

Imagine

for a moment



this family without their father

Imagine

One intensely focused Institute with one critical mission

Nearly 120 years ago, Dr. Roswell Park had a vision for a center exclusively and intensely focused on providing treatment and conducting research to find a cure for all diagnosed with cancer. Dr. Park's vision led to the first facility in the world dedicated only to cancer research.

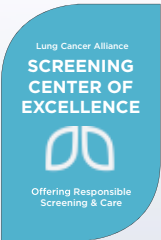
Roswell Park set the standard for a multi-disciplinary approach to the highest quality cancer care. Today, Roswell Park continues in pursuit of its mission as one of only 45 comprehensive cancer centers in the United States.

This year has been another eventful one for Roswell Park. The following include some of the highlights:



- A national search concluded when the Roswell Park Board of Directors named **Candace S. Johnson, PhD, the Institute's 15th President and CEO**. Dr. Johnson is the first female leader in Roswell Park's 117-year history.
- **The National Cancer Institute (NCI) renewed the coveted and prestigious Cancer Center Support Grant** and extended Roswell Park's status as an NCI-Designated Comprehensive Cancer Center, a distinction it has held continuously for 40 years.
- Researchers at Roswell Park **received a prestigious grant of nearly \$12 million** from the New York State Stem Cell Science Program to support their innovative research aimed at developing new treatments for advanced ovarian cancer.
- **The NCI chose Roswell Park to serve as a Lead Academic Participating Site (LAPS)**, providing scientific leadership for the development and conduct of clinical trials within the new National Clinical Trials Network.

- The Lung Cancer Screening Program earned the commendation of a major national advocacy group when the **Lung Cancer Alliance named Roswell Park a Screening Center of Excellence**.
- BlueCross BlueShield of Western New York **redesignated Roswell Park as a Blue Distinction Center** for delivering quality transplant care as part of the Blue Distinction Centers for Specialty Care® program.
- **The new Endoscopy Center was unveiled** as a multipurpose clinical space bringing advanced endoscopy and interventional pulmonology services into one state-of-the-art facility.
- **Breast imaging services were expanded**, offering routine screening mammography to improve breast cancer screening rates and increase detection of breast cancer at the earliest, most curable stages.
- **More than 30 RPCI research teams shared findings** at the American Association for Cancer Research Annual Meeting.



Please see the stories behind other highlights that have occurred at Roswell Park throughout this 2014-2015 Annual Report for the Roswell Park Alliance Foundation.



Imagine

A world without cancer

It's not hard to envision that the scientific and clinical advancements taking place at Roswell Park will ultimately lead to cures for cancer.

Why does this idea of finding a cure — a feat that once seemed impossible — now seem attainable? It's because of the transformational approaches to cancer research at Roswell Park, and how they've resulted in new forms of care. These groundbreaking initiatives have already saved lives, and they could not have been achieved without the support from our donors, volunteers and fundraisers.

Only a couple of years ago, very few might have imagined that brain cancer could be best treated not by chemotherapy, radiation treatment or surgery — but by vaccination. As you will learn in this annual report, Robert Fenstermaker, MD, Chair of the Department of Neurosurgery, and his research team have created a first-of-its-kind vaccine.

It would also have been difficult for most of us to imagine that the best cancer treatment may not be determined by the type of cancer patients have, but by their own genetic makeup. However, as you will read in the following pages, genetic testing is now available to help doctors determine the best and most customized form of cancer treatment.

What do these new approaches have in common? They began as ideas — and thanks to your support, Roswell Park's world-class researchers had the resources to be able to turn them into realities.

Your generosity has moved those initiatives forward, and it continues to make an incredible difference as the Alliance Foundation funds more lifesaving ideas.

I am honored to join you in support of these advancements at Roswell Park, and as I reflect on all the achievements the Alliance Foundation has been part of over the past year, I have deep-seated gratitude for what each member of our team has contributed.

One of those accomplishments took place earlier this year, when the Alliance Foundation was honored with the inaugural Torch Award for Philanthropic Excellence, presented by the Better Business Bureau Foundation of Upstate New York. Each member of our team played a part in winning the prestigious award.

From community recognition to research advancements, new treatments and the compassionate quality-of-life programs, there's so much to be proud of.

Although there is still more work and progress to be made, I know that we, together, can achieve our goal of creating a world without cancer, and make what once seemed impossible — possible. Thanks for all that you have done to help Roswell Park take steps toward that goal, and for all that you continue to do.

Lee C. Wortham
Chair, Board of Trustees
Roswell Park Alliance Foundation

Imagine *for a moment*

making so much of a
difference that you win awards.

#LoveWhatIDo



The strength of a community creating a transparent and effective not-for-profit

Anne Gioia first had the idea to create a community-wide volunteer organization for Roswell Park in 1989. Her 4-year-old daughter, Katherine, had been diagnosed with a rare form of cancer, and she was motivated to make a difference for others dealing with disease.

Sadly, Katherine lost her battle less than one year after she was diagnosed. But Anne's determination did not waver, and she enlisted her sister-in-law and community activist, Donna Gioia, to form the Roswell Park Alliance in Katherine's memory on behalf of all cancer patients.

Together, they set out to engage other community leaders who felt that individuals affected by cancer deserved the best possible support system. Over the past 25 years, that's exactly what they've created.

"The Alliance Foundation grew into something I never imagined," said Anne. "I'm amazed at how much people are willing to give of themselves to make a difference."

Today, the Foundation continues to develop alliances in the fight against cancer and has engaged with more supporters than ever before.

"To think of how the Alliance Foundation began as a tribute to one child by her family, who simply wanted to make a positive difference for others receiving care at Roswell Park — it's amazing how this spark has led to an era of philanthropy that now represents so many pediatric patients and their families and continues to improve countless lives of those affected by cancer throughout Western New York and the world," said Lee C. Wortham, Chair, Roswell Park Alliance Foundation Board of Trustees.

The Alliance Foundation has always adhered to the highest standards of philanthropy, and this year, those efforts were recognized when it was presented with a prestigious honor — the inaugural Torch Award for Philanthropic Excellence.



Katherine Anne Gioia

Established by the Better Business Bureau Foundation of Upstate New York, this coveted award was scored by an independent judging committee that reviewed applications from charities throughout the 48 counties of Upstate New York. The Torch Award brings attention to the practices that a nonprofit employs to generate a high level of trust among employees, board members, donors and communities.

The award recognizes the Alliance Foundation for its excellence in five key areas — its commitment to mission, management practices, donor relations, awareness and reputation. Some of the attributes that were lauded as part of this award include:

- The Alliance Foundation's efficiency, which ensures the majority of the funds that are raised support Roswell Park's mission
- Communication efforts with donors that inform them how their gifts are used
- Recognition of donors for their generous gifts
- Internal processes that guarantee donated funds are supporting the most promising research projects and patient-care programs
- The support of awareness initiatives that educate and inform the public on cancer and prevention efforts

The award is a testament to the entire Western New York community that makes the Alliance Foundation's work possible.

"We are humbled and honored to receive this recognition and celebrate with staff and volunteers who work tirelessly to ensure that dollars raised are done so with the highest ethics and cost-effectiveness," said Cindy Eller, Executive Director of the Alliance Foundation.

Imagine

a vaccine
that could
treat my
brain tumor

A vaccine that prevents brain tumors from reoccurring

A happy family man living in rural Redwood, N.Y., Jason LaForty, his wife Eva and their four children enjoy time together exploring the outdoors. Like many families, their busy life is a steady stream of camping, fishing or simply playing in the yard in between baseball or softball games, school musicals and projects.

"Our oldest daughter is 14 and our youngest is 5, and they each have plenty of activities that keep us all pretty busy," said Jason.

But, a few years ago, the family's activities came to a halt when Jason began experiencing debilitating headaches and numbness. After a visit to a local emergency room, Jason was diagnosed with stage 4 glioblastoma, the most aggressive form of brain cancer.

"Your life just stops right in front of you," said Eva. "It was an emotional wreckage for the whole family, including our young children."

Jason underwent surgery, radiation and chemotherapy, but, despite the aggressive treatments, his cancer recurred. He and his wife felt like they were out of options.

But then, Jason and Eva were approached by Robert Fenstermaker, MD, Chair of the Department of Neurosurgery, about entering a phase I clinical trial for a first-

of-its-kind brain cancer vaccine that had been developed with critical funding from donations.

"It was a whole new take on the care I was getting, and I knew this amazing research could help me and other patients in the future," said Jason.

"Also," said Eva, **"we knew if he didn't do this, he wasn't going to be here with us. We felt like we had nothing to lose."**

More than three years later, Jason is without evidence of the disease. He is stable medically, feels healthy and no longer has intense headaches.

"We're now able to enjoy life again," said Jason. "And we make sure to appreciate our time together as a family."

The vaccine has completed its phase I clinical trial. **Roswell Park is now leading a larger, phase II study — an initiative that is being 100 percent funded by donations.**

To bring hope to as many patients as possible, Roswell Park has invited patients from other leading cancer centers, such as the Cleveland Clinic, to take part in the study. Use of this vaccine will also be explored in a new phase I clinical trial for multiple myeloma, a cancer of a type of white blood cell responsible for producing antibodies.



Jason LaForty never imagined he'd be the first to enter a clinical trial at Roswell Park for a first-of-its-kind cancer vaccine, developed with critical funding from donations, that would save his life.



Imagine
for a moment
You have minimal chance of relapse

New hope for those with hard-to-treat cancers

Three years after Charlie Kremer's wife, Kathy, was diagnosed with ovarian cancer at 48 years of age, she passed away. As the father of four daughters, Charlie felt strongly he needed to do something.

In part because he didn't want his own daughters to suffer the way his wife did, but also as part of the family's healing process, Charlie and his daughters organized a golf outing near their home in Missouri to raise money for ovarian cancer research.

The golf outing led to what has become the Kathy Kremer Memorial Trivia Night, held each of the past 13 years. It's a family affair and a labor of love, according to Charlie, with about 300 people attending each year. The annual event benefits the Familial Ovarian Cancer Registry.



"I really don't remember how we learned about the ovarian cancer registry, but we felt from the very beginning this is a good way to support ovarian cancer research," said Charlie.

The Familial Ovarian Cancer Registry, which is 100 percent funded by donations, is the only repository of its kind and compiles genetic information from families who are at high risk for familial ovarian cancer. Researchers use the data to find better methods of detecting and treating the disease, which is one of the deadliest cancers for women.

Being fully funded by donations, fundraisers like the Kathy Kremer Memorial Trivia Night are vital to the Registry's success and growth. (Above: Charlie and his daughters at their annual fundraiser.)

By analyzing the information in the registry, Kunle Odunsi, MD, PhD, FRCOG, FACOG, Cancer Center Deputy Director, Chair of Gynecologic Oncology and Executive Director of the Center for Immunotherapy, and his team have made great headway in developing new, cutting-edge therapies for advanced ovarian cancer, which is notoriously hard to treat.

Earlier this year, Dr. Odunsi's research team received a nearly \$12 million grant from the New York State Stem Cell Science Program to further advance an innovative research initiative. The project involves taking stem cells from the blood of cancer patients, re-engineering them and infusing them back into patients to become a continuous source of cancer-fighting immune cells.

"This Roswell Park-developed and Roswell Park-led initiative is just the latest example of the ingenuity Dr. Odunsi and his team bring to the pressing challenge of how to develop better and more effective therapies for cancer," said Candace Johnson, PhD, President and CEO.

Approximately \$2 million in critical donated funds — from many committed donor families like the Kremers — allowed Dr. Odunsi to develop his idea so that he could apply for the grant.

Charlie said he feels satisfaction knowing that his family's efforts are furthering research so that in the future, fewer families will have to deal with the devastating disease.

"It's a great feeling to know we are making a difference and that we will continue to honor my wife's legacy by doing so for many years to come," he said.



Charlie, Kathy and their daughters.

Imagine

for a moment

That our
friend is
still here.

*Inspired by their
courageous friend's
battle with cancer,
Tim and Collin swam in
Carly's Crossing to raise
necessary funds to help
other young patients.*

One teen's battle inspires a community

In high school, Jed Woomer was the captain of the swim team, a star athlete and a successful student. But he was best known for his big heart.

"He tended to reach out to other students who weren't included. He was the one to stick up for the little guy," said his mom, Carolyn. "I've heard so many stories of him helping kids who were bullied, or were left out at school and needed a friend."

Shortly after Jed's high school graduation — when he was embarking on a fun summer and starting to think about a career in engineering — Jed was diagnosed with a rare form of cancer called synovial sarcoma.

"They had found a football-sized tumor in his chest," said Carolyn. "He really had a rough road — five rounds of chemotherapy and five weeks of radiation."

But despite the difficult treatment he was facing, Jed remained generous and compassionate.

"He cared so much for the other pediatric patients who were battling cancer, and he just wanted to take care of them and help them in anyway he could," said Carolyn.

So when Jed was asked to help represent Carly's Crossing — an open-water swim event that raises funds for Roswell Park — he readily agreed. As a swimmer, lifeguard and patient who was dedicated to making a difference for others — he thought it was the perfect fit.

But just a few weeks after Jed was photographed for Carly's Crossing, he underwent surgery to remove a tumor in his chest. Sadly, he passed away a few days later, less than a year after his diagnosis.

The way that Jay lived his life is continuing to inspire his friends and family. In August, Jed's friends formed "Team Red for Jed" to take part in Carly's Crossing in his memory and help other young patients.

"We were able to be there to watch the kids swim. Jed planned to be there, and I know he should have been," said Carolyn.

The funds that are raised at Carly's Crossing, as well as donations and other fundraising events, benefit Carly's Club, which supports cutting-edge pediatric cancer research and offers support programs for children.

Recently, Carly's Club funded a new research project aimed at bettering our understanding of synovial sarcoma — the same type of cancer Jed battled. As part of this initiative, researchers will work to identify genetic mutations that could be targeted with more effective treatments for this rare type of cancer. Four other promising pediatric cancer research studies also received funding.

"It is thanks to our supporters — like Jed's family and friends — that we are able to take these cutting-edge ideas and start putting them into action," said Andrei Gudkov, PhD, DSci, Senior Vice President of Basic Science, who received one of the research grants.

Jed's family continues to give back to Carly's Club in his memory, and Team Red for Jed plans on coming back to Carly's Crossing for many years.

"I ask myself the question all the time, 'What would Jed want me to do?'" said Carolyn. "He'd want me to keep fighting for the other young children who are battling this disease. So that's what we will do."



*Jed Woomer
1995-2015*

Imagine

we don't just target cancer,
we target YOUR cancer.



Genetics could hold the key to saving lives

Thomas Dougherty, PhD, is known throughout the world for being the first to develop photodynamic therapy at Roswell Park in the 1970s. He is now Chief Emeritus of the Roswell Park Photodynamic Therapy Center, and the type of treatment he pioneered has been used worldwide.

When Dr. Dougherty established a permanent endowment in support of Roswell Park, he was determined to support research he believed is the most promising — and one of the projects he firmly believes in is OmniSeq Target™.

"When we began our research that led to photodynamic therapy I remember how difficult it was to gather the funding necessary to keep it progressing, especially during the early stages," said Dr. Dougherty. "After learning more about the OmniSeq testing, I believe this research and test will make a true difference in the care and outcomes for patients."

Carl Morrison, MD, DVM, Executive Director of the Center for Personalized Medicine at Roswell Park, and his team developed OmniSeq Target™, an advanced diagnostic genomic test that can determine a match between a patient's own genetic makeup and the most effective treatment for their form of cancer.

"With the results from this test, physicians will be able to adjust their patient's treatment plan with the most appropriate targeted therapy," said Dr. Morrison.

OmniSeq Target™ is currently available for stage III and stage IV lung cancer and metastatic melanoma patients, and scientists are working on more research so that eventually, the test can be used in the treatment of all cancers.

While OmniSeq Target™ may lead to life-saving therapies for cancer patients, all insurance providers may not cover the cost of the test, and some patients may not be able to afford it. **But, because of donations to Roswell Park, all patients who could benefit from the test now have access to it.**

Dr. Dougherty and other supporters like him have chosen to support this initiative, knowing how important this test is and how it may be able to save the lives of many cancer patients.

"While learning more about OmniSeq testing I quickly realized that potential is high for it to be incredibly beneficial for many lung cancer patients, and ultimately for patients with other forms of cancer," said Dr. Dougherty. "It feels very good to know this is happening, that I can help support it and that it's occurring right here at Roswell Park."



*Thanks to your donations, all patients who could benefit from this crucial test now have access to it.
(Above: Carl Morrison, MD, DVM, Executive Director of the Center for Personalized Medicine)*

Imagine

for a moment

that this hug
could still
happen today.

The difference a legacy can make

Charles Hunt's story of courage, love and loss — and his legacy of giving — began in 1967. He was a 25-year-old newlywed, starting a life together with his wife, Marlene, in rural Pennsylvania when he first noticed something was wrong.

"One side of my stomach seemed more pronounced than the other. I wasn't very concerned, but my wife was a nurse and she suggested we go to the doctor," said Charles.

Charles was diagnosed with a very rare form of testicular cancer. Hearing the words "you have cancer" scared Charles, but he and his wife remained optimistic throughout his treatment. After surgery and radiation, Charles went into remission.

Feeling lucky and grateful, Charles and Marlene adopted a baby girl, Pamela Renee. His family remained happy and healthy for 10 years — until a shadow appeared on Charles' annual X-ray, and his doctor referred him to Roswell Park.

"It dawned on me that Roswell Park was a cancer hospital, and I said to myself, 'this must mean it's serious. I am going to die. I am not going to be able to see my daughter grow up,'" said Charles.

Charles' cancer was back, and he underwent surgery and 12 rounds of chemotherapy before going into remission again. Since then, he has heard the words "you have cancer" four more times — and he's battled four different types of the disease.

Even after Charles survived six bouts of cancer, the disease turned his family's world upside down again in 2009, when his wife was diagnosed with stage 4 abdominal cancer.

"There was no question where we would go for treatment, and Marlene went through major surgery and chemotherapy at Roswell Park," said Charles.

Two years later, her cancer recurred and Charles lost his wife of 46 years. "The woman who had been so supportive, whether news was good or bad, on all the trips to Roswell Park over all the many years, was no longer by my side," said Charles.

Creating a legacy of giving

In honor of his late wife, Charles became a donor to Roswell Park to help advance cancer research.

"I know Roswell Park is doing good work because I am a living example of it. If it hadn't been for Roswell Park, I wouldn't be standing here, and I wouldn't have had as much time with my wife," said Charles.

More recently, Charles became a legacy donor by including Roswell Park in his will. In memory of Marlene, who was a nurse, he chose to have a nursing station named after him and his wife.

"I find it very rewarding to help other people, and as a legacy donor, I feel great satisfaction knowing that my gift will help future generations not have to deal with this dreaded disease," he said.



Charles Hunt, a six-time cancer survivor, is a legacy donor for Roswell Park to remember and honor his late wife Marlene (Both pictured with daughter Pamela Renee).

Imagine

What planting a seed can do



Many donations to Roswell Park provide seed funding for new, groundbreaking research projects. These gifts allow the world-class scientists at Roswell Park to take their cutting-edge ideas and make them into realities.

An internal, objective committee decides what projects receive funding based on their ability to find cancer cures and save lives. The initiatives that receive support often lead to long-term funding from national organizations, as well as new treatments. **On average, every dollar donated to Roswell Park leads to an additional \$13 in new grant funding.**

"The Alliance Foundation grants are necessary to build up the necessary data so that we can receive funding for follow-up projects from places like the National Institutes of Health," Mukund Seshadri, DDS, PhD, who, along with his colleague Pamela Hershberger, PhD, received one of the Alliance-funded grants, said. **"We call this 'seed funding' —and it's true; these funds really allow the novel ideas we have to germinate into discoveries that can make a difference in the lives of cancer patients."**

Over the past fiscal year, the Alliance Foundation Board approved funding of these 26 applications for a total of more than \$1.7 million:

Andrei Bakin, PhD, Department of Cancer Genetics, "Ribosome biogenesis and nuclear stress in breast cancer aggressiveness."

Maansi Bansal-Travers, PhD, MS, Department of Health Behavior, "Promotion of low-dose CT for lung cancer screening among smokers calling a quitline."

Bora Baysal, MD, PhD, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, "Structural determinants of RNA editing by APOBEC3A cytidine deaminase."

Gokul Das, PhD, Department of Pharmacology and Therapeutics, "Therapeutic implications of mutant p53-estrogen receptor-beta signaling crosstalk in serous ovarian cancer."

Grace Dy, MD, Department of Medicine, "Molecular mechanisms of host-mediated resistance to targeted therapy in patients with non-small cell lung cancer."

John Ebos, PhD, Department of Cancer Genetics, "Soluble PD-L1 as a surrogate biomarker of cancer and cancer therapy."

Leigh Ellis, PhD, Department of Pharmacology and Therapeutics, "Identifying genetic drivers of aggressive prostate cancer."

Zhihong Gong, PhD, Department of Cancer Prevention and Control, "Circulating miRNAs as a biomarker for breast cancer diagnosis and prognosis by race."

David Goodrich, PhD, Department of Pharmacology and Therapeutics, "A new model for understanding prostate cancer metastasis."

Elizabeth Griffiths, MD, Department of Medicine, "Targeting the immune checkpoint PD-L1 to enhance decitabine efficacy in AML."

Andrei Gudkov, PhD, DSci, Department of Cell Stress Biology, "Approaches to treat adverse events of pediatric cancer therapy."

Pamela Hershberger, PhD, Department of Pharmacology and Therapeutics, "Impact of dietary vitamin D on the chemopreventive efficacy of erlotinib."

Michael Higgins, PhD, Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology, "Development of a cell-based reporter system to identify small molecules that inhibit Lin28 function."

Eric Kauffman, MD, Departments of Urology and Cancer Genetics, "The prognostic role of circulating tumor cells in clinically localized clear cell carcinoma patients."

Eric Kauffman, MD, Departments of Urology and Cancer Genetics, "Is iron the elusive 'missing ingredient' for human clear cell renal cell carcinoma tumorigenesis?"

Elena Komarova, PhD, Department of Cell Stress Biology, "Novel anticancer immunotherapy based on TLR-5 expressing and PDL1-inhibiting adenovirus."

Danuta Kozbor, PhD, Department of Immunology, "Enhancing efficacy of anticancer vaccines in children with neuroblastoma."

Boris Kuvshinoff, MD, MBA, Department of Surgical Oncology, "Liver surgery preplanning using simulation system with risk assessment."

Yingyu Ma, MD, PhD, Department of Pharmacology and Therapeutics, "Role of miR-101-3p in 1,25D3 regulation of bladder cancer cell migration and invasion."

Asoke Mal, PhD, Department of Cell Stress Biology, "Modulation of PAX3-FOXO1 fusion oncoprotein in muscle cancer alveolar rhabdomyosarcoma."

Richard O'Connor, PhD, Department of Health Behavior, "Developing human laboratory assessments of tobacco product substantial equivalency."

Sara Pokharel, MD, PhD, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, "Protective effects of a novel peptide Ac-SDKP for cancer radiotherapy-induced cardiac damage."

Elizabeth Repasky, PhD, Department of Immunology, "Overcoming stress hormone signaling to improve immunotherapy for cancer."

Thomas Schwaab, MD, PhD, Department of Urology, "Status of circulating monocyte subsets determines quality and efficacy of dendritic cell vaccines."

Xinjiang Wang, PhD, Department of Pharmacology and Therapeutics, "Novel combination therapies for elimination of childhood b-cell lymphoma."

Eugene Yu, PhD, Department of Cancer Genetics, "The role of ADAM 17 mutations in metastasis of synovial sarcoma."

Imagine

for a moment

that music can heal.

Giving patients comfort, support and the ability to imagine

Many individuals who are battling cancer are going through one of the most difficult times of their lives.

To help ease their cancer journeys, Roswell Park provides essential quality-of-life programs that lend an extra helping hand, give emotional support and provide creative, fun outlets to patients and their families.

But in order to provide these programs, the Institute needs resources — and that's where you have stepped in. This past year, \$584,540 in donations supported 24 quality-of-life programs for the more than 31,000 patients Roswell Park serves.

Here are some highlights of the 2014-2015 quality-of-life programs:

Arts in Healthcare: Self-expression helps us feel more alive, spontaneous and in control. It's no wonder that creative outlets can be therapeutic for people battling cancer. The Arts in Healthcare program, which is a partnership with the University at Buffalo and funded entirely by donations, provides that outlet by bringing in musicians, storytellers, sculptors, painters and other artists to Roswell Park to work with patients — giving them a way to create, imagine and have fun.

Easing Economic Barriers to Treatment: Many cancer patients in financial need have many economic barriers to treatment. They may not be able to afford transportation to their appointment, parking fees or gas — and they may be unable to cover the cost of their medications. Funds donated to the Alliance Foundation allow the Department of Psychosocial Oncology to help patients in financial need with these costs, so they can focus on their treatment and receive the best possible care.

Wig and Hat Boutique: Many patients battling cancer lose their hair during treatment. It's an extremely vulnerable time for them, and the loss of their hair is a visual reminder of all that they are going through. But thanks to donations, the boutique in Roswell Park's Resource Center provides wigs, hats and headscarves to patients free-of-charge. The program allows cancer patients to keep warm, and also helps them feel more like themselves.

Supporting Fertility Preservation for our Young Adults: Having children and a family of one's own is extremely important to many young cancer patients. Unfortunately, many cancer treatments can cause permanent infertility. Although fertility preservation is an available option, it is not covered by health insurance. This program — funded by donations — allows patients in financial need to pursue fertility preservation, giving them hope that they will one day be able to have a family.

Generous donations allow Roswell Park to provide emotional, spiritual and financial support to patients and their families through essential quality-of-life programs like The Arts in Healthcare program, funded entirely by donations, providing patients and their families with a creative outlet by bringing in musicians, storytellers, sculptors, painters and other artists.



Imagine

for a moment



the impact of your time.

Determination to make a difference

Every year, thousands of individuals join the Roswell Park family by giving back at a special event as participants, volunteers and donors. They give their time, enthusiasm and money to make a difference in the fight against cancer, and we are grateful for their unwavering dedication.

Each contribution allows Roswell Park researchers to develop their visions and take one step closer to a world without cancer.



The Ride For Roswell \$4,539,513

The Ride For Roswell, presented by West Herr Automotive Group, is a signature event in Western New York that each year makes an incredible difference in our fight against cancer. **The Ride — Roswell Park's biggest event and the largest single-day cycling fundraiser in North America** — brings together cancer survivors, families and all those in our community who have been touched by the disease. Eight thousand riders and 2,000 volunteers took part in this year's record setting-event to help raise critically needed funds for Roswell Park.



Team Cure Events \$1,217,570

Dedicated supporters of Team Cure fundraise for Roswell Park by hosting hundreds of their own creative fundraisers ranging from golf tournaments to dress-down days. More than 260 Team Cure events were held in 2014-2015.



Goin' Bald for Bucks \$788,219

Goin' Bald for Bucks participants collect pledges to shave or cut their hair and show their solidarity with cancer patients. This year, 55 schools, 20 groups and 108 additional individuals went Bald for Bucks.



All Star Night \$549,051

All Star Night, presented by M&T Bank, is Roswell Park's signature black tie gala. The LoVullo family chaired the 2014 carnival-themed event, which featured carnival food, games and celebrity guest and former football star Vince Papale.

Carly's Crossing and Summer Splash \$188,540

Carly's Crossing and Summer Splash, both presented by Upstate Pharmacy Ltd., raise funds for pediatric cancer research and patient-care programs through Carly's Club at Roswell Park. Carly's Crossing is a one-of-a-kind swim event with three different course options, and Summer Splash is waterfront cocktail party that features food from some of Buffalo's finest restaurants.



Chip In for Carly's Club \$61,690

Chip In is a golf marathon that challenges participants to play 100 holes of golf in one day. The event benefits pediatric cancer research and patient-care programs through Carly's Club at Roswell Park.



Bosom Buddies Walk \$97,829

The Walk, held in September, raises funds for the Western New York Breast Resource Center and breast cancer research at Roswell Park. The event is an annual celebration of all those affected by breast cancer, and features three walking courses through scenic East Aurora, N.Y.



Statement of financial position

March 31, 2015

ASSETS

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$24,224,151 |
| Investments, at market value | 55,522,513 |
| Pledges and bequests receivable, net | 10,597,138 |
| Split interest agreements | 1,542,292 |
| Other assets | 307,950 |
| Due from related parties | 1,795,895 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | \$93,989,939 |

LIABILITIES and NET ASSETS

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| Liabilities | |
| Accrued liabilities | \$1,932,515 |
| Grants payable to related parties | 12,421,675 |
| Annuities payable | 1,045,973 |
| Total liabilities | 15,400,163 |
| Net assets | |
| Unrestricted | 14,377,557 |
| Temporarily restricted | 31,451,974 |
| Permanently restricted (Endowment) | 32,760,245 |
| Total net assets | 78,589,776 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES and NET ASSETS | \$93,989,939 |

Statement of activities and changes in net assets

Year Ended March 31, 2015

REVENUE and SUPPORT

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| Contributions | \$19,865,584 |
| Special Events | 7,794,414 |
| Annual Fund/Direct Mail | 2,593,048 |
| Individual Major Gifts/Planned Gifts | 5,796,039 |
| Foundations | 1,126,027 |
| Corporate Partnerships | 573,049 |
| Capital Campaigns | 1,983,007 |
| Gift shop receipts | 629,630 |
| Interest and dividends | 1,084,176 |

TOTAL REVENUE and SUPPORT

DISTRIBUTIONS and EXPENSES

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Grants to benefit Roswell Park Cancer Institute | 20,154,062 * |
| Management and general expenses | 1,795,999 |
| Fundraising expenses | 3,888,175 |

TOTAL DISTRIBUTIONS and EXPENSES

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Deficiency of revenue and support over distributions and expenses | (4,258,846) |
| Net realized and unrealized investment gains | 757,955 |
| Actuarial gain on annuity obligations and split interest agreements | 234,153 |
| Change in net assets | (3,266,738) |

NET ASSETS, BEGINNING of YEAR

NET ASSETS, END of YEAR

* Includes \$10,266,601
for Clinical Sciences
Center construction.

Imagine

for a moment

riding a bike can
help create a world
without cancer.

Imagination

Private foundations that support our Imagination and vision

What legacies can do

We are grateful for the support from private foundations that have provided funding to the Alliance Foundation for groundbreaking research at Roswell Park.

| | |
|---|--|
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A salute to our valued sister cancer charities benefiting our research and Roswell Park patient community

Our Research Partners:

American Association of Cancer Research
American Cancer Society
American Society of Hematology
Leukemia and Lymphoma Society
Susan G. Komen
WNY Affiliate of Susan G. Komen

Our Patient Partners:

Hospice Buffalo
Hope Lodge
Kevin Guest House
Ronald McDonald House

Our Pediatric Cancer Partners:

Bryan M. Lawrence Foundation
Camp Good Days
Flashes of Hope
Kaely's Kindness
Make-A-Wish
Matthew Foster Foundation
Melina's White Light
Mikey's Way
Moore for Kids Foundation
PUNT Foundation
Steadfast Foundation

Mikey's Way, one of our partner charities, helps children cope with the isolation, boredom and fear associated with life-threatening illnesses by providing a way for them to connect with friends, family and school.

Members of the Dr. Roswell Park Society have expressed their commitment through a very special and important form of financial support — a planned, or legacy gift.

These donors have named the Roswell Park Alliance Foundation as the beneficiary of a bequest, charitable trust, gift annuity, life insurance, retirement plan, will or trust.

Their gifts will make a lasting contribution to Roswell Park's ongoing mission of understanding, preventing and curing cancer, and will ensure that the Institute's future will remain strong for generations to come.

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Endowed Fellowships: \$500,000 +

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Endowed Funds: \$250,000+

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