THE CANCER CENTER OF THE WEST

2018 Report to Our Community
IN MEMORIAM

Each year, Huntsman Cancer Institute (HCI) compiles a Report to Our Community that looks back on the prior year’s accomplishments and signature events. And each year, Jon M. Huntsman Sr., our founder and benefactor, works closely with us to determine which of many noteworthy achievements to feature.

Mr. Huntsman passed away at home on February 2, 2018, surrounded by his loving family. Tributes flowed in from around the world.

The content in the enclosed report is just one of many projects we were working on with him prior to his passing. As a tribute to Mr. Huntsman, we present this report as a reflection of the stories he wanted to share about HCI, including a message from his family, which begins on page 6.

In the words of Jon M. Huntsman:

Cancer moves fast. And we have to move faster.

View extended content at www.huntsmancancer.org/annualreport
THE WEST CONJURES UP IMAGES of miles of open land, exploration, and new frontiers—imagery that uniquely aligns with the mission of Huntsman Cancer Institute (HCI) to advance cutting-edge cancer research and care in our region.

HCI patients come mostly from five states: Utah, Wyoming, Montana, Idaho, and Nevada. They travel to HCI in search of hope, knowing our care teams dedicate their careers to fighting cancer. By design, HCI’s research and clinical care programs have the best specialists and equipment available to treat the cancers most prevalent in this region, including melanoma, colon cancer, breast cancer, prostate cancer, and childhood cancers, among others. Students come to HCI to participate in our exemplary research and care programs that lead this next generation to pursue bold, new strategies to confront cancer. Established researchers and care providers come to HCI knowing they can practice their craft at a state-of-the-art cancer campus, where “the patient first” is a principle that guides every aspect of what we do.

The heartbeat of HCI’s mission emanates from four interconnected buildings nestled into the foothills of Salt Lake City. Thanks to Jon M. and Karen Huntsman and an army of supporters, every detail promotes synergy among researchers, fosters interaction between patients and staff, and provides comfort and healing to individuals and families affected by a cancer diagnosis. Our culture of collaboration is fundamental to our ability to make discoveries and turn them into new strategies to defeat cancer.

Our outreach to people affected by cancer extends beyond our four beautiful buildings. Our commitment to patients who live far from HCI endures, evident through our satellite clinics and efforts to reach those in rural and frontier areas by telemedicine. We promise people living within the vast frontiers of the West that we will work tirelessly to offer them the same cancer screening and monitoring services close to home that are available to patients living near our campus.

The West is known for its “can-do” spirit, for the willingness of our people to work together. At HCI, we strive to push the boundaries of cancer research and attain results beyond what we thought possible.

HCI remains ever committed to continuing to be the Mountain West’s destination center for cancer research, education, and treatment. In this report, you will read a few highlights from the past year—examples of our ongoing work to be The Cancer Center of the West.

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MESSAGES

Message from the Jon M. Huntsman Family

FOR OUR FAMILY, 2017 at Huntsman Cancer Institute (HCI) was nothing short of spectacular. We realized our dream to speed the development of better treatments with the dedication of the new Primary Children’s and Families’ Cancer Research Center on June 21, 2017. The new 225,000-square-foot building brings more resources to fight this dreaded disease, it doubles the laboratory research space, and it expands services to help families overcome cancer.

Since the founding of HCI, the pace of work, the rate of building, and the new treatment advancements achieved have been breathtaking. Every recipient of this report has helped make this possible. We are very grateful to each of you for sharing our passion to end the suffering caused by cancer. In all, more than 1 million people have donated to this effort. Thank you!

Our family’s motto is, “Cancer moves fast. And we have to move faster.” With that in mind, HCI has announced plans to add proton therapy to its arsenal of treatment technologies. Proton therapy delivers beams of radiation to shrink a tumor. It has proven to be an effective option for numerous childhood and adult cancers, including head, neck, and brain tumors, lymphomas, and pancreas, prostate, and esophageal cancers. Proton therapy is often the favored course of treatment when a tumor is close to a vital structure such as the spinal cord or brain. The equipment is very expensive—approximately $30 million. Huntsman Cancer Foundation will contribute $10 million toward the cost to make this treatment possible. Right now, the nearest places to receive proton therapy are Los Angeles and Tucson. HCI’s plan to add proton therapy illustrates that we will never rest on our laurels or previously earned accolades.

Speaking of accolades, our CEO and Director, Mary Beckerle, PhD, is the 2018 recipient of the prestigious Alfred G. Knudson Award in Cancer Genetics from the National Cancer Institute. The award has been presented for the past 22 years to the person who has made the greatest contributions to the cancer genetics field. Past recipients include four Nobel Laureates. To say we are proud of Dr. Beckerle is an understatement. With an accomplished leader like her, you can be assured that your support is in the hands of an excellent steward and exceptional leader.

We promise you that we will not rest until cancer is eradicated from the face of the earth. Each generation of our family is steadfast in this promise to our friends, neighbors, fellow citizens of Utah, the Mountain West, the United States, and the international community. That is why we have pledged to add $120 million in support over the next eight years.

The successful performance of Huntsman Corporation stock we donated years ago provides strong financial footing for HCI’s future. It means other donations can go directly to research and care, instead of paying for overhead and administrative costs. One donor alone is not solely responsible for the success of HCI. Every donor, member of our fine Huntsman Cancer Foundation team, and, of course, our skilled researchers, physicians, and staff at HCI must be thanked for the progress we have made.

Together, we are making spectacular things happen at HCI. We are very grateful.
Selected Awards and Honors

Selected National Awards and Honors

Mary Beckerle, PhD
DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR, BIOLOGY
AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY INDUCTEE, 2017
NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE ALFRED G. KNUDSON PRIZE IN CANCER GENETICS, 2016

Saundra Buys, MD (pictured top left)
PROFESSOR, INTERNAL MEDICINE
FORBES’ PHYSICIAN HONOR ROLL FOR TOP BREAST CANCER PHYSICIANS, 2017

Bradley Cairns, PhD (pictured top right)
PROFESSOR AND CHAIR, ONCOLOGICAL SCIENCES
ELECTED AS AMERICAN ACADEMY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES FELLOW, 2017

Dana Carroll, PhD
DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR, BIOCHEMISTRY
ELECTED TO NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES, 2017
ELECTED AS AMERICAN ACADEMY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES FELLOW, 2017

Martin McMahon, PhD
PROFESSOR, DERMATOLOGY
AMERICAN SKIN ASSOCIATION LEADERSHIP IN MELANOMA RESEARCH AWARD, 2017

Josef Prchal, MD
PROFESSOR, INTERNAL MEDICINE
HENRY M. STRATTON MEDAL FOR BASIC SCIENCE BY THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF HEMATOLOGY, 2017

SELECTED NATIONAL LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

N. Lynn Henry, MD, PhD
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, INTERNAL MEDICINE
2016-2021 CHAIR-ELECT, AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR CLINICAL ONCOLOGY NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Ana Maria Lopez, MD, MPH (pictured bottom right)
PROFESSOR, INTERNAL MEDICINE
ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS, 2017

Selected Notable Grants

Michael Deininger, MD, PhD
PROFESSOR, INTERNAL MEDICINE
V FOUNDATION FOR CANCER RESEARCH TRANSLATIONAL GRANT

Michael Engel, MD, PhD
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, PEDIATRICS
V FOUNDATION FOR CANCER RESEARCH PEDIATRIC TRANSLATIONAL GRANT

Kevin Jones, MD (pictured bottom left)
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, ORTHOPAEDICS
ST. BALDRICK’S RESEARCH GRANT

Michelle Mendoza, PhD
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, ONCOLOGICAL SCIENCES
V FOUNDATION FOR CANCER RESEARCH V SCHOLAR GRANT

Eric Snyder, MD, PhD
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, PATHOLOGY
V FOUNDATION FOR CANCER RESEARCH V SCHOLAR GRANT

Cornelia Ulrich, PhD, MS
PROFESSOR, POPULATION HEALTH SCIENCES
NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH U54 GRANT

David Wetter, PhD
PROFESSOR, POPULATION HEALTH SCIENCES
NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH NATIONAL CANCER MOONSHOT INITIATIVE TOBACCO CESSATION GRANT

Selected Collaborative Grants

Alana Welm, PhD, and Bryan Welm, PhD
DEPARTMENTS OF ONCOLOGICAL SCIENCES AND SURGERY
NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH U54 GRANT

Theresa Werner, MD, and Adam Cohen, MD
DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL MEDICINE
NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH U54 GRANT

Other Notable Awards and Honors

Utah Construction and Design Magazine
MOST OUTSTANDING HEALTHCARE PROJECT, 2017

The Primary Children’s and Families’ Cancer Research Center at Huntsman Cancer Institute

Salt Lake City Weekly Magazine
READERS’ POLL, JOHN M. HUNTSMAN SR. ‘BEST UTAHAN,’ 2017

Graphic Design USA
HEALTH + WELLNESS DESIGN AWARD, 2017
“IMAGINE ME, TOBACCO FREE” HUNTSMAN CANCER INSTITUTE TOBACCO QUIT GUIDE BOOKLET
STAYING AT THE FOREFRONT OF CANCER RESEARCH AND PATIENT CARE is a core value of Huntsman Cancer Institute (HCI). That’s why HCI has invested in attracting top researchers and medical professionals and building world-class facilities.

In June 2017, HCI opened a new 225,000-square-foot expansion, doubling its research capacity. The new Primary Children’s and Families’ Cancer Research Center provides the foundation for advances in understanding childhood cancers. It will also trace familial cancers and accelerate the development of new treatments and cancer prevention strategies. Enhancements include a Biotechnology Center, with the latest genetic sequencing and imaging equipment.

“This new research space is essential to HCI’s mission to relieve the suffering of cancer patients through understanding cancer,” said Mary Beckerle, PhD, CEO and director. “By bringing together the most innovative scientific minds with leading-edge technologies, we will accelerate cancer research discovery.”

Principal support for the $116.7 million expansion (not including financial costs) was provided by the Jon M. Huntsman family, Huntsman Cancer Foundation, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Intermountain Healthcare, and the State of Utah.

This addition marked HCI’s fourth major construction phase. The first phase, the Jon M. Huntsman Cancer Research Center, was completed in 1999, and comprises 231,000 square feet with three floors of research labs and a floor of outpatient clinics. The second phase, a 286,000-square-foot cancer specialty hospital with 50 inpatient rooms, opened in 2004. In the fall of 2011, a major expansion of the cancer hospital opened, which doubled clinical capacity.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE OPENING of the Primary Children’s and Families’ Cancer Research Center at HCI, a symposium called “Frontiers in Cancer Prevention, Research, and Therapy” took place in September 2017. Approximately 330 people attended the symposium, which featured eight lectures by international leaders in cancer research and a poster session where HCI students, fellows, and faculty highlighted their work.

SYMPOSIUM SPEAKERS
Robert T. Croyle, PhD
DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF CANCER CONTROL AND POPULATION SCIENCES
NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE
Ralph DeBerardinis, MD, PhD
CHIEF, DIVISION OF PEDIATRIC GENETICS AND METABOLISM
CHILDREN’S MEDICAL CENTER RESEARCH INSTITUTE
PROFESSOR, PEDIATRICS, UT SOUTHWESTERN MEDICAL CENTER
Raymond N. DuBois, MD, PhD
INVESTIGATOR, HOLLINGS CANCER CENTER
DEAN, COLLEGE OF MEDICINE, MEDICAL UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA
Judy E. Garber, MD, MPH
DIRECTOR, CENTER FOR CANCER GENETICS AND PREVENTION
DANA-FARBER CANCER INSTITUTE
PROFESSOR, MEDICINE, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL
Guillermina (Gigi) Lozano, PhD
PROFESSOR AND CHAIR, GENETICS
UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS MD ANDERSON CANCER CENTER
Sean Morrison, PhD
DIRECTOR, CHILDREN’S MEDICAL CENTER RESEARCH INSTITUTE
PROFESSOR AND CHAIR, PEDIATRIC GENETICS
UT SOUTHWESTERN MEDICAL CENTER
INVESTIGATOR, HOWARD HUGHES MEDICAL INSTITUTE
Antoni Ribas, MD, PhD
DIRECTOR, TUMOR IMMUNOLOGY PROGRAM
JOHNSON COMPREHENSIVE CANCER CENTER
PROFESSOR, MEDICINE, SURGERY, MOLECULAR AND MEDICAL PHARMACOLOGY
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES
Martine Roussel, PhD
ENDOWED CHAIR IN MOLECULAR ONCOGENESIS
ST. JUDE CHILDREN’S RESEARCH HOSPITAL
PROFESSOR, MOLECULAR SCIENCES, UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE, MEMPHIS
Expanding Access: Highlights from Our Catchment Area

As a National Cancer Institute-Designated Comprehensive Cancer Center, Huntsman Cancer Institute (HCI) has placed an emphasis on working to expand access to cancer care, research, and education to all who live in our catchment area. This means pursuing care approaches to meet the needs of patients who live in major cities as well as rural areas, and patients who are young or very elderly. It also includes providing training for the next generation of cancer researchers. These are just a few highlights of how we are working to expand access as the Cancer Center of the West.

Research Highlights

• A study led by Mia Hashibe, PhD, associate professor of family and preventive medicine, shows risk for aging-related diseases such as heart disease and diabetes are significantly higher among people diagnosed with thyroid cancer before age 40. Published in the journal Cancer Epidemiology, Biomarkers, and Prevention.

• Research led by Matthew Poppe, MD, associate professor of radiation oncology, found that a shorter course of radiation (three weeks instead of the standard six) may be a safe, more convenient option for women with breast cancer after mastectomy, meaning less time away from home and lower out-of-pocket health care costs. Published in the Journal of Clinical Oncology.

Clinical Care Highlights

• Now offering clinical trials at HCI’s South Jordan and Farmington clinics

• Working with affiliate hospitals across the Mountain West to expand cancer genetic counseling, bone marrow transplant care, and clinical trials

Education Highlights

• PathMaker Summer Research Program: Engages diverse students to learn in HCI research labs and explore careers in cancer research, medicine, and health

• Geographic Management of Cancer Health Disparities Program (GMaP): Supports research and understanding to improve access throughout Idaho, Montana, Nevada, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming, and Utah

Most people don’t think of routine dental cleaning as a life-saver, but Rebecca Ward from Idaho Falls, Idaho, does. Rebecca’s hygienist saw a suspicious sore on her tongue. It turned out to be oral cancer, although Rebecca had never used tobacco or alcohol—two major factors that increase the risk for this disease. The Head and Neck Cancers team at Huntsman Cancer Institute removed the tumor and reconstructed Rebecca’s tongue with skin and fat from her arm.

An oral cancer like Rebecca’s can have devastating effects on a person’s swallowing and speech if not treated promptly. But fortunately, Rebecca’s surgery was a success and she can still speak. Now she uses her voice to warn others about cancer prevention and regular oral screenings.
Navigating Cancer at a Young Age

Encouraging Lifelong Cancer Prevention in Youth

It is known that more than 50% of cancer cases can be prevented by living a healthy lifestyle: avoiding tobacco, practicing sun safety, eating healthy foods, exercising, getting vaccinations, and being screened for cancer.

These personal behavior choices are often difficult to practice, especially at a young age. Through community partnerships, Huntsman Cancer Institute (HCI) is reaching adolescent and young adult (AYA) populations where they are—in schools, neighborhoods, and communities—with an educational recipe for a lifetime of healthy living. Here are two examples.

The SUN Study

In 2017, Yelena Wu, PhD, a psychologist and HCI investigator, collaborated with health educators and school districts to provide skin cancer education to more than 1,500 rural and urban high school students throughout Utah, the state with the highest rate of melanoma.

The Skin Cancer UNderstanding in Utah High Schools (SUN) Study, which includes hands-on activities and surveys, will provide new information about effective strategies to change AYA skin cancer prevention behaviors in this vulnerable population.

Boy Scouts of America Safety Moment

More than 136 merit badges are offered by the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) and at least 47 of them involve outdoor activities with potential for sun exposure. Seeing an opportunity to promote sun safety in this at-risk population, HCI partnered with the BSA Greater Salt Lake Council to create a Safety Moment that reached approximately 205,000 scouts and 68,000 scout leaders locally. The graphic encourages sun-safe behavior in all Scouting adventures and can be found online at www.scouting.org.

Each year, more than 1,000 adolescents and young adults (AYAs) in Utah are diagnosed with cancer. For many of these young people, age 15-39, a cancer diagnosis is their first real medical issue. Patients may suddenly have to learn the difference between a medical oncologist and a radiation oncologist. They may also have questions about future fertility issues or need help understanding the health care system. This was the case for Marina Pimentel, who was diagnosed with Hodgkin lymphoma, a type of blood cancer, at age 26.

Marina worked with Huntsman Cancer Institute at the University of Utah and Intermountain Healthcare’s Huntsman-Intermountain Adolescent and Young Adult (HI-AYA) Program to help her manage the complexities of cancer treatment and care.

Through the HI-AYA Program, patient navigators work with and connect patients with information and resources. Navigators support AYA patients throughout their cancer diagnosis, treatment, recovery, and beyond. Learn more: www.huntsmancancer.org/hiaya
TARGETED THERAPY in cancer treatment is often called personalized or precision medicine, according to the National Institutes of Health. Targeted therapies are designed to be more effective and less harmful than other approaches because the drugs are specially designed to meet the individual characteristics of each patient.

Three Huntsman Cancer Institute (HCI) researchers made breakthrough discoveries in 2017, potentially leading to new targeted therapies.

Trudy G. Oliver, PhD, an HCI researcher and associate professor of oncological sciences at the University of Utah, identified new insights in the behavior of small-cell lung cancers. Through that discovery, her team identified a targeted drug combination for tumors that are much more aggressive and faster-spreading. The drug combination doubled the survival rate in mice, with similar results in recent human clinical trials. The next step is translating these biomarkers to clinical practice.

Alana Welm, PhD, an HCI researcher and associate professor of oncological sciences at the University of Utah, led a study on bone loss that included patients with cancer. Welm’s team discovered a protein that causes bone cells to become hyperactivated, destroying the bone. The team identified a drug that blocks this protein and preserves the bones. They will now test whether blocking this protein in metastatic breast cancer patients can protect bones from destruction.

Srividya Bhaskara, PhD (pictured on the table of contents), an HCI researcher and assistant professor of radiation oncology at the University of Utah, led a study on a new cancer drug that may benefit patients with leukemia, a blood cancer. Bhaskara focused on two specific proteins that keep the cancer cells alive. Her team created a targeted drug that blocks these proteins, allowing the cancer cells to die.

All cancer treatments and medications that are used today were, at one point, part of a clinical trial. Clinical trials can offer hope, particularly in complex diseases such as cancer. But getting access to clinical trials can be difficult, especially if patients have to travel a long distance to a hospital that offers trials.

Clinical trials have very strict reporting and monitoring requirements, which means they are often only available at major medical centers. That’s why Huntsman Cancer Institute at the University of Utah recently opened clinical trials to cancer patients at two of its satellite clinics: the South Jordan Health Center and the Farmington Health Center.

Megan Curran, a breast cancer patient and resident of Lehi, was able to participate in a clinical trial and get her treatments at the South Jordan Health Center. This convenience meant more time for Megan to spend with her family and friends.

“Care close to home has helped me in so many ways—especially being a single mom. It makes it easier for a family member or a friend to come with me to every treatment.”

Megan Curran
ADVANCING DISCOVERIES MADE IN THE LAB to medical treatments that can be used in patient care is complex and time-consuming. Commonly called clinical translation, this process can be thought of much like translating something from one language to another.

Huntsman Cancer Institute (HCI) makes it a high priority to recruit and mentor top translational physicians from around the world. These physicians take research that begins in HCI laboratories and bring it to the clinical setting, working to improve the lives of our patients.

In 2017, HCI honored some of the very best and brightest in our community by designating them Huntsman Translational Scholars. The honor comes with financial support for research to advance discoveries as well as commitment to promote their career development.

“ It truly used to be if you had metastatic melanoma ten years ago, there were very few treatments that worked and patients did not live very long. That is now 180 degrees different. ”

Robert Andtbacka

Robert Andtbacka, MD, CM
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, SURGERY
RESEARCH FOCUS: DEVELOPING TECHNIQUES TO IDENTIFY HOW MELANOMA SPREADS THROUGH THE LYMPH AND VASCULAR SYSTEMS

Adam Cohen, MD, MS
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, INTERNAL MEDICINE
RESEARCH FOCUS: DEVELOPING CLINICAL TRIALS WITH THE GOAL OF PERSONALIZING TREATMENT DECISIONS FOR BRAIN AND BREAST CANCER

Deborah Stephens, DO
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, INTERNAL MEDICINE
RESEARCH FOCUS: DEVELOPING NEW TARGETED THERAPIES FOR PATIENTS WITH LYMPHOMA AND CHRONIC LYMPHOCYTIC LEUKEMIA

Theresa Werner, MD
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, INTERNAL MEDICINE
RESEARCH FOCUS: CLINICAL TRIALS WITH NOVEL THERAPIES FOR THE TREATMENT OF BREAST AND GYNECOLOGIC CANCERS

Howard Colman, MD, PhD
PROFESSOR, NEUROSURGERY
RESEARCH FOCUS: DEVELOPMENT AND TESTING OF NEW THERAPIES FOR BRAIN TUMORS

Ignacio Garrido-Laguna, MD, PhD
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, INTERNAL MEDICINE
RESEARCH FOCUS: DEVELOPING TREATMENTS TO IMPROVE OUTCOMES FOR PATIENTS WITH PANCREATIC DUCTAL ADENOCARCINOMA

Robert Andtbacka, MD, PhD
PROFESSOR, NEUROSURGERY
RESEARCH FOCUS: DEVELOPMENT AND TESTING OF NEW THERAPIES FOR BRAIN TUMORS

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A CRITICAL PART OF THE CARE TEAM: ADVANCED PRACTICE CARE PROVIDERS

I love my patients. I’ve been treating some for more than a decade, so in some ways I think of them as family. My wife notices when I get home on Friday, which is my clinic day, I’m usually in a good mood. It’s not because it is the beginning of the weekend, but because I got to spend the day with patients.

Working with cancer patients is something I didn’t understand before I came to Huntsman Cancer Institute. But now, I would never go anywhere else, because they are a unique population—they are easy to want to help.

One of my patients explained to me that the cancer experience is very personal. When I talk to patients about cancer and their health, it is a very intimate space the patient is trusting me to come into.

Dr. Glen Bowen, my mentor, taught me the idea that the treatment team is like an octopus. Meaning, we are a single brain with eight arms. I’m an arm, the nurse is an arm, the scheduler is an arm—we are all an arm, and no arm is more or less important in caring for our patients.

Mark Hyde, PhD, PA-C
DIRECTOR OF ADVANCED PRACTICE CLINICIANS
HUNTSMAN CANCER INSTITUTE
UNIVERSITY OF UTAH HEALTH

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE is Christina Ratcliff’s idea of fun—she enjoys camping, hiking, and road trips with her family and friends. At age 30 after having a seizure, she was diagnosed with a brain tumor called anaplastic astrocytoma. Starting in December 2013, Christina had surgery, radiation, and chemotherapy treatments at Huntsman Cancer Institute (HCI).

Christina’s care team, the doctors and researchers in HCI’s Neuro-Oncology Program, are experts of international standing. They work together to fit treatments to each individual patient.

In January 2015, Christina completed treatment. She now visits HCI every six months for follow-up care. She also chose to take part in HCI’s Total Cancer Care study.

This study is a partnership among patients, health care providers, and researchers to help accelerate cancer research and improve patient care.

Since it launched in 2016, more than 4,000 participants have enrolled in HCI Total Cancer Care. The program is borne out of HCI’s participation in the Oncology Research Information Exchange Network (ORIEN), a group of 17 cancer centers that collaborate to speed cancer research.

At the participating institutions across the nation, more than 200,000 patients have signed up. At HCI, about 93% of new patients choose to join. That means we enroll more than 400 new patients each month.

THE ADVANCED PRACTICE CLINICIANS (APCs) at Huntsman Cancer Institute (HCI) include licensed care providers such as nurse practitioner or physician assistant. Educational programs that train APCs typically require several years of prior health care experience and at least two years of full-time post-graduate medical education. HCI has invested in APCs, knowing that this group of talented medical professionals is a critical link in the cancer care continuum.

“Anyone who participates in a cancer patient’s care is privileged to be in that intimate space with them.”

Mark Hyde

THE ADVANCED PRACTICE CLINICIANS
HUNTSMAN CANCER INSTITUTE
UNIVERSITY OF UTAH HEALTH
Yielding Better Images of Patient Tumors

In 2017, Huntsman Cancer Institute (HCI) was the first cancer center in the United States to use a new, state-of-the-art CT scanner that arms radiation oncologists with more information than ever before. Called the Somatom Confidence 64 from Siemens, this dual-energy scanner is used to help doctors plan for radiation treatments. It creates more detailed images, giving physicians the ability to direct therapy precisely where it is needed.

Working to Advance Research in Innovative New Treatment: CAR-T

HCI will soon offer a new type of cancer care to patients: Chimeric Antigen Receptor therapy (CAR-T). CAR-T received approval from the Food and Drug Administration in 2017. The unique approach shows promise in certain adult and childhood cancers. HCI will help advance research to better understand this new therapy.

Targeting Prostate Cancer with New MRI-Guided Biopsy

MRI-guided biopsy is a new technology recently brought to HCI, and the first in the region. With this test, a radiologist can do a biopsy in an MRI suite and use the MRI to target a specific spot of interest, providing much more accurate results. This procedure is primarily used for patients who have had multiple negative biopsies despite blood tests showing high prostate-specific antigen (PSA) levels, which can indicate cancer.
OVER THE YEARS, there have been many landmark discoveries in the effort to eradicate cancer. Progress can only continue with well-trained and passionate researchers and physicians. Huntsman Cancer Institute (HCI) faculty work with students of all ages to cultivate the next generation of scientists who will carry on this life-saving work.

More students than ever before are choosing Utah as the place to advance their knowledge.

What makes HCI so special for students studying cancer is the spirit of collaboration that serves a singular mission: to care for those suffering from cancer and find innovative ways to eradicate the disease.

G. Weldon Gilcrease
Recruiting the Best and Brightest Minds in Cancer

EACH YEAR, HUNTSMAN CANCER INSTITUTE (HCI) recruits new physicians and researchers to join our teams at the University of Utah. These faculty come from prestigious institutions across the globe to be part of our world-renowned research and clinical care programs. With the opening of the Primary Children’s and Families’ Cancer Research Center in 2017, HCI plans to recruit 30-40 new research teams in the next five years. This will add even more depth as we work to understand cancer from its beginnings and use that knowledge to create and improve cancer treatments.

NEW FACULTY

Richard Cannon, MD
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, SURGERY
INTERESTS: ADVANCED TECHNIQUES FOR HEAD AND NECK CANCER SURGERY

Samuel Cheshier, MD, PhD
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, NEUROSURGERY
INTERESTS: PEDIATRIC NEUROSURGERY AND IMMUNOTHERAPY STRATEGIES FOR PEDIATRIC BRAIN TUMORS

Benjamin Haaland, PhD
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, POPULATION HEALTH SCIENCES
INTERESTS: BIOSTATISTICS TO DESIGN AND INFORM DECISION-MAKING IN CANCER CARE

Sheetal Hardikar, PhD
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, POPULATION HEALTH SCIENCES
INTERESTS: MOLECULAR AND GENETIC BIOMARKERS FOR RISK AND PROGNOSIS OF GASTROINTESTINAL CANCERS

Mei Koh, PhD
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, PHARMACOLOGY AND TOXICOLOGY
INTERESTS: KIDNEY AND LIVER CANCERS, INCLUDING CHANGES THAT PROMOTE PROGRESSION AND THERAPY RESISTANCE

Alvin Kwok, MD, MPH
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, SURGERY
INTERESTS: BREAST RECONSTRUCTION AFTER CANCER SURGERY AND IMPROVES OUTCOMES

Laura Lambert, MD
PROFESSOR, SURGERY
INTERESTS: ABDOMINAL CANCER SURGERY, INCLUDING HYPERTHERMIC INTRAPEITONEAL CHEMOINFUSION (HIPEC)

Kathryn Maurer, MD
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY
INTERESTS: GYNECOLOGIC CANCERS, INCLUDING HEREDITARY TYPES

Benjamin Myers, PhD
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, ONCOLOGICAL SCIENCES
INTERESTS: CELL SIGNALING IN NORMAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND IN CANCER

Mary Playdon, PhD, MPH
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, NUTRITION AND INTEGRATIVE PHYSIOLOGY
INTERESTS: NUTRITION AND SURVIVORSHIP IN BREAST, OVARIAN, AND ENDOMETRIAL CANCERS

John Stringham, MD
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, SURGERY
INTERESTS: MINIMALLY INVASIVE LUNG CANCER SURGERY AND SURGERY FOR PATIENTS WITH LUNG FAILURE

Benjamin Voorhies, MD
INSTRUCTOR, INTERNAL MEDICINE
INTERESTS: NEW THERAPIES TO TREAT MELANOMA AND OTHER CANCERS

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Sandra M. Swain, MD
ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT
PROFESSOR, MEDICINE
GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER

Help drive research even faster.

Show our community you help fund cutting-edge science with a Huntsman Cancer Institute specialty license plate.

HERE’S HOW

1. Go to dmv.utah.gov.
2. Click Special Group Plates.
3. Select Cancer Research, then follow the instructions.
4. Invite your family and friends to help drive cancer research.

100% of funds raised go to cancer research.
Seeding the Next New Breakthroughs

At Huntsman Cancer Institute (HCI), our donors are inspired to give and we are inspired by our donors. Their giving will seed the next new breakthroughs in cancer research leading to life-saving treatments and, ultimately, eradicate cancer altogether.

The IV ("Four") Maidens

The IV Maidens Fund, led by Chairwoman Mika, age 12, presented a check for more than $1,000 to Alana Welm, PhD, to further breast cancer research. Mika’s sisters—the other three maidens, Ember, Maren, and Dagny (ages 10, 7, and 5, respectively)—were also on hand to present the check. The Maidens toured Dr. Welm’s lab and received an in-depth look at what goes on there, including how their gift will impact people with cancer. When presenting the check to Dr. Welm, Mika said, “We are delighted to present our donation to support cancer research. We hope HCI has continuing success in fighting cancer with less toxic treatments.” The girls were inspired to donate to HCI in honor of their dear friend, who is currently in treatment for cancer.

Honoring a Grandson with Cancer

Wynn and Christine Tate, big believers in the work of HCI, made a generous gift in 2017, offering to match individual donations made in the month of December up to $250,000. Nearly a year before, brain cancer took the life of their 20-month-old grandson, Hayes. Inspired by Hayes and the family he left behind, the Tates are determined to make a difference. They named The Hayes Kyle Tate Memorial Atrium in HCI’s Primary Children’s and Families’ Cancer Research Center to honor him.

“Almost all of us know someone who lost their life to cancer,” Wynn says. “In memory of our grandson, Hayes, Christine and I are honored to support an organization that means so much to us and makes a difference in the lives of so many.”

The Tates hope that Hayes’s legacy will accelerate research toward a cure so that one day, children will no longer be taken by this disease.

Personal and Company Commitment

Rich Linton, founder and CEO of the information technology company VLCM, values giving and has brought that to his organization. In 2007, VLCM held its first “United Against Cancer” charity golf tournament. Since then, all proceeds have supported charitable causes, including HCI. With the formation of the VLCM Foundation in 2013, all funds from this event have been donated to Huntsman Cancer Foundation.

Josh Linton, Rich’s son, knows firsthand what it’s like to be touched by cancer. His late wife battled melanoma for almost eight years. Josh says, “If you have to go through this challenge, I would want everybody to have Huntsman Cancer Institute on their side. In the end, we couldn’t beat it, but the opportunities we had to fight were because of that work and research.”

Over the last 10 years, VLCM has contributed nearly $1 million to research at HCI, with more than $130,000 in 2017 alone.
**HIC CEO AND DIRECTOR MARY BECKERLE, PHD.** testified before the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Oversight and Government Reform on March 29, 2017. Beckerle spoke about the impact of federally funded cancer research.

**MRS. CÁNDIDA MONTILLA DE MEDINA,** First Lady of the Dominican Republic, and her delegation visited HCI August 10, 2017. They toured HCI and met with physicians and researchers to learn about HCI’s mission.

**EACH YEAR, THE SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL** takes place in Park City, Utah, approximately 30 miles from HCI’s headquarters. The event draws international news coverage, major celebrities, and thousands of tourists. In town during Sundance in January 2017, actors Jeremy Renner and Elizabeth Olsen spent two hours at HCI to visit with cancer patients and staff.

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<th>A GIVEN DAY AT HCI</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>400</strong> outpatient appointments</td>
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<td><strong>400</strong> new cancers diagnosed at HCI each year</td>
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<td><strong>1,200</strong> genetic counseling consultations yearly</td>
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<td><strong>&gt;23,700</strong> patient visits to HCI’s Wellness and Integrative Health Center</td>
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Opened $173 MILLION major expansion: PRIMARY CHILDREN’S AND FAMILIES’ CANCER RESEARCH CENTER

*including financing costs

>1 million **INDIVIDUAL DONORS** and a $120 MILLION gift from the Huntsman family

Now nearly 1 MILLION SQUARE FEET of research and care space and 1 LINEAR MILE OF LABS

>$120.7 MILLION in funding for research across the cancer center

200 CLINICAL TRIALS open at any given time

>450 CANCER RESEARCH PROJECTS underway each year

by 170 TEAMS from >20 UofU departments

PATIENT CARE

4,600 new cancers diagnosed at HCI each year

1,200 genetic counseling consultations yearly

>23,700 patient visits to HCI’s Wellness and Integrative Health Center

125,000 average yearly outpatient visits

TOP 1 percentile nationally in patient satisfaction

Part of University of Utah Health, recognized by Vizient as Top 10 in Quality 2009-2017

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

Provide information to >11,000 people yearly through HCI’s Cancer Learning Center

Reach >100,000 people through community health events yearly

FACULTY AND STAFF

>1,800 faculty and staff

183 volunteers giving >16,000 hours yearly

Cancer training to 350 students yearly