siddiqui, who joined Henry Ford in 2005, has been a pivotal figure in the gene therapy field – leading several clinical trials to completion, authoring multiple peer-reviewed manuscripts, and continuously pushing the boundaries of translational cancer gene therapy research. His appointment bolsters our commitment to advancing cancer care and improving patient outcomes through innovative research.

“We are so proud that Dr. Farzan Siddiqui now holds this gene therapy endowed chair as he is a recognized expert in this field and will help us further advance this program,” said Ben Movsas, M.D., Medical Director of Henry Ford Cancer and Chair of Radiation Oncology.

“Throughout my career here, I have been dedicated to these projects, so this recognition means a great deal to me,” said Dr. Siddiqui. “I am especially grateful for the longstanding support from the Anderson family, which has played a crucial role in our efforts.”

This program, under the leadership of previous chairs – Drs. Jae Ho Kim, Svend Freytag, Ben Movsas, Indrin Chetty – and now Dr. Farzan Siddiqui, has earned over \$12 million in NIH funding, including a program project grant and multiple R01s.



Nearly 30 years in the making, these research efforts have already translated into patient care right here at Henry Ford Health, with close to 150 cancer patients treated with the gene therapy approach through clinical trials.

Dr. Siddiqui hopes to continue developing the gene therapy program through new innovations they can test in the clinic, and to expand their clinical trials to have a larger impact in Henry Ford Health’s patient population and beyond.

“We’ve already started submitting for external funding again using the funds that this chair

provided to do the background preclinical work. Hopefully this cycle will continue, and we’ll be able to get more funds to conduct larger scale clinical studies in the future,” Dr. Siddiqui said. “You just have to keep pushing the boundaries.” ■



# Innovative surgical skills training

Transforming medical training and education through technology

*By Brooke Werdlow*

Henry Ford Health is a place where learners of all ages – from youth pursuing healthcare career pathways, to medical and nursing students, to senior physician faculty practicing new techniques – grow their knowledge and hone their skills. Advancing this effort, nestled in the lower level of Henry Ford Hospital, is the Henry Ford Education, Research and Leadership Development (HERALD) Lab – a hub of medical education where innovative technology from eye-tracking to virtual and augmented reality meets clinical training to enhance medical skills and care delivery.

Codirected by John D. Mitchell, M.D., Vice Chair for Academic Affairs in the Department of Anesthesiology, Pain Management and Perioperative Medicine, and Chris Clark, M.D., Fellowship Director for Advanced Emergency Medicine Ultrasound, HERALD Lab is a space where the next generation of clinicians and educational leaders are trained and mentored.

HERALD Lab got its origins in the former HAP Building in 2022 before moving to Henry Ford Hospital in 2023, and initially grew out of a shared passion for accelerating the learning curve for a wide range of clinical skills, both technical and non-technical. What began as a space utilized primarily by anesthesiology and emergency medicine team members has since evolved into a

locus of multidisciplinary collaboration, with built-in space to accommodate more specialties, including cardiology, vascular surgery, internal medicine, urology and more.

“Training people in medical education and research can be boring – or it can be fun. We’re taking the fun route by getting them hands-on doing the things they’re passionate about,” Dr. Mitchell explained. “And we find once people get the appetite for that, then they’re hooked and they’re much more likely to continue careers in medical education, research and academics, which is really important for our departments and for Henry Ford overall!”

HERALD Lab is centered around four core goals: improving learning and retention skills, knowledge and workflow; developing and applying new tools to measure educational outcomes; making education safer and more efficient; and enhancing educational leadership. These objectives coalesce to help the best and brightest learners grow, flourish and innovate throughout their careers.

### The training environment

Education within the lab utilizes a wide range of equipment – from low fidelity models like bananas or oranges for practicing injections up to more complex anatomical task trainers built for placing lines or chest tubes. Training is also carried out with augmented reality (AR) simulators, which are screen-based technologies that superimpose virtual images onto one’s real surroundings. Learners can place an ultrasound probe on a rubber body form and, through AR technology displayed on a screen, see the inside of the body as if they were treating a real patient. HERALD Lab’s virtual reality (VR) technology offers an even more immersive experience, wherein a user’s entire visual field is composed of an interactive digital environment through a VR headset to give the feeling of being in an inpatient setting performing procedures.



“Having a safe space to learn how to do these skills and then translating them into clinical practice is going to directly affect our patient care.”

Medical training in a virtual environment means an endless wealth of resources. Learners can repeat procedures without the concern of opening new kits, but still benefit from a fresh start each time.

“It doesn’t take away from learning how to do a procedure on a task trainer or a donor body in a procedural cadaver lab. However, you can have somebody do a procedure in VR 10, 20 or 50 times before they do it on patients. We think that is going to help with patient safety as well,” said Dr. Clark.

Whatever the technical skill – whether placing a central, arterial, or intravenous line or a chest tube, performing core skills like point-of-care ultrasound (POCUS), or training high-acuity, low occurrence procedures like cricothyrotomy – HERALD Lab is where learners of all kinds can receive individualized feedback. By integrating a range of technology into training, Drs. Clark and Mitchell aim to bring novice and intermediate learners to expert level as efficiently as possible to make patient care safer.

“When you get granular and go one-on-one with a learner, or work with a small cohort of learners to perfect their craft and get high quality research, data and analytics – that can help them improve their performance and improve the way that you teach,” said Dr. Mitchell. “We have that equipment, technology and know-how here in the lab, and we’re eager to share that across disciplines with anybody.”



Dr. Chris Clark, Fellowship Director for Advanced Emergency Medicine Ultrasound, HERALD Lab, demonstrates how to use the simulator.

### Emphasis on anybody

The lab has hosted medical students from Michigan State University and Wayne State University, high school healthcare hopefuls participating in the Readyng Youth Scientists for Excellence in Medicine, Health Equity and Discovery program, physicians, advanced practice providers, nurses, paramedics and even military medics.

HERALD Lab has found a particular training niche in point-of-care ultrasound – which Dr. Clark considers a universal language across specialties thanks to its ubiquity and utility in diagnostic care. For military medics and corpsmen, POCUS proficiency is especially crucial for field environments that lack other diagnostic technology. It is safe, effective and can quickly help healthcare personnel identify issues and determine the most appropriate pathways for treatment as opposed to waiting for test results. With POCUS training underway through state-of-

the-art AR and VR technology, Drs. Mitchell and Clark are striving to ensure the next generation of medical learners not only have these skills but are proficient and competent at them so that they can provide better care for their patients.

Continuous dialogue with team members across departments also helps inform what kinds of training are most beneficial. For surgical nurses and scrub techs, being able to recognize instruments is crucial while assisting in operating rooms. Drs. Clark and Mitchell are in the planning phases of a project to help learners work with and recognize these instruments in a digital environment so that they no longer have to take sets of surgical equipment out of service for training.

“At the end of the day, we want to train really strong providers. Having a safe space to learn how to do these skills and then translating them into clinical practice is going to directly affect our patient care. That’s really what’s most important,” Dr. Clark shared.

### Future goals for HERALD Lab

Drs. Mitchell and Clark hope the future holds an expansion of HERALD Lab’s virtual reality technology – broadening the type of procedures that can be effectively trained in VR and ultimately making the technology, which currently relies on expensive headsets, more accessible to everyone by leveraging devices like cell phones. Their goal is for Henry Ford to become one of the first healthcare organizations implementing VR training systemwide.

Fluidity is key to this endeavor. Being able to grow into different physical spaces provides more access to learners systemwide, as well as continually integrating new technology into the training practices as they become available. With recent expansion efforts, HERALD Lab now officially conducts training in three versatile spaces:

- HERALD Virtual Reality Lab: a reconfigured space housed in the HERALD Lab footprint with seven full-time VR stations and growing





A student is trained on how to use an ultrasound at the Center for Simulation, Education and Research at Henry Ford Hospital.

## Bolstering Henry Ford’s educational infrastructure

The Center for Simulation, Education and Research at Henry Ford Hospital is an innovative, risk-free learning environment where students and healthcare professionals can practice and refine their clinical skills founded on a mission of encouraging innovation and continuous learning for team members, patients and their families. To enable this, the 15,000-square-foot space utilizes state-of-the-art computers, task trainers and patient simulator mannequins that replicate medical conditions in simulated patient care environments. With classrooms, operating room theaters, a minimally invasive procedure lab, birthing, ophthalmic surgery and vascular surgery simulations and more, the facility offers a wealth of resources to help train and retain tomorrow’s top clinicians.

Reconfigurable suites offer variability for the wide range of teams that use the space – able to replicate the emergency department, operating room, intensive care unit, labor and delivery suite and more. Medical educators regularly review and enhance the Center’s curricula to optimize learning outcomes.

“There are always new things to teach and ways to keep learners engaged and safe to practice and learn without direct risk to a patient or study subject,” said Craig Reickert, M.D., Division Head,

Colon & Rectal Surgery and Director, Center for Simulation, Education and Research. “Learners can practice at their own pace to reach the desired level of success for their needs.”

The facility’s advanced computer system supports everything from surgical robots to audiovisual and archiving equipment – allowing for a wide range of procedural simulations and even reaching beyond care delivery to improve skills such as team communication and clinician-patient interaction. The Center is the most advanced facility of its kind in Michigan and one of the largest nationwide – and it is also accredited as a Level 1 Comprehensive Education Institute by the American College of Surgeons.

The Center for Simulation, Education and Research’s dynamic infrastructure reinforces Henry Ford Health’s commitment to education and training, sharpening team members’ skills so that all our patients have access to highly compassionate, world-class care.



To learn more about Henry Ford Hospital’s Center for Simulation, Education and Research, visit <https://www.henryford.com/hcp/med-ed/sim-center>.

– increasing teaching, research and broader application of the technology systemwide.

- HERALD POCUS Lab: a dedicated space for state-of-the-art AR POCUS trainers with room for hands-on, live model practice with advanced motion tracking technology for rapid feedback.
- HERALD Multipurpose Lab: a flexible use space for traditional task and procedural training, with

added POCUS scanning, VR, live lecture and case conference space.

Together, these three spaces allow for larger learner groups or multiple simultaneous courses – significantly increasing access.

Added Dr. Mitchell, “We train the best in the country and the world, and we want to keep and recruit those folks. The best way to do that is

having continuity, having people really invested in the projects they’ve started and the ideas they’re building here, and wanting to stay on and continue to improve their specialty.”

Henry Ford Health is one of the largest medical training enterprises in the country, with over 6,000 learners trained at Henry Ford annually. HERALD Lab strengthens Henry Ford Health’s educational infrastructure – delivering on the

organization’s commitment as a world-class academic medical center by teaching the ambitious learners who will form the foundation of tomorrow’s care. ■

# Behind the white coat

**Ellen Air, M.D., Ph.D.**

Chair, Neurosurgery and Co-Medical Director,  
Neuroscience

**A**ward-winning Henry Ford Health physician, researcher and leader, Ellen L. Air, M.D., Ph.D., was named the system's Chair of the Neurosurgery Department in May 2023. Upon her appointment, she became just the fifth woman to be named chair of an academic neurosurgery department in the country's history and the first at Henry Ford Health.

Dr. Air is responsible for advancing the Neurosurgery Department's clinical and research enterprises, as well as providing executive leadership for Henry Ford's inpatient and outpatient neurosurgery services.

A member of Henry Ford's Department of Neurosurgery since 2014, Dr. Air also serves as the Co-Medical Director of Neuroscience. She previously served as the Neurosurgery Vice Chair for Operations, Interim Division Head for Movement Disorders in the Department of Neurology, and was the Neurosurgery Residency Program Director. Additionally, she is an Associate Clinical Professor at both Michigan State University and Wayne State University.



**Q** Why did you become a physician?

**A** Admittedly, I had physicians in my family, so I had some understanding of it. But at my core I've always been a big science geek, and I was that way from the very beginning. As a small kid, I always gravitated toward sciences and biology, and I also really liked tinkering with things. I think that's where my draw toward surgery began, and as I continued to move through education, it was strengthened by the experiences I was able to have.

I also did a Ph.D. in neuroscience and was able to work toward understanding how the nervous system works and how those new understandings ultimately get applied to patient care. As I got into the clinical realm working with patients, it was just such an amazing experience and an honor to be in that position, helping somebody. Again, as a surgeon, I like fixing things if possible. Neurosurgery really fit that for me.

**Q** What attracted you to Henry Ford?

**A** When I came to Henry Ford to interview, I was in awe of the mix of innovation, the resources and the commitment to education – but all wrapped in a package of humility. Individuals who are always looking to do something better and not resting on their laurels, and really good human beings who care deeply about their patients and one another as colleagues. That has turned out to be an environment that's been truly meaningful to me and has certainly allowed me to flourish.

**Q** As a physician leader, what advice would you give students entering the field today?

**A** Medicine is changing rapidly and there are going to be a lot of new challenges. At its core, the physician-patient relationship and even the relationships that you have amongst other physicians and with your patients, families and the community have to be what's driving you.

What medicine looked like when I started is not what it looks like today and is certainly not what it's going to look like in the next decade as individuals coming into medicine start their training. Having some flexibility and understanding of that is important. If you love the nuts and bolts of being a physician and talking to your patients and helping them stay well or get well, then you'll be good.

**Q** What are your research interests and what technological advancements are you most excited about in treating neurological disorders?

**A** My specialty within neurosurgery is what's often termed "functional neurosurgery." It's really understanding the electrical circuits of the human brain and spine and leveraging electrical currents from stimulation to understand and treat neurologic disease. That understanding just continues to grow, and I think the ability to impact other neurologic diseases is going to explode over time. That, to me, is super exciting as we are now in this world of more AI. Some of that tremendous computing power is going to help us make those moves forward, I think.

**Q** As a Trustee for the Henry Ford Health Foundation and dedicated donor, what is the importance of philanthropy in medicine?

**A** One of the great advantages we have in the healthcare system in the U.S. is the opportunity to innovate in ways that not many places have. But the reality is the financial support around medical care is going to continue to get tighter, so the impact of philanthropy in medicine is only growing. Donors have the ability to say, "I want to support this effort moving forward," because a lot of the most innovative ideas aren't necessarily the things that get NIH grant support right away. They take iteration to build to that point.

So, in innovation, philanthropy is tremendous. And when it comes to support services for patients, their loved ones and the team members in the healthcare system, that's where philanthropy can have a really big impact on the quality of life. ■

# Henry Ford Health Stars

The Henry Ford Stars honors residents and/or fellows who have gone above and beyond in one of the following areas:

- Consistently spreads the joy of medicine
- Provides extraordinary patient care
- Outstanding humanitarian service
- Above and beyond in the support of peers and colleagues
- Behind the scenes superstar



## December 2023

- Dr. Ricardo Ayala**  
Anesthesiology, Henry Ford Hospital  
Consistently spreads the joy of medicine
- Dr. Lauren Harvey**  
Internal Medicine, Henry Ford Hospital  
Provides/provided extraordinary patient care
- Dr. Alexa Jarman**  
Surgery, Henry Ford Hospital  
Provides/provided extraordinary patient care
- Dr. Abbey Mckee-Boyes**  
Family Medicine, Henry Ford Hospital  
Above and beyond in the support of peers/colleagues

## March 2024

- Dr. Jack Avedikian**  
General Surgery, Henry Ford Wyandotte Hospital  
Provides/provided extraordinary patient care
- Dr. Angelo Brennan**  
Emergency Medicine, Henry Ford Macomb Hospital  
Above and beyond in the support of peers/colleagues
- Dr. Hajira Chaudhry**  
Psychiatry, Henry Ford Jackson Hospital  
Above and beyond in the support of peers/colleagues
- Dr. Michael Diffley**  
General Surgery, Henry Ford Hospital  
Consistently spreads the joy of medicine
- Dr. Elizabeth Dobben**  
Radiology, Henry Ford Hospital  
Above and beyond in the support of peers/colleagues
- Dr. Symone Martin**  
Family Medicine, Henry Ford Hospital  
Above and beyond in the support of peers/colleagues
- Dr. Matthew Meranda**  
Internal Medicine, Henry Ford Hospital  
Provides/provided extraordinary patient care

## June 2024

- Dr. Jorge Arturo Larco**  
Transitional Year, Henry Ford Jackson Hospital  
Provides/provided extraordinary patient care
- Dr. Marcus Brown**  
General Surgery, Henry Ford Wyandotte Hospital  
Provides/provided extraordinary patient care
- Dr. Gabrielle Gear**  
Obstetrics and Gynecology, Henry Ford Hospital  
Behind the scenes superstar
- Dr. Cameron Hanson**  
Emergency Medicine, Henry Ford Macomb Hospital  
Above and beyond in the support of peers/colleagues
- Dr. Henry Kwon**  
General Surgery, Henry Ford Hospital  
Above and beyond in the support of peers/colleagues
- Dr. Kristopher Mosier**  
Internal Medicine, Henry Ford Hospital  
Above and beyond in the support of peers/colleagues
- Dr. Gregory Nielsen**  
Psychiatry, Henry Ford Hospital  
Above and beyond in the support of peers/colleagues

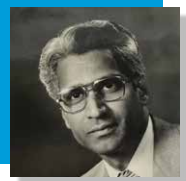
## September 2024

- Dr. Loyal Abou Dahr**  
Anesthesiology, Henry Ford Hospital  
Above and beyond in the support of peers/colleagues
- Dr. Caleb Alley**  
Surgery, Henry Ford Wyandotte Hospital  
Above and beyond in the support of peers/colleagues
- Dr. Andrew Chou**  
Cardiology, Henry Ford Hospital  
Above and beyond in the support of peers/colleagues

- Dr. Maddie Drallmeier**  
Internal Medicine, Henry Ford Hospital  
Provides/provided extraordinary patient care
- Dr. Faisal Nimri**  
Gastroenterology, Henry Ford Hospital  
Above and beyond in the support of peers/colleagues
- Dr. Karlie Shumway**  
General Surgery, Henry Ford Jackson Hospital  
Above and beyond in the support of peers/colleagues

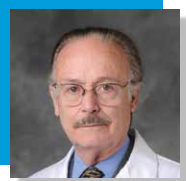
## December 2024

- Dr. Taher Jamali**  
Gastroenterology, Henry Ford Hospital  
Above and beyond in the support of peers/colleagues
- Dr. Wasih Kamran**  
Radiology, Henry Ford Hospital  
Behind the scenes superstar
- Dr. Mizra Khan**  
Psychiatry, Henry Ford Jackson Hospital  
Above and beyond in the support of peers/colleagues
- Dr. Haya Omeish**  
Internal Medicine, Henry Ford Hospital  
Consistently spreads the joy of medicine
- Dr. Allison Sadowski**  
Family Medicine, Henry Ford Macomb Hospital  
Provides/provided extraordinary patient care
- Dr. Pavan Shrestha**  
Podiatry, Henry Ford Wyandotte Hospital  
Above and beyond in the support of peers/colleagues
- Dr. Derek Wolfe**  
Psychiatry, Henry Ford Hospital  
Above and beyond in the support of peers/colleagues



**Mohammed Rafiullah Ansari, M.D.**, age 88, passed away on January 17, 2024. After graduating from medical school in India, Dr. Ansari did an internship at St. Luke's Hospital in St Paul, MN before joining the Department of Surgery at Henry Ford in 1966. He finished

his general surgery residency with Dr. Joseph Ponka and subsequently completed a fellowship in vascular surgery with Drs. Emerick Szilagyi and Roger F. Smith. Dr. Ansari saw Henry Ford Hospital through some of its toughest challenges and was part of a cadre of physicians who helped power the transition from hospital to health system. He was a quiet but forceful presence in the department whose wise counsel was sought by all. Gradually his practice shifted to an ambulatory surgery practice where he continued to teach residents. He retired from the Henry Ford Medical Group in 2000, devoting time to his family and community service.



**Oscar A. Carretero, M.D.**, passed away on January 23, 2024. For 62 years, Dr. Carretero devoted his life to patients with hypertension, serving as Division Head of Hypertension Research at Henry Ford and the American Heart Association's President and Chairman of

the Council for High Blood Pressure Research. Dr. Carretero was a prolific researcher, publishing more than 400 papers in peer-reviewed journals and dozens of book chapters. During his tenure, Dr. Carretero helped raise more than \$100 million toward research advancements and trained dozens of postdoctoral fellows. His impact will be felt for many years to come.



**Thomas Doyle, M.D.**, passed away on September 15, 2024, after a prolonged illness. He was 75. For 30 years, Dr. Doyle was a member of Henry Ford's Hematology/Oncology Division. After serving with the U.S. Army in the Vietnam War, he completed medical

school at Michigan State University and embarked on his residency and fellowship at Henry Ford Hospital. He worked in private practice in Traverse City before returning to Henry Ford Hospital as a senior staff physician in the division in 1988. He held this position until his retirement in January 2019. In his tenure at Henry Ford, Dr. Doyle was known as an active researcher and principal investigator, contributing to numerous clinical trials and research projects. He was equally esteemed in patient care and the academic mission of the division.



**Joseph P. Elliott, M.D.**, age 95, passed away on January 3, 2024. He graduated from Johns Hopkins University with a chemistry degree before attending Hahnemann Medical School in Philadelphia. In 1954, Dr. Elliott joined Henry Ford for his surgical residency.

Alongside Drs. Emerick Szilagyi and Roger F. Smith, Dr. Elliott was one of the original members of the Vascular Surgery Department, becoming Head of Vascular Surgery in the 1980s. During his 41-year career at Henry Ford Hospital, he also served on the Board of Governors, chaired innumerable committees and served as the president of multiple surgical organizations – the Detroit Surgical Association, the Academy of Surgery of Detroit, the Michigan Vascular Surgical Society and the Michigan Chapter of the American College of Surgeons. Dr. Elliott's career was exemplified by his dedication to caring for his patients and their unflinching devotion to him.



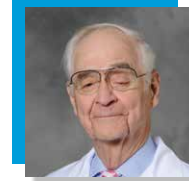
**Jennifer Kathleen Grogan, M.D.**, age 49, passed away on July 31, 2022. Dr. Grogan received a bachelor's degree and Master of Science from the University of Toledo. She earned her medical degree from the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine in

2001. Dr. Grogan completed her general surgery residency at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit before returning home to Toledo to practice general and trauma surgery at The Toledo Hospital. With a passion for mission trips, Dr. Grogan went to India, Guatemala, China, Ghana, Togo and the Democratic Republic of Congo. She spent a year in Congo as a surgeon and teaching surgery to Congolese physicians. She loved being a surgeon and practiced until being diagnosed with cancer in 2017.



**Donard Haggins, M.D.**, passed away on August 10, 2024. Dr. Haggins was a highly respected member of our Rheumatology Division for more than 30 years, making invaluable contributions to the division and the lives of many patients. After finishing

his residency and fellowship at Wayne State University in 1986, Dr. Haggins worked in private practice for four years. He joined the Henry Ford Division of Rheumatology in 1990. While at Henry Ford Health, Dr. Haggins contributed greatly to the patient care and academic mission of the division. Throughout his 34-year tenure, he proved himself as an outstanding clinician and teacher, but more than his excellent clinical expertise, everyone remembers him as a genuine, kind human being. He was well-liked by patients and colleagues and served as a role model for Rheumatology fellows.



**Philip Charles Hessburg, M.D.**, passed away October 2, 2024, at age 94, following a short battle with cancer. A co-founder and president emeritus of the Detroit Institute of Ophthalmology, he was part of the Henry Ford Hospital community for much of eight decades.

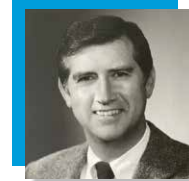
Dr. Hessburg wore many hats: physician, teacher, mentor, researcher, writer, inventor, leader and advocate. In addition to being an accomplished ophthalmologist and surgeon, he authored over 100 peer-reviewed papers on a variety of ophthalmic issues. He also invented an early intraocular lens used in cataract surgery and a vacuum corneal trephine for corneal transplants commonly used today, among other inventions.



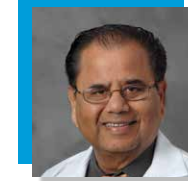
**Jeffrey Jundt, M.D.**, age 68, passed away Friday, February 9, 2024. Dr. Jundt graduated from Benedictine University and the University of Illinois College of Medicine. As a physician, Dr. Jundt completed his Internal Medicine residency and Rheumatology fellowship

at Henry Ford Hospital. He served many roles in his extensive medical career, including Assistant Professor of Medicine at Texas A&M in College Station; Chief of Rheumatology at Scott and White Medical Center in Temple, TX; and Regional Medical Research Specialist with Pfizer Pharmaceuticals. He also worked in private practice with Arthritis Consultants PA in Killeen, TX. Dr. Jundt authored numerous articles and lectured extensively on topics of Rheumatology during his career and displayed an unwavering commitment to providing excellent rheumatologic care for his patients.

**Thomas Killip III, M.D.**, age 97, passed away on September 8, 2024. Dr. Killip was a renowned scholar and physician who helped modernize the field of cardiology, a principal investigator of the CASS study of coronary artery surgery and helped developed the coronary care unit and Killip Classification of myocardial infarction. He served as Henry Ford's



Chair of Medicine from 1979-1984. He obtained his medical degree from Cornell University and joined Beth Israel Medical Center, now Mount Sinai Beth Israel, in 1984 as Director of the Department of Medicine. During his 21-year tenure, he served as Executive Vice President for Medical Affairs, Director of the Heart Institute, and Interim President and Chief Executive Officer.



**Thiruvengadathan (Tom) Madhavan, M.D.**, passed away on June 4, 2024. He pursued his medical degree at Madurai Medical College and graduated with high honors. He came to the United States and became double board certified in internal medicine and infectious

diseases. Dr. Madhavan trained and worked at Henry Ford Hospital prior to transitioning to private practice. During his time with Henry Ford, he conducted groundbreaking research on AIDS treatment early in the epidemic – an effort lauded as critical to the health of the community. For over 50 years, Dr. Madhavan practiced as a compassionate and skilled physician. He was admired his clinical acumen, his dedication to medical education and his efforts to advance the science.

**Biresh Carl Mahanti M.D.**, age 97, passed away on May 17, 2023. Dr. Mahanti was born in Puri, India in 1926. He attended medical school at Utakal University in 1944. He emigrated to the United States in 1950 after applying for a residency program, receiving his master's degree from McGill University in 1958. Along with Arthur Vienberg, M.D.C.M., Dr. Mahanti performed experimental studies on coronary constriction surgery at Royal Victoria Hospital in Montreal. He worked as a surgeon at Wyandotte Hospital along with Seaway Hospital in Michigan for 30 years, earning recognition by his peers.



**Thao Pham, D.O.** passed away on August 29, 2024 at age 55. Born in Qui Nhon, Vietnam, she graduated from Jersey Village High School in Texas and applied herself at the University of Texas and Des Moines University to earn a doctorate in osteopathic

medicine. Thao helped heal those in her community at Henry Ford Family Medicine – Fraser, formerly known as the Fraser Family Practice, and was well regarded by her patients and colleagues.

## Henry Ford Health launches new population health subsidiary

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 90% of the annual healthcare expenditure in the U.S. is for people with chronic and mental health conditions, with about 50% of healthcare costs incurred by just 5% of patients. Primary care physicians often face the challenge of caring for patients who have multiple, complex conditions.

To tackle these challenges, Henry Ford Health recently launched a subsidiary dedicated to advancing population health, Populance. Populance supports doctors, hospitals and health plans by providing value-based care services designed to improve healthcare outcomes and enhance the patient experience while lowering the total cost of care.

Since the early 2000s, Henry Ford Health and its subsidiary nonprofit health insurance company, Health Alliance Plan (HAP), have developed

successful programs designed to help patients and members manage a variety of chronic conditions. Populance combines this expertise into a new organization.

Populance offers care management, patient monitoring and digital outreach tools to help physicians more effectively manage the care of patients with chronic conditions such as diabetes, hypertension, congestive heart failure and COPD. Its services are designed to reduce hospitalizations, readmissions and ER visits while enhancing and maximizing the patient's time at home – using health analytics to identify and close gaps in care for high-risk patients.

“Healthcare consumers and employers continue to be challenged with the cost of care,” said Robin Damschroder, FACHE, President of Value-Based Enterprise and Chief Financial Officer. “Yet despite

increased spending nationally, health outcomes have not improved for all populations in our communities. Populance helps identify and bridge these gaps in care.”

Case management is a key component of population health solutions. Populance's case managers monitor and ensure patients understand physician instructions and adhere to care plans, and – through open communication with patients – they can ensure patients have access to safe housing, transportation for appointments, healthy foods, as well as any health plan benefits or government services they may be entitled to.

Populance, headquartered in Troy, Michigan, has 150 team members who currently serve approximately 600,000 patients.

**populance**  
Powered by Henry Ford Health

## Mental health milestone: Henry Ford Behavioral Health Hospital opens

A crucial area of care that is growing exponentially in need is behavioral health. Henry Ford Health, under the leadership of Chair of Psychiatry Deepak Prabhakar, M.D., took a giant leap forward at the end of 2024 with the grand opening of a new Henry Ford Behavioral Health Hospital on the campus of Henry Ford West Bloomfield. Clinical staff from Kingswood Hospital will relocate to this state-of-the-art facility.

This investment was made in partnership with Acadia Healthcare, which supports health systems in achieving outstanding clinical outcomes in this specialty. The new facility will offer a full spectrum of care allowing our team to better reach populations that are showing an accelerated need of mental health interventions: seniors and adolescents.

The hospital will increase the current capacity of 98 beds

at Kingswood to 184 licensed beds with an opportunity to expand further. The capacity for pediatric beds will almost double from the current operations with separate units for children and adolescents. In addition to the general adult psychiatric units, the facility will also have specialized units for psychiatric intensive care, geriatrics, mood, and thought disorders. With each unit environment designed for safety, efficiency and compassionate care, patients will have a clear view of shared spaces, ample daylight with views of the beautiful campus and access to planned outdoor activities.

This is the culmination of years of planning and meticulous attention to detail, and marks significant gains in what the behavioral health team can

accomplish. Said Dr. Prabhakar, “The Henry Ford Behavioral Health Hospital represents hope and healing. A place that will provide compassionate, comprehensive care across the lifespan for individuals with mental illness. Each day, we see patients and families in our emergency rooms seeking help during some of the most difficult moments of their lives. With this hospital, we are not just meeting a critical need – we’re making it easier for people to get the care they deserve in a healing environment.”

In partnership with Wayne State University and Michigan State University, the hospital will provide vital expanded training and education opportunities for the next generation of behavioral health professionals.



# SAVE THE DATE!

October 17-18, 2025  
*Alumni Jubilee*

The Henry Ford Medical Group's Alumni Jubilee returns to Detroit with a welcome reception, CMEs, Grand Rounds, department dinners, and a gala on Saturday night with an awards presentation.

For more information, contact Amanda Bennett, Director, Annual Giving and Alumni Relations, at [abennet6@hfhs.org](mailto:abennet6@hfhs.org) or visit [henryford.com/alumnijubilee](http://henryford.com/alumnijubilee).



## Make a lasting gift in support of the Henry Ford Medical Group Alumni Association.

Established in 1950, the Henry Ford Medical Group Alumni Association fosters a vast network of current and former medical and research staff who trained or worked at Henry Ford Health. Over 7,000 active members connect to share news and information, forming professional relationships and friendships that span decades and great distances — all to strengthen our commitment to providing the best possible care to every patient we serve.

To make a gift, contact **Amanda Bennett, Director, Annual Giving and Alumni Relations**, at [abennet6@hfhs.org](mailto:abennet6@hfhs.org).

THANK YOU

## Referring physician office

To refer a patient to any specialty or to connect with a Henry Ford provider, please call:

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[HenryFord.com/rpo](http://HenryFord.com/rpo)

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