

SOUTHWESTERN NEWS

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CHILDREN'S CANCER FUND MAKES \$2 MILLION CHALLENGE GIFT TO ESTABLISH COMPREHENSIVE PEDIATRIC CANCER CENTER

DALLAS – February 14, 2000 – The Children's Cancer Fund of Dallas has made a \$2 million challenge gift to UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas towards the creation of a \$6 million comprehensive pediatric cancer research center.

An anonymous donor has pledged \$1 million in challenge funds as well, leaving \$3 million left to be raised to establish the Children's Cancer Fund Comprehensive Center for Research in Pediatric Oncology.

The center will comprise three separate but closely integrated components in pediatric oncology – a special center for clinical research, a special center for translational laboratory research and a special center for basic research.

The Children's Cancer Fund of Dallas Inc. plans to complete its pledge within four years, said David Radman, the group's president. The gift is the largest single research grant in the fund's 18-year history.

"The Children's Cancer Fund is proud to take part in forming this innovative research center and looks forward to its further involvement with this wonderful institution," Radman said.

UT Southwestern president Dr. Kern Wildenthal said, "Our pediatric-cancer team, which is based at Children's Medical Center, is widely regarded as one of the top groups in the world. The Children's Cancer Fund gift will enable the medical center and Children's to raise our stature in pediatric oncology to a new level of achievement."

The donation will move UT Southwestern to the next level in pediatric cancer research, said Dr. George Buchanan, professor of pediatrics and holder of the Children's Cancer Fund Distinguished Chair in Pediatric Oncology and Hematology at UT Southwestern.

"We will be able to recruit the best and the brightest young investigators and senior research leaders to UT Southwestern and Children's Medical Center," he said. "The goal

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really is to discover what cancer is and what the cause is. We can't thank the Children's Cancer Fund enough."

The Children's Cancer Fund of Dallas was formed in December 1982 by parents of children being treated for cancer at Children's Medical Center under the care of UT Southwestern physicians. Since that time, enthusiastic community leaders, committed volunteers and medical professionals have joined the parents in their fund-raising efforts. They receive individual, foundation and corporate contributions as well as memorial gifts.

Since its inception, the Children's Cancer Fund has donated nearly \$3 million to support vital research projects in pediatric cancer. In addition to establishing a distinguished chair, donations from the Children's Cancer Fund helped establish a fellowship program aimed at training young pediatricians to become blood and cancer specialists. Gifts also have supported junior investigators at UT Southwestern, as well as the expansion of data acquisition and analysis in many areas of research.

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