# EXPANDING ACCESS TO CLINICAL TRIALS

2016-17 Biennial Report











































# **EXPANDING ACCESS**

TO CLINICAL TRIALS

SCIENTIFIC TEAM
PATIENT STORIES
CLINICAL TRIAL ROADMAP
LOOKING FORWARD
SUPPORT SERVICES
THE POWER OF ONE

# **EXPANDING ACCESS**TO CLINICAL TRIALS



Ashley E. Ross, MD, PhD - Executive Medical Director Minal Barve, MD - Clinical Medical Director James Strauss, MD - Clinical Scientific Director

### MAKING AN IMPACT

## A LETTER FROM MERRICK REESE, MD Chief Executive Officer



We are pleased to announce and welcome our new Executive Medical Director, Dr. Ashley Ross, who joined our team in April of 2018. Before coming to Dallas, he was Associate Professor in the Urology and Oncology departments at Johns Hopkins where he also earned his Doctorate in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. Dr. Ross is well positioned to take us to an even greater level of molecular-driven cancer research.

While we are excited to move forward with Dr. Ross, we remain grateful for the leadership of Dr. John Nemunaitis, our former Executive Medical Director for over 20 years. In late 2017, Dr. Nemunaitis decided to pursue his professional interest in academia and laboratory research in Ohio where he could be closer to his parents and siblings.

Looking forward, the opportunities are endless for Mary Crowley Cancer Research. We expect to see continued growth of our Phase I-II clinical trials due to the evolution of personalized medicine. Our physician investigators and Dr. Ross will be evaluating new programs to include tumor types previously untested at Mary Crowley. Moreover, at the forefront of our initiatives, we will continue developing new processes to improve patient access to our clinical trials, which may include further expansion of our center.

Growth in our clinical research also brings the need for increased efficiency and upgrades to older data management systems. This is a big ticket item but extremely important for the continued advancement of our outreach. With the help of our new Vice President and Chief Development Officer Deborah Montonen and our devoted philanthropic supporters, we hope to make this need a reality in the near future.

Merrick Reese, MD



US ADULTS AND CHILDREN ARE CANCER SURVIVORS<sup>1</sup>



INCREASE SINCE 1975 IN THE CHANCE A CANCER PATIENT WILL LIVE FIVE YEARS OR MORE<sup>2</sup>





**PARTICIPANT ORIGIN** 

COUNTRIES: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, England, Germany, India, Mexico, Turkey



# OF CLINICAL TRIALS CONDUCTED. 1997-2018



≈73%

SURVIVAL GAINS IN CANCER ARE

ATTRIBUTABLE TO NEW MEDICINES<sup>2</sup>

# OF PARTICIPANTS ENROLLED. 1997-2018



PEER-REVIEWED **PUBLICATIONS** 2009-2018



2. PANCREATIC 3. BREAST

4. NON-SMALL CELL LUNG 9. UTERINE/ENDOMETRIAL 5. OVARIAN

6. SMALL CELL LUNG 7. PROSTATE 8. SARCOMA 10. CHOLANGIOCARCINOMA



FDA-APPROVED

CANCER DRUGS TESTED AT MARY CROWLEY

1. AVASTIN 4. ELOXATIN 5. IMLYGIC 6. LENVIMA 7. PROVENGE 8. RITUXAN

9. VECTIBIX 2. CABOMETYX 10. YERVOY 3. CAMPOSTAR 11. YONDELIS 12. KEYTRUDA 13. NINLARO 14. IMFINZI 15. OPDIVO 16. LYNPARZ*A* 

1. Cancer Facts and Figures 2018, American Cancer Society 2. 2018 Cancer Chart Pack, PhRMA



PARTNERED WITH LEADING GLOBAL PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES INCLUDING **21 OF THE TOP 25** 



≈40% of INDUSTRY-FUNDED PHASE I TRIALS IN DALLAS ARE OPEN AT MARY CROWLEY

# MARY CROWLEY ATTRACTS NEW EXECUTIVE MEDICAL DIRECTOR

### Impacting Cancer Patients in Their Lifetime

In April 2018, Mary Crowley welcomed Dr. Ashley Ross as the newly appointed Executive Medical Director for Mary Crowley Cancer Research. Honored to accept the appointment, Dr. Ross characterized Mary Crowley as one of the best-positioned centers in the country to capitalize on personalized or precision medicine due to its singular focus on early phase cancer trials, expertise in conducting many trials simultaneously and emphasis on partnerships with the patient's primary oncologist.

Dr. Ross attended medical school at Johns Hopkins University and remained on the faculty as Associate Professor in the Departments of Urology and Oncology and Chief Medical Advisor at Genome Dx Bioscience. Adding to his credentials, Dr. Ross also received his Doctorate in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology and led research efforts in basic science, translational and clinical areas, while publishing over 130 original articles and editorials.

Dr. Ross shares Mary Crowley's focus on personalized medicine, and his expertise in the field will allow Mary Crowley to further utilize the tools of molecular biology and immune-oncology to rapidly advance discovery and impact the care of cancer patients in their lifetime. To do so, Dr. Ross's immediate objectives are to:

- Continue being proactive in defining the direction of medical science,
- Rapidly capture molecular data and help determine the potential predictors of response, and
- Expand the center's network of clinical advisors to ensure that we bring in the best trials-the ones our communities really need.

"I am very optimistic about Mary Crowley reaching its full potential because of its strong foundation," Dr. Ross said. "What motivates me to be at Mary Crowley is how great it is. There's always a staff member with a huge amount of energy and a huge amount of HOPE in their hearts—it's exciting to be around."

Welcome aboard, Dr. Ross!



# PHYSICIAN INVESTIGATORS Getting Personal



JAMES STRAUSS, MD Clinical Scientific Director

Dr. James Stauss is an avid volunteer in the Dallas community, devoting time to both Parkland Clinic and UTSW. He also enjoys cycling, hiking and working on projects in his garage.



MINAL BARVE, MD
Clinical Medical Director

When not cooking, hiking or visiting Colorado,
Dr. Minal Barve volunteers at a clinic for uninsured cancer patients. She also supports
Pratham USA — promoting literacy for children.



JAIRO OLIVARES, MD
Physician Investigator

Dr. Jairo Olivares gives back by running a clinic for underprivileged children in his home country of Colombia. He also volunteers at a Dallas clinic for uninsured cancer patients and is an advocate for good nutrition.



REVA SCHNEIDER, MD
Physician Investigator

Dr. Reva Schneider demonstrates a holistic, organic and natural approach to life as she raises her three children two boys and one girl.



DOUGLAS ORR, MD
Physician Investigator

Dr. Douglas Orr was a Lieutenant in the military before attending Vanderbilt University. Interesting fact, Dr. Orr has been driving an electric car for many years.



LEAH PLATO, PA-C, MPH, CCRP
Associate Director Of Clinical &
Scientific Operations

Leah Plato is an active volunteer, treating patients at a primary local care clinic and speaking at cancer support groups and churches. She grew up on a dairy farm in Northern Michigan and enjoys yoga and painting.

# CONNIE'S CANCER STORY: 19-Year Survivor Continues to Give Back

Connie's cancer story began in June of 1999, but her gratitude to the physicians and staff at Mary Crowley Cancer Research continues today. Her co-worker at the time may have done Connie a big favor when she contracted a respiratory problem that led to pneumonia. As a precaution, Connie decided to go to a doc-in-the-box for a chest X-ray to make sure the pneumonia had not been passed on to her. The doctor did not find pneumonia; however, he did find a suspicious mass on her right lung and suggested she see an oncologist. Living in Dallas at the time, she did so and a biopsy revealed the ultimate diagnosis of cancer. Immediately her oncologist referred her to Mary Crowley without giving her any standard treatment.

Connie was placed on her first clinical research trial that included a chemotherapy component to stabilize her disease, followed by a second trial that did the same. By 2000, she was on her third clinical trial, which worked to reduce her cancer! The trial used a piece of her tumor tissue to construct a gene therapy to fight her cancer. She was very fortunate to have had little to no side effects. Connie said, "I never missed a day of work other than the times I had surgery."

Unfortunately, Connie's cancer progressed right after September II, 2001. The right upper lobe of her lung had to be removed to eliminate the cancer. After her surgery, she was without evidence of cancer for years. Therefore, in 2003, she wanted to give back to Mary Crowley and volunteered to become a member of the organization's Institutional Review Board (IRB). Coincidentally the Chairperson was the same oncologist that diagnosed her original cancer. As a lay member, she assisted in the review of consents for patients contemplating enrollment on a clinical trial at Mary Crowley. By then, she was very well qualified to put herself in the shoes of future patients as she

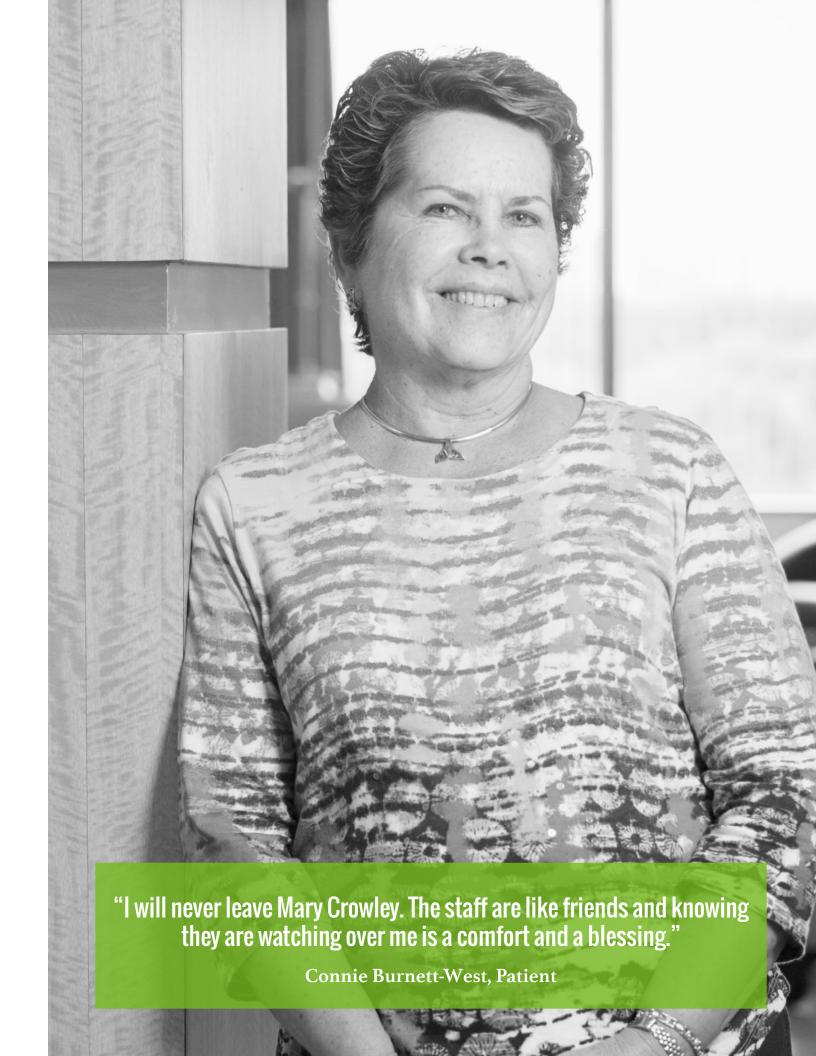
had 'been there and done that' on several occasions.

Connie moved to Houston in 2007. On a routine check-up at Mary Crowley, a recurrence was detected and she was referred to MD Anderson Hospital for Proton Radiation for 28 days. It worked and she was back to enjoying life. During her time in Houston, Connie also volunteered at MD Anderson Hospital supporting cancer patients, especially those who were undergoing cancer lung surgery. It was during this time that Connie was asked to serve on a proposed State-Wide IRB, but after a period of time, the plan did not come to fruition.

Seven years later, in 2014, it was back to Dallas to live and face the third progression of her stage 3b cancer. Her third surgery to remove the right middle lobe of her lung took place in September of 2015, followed by radiation and a personalized immune therapy that was designed to stimulate her immune system to fight her cancer.

Cancer free since then, and 19 years after her initial diagnosis, Connie has become the face of gene and immune therapies by appearing on television shows to advocate for cancer patients and publicly speak about the benefits of clinical trials. Her contribution towards the advancement of new therapies for cancer patients is unparalleled due to her 15 years of service on the Mary Crowley IRB—the longest time for any member to serve.

After three progressions of her cancer, Connie feels as if her cancer has been treated as a chronic disease that has become successfully managed by the team at Mary Crowley. She says, "I will never leave Mary Crowley. The staff are like friends and knowing they are watching over me is a comfort and a blessing."





# Five-Year Survivor Beating the Odds with a Combination Clinical Trial

"Where do we go from here?" Kris Southward asked this question five years ago, as he began his journey with stage IV colon cancer. The future looked bleak.

A CPA in Abilene, TX, Kris was accustomed to extra pressure during tax season. In May 2012, at the age of 49, he attributed his nagging stomach pain to stress. But the pain persisted into summer, and Kris scheduled a routine colonoscopy. To his shock, he awoke from the procedure to hear the doctor say, "I am sorry, you have cancer." Later a biopsy revealed the cancer had spread to his liver.

Kris' oncologist offered grim statistics: most patients with advanced colon cancer do not survive five years; with surgery and chemo, two year survival was the best expected outcome. That prognosis was staggering to Kris, who envisioned more time with his wife Karen, their three daughters and his one-year old grandson Ryder. His oncologist recommended a clinical trial at Mary Crowley Cancer Research, to offer Kris as many weapons as possible in his arsenal to fight the cancer.

Kris came to Mary Crowley and discovered that he qualified for a first-in-human combination chemo-immune therapy trial that consisted of a personalized immunotherapy that is designed to engage one's immune system to recognize and fight the cancer. While there was no guarantee of success, Kris was relieved to have a glimmer of HOPE.

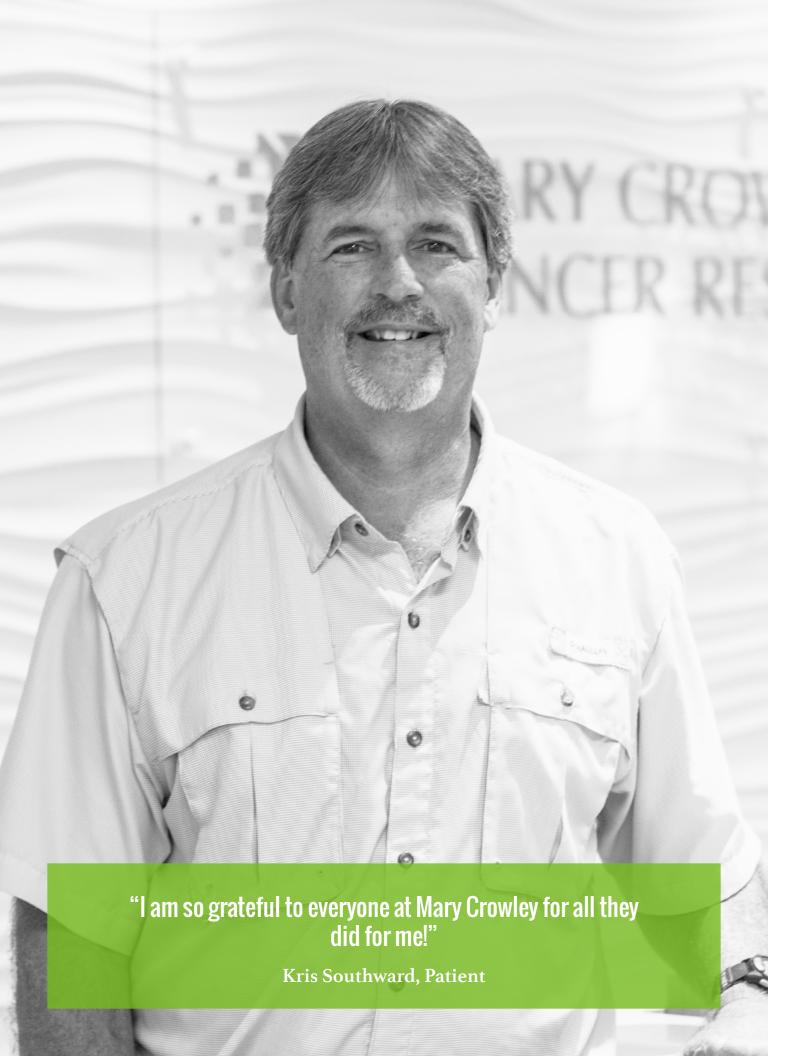
From November 2012 until May 2013, Kris received doses of chemotherapy twice a month. In addition, from November 2012 until September 2013, he received a monthly dose of his vaccine made from his own tumor tissue. He continued going to appointments with his primary oncologist, and he consistently felt well enough to work a normal schedule—even through tax season.

"It gave me tremendous HOPE that Mary Crowley would take me as a patient... Everyone was genuine, up-front, and positive; I always felt welcome," Kris says. In addition to seeking a positive outcome for himself, Kris felt good about participating in a trial to help other cancer patients find alternatives to harsh chemotherapy.

Kris' cancer responded to the treatment, and year after year his scans remained clear. At his five-year check-up in July 2017, Kris received great news: he is still CANCER-FREE. Kris reflects, "In many ways five years have flown by. I have been blessed tremendously by so many people, and am grateful to God for giving me these extra years... I am so grateful to everyone at Mary Crowley for all they did for me!"

Now when Kris asks "Where do we go from here?" the future looks bright indeed.

Update: August 2018, Kris continues to remain in remission.



**ENGAGEMENT** by MC with

preferred Pharma

and confidentiality

documents executed



#### REVIEW/APPROVAL-DISAPPROVAL

of Clinical Trial Synopsis by MC Review Committee



### COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW

Approvaldisapproval of full scientific data by MC Investigators

#### AGREEMENT INITIATED

between Pharma and MC to conduct a clinical trial



# CRITICAL DOCUMENTS

executed including FDA Form



# PATIENT INFORMED CONSENT

drafted and approved-disapproved by MC and Pharma to protect rights, well-being and safety of patients

# **ROADMAP TO OPENING A CLINICAL TRIAL\***

It takes 40 Mary Crowley staff members 8-10 weeks to complete approximately 150 checkpoints before a clinical trial is opened for enrollment.

Identifies a patient safety checkpoint

**VALIDATION** 

of MC qualifications

with on-site visit by

Pharma

\* Represents 15 of 150 checkpoints



RECEIPT OF
INVESTIGATIONAL
AGENT AND MATERIALS
to MC from Pharma





by Pharma with MC Investigators and staff during Pharma's second visit to MC



AGREEMENT

FINALIZED
ween Pharma and

between Pharma and MC to conduct trial



#### TO CLINICAL TRIALS

# HUNG'S CANCER JOURNEY: Five-Year Survivor Still Thriving After Stage IV Thymus Cancer

Hung Nguyen is a proud North Texan. He cheers for both the Dallas Cowboys and the Dallas Mavericks, and he enjoys watching the games with his daughters. Born in Vietnam, Hung served as a soldier in the military. His strength was tested when he was the victim of a rocket blast that broke both legs. He says the difficult recovery from the explosion taught him perseverance that he would later draw upon for an even tougher battle.

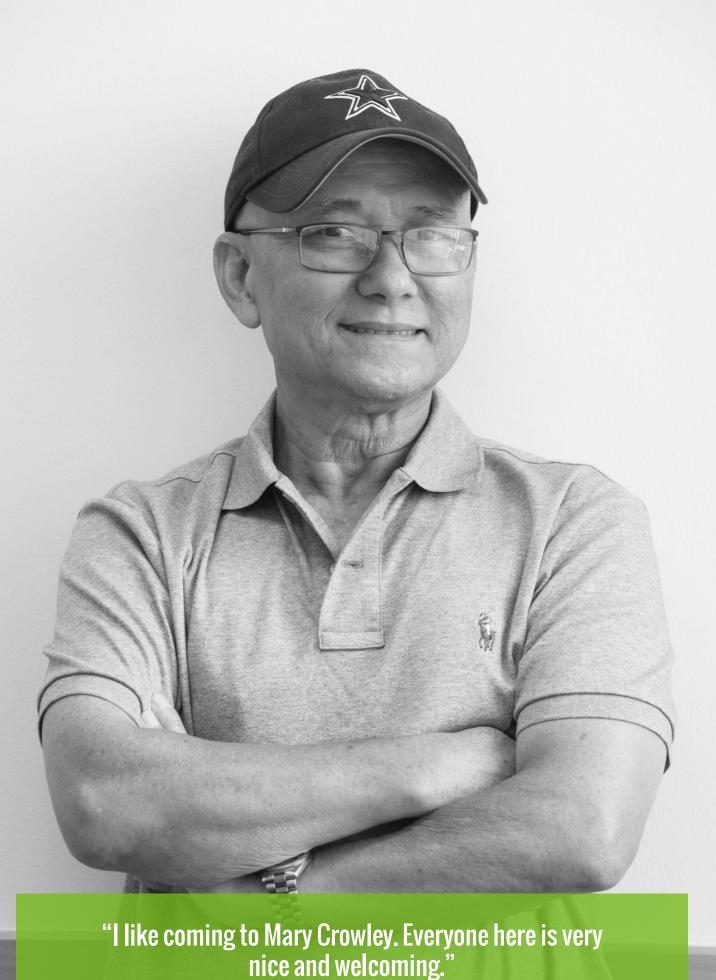
In 1989, at age 37, Hung followed his sister to the United States. He and his family settled in North Texas, and he found a job producing medical equipment. Ten years later, he began experiencing pain in his right shoulder but shrugged it off as a result of his occupation. He treated himself with over-the-counter pain relievers for two years. Finally, when the pain became unbearable, he went to the doctor.

To his surprise, he was diagnosed with Stage IV thymus cancer that had spread to his lungs and heart. The thymus is a small organ located just behind the breast bone in the front part of the chest and is an important part of the body's immune system. Hung underwent surgery to remove a tumor the size of a fist, then chemo and radiation. Unfortunately, within one year the tumor grew back. Radiation was no longer an option, and chemotherapy had done nothing to stop the tumor's rapid growth. That's when Hung's oncologist recommended Mary Crowley Cancer Research.

With few other options, Hung and his family felt that a clinical trial was his best HOPE. In September 2013 he enrolled on a targeted small molecule trial at Mary Crowley. Instead of feeling overwhelmed with exhaustion and nausea, he felt well enough to drive himself to appointments. Hung's cancer responded well to the therapy, and his tumor began to shrink. But then he faced a new challenge: the pharmaceutical company decided to close his clinical trial, which meant he would no longer receive life-saving doses of the trial medication. Mary Crowley staff persuaded the company to allow Hung to continue receiving the therapy, while covering other costs associated with his care. Thanks to those efforts, he never missed a dose.

In November 2016, Hung completed just over three years on the trial. Eight months later, he and his daughters were delighted to learn that his latest scan showed NO VISIBLE SIGN OF CANCER. Hung says Mary Crowley physician investigators and staff gave him great encouragement in his fight against cancer. "I like coming to Mary Crowley. Everyone here is very nice and welcoming." In addition to the successful therapy, he says Mary Crowley provided HOPE when he needed it: "Hy vong song o day," he says in Vietnamese. "HOPE lives here."

*Update: August 2018, Hung continues to remain cancer free!* 



Hung Nguyen, Patient

### PHYSICIAN COLLABORATION

### **Benefits Cancer Patients**

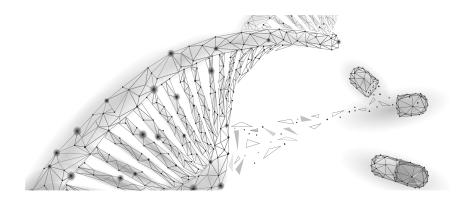
Dedicated collaboration between research investigators, academic centers, scientists, and community oncologists is key to the growth and advancement of cancer treatments for patients. Mary Crowley's Oncology Research Liaison is available to assist in developing the physician-to-physician collaborative process.

#### Patient Benefits:

- Access to more cancer options; some may be incorporated into standard treatments with their existing oncologist
- Access to Mary Crowley's Molecular Registry, which is used to notify patients and their oncologists of a personalized clinical trial match and ensures earlier and faster enrollment in a clinical trial
- Double oversight when participating in a clinical trial by both physician investigators and referring oncologists
- More informed oncologists when they dialogue with investigators about recent research findings and future pipeline technologies
- Contribute to the body of cancer research, which plays a key role in future treatment options
- Provides HOPE of extended survival for today's patients who have exhausted standard treatments



### LOOKING FORWARD: Clinical Innovation for Cancer



Predicting Advances by James Strauss, MD

A major advance in oncology has been the development of the "checkpoint" antibodies to stimulate anti-tumor immune responses. Although they are not effective against most cancers, they may be more helpful if used earlier. Soon, we will see them used at the time of diagnosis, even before surgery.

- Patient-Specific Immunotherapy: The CAR-T cells being used to treat certain hematologic malignancies and the checkpoint antibodies are non-specific. The treatment is the same for all patients. An advance in immune therapy could be treatments specific for each patient. The Vigil tumor vaccine studied at Mary Crowley was an example. Developments in DNA sequencing, sequence analysis, and peptide synthesis chemistry make it possible to produce custom vaccines using information from the tumor and the patient's immune system. Studies with custom vaccines are starting and hold great promise.
- Combination Therapies: There are many new "targeted" drugs. Some of these have changed standard treatment. However, the responses to many of the targeted drugs are

- not long lasting. Increasingly these drugs will be used in combinations and paired with chemotherapy. Studies of this design are open at Mary Crowley now.
- Genetically Engineered Viruses: The use of viruses to destroy tumor cells and to stimulate an immune response has been studied for many years. Mary Crowley conducted some of the first studies with a genetically engineered Herpes virus that is now an FDA-approved treatment for melanoma. There are recent impressive results with a genetically-engineered polio virus for brain tumors (glioblastoma multiform) providing further stimulus for this field. There are several new genetically engineered oncolytic viruses in development and one study is currently open at Mary Crowley.

Resistance to treatment happens because not all the cells in the cancer are identical. The use of patient-specific immunotherapy, combinations of targeted drugs with chemotherapy, and oncolytic viruses are approaches to try to meet this challenge.

# MARY CROWLEY MEDICAL RESEARCH CENTER AND AFFILIATES CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As of I	Jecem!	ber 31,	2017	and	2016

Assets					
CURRENT ASSETS	2017	2016			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$4,770,675	\$4,343,689			
Investments in securities	1,272,397	1,868,495			
Accounts receivable	3,413,006	2,923,079			
Accounts receivable - related parties	228,745	479,851			
Contributions receivable	-	75,722			
Prepaid expenses & other current assets	30,897	40,137			
Total current assets	9,715,720	9,730,973			
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT (NET) OTHER ASSETS	325,887	407,887			
Deposits	30,432	30,432			
Total other assets	30,432	30,432			
Total other assets	30,132	30,132			
TOTAL ASSETS	\$10,072,039	\$10,169,292			
Liabilities and Net Assets CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Accounts payable	\$1,359,443	\$1,023,142			
Accrued expenses	431,772	438,559			
Deferred revenue	93,337	198,344			
Other current liabilities - related party	12,000	88,445			
Total current liabilities	1,896,552	1,748,490			
NET ASSETS					
Unrestricted	6,321,479	6,043,083			
Temporarily restricted	1,854,008	2,377,719			
Permanently restricted	-	-			
Total net assets	8,175,487	8,420,802			
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$10,072,039	\$10,169,292			

# MARY CROWLEY MEDICAL RESEARCH CENTER AND AFFILIATES CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

#### For the Year Ended December 31, 2017 With summarized financial information for the year ended December 31, 2016

	Unrestricted	Temporarily	Permanently _	Total Al	All Funds
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Restricted	2017	2016
SUPPORT AND REVENU	E:				
Research revenue	\$7,969,190	\$831,744	\$ -	\$8,800,934	\$8,472,279
Contributions and grant revenue	304,019	977,213	-	1,281,232	2,276,556
Interest income	67,543	-	-	67,543	71,755
Realized gain (loss) on investments	15,675	-	-	15,675	594
Unrealized gain (loss) on investments	153,521	-	-	153,521	85,895
Net assets released from restrictions	2,332,668	(2,332,668)	-	-	-
Total support and revenue	10,842,616	(523,711)	-	10,318,905	10,907,079
OPERATING EXPENSES:					
Program					
Medical & research	8,009,020	-	-	8,009,020	7,800,615
General & administrative	2,238,507	-	-	2,238,507	2,571,896
Fundraising	316,245	-	-	316,245	255,324
<b>Total operating expenses</b>	10,563,772	-	-	10,563,772	10,627,835
Changes in net assets from operations	278,844	(523,711)	-	(244,867)	279,244
Other income (expense)	(448)	-	-	(448)	(9,981)
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS	278,396	(523,711)	-	(245,315)	269,263
NET ASSETS, beginning of period	6,043,083	2,377,719	-	8,420,802	8,151,539
NET ASSETS, end of period	6,321,479	1,854,008	-	8,175,487	8,420,802

### Staff Spotlight: Ned Adams, CRN A Life-Line for Patients

Ned Adams is a leader in the expansion of patient access to clinical trials through his experience, empathy and enthusiasm

Experience: Ned began his nursing career working in a hospital bone marrow transplant unit. The extensive training and bedside nursing experience proved to be invaluable in his role as a clinical research nurse at Mary Crowley. When Mary Crowley started in 1997, it was a small organization, which enabled Ned not only to take care of patients, but also to be involved with the entire process of early drug development through FDA drug approval. With twenty years of service at Mary Crowley, Ned is certainly experienced, a teacher of teachers, in Phase I clinical research!

Empathy: Generally the patients referred to Mary Crowley have already tried standard of care cancer options and are physically depleted, apprehensive and scared. Ned gracefully demonstrates how they are Mary Crowley's number one priority, and with his vast knowledge conveys the science behind the Mary Crowley trials that is both understandable and allays fears. To minimize any lingering anxieties, Ned makes himself available to patients 24 hours a day so they know there is a lifeline at the other end of the phone. He says he feels privileged to walk the tough road along side them.

Enthusiasm: One of the concepts that still resonates from Ned's early days at Mary Crowley, was having the determination to move forward with a vision of doing what is believed to be right. He is enthusiastic about investigating methods that have yet to be explored and to continue Mary Crowley's role as leader of the pack in cancer research trials. As Mary Crowley becomes more efficient in streamlining processes to meet patient needs more quickly, Ned is invigorated. His newest project is to expand patient services at Mary Crowley by offering patients more nutritional guidance and physical fitness programs.



"I have relied on Ned to be my cool side of the pillow in my struggle with cancer. Ned's demeanor and professionalism is extended to all that enter his sphere of care." - Michael Hernandez, patient

"Ned is a cherished part of our organization, community and those he serves. It is an honor to know and work with Ned."
- Minal Barve, MD, Clinical Medical Director

"Ned is the best example of a man of God that I've ever witnessed. His compassion for our patients and his co-workers is inspiring to see and experience." - Ashli Walker, Regulatory Coordinator

# Donor Spotlight: Big HOPE I Pushes HOPE I Million Reasons to Celebrate - \$1 Million Raised in Six Years!

In 2012, Vince Schu, an employee of Ceres Consulting LLC and Ceres Barge Line, suggested that the company's charitable funds support cancer research. Vince's family had been deeply affected by cancer, as had many of his colleagues and friends in the barge industry. The Ceres team enthusiastically agreed, and they decided to paint a barge bright pink to increase awareness and named it BIG HOPE I. They selected pink because of its successful association with breast cancer campaigns, with the vision that every time **BIG HOPE I** comes into an area, the barge will create awareness for every type of cancer. Sherwin-Williams generously donated the signature bright pink paint, and Jeffboat Shipyard painted the barge. Thus, Ceres launched BIG **HOPE** I, the big pink barge, to raise cancer awareness within the barge and towing industry.

Not only does **BIG HOPE** I increase awareness of cancer in the community, Ceres also donates all funds raised in the **PUSHING HOPE ANNUAL MARINE INDUSTRY CHARITY TOURNAMENT** to

Mary Crowley Cancer Research. The seafood boil, softball and kickball tournaments and 5K Fun Run serve as a weekend for the barge industry to gather in support of their family and friends who have been affected by cancer. As of 2017, BIG HOPE I has raised over \$861,000. In 2018, they are projected to top ONE MILLION DOLLARS for cancer research. Ceres Officers Mark Fletcher and Mark Mestemacher agreed, "BIG HOPE I unites and rallies the inland river and coastal regions and affiliated industries in fighting a disease that strikes all ages, races and genders without remorse. The marine industry is a group of individuals who do not sit back and wait for someone else to solve a problem. Instead, we take the problem on head first and try to tackle it with whatever resources we have available. This fundraising effort shows firsthand how that 'can-do' attitude can work toward a common good."

Dollars from **BIG HOPE I** have enabled Mary Crowley to match patients to clinical trials based on the patient's personal molecular profile. Evidence shows that patients who enroll on personalized, targeted trials are more likely to have a beneficial response. The generosity of the inland marine industry continues to make a tremendous impact on the advancement of cancer research, and as a result, hundreds of Mary Crowley patients have received innovative cancer therapies.

We salute our friends in the marine industry who have worked tirelessly to "Push HOPE" to cancer patients!





## Support Services at Mary Crowley Serving the Needs of the Patient

#### Flight Home



An ovarian cancer survivor traveled to Dallas-Ft. Worth from the island of Mauritius to visit her daughter's family. During her visit, her cancer recurred and she was referred to Mary Crowley for a clinical trial. Two years passed while she was being treated and participating in a clinical trial. She missed her family in Mauritius and a newly arrived grandbaby but lacked the funds to return for a visit.

The Mary Crowley Social Worker contacted an organization that provides airfare to advanced cancer patients at no cost and secured her round-trip airfare. The patient traveled home for Christmas, where she spent time with her husband and family before returning to Dallas to continue her clinical trial.

#### **Electricity and Food Assistance**



High medical bills made it difficult for one patient to afford her basic utility bills during an extreme Texas heat wave. The electric company threatened to cut off her electricity for lack of payment.

The Mary Crowley Social Worker stepped into action by notifying the electric company of the patient's "critical status." The Social Worker first arranged for the patient to receive a lower payment plan followed by a connection to a local charity organization for food and financial assistance. In addition, Mary Crowley staff pitched in and ordered food to be delivered to the patient's home.

#### A Wheelchair Ramp



Restricted mobility was preventing one Mary Crowley patient from getting in and out of her home safely. In prior similar situations, county health services department assisted in providing ramps, but due to the rural location, they were unable to offer any assistance.

Not giving up, the Mary Crowley Social Worker contacted nine churches in the area and asked them for volunteers to build a ramp. Three men from a nearby church graciously responded to meet the need. They purchased supplies and built the ramp within a week, at no cost to the patient.

MARY CROWLEY	CANCER	RESEARCH



### DONOR SUPPORT—The Power of One



"It is my honor to be a part of Mary Crowley Cancer Research and its mission of personalized medicine for patients on clinical trials. We thank all of you who are financially supporting Mary Crowley or have done so in the past. Mary Crowley and our patients appreciate your commitment and gifts."

-DEBORAH MONTONEN, CFRE, VP AND CHIEF DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

Although finding a cure for cancer may seem like a daunting mission, it only takes one person to make a difference. An example of the Power of ONE is Vince Schu. He saw the prevalence of cancer among his friends and co-workers and felt something should be done. He spoke to his employer in 2012, who rallied the barge industry to host annual fundraising events to advance cancer research. Because of Vince's idea, the Big Hope I event has raised over \$860,000 and will surpass \$1,000,000 in 2018. All proceeds have been awarded to Mary Crowley for research. (See page 24 to read full story about Vince.)

Caring individuals like you and Vince have the power to advance science and bring hope to cancer patients worldwide. Would you share the hope of Mary Crowley with ONE more-

- Your Employer
- Your Friends
- Your Foundation

• Your Family

Your Church

• Your Doctor

Mary Crowley is singularly focused on bringing the newest scientific advances to cancer patients through Phase I clinical testing.

	Traditional Academic Medical Center	Traditional Academic Cancer Hospital	MARY CROWLEY CANCER RESEARCH HOPE LIVES HERE*
Cancer Exclusive	$\otimes$	$\otimes$	$\bigcirc$
Research Exclusive	$\otimes$	$\otimes$	$\bigcirc$
Phase I/II Oncology Trials*	12%	45%	99%
Located in North Texas	$\bigcirc$	$\otimes$	$\bigcirc$
Independently Operated	$\otimes$	$\otimes$	$\bigcirc$

\*Source: ClinicalTrials.gov [Internet]. Recruiting, not yet recruiting, enrolling by invite; active, not yet recruiting; interventional studies; Phase 1, Phase 2, industry-funded, cancer [cited 2018 Aug 6]; by location

MARY CROWLEY CANCER RESEARCH

#### **OUR LEADERSHIP**

Merrick Reese, M.D., Chief Executive Officer
Ashley E. Ross, M.D., PhD, Executive Medical Director
James Strauss, M.D., Clinical Scientific Director
Minal Barve, M.D., Clinical Medical Director
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