

# SOUTHWESTERN NEWS

Contact: Jennifer Donovan  
(214) 648-3404

## DALLAS COUPLE'S SUPPORT OF UT SOUTHWESTERN EXCEEDS \$15 MILLION

DALLAS — September 13, 1995 — In the past four and a half years Charles and Sarah Seay have given over \$12 million to endow four chairs and two distinguished chairs in pediatric medicine and psychiatry and in cancer research at UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas, and to help build the Seay Biomedical Building on the medical center's North Campus.

Now they have added to their already impressive philanthropy to UT Southwestern. A new gift of \$3 million will establish the Sarah M. and Charles E. Seay Center for Basic and Applied Research in Psychiatric Illness and places their total commitment to the medical center over the past five years at more than \$15 million. The center will be housed in the Seay Biomedical Building.

The gift includes \$2 million that has been matched from psychiatry departmental funds, plus a \$1 million challenge grant, to be given when an additional \$1 million is raised from the philanthropic community. The contribution was made to Southwestern Medical Foundation on behalf of UT Southwestern.

"We like challenge grants," Seay said. "This way we can make \$1 million do the work of \$2 million and \$3 million do the work of \$6 million."

"Charlie and Sadie Seay are exceptional individuals whose commitment to their community is truly extraordinary," said Dr. Kern Wildenthal, UT Southwestern president. "Their generosity is allowing our pediatric researchers to search for cures for childhood diseases and our cancer researchers to dig deeper into how to combat that disease. Their gift to help build a biomedical research building moved others to make a decision to fund Dallas medicine into the 21st century. Now their latest gift will allow us to put together a comprehensive psychiatric center to be housed in the building they helped establish. Their benevolence on behalf of medicine and education is ensuring a healthier, happier future for

(MORE)

## COUPLE'S GIFT — 2

generations to come."

Dr. Kenneth Altshuler, chairman of psychiatry at UT Southwestern, called the Dallas investor and his wife's latest gift "the fulfillment of a dream for our department. They are providing a major endowment for research that will enable us to find answers to help countless numbers of patients." Altshuler holds the Stanton Sharp Distinguished Chair in Psychiatry.

The Seays chose psychiatry as the beneficiary of their latest gift as a means to honor Carr P. Collins, the father of Ruth Collins Altshuler, who is married to UT Southwestern's psychiatry chairman. "Carr Collins was my mentor when I started selling life insurance," Seay said. "Later we became business partners. Despite our age difference, he was my closest friend."

When she was informed of the gift, Mrs. Altshuler, who is vice chairman of the board of Southwestern Medical Foundation, told the Seays: "I am honored to be related to the man whom you credit as being your inspiration. This latest example of creative philanthropy is outstanding. Dad would have been enormously proud of both of you."

Her husband added, "When it comes to giving back to their community, the two of them are unsurpassed."

Seay said he and his wife believe in setting an example for people and encouraging them to give to worthwhile institutions like UT Southwestern.

They decided to make their gift to Southwestern Medical Foundation on UT Southwestern's behalf to recognize Dr. Charles C. Sprague's accomplishments as he retires as chairman of the board and president and to welcome his successors, Paul M. Bass Jr. and W. Plack Carr Jr., Seay said.

"We wanted to give Charlie (Sprague) a going-away present in recognition for all he has done, and to start Plack (Carr) off on the right foot," Seay said.

###