Dear Friends,

Community support with your time, talent, and gifts have fueled the remarkable accomplishments of the Center for Ethics first 25 years.

The Center’s Steering Committee has launched a major initiative to fund our ability to respond to the pressing ethical issues of the coming decade.

We need and welcome your support as we work together to advance compassion, integrity and respect in health care.

Thank you!

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Celebrating the Center’s 25th Year: Highlights and Milestones
Throughout 2014, we have celebrated 25 years of the Center’s activity and leadership in bringing a focus on ethics and values into the heart of the health care conversation including: the first interprofessional ethics education program for over 500 students from all the schools and OHSU, the exciting two-day Kinsman Statewide Ethics Conference held in Bend, the 25th Anniversary Dinner at the Portland Art Museum with Mark Siegler from the University of Chicago as speaker and the forward-looking video on our homepage (www.ohsu.edu/ethics) featuring Center faculty, collaborators, and supporters; Daniel Labby’s 100th birthday and the 50th Daniel Labby Senior Clinicians Seminar. It has been a phenomenal year.

Major Achievements for the POLST Program
A landmark research article on the effectiveness of POLST in assuring that patient wishes are honored was published in the Journal of the American Geriatric Society. Written by Erik Fromme, Dana Zive, Jenny Cook, Terri Schmidt, and Susan Tolle, it gained national and international attention for POLST, including reports and interviews on NPR, in the Wall Street Journal, New York Times, Chicago Tribune, and Asahi Shimbun, one of the leading newspapers in Japan. In September, POLST received special mention in the prestigious Institute of Medicine’s report on Dying in America, singling out POLST as one of the genuine success stories in an otherwise difficult journey for our society in assuring respect for patients’ wishes and values in the face of advanced illness.

Training the Next Generation of Ethics Leaders
The Center has earned its national and international reputation by sensing emerging challenges in health care and health care policy, and mobilizing people and creative thinking to devise innovative ways to meet them. As technologies, health care delivery systems and the needs of patients and society continue to evolve in unpredictable ways in the future, it will be all the more important for the Center to prepare itself to foster the new thinking that these changes will demand. We look forward to advancing these goals vigorously in the years ahead, with our friends and colleagues at OHSU, and in our ongoing outreach to colleagues in rural areas and communities across our state.