



## **Towards a Cure – Philanthropic Priorities**

HIV will never cure itself, but at UC San Diego we believe that we can put an end to this disease with the help of forward-thinking experts and the support of our community partners. Philanthropic partnerships with our community will be key as we lead the charge toward state-of-the-art, interdisciplinary HIV education, research and clinical care.

The Institute facilitates innovation and breakthroughs. Reflecting UC San Diego's strong collaborative character, the HIV program at UC San Diego is a center of excellence for research and treatment. We cultivate up-and-coming researchers and care providers; nurture leading-edge, cooperative scientific research and academic exchange that contribute to new treatment methods and greater hope for a cure; champion UC San Diego's world-class HIV programs; foster investigators to improve prevention efforts locally and abroad; provide state-of-the-art clinical and educational resources and training to the San Diego community and international partners; and raise vital funding to support the unmet needs of critical research, clinical care and training for our members and programs.

### **1. New Research Initiatives**

External grant funding can take a year or more to obtain. Internal grants awarded through the HIV Institute can help emerging investigators with ongoing research or with research questions that are still in development and not ready for immediate investigation. We also need to respond to rapidly evolving areas in HIV research, which require immediate attention if the results are to be timely. Examples include the rapid follow-up of a new hypothesis or observation, proof-of-concept studies for new vaccine approaches, or the application of new laboratory tests to existing patient laboratory samples. To respond to promising research questions that need to be addressed urgently, we need to have funds available to provide for seed grants while larger awards are sought. In addition, funds are needed to support innovative pilot studies, which will allow investigators to generate the strong preliminary data needed for grant applications.

### **2. Infrastructure**

#### **a. Laboratory equipment**

Expanding needs and new technologies require purchase of new equipment, some of which is quite expensive and not available for support through granting programs. We have a number of productive and innovative laboratories which are currently using equipment past its useful life. For example, our highly utilized Flow Cytometry Laboratory is in critical need of a new Flow Cytometry machine, which will cost \$450,000 to replace. Other examples of urgently needed equipment include a sequencer (\$100,000) and a real time PCR machine (\$75,000). These critically needed pieces of equipment are housed in Core Laboratories that provide expert resources to numerous HIV research projects throughout The HIV Institute.

Our laboratories are involved in cutting-edge HIV research involving genomics, flow cytometry, translational virology, and protein-expression and proteomics. Investigators associated with The HIV Institute are working on developing vaccines, treatment and diagnostic techniques. Our scientists have been among the leaders in the field in each of these areas, and it is vital that our Core laboratories have equipment that is updated and able to support our research.

#### **b. Furniture for patient care areas**

Our clinicians have provided primary care for more than 4,000 HIV-positive individuals, and continue to operate a busy clinic. In addition, we have an active research clinic which provides services to hundreds of people each year. Both our primary care and research clinics need replacement furniture and clinic equipment.

### **3. International Research Programs**

Investigators associated with The HIV Institute are involved in international research on almost every continent. We have a particular focus on collaborations in Mexico and Mozambique, as well as Brazil, India, Kenya, South Africa, and Zimbabwe. Numerous opportunities for expanding and fostering research, training, and exchange with our international partners need support.

### **4. Patient Education and Assistance Programs**

We have a dynamic patient education and assistance program, which extends far into our local, national, and international communities. Examples of our educational programs include (a) educational programs regarding HIV treatment, (b) community updates from major HIV conferences such as the annual retrovirus conference or the International AIDS Conference, (c) community forums for current HIV topics of interest such HIV and aging, managing comorbidities, etc. and (d) specific educational programs targeting people of color, women, and transgender individuals, such as the Transgender Health and Wellness Day on September 15, 2018. With support from generous sponsors, we are able to facilitate a community exchange featuring experts in the field, designed to strengthen our local HIV care continuum.

### **5. Faculty Endowments**

Endowed chairs are critical to recruiting and retaining the very best faculty and allowing them to pursue breakthroughs in care and research. They represent an investment in our faculty members, the experts creating the future of HIV care in San Diego and globally. We seek to establish chairs that empower leading physician-scientists to spend additional time training tomorrow's specialists, delivering exceptional care for patients, and in the laboratory discovering innovative therapies and finding a cure.

#### **Chair for HIV Research**

**(\$2 million)**

To support an internationally recognized leader in HIV, this Chair will pave the way for the Institute's growth and strengthen long-term sustainability. This kind of investment represents a commitment, not only to key faculty members' current research efforts, but also the individuals who will ultimately benefit from their work. This Endowed Chair is the highest honor we can bestow on our faculty and is critical to the dedication of time to advance education as well as to foster innovation and discovery.

#### **Chair for HIV Care and Treatment**

**(\$2 million)**

To support a nationally recognized clinician in HIV, this Chair will have a tremendous impact on the clinical division, their represented department and the HIV Medicine (Owen) Clinic's patients. This Chair will provide the prestige and resources needed to attract and retain the very best faculty and allow them to pursue breakthroughs of care and treatment.

## 6. Research Endowments

UC San Diego Health is the one place where the most innovative minds and state-of-the-art infrastructure come together to push the boundaries of medical science. We strive to speed clinical trials from potential therapies to proven treatments. Before we can do this, we must invest in the basic science to prove concepts that can become cures. By endowing basic research, you empower our physician-scientists with dedicated lab space necessary to pursue grants monies and initiate clinical trials.

### **Endowment for HIV Scientific Training Program** **(\$1 million)**

Training is crucial for supporting the best minds who have come to UC San Diego for training in HIV. This program develops the next generation of HIV researchers who are committed to becoming accomplished scholars and leaders in the field. Endowment support is critical to the Institute, giving us the financial security to continue providing the very best training to tomorrow's leaders in HIV care, treatment and research.

### **Endowment for International Research** **(\$1 million)**

In order to realize our vision of an HIV-free generation, we must work with global partners that advance the Institute's goals to be a world leader in HIV research and care, while contributing to global well-being through international partnerships and service. This Endowment supports medical and research training in developing nations.

### **Endowment for New Research Initiatives** **(\$1 million)**

This Endowment provides funding for innovative pilot studies, allowing investigators to generate the strong preliminary data needed for grant applications.

## 7. Education

UC San Diego is internationally recognized for providing top-ranked medical education, but continued investment in our students, particularly those seeking residency and fellowship programs, will help the Institute recruit aspiring leaders.

### **HIV Scientific & Clinical Training Program** **(\$500,000)**

This training program offers opportunities to keep researchers and clinicians at the forefront of current research and treatment protocols. This support is critical to the Institute, giving us the financial security to continue providing the very best training to tomorrow's leaders in HIV care, treatment and research.

### **Term One-Year Fellowships** **(\$75,000)**

At the discretion of the Director, a one-year term fellowship will allocate targeted funding to a key area of educational opportunity, whether creating new fellowships or enhancing offerings within an existing specialty.

**For more information, contact us at [hiv@ucsd.edu](mailto:hiv@ucsd.edu) or 858-246-2103.**