

# LEGACY *of hope*

A CHARITABLE AND  
GIFT PLANNING GUIDE  
FOR THE BARBARA  
ANN KARMANOS  
CANCER INSTITUTE



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**KARMANOS**  
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SPRING 2015



Karmanos social worker Stephen Rea and his wife, Lisa

## Lisa Rea Patient Assistance Fund Helping Patients in Need

Lisa Rea would have celebrated her 41st birthday on March 24, 2015. Lisa fought cancer with courage and commitment for almost three years. She unfortunately lost her battle to breast cancer in July 2013 at the age of 39. She left behind two beautiful daughters and her husband of seven years, Stephen Rea. Stephen is a social worker at Karmanos Cancer Institute and has established a patient assistance fund in Lisa's honor.

“Lisa was always watching out for everyone else before herself,” said Stephen. Learning that she had the gene mutation for the BRCA2 gene, for example, Lisa immediately encouraged her family members to seek genetic counseling and testing. Stephen reflected on this, “She truly took a bullet for her family now and for generations to come, giving them the opportunity to protect themselves against this awful disease.”

Stephen continued, “Even on her darkest days, Lisa was thinking of others. Thankful for her vast support system as well as having financial resources available throughout her treatment program, she quickly recognized that many breast cancer patients and their families were struggling

to pay bills or even find a way to get to chemotherapy or their doctor appointments. She spoke compassionately about the urgent need to have assistance programs available for cancer patients unable to work or without adequate insurance.”

Lisa's fight and compassion for others inspired Stephen to give back. He contacted the Karmanos development office to discuss options and ideas to honor Lisa and help patients. As a result, Stephen chose to establish a special tribute fund.

“It is in Lisa's honor that we established the **Lisa Rea Patient Assistance Fund** for breast cancer patients with dependent children at Karmanos,” said Stephen. “Her fund provides assistance with

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“It is our family's hope that Lisa's name and spirit will resonate as strongly with these patients in need as it does with those who knew and loved her.”

—Stephen Rea

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# A Gift of Hope

## How Tribute Gifts Work You Have Many Choices

Many of our donors like to make their tribute gifts in honor or in remembrance of someone to acknowledge important milestones, birthdays, anniversaries or other significant occasions. Tribute gifts can be made at any time of the year, for any reason at all.

**A gift today**—Your tribute gift can help fund an immediate need at Karmanos or be designated to research or an upcoming project. The benefit to you includes an income tax deduction and the possible elimination of capital gains tax.

We send a Gift of Hope note to the individual or family you are honoring (the recipient is never informed of the specific amount of your gift). You will receive a receipt for your tax-deductible donation. Additional options include establishing a named fund, such as the Lisa Rea Patient Assistance Fund, or recognizing someone on our tribute wall in the hospital.

**A gift through your will or trust**—You can include a gift in your will or trust by simply stating that a certain dollar amount or percentage of your estate will pass to Karmanos in honor of your loved one. Please notify us so we can add your name to our Legacy of Hope Society.

*Sample Language: I bequeath (the sum of \$ \_\_\_\_\_) or ( \_\_\_\_\_% of the residue of my estate) to the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute, located at 4100 John R, Detroit, Michigan, 48201. My gift is in honor/in memory of \_\_\_\_\_.*

**A gift that lives on forever**—You can establish an endowment fund in the name of a loved one and it can either be funded now or through your will or trust. An endowment fund provides a lasting tribute and a permanent self-sustaining source of funding for your area of interest.

### We're Here to Help

Contact Lynn Fisher at 313.576.8119 or Debbie Knowles at 313.576.8102 to discuss ways to impact cancer care and honor a loved one.



Kathryn E. Cramer, M.D.

Philip A. Philip, M.D., Ph.D.,  
F.R.C.P., Kathryn E. Cramer,  
M.D., Endowed Chair for  
Cancer Research



Charles A. Schiffer, M.D.,  
Joseph Dresner Endowed  
Chair for Hematologic  
Malignancies

Joseph Dresner



## Endowed Gifts Provide Continuing Support and Lasting Tributes

Two generous endowment gifts were recently received at Karmanos Cancer Institute to help advance its world-class cancer research to find cures and save lives.

**The Kathryn E. Cramer, M.D., Endowed Chair for Cancer Research** was made possible by a gift from a charitable trust established by Kathryn Cramer, M.D. Dr. Cramer was an accomplished orthopaedic surgeon who lost her battle with breast cancer in 2005 at the age of 44. Her charitable remainder trust allowed her to support her loved ones over a period of time, with the remainder of funds designated to her favorite charities when the trust terminated.

It was Kathryn's wish that her medical oncologist, Philip A. Philip, M.D., Ph.D., F.R.C.P., be the first chair recipient. Dr. Philip is currently the leader of the Gastrointestinal and Neuroendocrine Tumors Multi-Disciplinary Team at Karmanos and professor at Wayne State University School of Medicine.

**The Joseph Dresner Endowed Chair for Hematologic Malignancies** was made possible by a grant from the Dresner Foundation to enhance Karmanos' hematologic malignancies research program.

Joseph Dresner generously supported the Institute during his lifetime, which led to the development of the Joseph Dresner Family Clinic for Hematologic Malignancies &

Stem Cell Transplantation at Karmanos. The clinic opened in May 2012, shortly after Mr. Dresner passed away.

Mr. Dresner's oncologist, Charles A. Schiffer, M.D., will be the first Joseph Dresner Chair for Hematologic Malignancies. Dr. Schiffer is the multidisciplinary team leader of Malignant Hematology at Karmanos and professor at Wayne State University School of Medicine.

### How to Make a Sustainable Difference

Endowment gifts provide a permanent self-sustaining source of funding for the Institute's supportive programs, capital improvements or scientific research, and can be established with a gift today or through a will or trust.

"With these generous gifts, the legacy of Kathryn Cramer and Joseph Dresner will continue in perpetuity providing a lasting tribute to help ensure that the most promising scientific ideas have the opportunity to flourish...now and for the future," said Nick Karmanos, senior vice president of Institutional Relations.

For information about endowments, contact Lynn Fisher at 313.576.8119.

# Donors Support Infusion Center Improvements



Thanks to the success of the 2014 Annual Dinner, chaired by Pernilla and Dan Ammann, president, General Motors, and support from our staff and many generous donors throughout the community, the Karmanos Cancer Institute's infusion center at the main facility in Detroit was recently renovated.

Improvements include new flooring, paint, nursing stations, furniture, chemotherapy chairs/beds, lighting and a virtual fish tank in the waiting area.

Margaret Dimond, Ph.D., president of Karmanos Cancer Hospital shared, **"We thank everyone who has made this renovation possible. These enhancements will greatly improve our patient's experience and comfort while receiving chemotherapy."**



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## Lisa Rea Patient Assistance Fund Helping Patients in Need

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medications, transportation and other costs incurred while in treatment. It is our family's hope that Lisa's name and spirit will resonate as strongly with these patients in need as it does with those who knew and loved her."

Karmanos staff expressed their appreciation. "We are grateful to Stephen and his family for choosing to honor Lisa's memory through this special tribute fund that will help ease the financial burden for so many breast cancer patients," said Nick Karmanos, senior vice president of Institutional Relations. "Our social workers are committed to finding community and financial resources to help patients if cancer treatment has led to a job loss or other financial hardship. Lisa's fund will greatly assist in ensuring that breast cancer patients have this critical support."

For information on tribute giving or donating to the Lisa Rea Patient Assistance Fund, contact Debbie Knowles at 313.576.8102 or [knowlesd@karmanos.org](mailto:knowlesd@karmanos.org).

## Attention Estate Planners Join us on May 13, 2015

The Karmanos Cancer Institute is hosting a breakfast program exclusively for estate planning professionals and financial planners. Learn about the Karmanos Cancer Institute and network with other professionals.

For more information or to receive an invitation, call 313.576.8102.

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