Hoag Announces Major Philanthropic Gifts to Establish Endowed Chairs in Developmental Cancer Therapeutics and Aortic Care

Gifts from long-time philanthropists bring Hoag’s total number of endowed chairs to 13, underscoring its national leadership in patient care and clinical research

NEWPORT BEACH, Calif., October 4, 2017 --- Hoag Hospital Foundation officials today announced two major philanthropic gifts that will be used to establish endowed chairs in developmental cancer therapeutics and aortic care. These important gifts bring Hoag’s total number of endowed chairs to 13, underscoring both its national leadership in innovative treatment and clinical research, and the vital role community philanthropy plays in making them possible.

In her last of many significant gifts to Hoag before her passing in August 2017, Margaret Larkin, a long-time Hoag supporter and director on the Hoag Hospital Foundation Board, established an endowed chair in developmental therapeutics at Hoag Family Cancer Institute. The chair will be named the Margaret Givan Larkin Endowed Chair in Developmental Cancer Therapeutics in her honor.

Decades-long friends and long-time supporters of Hoag, Martha and Jim Newkirk gave $3 million to establish the Newkirk Family Endowed Chair in Aortic Care.

“Through the extraordinary generosity of people like the Larkins and the Newkirks, endowed chairs at Hoag are providing an important source of funding for physician leaders to bring medical advances to our community,” Hoag President and Chief Executive Officer Robert T. Braithwaite said.

“While common in academia, endowed chairs are still fairly rare in a community health care setting,” Braithwaite added. “Our endowed chair holders have responsibilities above and beyond providing excellent patient care. In addition to acting as leaders among their peers, they stay continually apprised of the latest advances in their fields and encourage and participate in clinical research and other academic pursuits. They understand the needs of patients from an organizational perspective in a much deeper and more profound way than they would as individual providers. These are lofty goals and our clinical leaders are meeting them thanks to the generous support of our endowed chair donors.”

The gift from the Larkins to establish the Margaret Givan Larkin Endowed Chair in Developmental Cancer Therapeutics highlights Hoag’s aggressive pursuit to provide early phase clinical research trials to patients locally, expanding access to the newest and most promising cancer treatments available. Hoag is recruiting a physician to officially hold the chair and direct the research that will take place supported by the funds it generates.
Developmental Therapeutics is the term used to describe an area of cancer research and treatment in which newly developed drugs are tested to treat patients not responding to standard treatments for advanced cancer. Traditionally, these early-phase “developmental therapeutic agents” have been available only through clinical research trials in specialized cancer centers.

But generous support from Hoag donors has enabled Hoag Family Cancer Institute to expand its Developmental Therapeutics program from one clinical trial to 11 – and the Larkins’ major financial gift is expected to help the program grow exponentially.

“Margaret believed in Hoag’s mission to bring the very best care to her much loved community,” said Karen Linden, chair of the Hoag Board and dear friend of Margaret. “Every day, Hoag physicians and nurses show their deep commitment to serving our community through the compassionate care they provide. Margaret was very pleased to fund this endowed chair which will help Hoag provide increased access to the latest innovations in cancer treatment. I’m pleased that it will serve as a lasting tribute to an exceptionally generous and extraordinary woman.”

Martha and Jim Newkirk’s connection to Hoag goes back to its earliest days. Martha was a nurse at Hoag and Jim’s mother, Alta Newkirk, joined the first group of hospital employees as a nurse’s aide in 1952. All of the couple’s children and grandchildren were born at Hoag. To celebrate the family’s long affiliation with and affinity for Hoag, Martha and Jim made a legacy gift of $3 million to create an endowed chair to support aortic care, research and treatment.

Anthony D. Caffarelli, M.D., F.A.C.C., director of Hoag’s Aortic Center and Hoag Cardiovascular Surgery, has been appointed the first physician to hold the Newkirk Family Endowed Chair in Aortic Care, which recognizes his leadership in treating cardiac and vascular diseases. With this endowed chair, Dr. Caffarelli and his team will ensure that Hoag’s patients continue to have access to the most advanced treatment options and quality care for generations to come.

“I had bypass surgery 15 years ago and that spurred our interest in making a gift to support cardiac care at Hoag,” Jim Newkirk shared. “When we met Dr. Caffarelli, we were both so impressed with the level of care he is able to give. We realized that a gift to create this endowed chair in aortic care had the potential for helping many people get extremely high quality care.”

Flynn A. Andrizzi, Ph.D, president of Hoag Hospital Foundation, said the gifts from the Larkins and Newkirks will provide exponential benefits to our community. “Our donors’ remarkable generosity literally changes the trajectory and level of care we provide at Hoag. Endowed chairs enhance Hoag’s reputation and enable us to attract other renowned physicians, nurses and staff. This is so important because it helps Hoag deliver on our promise to provide residents with world-class health care where it is needed most – in our community.”

With the Larkins’ and Newkirks’ generous gifts, Hoag now has 13 endowed chairs that are enabling the organization to expand and enhance programs in cancer, cardiac care, memory loss and cognitive impairment, neurosciences, cardiovascular surgery, gastrointestinal disease, diabetes, breast care and women’s health services. Andrizzi said, “Supporting Hoag’s extraordinary leaders through the endowed chair program is a key fundraising priority of Hoag Promise, our campaign to lead, innovate and transform.”
ABOUT HOAG HOSPITAL FOUNDATION
Thanks in large part to philanthropy, Hoag has become one of the nation’s finest health care systems and serves a diverse and growing population. Hoag Hospital Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Hoag (a separate 501(c)(3) corporation), is an integral partner in Hoag’s vision to become a trusted and nationally recognized health care leader. Under the direction of a volunteer Board of Directors, the Foundation launched Hoag Promise, Our Campaign to Lead, Innovate & Transform. With a goal of $627 million by 2020, the promise of the comprehensive campaign is to drive Hoag’s continued clinical leadership, innovative spirit and transformative potential. Please visit http://www.hoagpromise.org.

ABOUT HOAG MEMORIAL HOSPITAL PRESBYTERIAN
Hoag is an approximately $1 billion nonprofit, regional health care delivery network in Orange County, California, that treats more than 30,000 inpatients and 425,000 outpatients annually. Hoag consists of two acute-care hospitals – Hoag Hospital Newport Beach, which opened in 1952, and Hoag Hospital Irvine, which opened in 2010 – in addition to seven health centers and ten urgent care centers. Hoag is a designated Magnet® hospital by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC). Hoag offers a comprehensive blend of health care services that includes five institutes providing specialized services in the following areas: cancer, heart and vascular, neurosciences, women’s health, and orthopedics through Hoag’s affiliate, Hoag Orthopedic Institute, which consists of an orthopedic hospital and two ambulatory surgical centers. In 2013, Hoag entered into an alliance with St. Joseph Health to further expand health care services in the Orange County community, known as St. Joseph Hoag Health. Hoag has been named one of the Best Regional Hospitals in the 2017 - 2018 U.S. News & World Report, and Becker's Hospital Review named Hoag as one of the 2016 “100 Great Hospitals in America” – a designation Hoag has received four times. For an unprecedented 22 years, residents of Orange County have chosen Hoag as one of the county’s best hospitals in a local newspaper survey. Visit www.hoag.org for more information.

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