Dear Friends,

2018 was the best fundraising year the Center for Ethics in Health Care has ever had.

I am filled with gratitude to each of the individuals and foundations listed on the Donor Honor Roll for your gifts in support of the Center’s programs.

We warmly welcome two new founders to the Center’s family: Dick and Deanne Rubinstein and Miles R. (Randy) and Nancy Edwards.

With your support we are cohosting conferences across Oregon, hiring new faculty, and holding our ethical standards high.

Our growing national impact and our ability to remain steadfast with our mission, vision, and values is made possible through your generosity.

With heartfelt thanks for your support,

Susan W. Tolle, MD
Cornelia Hayes Stevens Chair
Director, Center for Ethics in Health Care
tolles@ohsu.edu

Raising the Bar on Testing Medical Student Communication Skills

On January 24 and 25, OHSU senior medical students were tested on their communication skills related to some of the most difficult ethical issues they will face in practice -- giving bad news and disclosing a medical error. This is the second year that the Center has tested graduating medical students. OHSU continues to chart the national path in raising the bar on communication skills. Before graduating, OHSU medical students must demonstrate mastery in communicating honestly, compassionately, and without medical jargon, and we have set the expectations for their performance slightly higher this year. Video feedback and personal tutoring are given to those who would benefit from further support.

Dr. Katie Stowers hired to Direct Serious Illness Education

With gifts and grants in support of the Program in Compassionate Communication, we are addressing faculty development in advanced communication skills. Medical students tell us that sometimes faculty and residents are not the best role models for giving bad news. Not all faculty have received the robust communication training the students in the new YourMD curriculum are experiencing. On January 23, 2019, the Center hired Dr. Katie Stowers to direct Serious Illness Education as a program within the Program in Compassionate Communication. Dr. Stowers is board certified in palliative medicine and a leader in VitalTalk, a nationally recognized program to enhance communication skills in giving bad news to patients. She completed her internship, residency and fellowship at The Ohio State University, and most recently was working at The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio. On March 5, Dr. Stowers is partnering with Dr. Tony Back from the University of Washington and leaders at OHSU to launch a regional VitalTalk initiative. We are delighted to welcome Dr. Stowers to the Center for Ethics in Health Care!

Holding the bar high on Conflict of Interest

The Center for Ethics in Health Care does not accept gifts from healthcare industry sources, "never has, never will." A recent article in JAMA Network Open studied every county in the U.S. and examined the amount and frequency of gifts to physicians from the drug makers of opioids (e.g. the number of meals provided to physicians by the makers of OxyContin). Researchers found that increased marketing was associated with a higher rate of opioid overdose death in counties where physicians accepted a larger number of gifts from pharmaceutical companies. The reason for the Center’s unwavering conflict of interest policy and outspoken views of COI in medicine is painfully clear.

Save the Date: Celebrate the Center for Ethics 30 Year Anniversary

The 2019 Center for Ethics Annual Community luncheon will be held on September 16, 2019 from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM at the Multnomah Athletic Club. We hope you'll save the date and join us as we celebrate the impact of the Center’s first 30 years and share our vision for the future.

For help in making a gift to the Center for Ethics, please contact Liz Arrington at arringtl@ohsu.edu or 503-552-0716.
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Center for Ethics in Health Care

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The following friends have established planned gifts benefitting the Center or have told us that they have included the Center in their estate plans:

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Honor Roll of Donors 2018

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Welcome Dr. Katie Stowers, Director of Serious Illness Education! Your generosity has made this position possible.
The Living with Life Threatening Illness Class is made possible through endowment support from the Miles J. Edwards Chair in Professionalism and Comfort Care. We are grateful to Randy and Nancy Edwards and the M. Lowell Edwards Foundation for their gifts in support of their father’s legacy in partnering to build the endowment fund.
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FCGF-Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund, OCF-Oregon Community Foundation, OCJF-Oregon Jewish Community Fund, SFF-The San Francisco Foundation, VCEP-Vanguard Charitable Endowment Program

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**OHSU Center for Ethics in Health Care**
**Statewide Education Outreach**
**1989 - 2018**

We are deeply grateful for the grant support from The Kinsman Foundation that enables the Center for Ethics to host conferences and partner with colleagues in communities across Oregon.