# HELP FROM OUR FRIENDS

Numerous individuals and foundations have advanced the P&S missions over this past fiscal year, with philanthropic donations exceeding \$200 million. Below are just a few of the projects that have benefited from the generosity of donors.



The Kempner Foundation has supported several Department of Medicine junior investigators through current and previous gifts. Some of those recipients, from left: Emily M. Stein, Serge Cremers, Thuy-Tien Dam, Kyle K. Nishiyama, Mishaela R. Rubin, Thomas Nickolas, and Natalie E. Cusano.

## **Junior Faculty in Endocrinology**

The Thomas L. Kempner Jr. Foundation has pledged \$1.2 million to support junior investigators in the Department of Medicine's Division of Endocrinology. The gift honors Elizabeth Shane, MD, professor of medicine, vice chair for clinical and epidemiological research, and associate dean for student research. The gift will provide salary and administrative support for junior faculty to conduct research in osteoporosis, helping young physician-scientists establish a career path in research while strengthening the division's ability to retain and recruit the most promising young endocrinologists.

# Allen I. Hyman Establishes Professorship

Allen I. Hyman, MD, professor emeritus of anesthesiology at P&S, has established the Allen I. Hyman, MD, Professorship of Critical Care Anesthesiology. Through his clinical, investigative, and advisory work, Dr. Hyman played a lead role in shaping critical care anesthesiology at Columbia, and this gift represents his additional investment in the future of the field. The current holder of the Hyman Professorship is Vivek K. Moitra, MD, chief of the Division of Critical Care in the Department of Anesthesiology and medical director of the cardiothoracic and surgical intensive care units.



## **Psychiatric Care for** At-Risk Children

The Viola W. Bernard Foundation has given \$1.1 million to support programs in the Department of Psychiatry's Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. The gift will advance efforts in research, training for child psychiatry fellows and faculty, and clinical services with an emphasis on the

needs of children in underserved communities. It represents a significant expansion of an endowed fund established at Columbia in 1982 to provide permanent support for the Division of



Viola W. Bernard

Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. The fund honors and extends the legacy of Viola W. Bernard, MD, a longtime P&S psychiatry faculty member who died in 1998. Dr. Bernard, who was associated with Columbia for more than five decades, dedicated her career in psychiatry to understanding and helping adopted and foster children. An authority on community and social psychiatry, child psychiatry, and adoption, she played an important role in the evolution of Columbia's Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry.



## Advancing Nurture Science

The Einhorn Family Charitable Trust has made a commitment to support the CUMC Nurture Science Program, which plans to roll out a major initiative to develop, test, and disseminate nurture-based therapies for U.S. health care providers. The goal of the initiative is to provide families across the country with easy-to-follow techniques that prevent emotional, behavioral, and developmental problems in children. The program has received longstanding support from the Einhorn Family Charitable Trust, which supported the program's launch. Under the leadership of director Martha G. Welch, MD, and co-director Michael M. Myers, PhD, the Nurture Science Program has established a scientific link between family emotional connection and healthy child devel-

opment. Previous research conducted by program researchers showed that mother-child communication begins before birth, conditioning the bodies of both mother and child to respond to each other throughout development. Mother and child continue to draw on these responses after birth to achieve a state of emotional and physiological co-regulation. The program has developed a parenting strategy to establish and maintain this state of co-regulation and is working to introduce therapies based on this concept in a variety of health care settings. The Einhorn Trust's latest gift includes \$6 million designated as matching funds. Columbia and the Nurture Science Program have until 2020 to raise \$6 million from other sources.

## Support for Cardiology

The Mallah Family Foundation has committed \$2.5 million to establish the Mallah Family Professorship of Cardiology in the Department of Medicine's Division of Cardiology. The gift honors Allan Schwartz, MD, chief of the Division of Cardiology, and will enhance the division's ability to recruit and retain outstanding cardiologists whose goal is to provide a holistic approach to the care of cardiac patients, specifically geriatric patients.

#### **Substance Abuse Research and Awareness**

The Eric D. Hadar Family Foundation has committed \$2 million to support the Division on Substance Abuse within the Department of Psychiatry. The gift will establish an endowed fund of \$750,000 for the Eric D. Hadar Distinguished Lecture, an annual lecture series focused on substance abuse, and \$1.25 million for the Eric D. Hadar Research Fund, which will advance research by providing resources for fellowship and faculty support, research projects, and laboratory infrastructure. The inaugural Eric D. Hadar Distinguished Lecture is scheduled for Nov. 2, 2016. This gift represents the foundation's first significant gift since its formation late last year. The foundation plans to announce additional support targeted toward substance abuse research and treatment, with an emphasis on inner city children.

#### **Pediatric Precision Medicine**

The Sohn Conference Foundation is giving CUMC a \$1.5 million grant over three years to establish a pediatric oncology precision medicine program that provides immediate access to next-generation genomic technologies for pediatric cancer patients throughout New York City. The goal of the program is to demonstrate the value of the platform to insurers and regulatory bodies and to advocate for policy changes to cover these approaches for future patients. At a January 2016 press event to announce the program, Evan Sohn, vice president and co-founder of the foundation, joined CUMC leadership in discussing the importance of translational research to developing a new generation of targeted treatments for pediatric cancer.

### Translational Neuroscience

The Belle and Murray Nathan Philanthropic Fund gave \$2.5 million through the Jewish Communal Fund to establish the Belle and Murray Nathan Professorship of Neurology. This professorship, named in memory of Columbia College alumni Belle and Murray Nathan, will support a faculty member specializing in translational neuroscience, including the genetics of neurodegenerative diseases. This gift is just one example of the Nathans' longtime commitment to Columbia and to medical research. Belle and Murray Nathan also established a scholarship at Columbia College and a lecture series at Columbia's law school and have funded scientific research at other institutions, including Ben Gurion University.