TSFRE supports research and education initiatives to increase knowledge and enhance treatment of patients with thoracic diseases; develop the skills of thoracic surgeons as surgeon-scientists and health policy leaders; and strengthen society’s understanding and trust in the profession.

The History and Philosophy of TSFRE:

The Thoracic Surgery Foundation for Research and Education (TSFRE) was established in 1991 by the four leading thoracic surgery societies: the American Association for Thoracic Surgery (AATS), the oldest national thoracic organization; the Society of Thoracic Surgeons (STS), the largest national thoracic organization; the Southern Thoracic Surgical Association and the Western Thoracic Surgical Association. Representatives from each of these organizations serve on the TSFRE Board of Directors and each organization provides annual financial support to TSFRE. The TSFRE represents all of thoracic surgery in the United States and its research and education initiatives support the broad spectrum of thoracic surgery.

The Mission of the TSFRE is Two Fold:

*Increase knowledge and improve the care of patients with thoracic disease*
*To nurture the development of the surgeon-scientist*

The specialty and TSFRE remain committed to research, recognizing that it is today’s research that is the practice of tomorrow. Without the thousands of research hours and millions of dollars, new surgical techniques and today’s miracle drugs would remain undiscovered. Hundreds of thousands of lives would be adversely affected.

Thoracic surgeons, indeed all surgeons, face a changing health care system. TSFRE recognizes that education plays a vital role in the future of our specialty. Thus, TSFRE has developed new initiatives that will support thoracic surgeons in acquiring the transdisciplinary skills necessary for success in the years and decades ahead, developing new training programs that will utilize simulation activities for thoracic surgery and creating an emphasis on patient safety within the specialty.

The Thoracic Surgery Foundation for Research and Education (TSFRE) is the focal point for research and education programs and projects within cardiothoracic surgery. TSFRE insures that research and education, the foundations for progress within the medical specialty, remain at the forefront and that innovative, new endeavors receive the support and commitment necessary to advance thoracic surgery in future years.
inside:

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Hillsborough, CA
President’s Message

Our patients don’t follow the details of our research. They don’t discuss unexpected breakthroughs or technical setbacks. They are not always aware of how changes in health care policies impact research funding and lab time. Nonetheless, the advances we make in thoracic surgery touch each and every one of them. New surgical techniques and potent new drugs improve patient health and extend patient lives.

That is an outcome everyone can understand, and it’s the one that has continued to push TSFRE forward since its inception in 1991.

The Thoracic Surgery Foundation for Research and Education was founded by the four major thoracic surgery organizations: American Association for Thoracic Surgery, The Society of Thoracic Surgeons, The Southern Thoracic Surgical Association and the Western Thoracic Surgical Association. As it was 16 years ago, the Foundation’s mission is to support research and education in thoracic surgery.

The Foundation, however, has not only maintained its position as a leading supporter of research and education, it has also expanded its reach. The Foundation in the past few years has established a comprehensive development program, improved its public policy training opportunities for surgeons and partnered with other Foundations such as the LUNGevity Foundation to improve support for research training.

Perhaps most importantly, the Foundation has chosen to play a leading role in changing the current training paradigm for thoracic surgeons by becoming a founding organization of the Joint Council on Thoracic Surgery Education (JCTSE). Along with the American Association for Thoracic Surgery (AATS), the American Board of Thoracic Surgery (ABTS) and the Society of Thoracic Surgeons (STS), TSFRE has committed its resources to support and empower the JCTSE to overhaul the current thoracic surgery training program and coordinate all thoracic surgery education in the United States.

I hope that you continue your support of today’s research so we can serve our patients with even better techniques and technology tomorrow. I urge each of you who have not given to the Foundation in the past to do so now, and if you have given generously in the past I ask that you consider another gift at this time. Such generosity will help us insure a bright future for young surgical scientists and excellent care for our patients.

Thank you.

Michael J. Mack, M.D.
President, Thoracic Surgery Foundation for Research and Education

TSFRE: Turning Today’s Research Into Tomorrow’s Patient Care
The Nina Starr Braunwald Career Development Award is a very generous research award. Receipt of this award has contributed significantly to my ability to continue to pursue research efforts while concurrently practicing as a pediatric cardiac surgeon. The training in cardiac surgery and pediatric cardiac surgery is long, and often times, one moves during various phases of the training process. Such moves and instability can make it difficult to continue productive research and can make it particularly difficult to be competitive for NIH funding when one finally begins their practice after training.

This award has allowed us to resume work on a project which is high risk but which could significantly change the way that we perform transplantation. We are approaching tolerance induction through a novel method in which we utilize the potential of an individual’s own hematopoietic stem cells for self/non-self determination as the guiding principle. Not only has this award allowed us to resume work on this project, it has allowed us to support a research fellow and medical student in their efforts, elements that are crucial to our goal of training future generations.

Kimberly L. Gandy, M.D., Ph.D.
Medical College of Wisconsin
In January of 2008, the Research Committee met to review 57 applications. Each major subspecialty area—congenital heart disease, adult acquired surgery, thoracic oncology and thoracic transplantation—was well represented. The proposals varied widely in scientific focus, ranging from transplantation immunology and molecular oncology to biomechanics and tissue engineering. There was also a healthy mix of mechanical, translational and clinical science. Most importantly, all of these proposals addressed issues important to improving care for our thoracic surgical patients.

The Committee’s work includes providing constructive criticism for each applicant. We strongly believe that this feedback will help young residents and faculty to submit ever more polished applications, and thus compete more effectively in traditional venues for increasingly scarce research funds. The committee is acutely aware that academic departments can no longer depend on diverting professional revenues to support research. Lack of this traditional bridge or seed funding enhances the need for fundraising to make it possible for TSFRE to increase the amount of individual awards, particularly to young faculty.

Despite the grinding pressures and financial uncertainties we all face in our clinical practices, the breadth and high quality of the TSFRE supported research effort reflects a strong commitment to fundamental and clinical thoracic surgical investigation. This vital basis for the future evolution of our specialty remains healthy and vibrant, thanks to your participation.

“Not only has the Nina Starr Braunwald Award allowed us to resume work on this project, it has allowed us to support a research fellow and medical student in their efforts, elements that are crucial to our goal of training future generations.”

Kimberly L. Gandy, M.D., Ph.D., Medical College of Wisconsin
2008 TSFRE Research Award Recipients

LUNGevity Foundation/TSFRE Award in Lung Cancer Research provides support of up to $35,000 a year for up to 2 years for surgical residents who have not yet completed cardiothoracic surgical training.

Jane Yanagawa, M.D.
University of California, Los Angeles
“The Role of Snail in the Regulation of the Invasive Phenotype in Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer”

TSFRE Research Grants provide operational support of original research efforts by cardiothoracic surgeons who have completed their formal training, and who are seeking initial support and recognition for their research program. Awards of up to $30,000 a year for up to 2 years are made each year to support the work of an early-career cardiothoracic surgeon (within 5 years of first faculty appointment).

Juan A. Crestanello, M.D.
Ohio State University
“Post Conditioning, Free Oxygen Radical Generation and Mitochondrial Function”

Gorav Ailawadi, M.D.
University of Virginia
“The Effects of IL-1 Beta on Smooth Muscle Cell Phenotype during Experimental Aortic Aneurysm Formation”

Nina Starr Braunwald Award provides a biennial award of $110,000 for two years to support the research career development of a woman cardiac surgeon who holds a full-time faculty appointment and who is within ten years of completion of thoracic surgery residency. Nina Starr Braunwald was the first woman to be certified by the American Board of Thoracic Surgery. Throughout her professional life, Dr. Braunwald was an active academic surgeon in all aspects—clinical, surgery, teaching and research. She was closely associated with education, first at the National Heart Institute, then at the University of California at San Diego and finally at Harvard Medical School. Eugene Braunwald, MD and his family, friends and colleagues have established the Nina Starr Braunwald Fellowship Award in memory of his wife. The Nina Starr Braunwald Fund is dedicated exclusively to career development awards for young women in academic cardiac surgery.

Nina Starr Braunwald Award provides a biennial award of $110,000 for two years to support the research career development of a woman cardiac surgeon who holds a full-time faculty appointment and who is within 10 years of completion of thoracic surgery residency.

Kimberly L. Gandy, M.D., Ph.D.
Medical College of Wisconsin
“The Use of Autologous Hematopoietic Stem Cells in Tolerance Induction for Organ Transplantation”
Research Awards

Since its inception, TSFRE has awarded and administered over $7 million in research grants, fellowships and career development awards for thoracic surgeons. Awards are made after a rigorous examination of applications by the TSFRE Research Committee, composed of outstanding research surgeon-scientists.

TSFRE/Edwards Lifesciences New and Emerging Technology Fellowship
This award will provide support of up to $30,000 per year for each fellow to allow for travel, temporary relocation and training costs associated with the program. There should be one identified center where the Fellow will spend approximately 3 months learning new and emerging technology and skills. The Fellow will be asked to identify an individual at that center who will act as his/her sponsor and assist in planning the course of study at the host institution.

Research Fellowship Awards
Support of up to $35,000 per year for up to two years for surgical residents who have not yet completed cardiothoracic surgical training.

Research Grants
Operational support of original research efforts by cardiothoracic surgeons who have completed their formal training and who are seeking initial support and recognition for their research program. Awards of up to $30,000 a year for up to two years are made each year to support the work of an early-career cardiothoracic surgeon (within five years of first faculty appointment).

Career Development Awards
Salary support of up to $50,000 a year for up to two years for applicants who have completed their residency training and who wish to pursue investigative careers in cardiothoracic surgery.

Nina Starr Braunwald Career Development Awards
Provides a biennial award of $110,000 for two years to support the research career development of a woman cardiac surgeon who holds a full-time faculty appointment and who is within ten years of completion of thoracic surgery residency.

TSFRE has formed valuable partnerships with the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute and the National Cancer Institute to offer K08 and K23 awards. Through this partnership, the Foundation is able to increase the dollars available to support cardiothoracic research.

National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute K08 and K23 Awards
Support to outstanding clinician research scientists who are committed to a career in cardiothoracic surgery research and have the potential to develop into independent investigators. The award is $150,000 per year ($75,000 from TSFRE and $75,000 from NHLBI) plus $25,000 indirect support from NHLBI and supports a three, four or five year period of didactic training and supervised research experience.

National Cancer Institute K08 and K23 Awards
Provides support to outstanding clinically trained professionals who are committed to a career in laboratory or field-based research and have the potential to develop into independent investigators. The award is $150,000 per year ($75,000 from TSFRE and $75,000 from NCI) plus $30,000 indirect support from the NCI and supports a five year period of supervised research that integrates didactic studies with laboratory or clinically-based research.

Simulation in Thoracic Surgery Education
A Visioning Simulation Conference was held in April 2007 to provide a forum for leaders in thoracic surgery and invited simulation experts to discuss our shared vision for development and use of simulation in education and certification. The Foundation believes that cardiothoracic surgery is an ideal specialty to demonstrate and evaluate the use of advanced simulation and other innovative approaches to quality and safety as a model for other highly technical medical specialties. The outcome of this forum has resulted in a new educational grant offered by the Foundation.

Simulation Grants
The TSFRE Education Committee requests proposals for grants to support the demonstration study for the application of simulation in thoracic surgery education. The TSFRE Board of Directors has approved $100,000 for funding of all 2008 Simulation Grants and award amounts are not specified but will depend on the number and quality of applications received with realistic budgetary justification.
Overview

The specialty of cardiothoracic surgery has always been defined by two inseparable attributes: the capacity to imagine a future that others cannot see; and a determination to discover and implement the knowledge and practical skills necessary to make that new future a commonplace reality. These attributes are pertinent to understanding the work of the TSFRE Education Committee.

The dissemination of new knowledge about cardiothoracic medicine and providing surgeons with the capability to implement this new knowledge and skills is a critical element to the progress of our specialty. TSFRE enables surgeons to constantly refine and improve their skills as physicians, surgeons and leaders in medicine.

The Foundation offers a variety of educational programming. Most notably, the Health Policy Leadership Program offered in partnership with Brandeis University. This initiative provides a comprehensive, weeklong program that focuses on the changing nature of the nation’s health care system, its management and how physicians can impact that system.

2008 was a year of many educational accomplishments for the Thoracic Surgery Foundation for Research and Education

12 Alley-Sheridan Scholars attended the Health Policy and Leadership program offered at Brandeis University. This program has had a profound impact upon the hundreds of surgeons who have attended and gained invaluable insight into the public policy process of the US health care system.

The Foundation continued its support of the Thoracic Surgery Directors Association with a contribution of $50,000 in 2008. These unrestricted funds were granted in response to the TSDA’s urgent request to financially support its current programs and its continued efforts to develop core curriculums that will emphasize the significant challenges facing today’s residents.

The Foundation is the focal point for research and education programs and projects within cardiothoracic surgery.
2008 Education Committee

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Nora L. Burgess, M.D.
Kaiser Permanente Medical Center, San Francisco, CA

Marcelo G. Cardarelli, M.D.
University of Maryland Medical Center, Baltimore, MD

Yolanda L. Colson, M.D.
Brigham & Women's Hospital, Boston, MA

Leslie J. Kohman, M.D.
SUNY Upstate Medical University, Syracuse, NY

Raj B. Lal, M.D.
Oak Brook, IL

M. Blair Marshall, M.D.
Georgetown University Medical Center, Washington, DC

Alfredo Rego, M.D., Ph.D.
South Florida Heart & Lung Institute, Aventura, FL

Thomas Schwann, M.D.
St. Vincent Mercy Medical Center, Toledo, OH

Thoralf M. Sundt, M.D.
Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN

Ross M. Ungerleider, M.D.
Oregon Health & Science University, Portland, OR

Stephen C. Yang, M.D.
Johns Hopkins Medical Institute, Baltimore, MD

Funds at Work

2008 Alley-Sheridan Award Winner

It was an honor to be a recipient of the Alley-Sheridan Scholarship to attend the Brandeis University Health Policy and Leadership Program in June, 2008. I have learned that health care is more than what meets the eye in the clinical setting. Clinical skills are just the tip of the iceberg in providing an excellent service. A department/medical center has to develop operational and management skills of its staff as well in order to stand out from the rest. Health economics is another area clinician-leaders must master and keep abreast with the ever-changing landscape.

This 1-week course gave an excellent overview of the above. It certainly inspires one to seriously consider taking up a more substantial course such as the MBA in Healthcare.

Last but not least, I thank TSFRE for the opportunity to attend this course.

Oon Ooi MB, BCCh, BAO, MMed
National University Hospital
Singapore
The Health Policy and Leadership Program at Brandeis University was very useful to me personally as well as professionally. The program provided me with the impetus to actively seek areas where I can be involved with the nexus of public policy and clinical surgery. I did, in fact, come away with more questions than answers, but those questions were the sort that have prompted me to search for solutions with the people who are in positions to make some of these changes. When I returned from Brandeis University, I spoke at length with Robert Roswell (previous Undersecretary for VA Affairs who is now a Dean at the University of Oklahoma) and he agreed to utilize me in some of the quality programs that are being considered in the state. I have contacted our state Epidemiologist, Mike Crutcher, and volunteered to assist him in any way that I can with some of the issues surrounding quality in surgical care and he has assured me that there are areas that I can provide some help in.

I have also contacted one of our state legislators about how I can help with a second try at Oklahoma State Torts reform—he has also assured me that he will take me up on this offer when they return to session. All of these people were surprised to be contacted by me and seemed to be at something of a loss for what to do with someone who was offering assistance and input without a secondary agenda.

I feel that the program was very valuable and I am immensely grateful to the Foundation for the opportunity to go. I would not have been able to afford to go had I had to pay for the entire course.

Again, thank you for your support and for making this program available.

Very Respectfully,

Timothy Trotter, M.D.
University of Oklahoma
Health Science Center
In 2008, TSFRE offered partial scholarships to twelve attendees of the Brandeis University, Heller School for Social Policy and Management, Executive Leadership Program in Health Policy and Management Course. This intensive one-week program trains clinical leaders in health care policy and management. It aims to provide health care professionals with the skills essential to creating innovative and sustainable solutions to improve the quality, cost effectiveness and efficiency of health care delivery.

The program includes sessions offering the latest in national and state health policy, along with business theories and frameworks adapted to the challenges of health care management. Program curriculum and content is developed under the guidance of Stuart Altman, PhD, Dean of the Heller School and Sol C. Chaikin Professor of National Health Policy.

“The Foundation, however, has not only maintained its position as a leading supporter of research and education, it has also expanded its reach. The Foundation in the past few years has established a comprehensive development program, improved its public policy training opportunities for surgeons and partnered with other Foundations such as the LUNGevity Foundation to improve support for research training.”

Michael Mack, MD
President
TSFRE
### Statement of Financial Position

As of June 30, 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>Total Current Assets</td>
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<td>Total Assets</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### Expenditures for the Year Ended June 30, 2008

- **Research**: $967,500
- **Education**: $126,498
- **Administrative**: $341,372

*Amounts reflected on a cash basis of accounting*

### Revenues for the Year Ended June 30, 2008*

- **Surgeon Contributions**: $137,939
- **Society, Corporate, & Foundation Contributions**: $470,419
- **Major Gifts**: $90,000

*Amounts reflected on a cash basis of accounting*
Why Give to TSFRE?

The combination of research and new technology, which go hand-in-hand, have advanced the capabilities of thoracic surgeons dramatically over the past two decades. Today, thoracic surgeons can very successfully treat diseases and medical conditions that were a short time ago deemed untreatable. The financial resources that made these advances possible were most often large private organizations or federal agencies. Within our specialty clinical work supported the bulk of research.

Our changing health care environment and radical transformation within industry have, quite frankly, diminished those traditional sources of funds. Research and training opportunities for young, talented surgeon-scientists have been sharply curtailed.

The specialty and the TSFRE remain committed to research, recognizing that it is today’s research that is the practice of tomorrow. Without the thousands of research hours and millions of dollars, new surgical techniques and today’s miracle drugs would remain undiscovered. Hundreds of thousands of lives would be adversely affected.

The results of thoracic research ultimately reduce the toll of thoracic diseases and defects. Given the pervasiveness of cardiovascular diseases and lung cancer, today’s research has the potential to improve millions of lives tomorrow. The TSFRE’s partnerships with the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute and the National Cancer Institute are critically important initiatives to further our knowledge and capabilities against these diseases, while strongly supporting very talented surgeon-scientists within the specialty.

Further, thoracic surgeons, indeed all surgeons, face a changing health care system. The TSFRE recognizes that education plays a vital role in the future of our specialty. Thus, the TSFRE will continue to support thoracic surgeons in acquiring the transdisciplinary skills necessary for success in the years and decades ahead, develop new training programs that will utilize simulation activities for thoracic surgery, and create an emphasis on patient safety within the specialty. The TSFRE will also remain active in assuring that thoracic surgeons continue to develop the skills necessary to remain in the forefront as health care policy leaders.

The Thoracic Surgery Foundation for Research and Education is an organization that will continue to steer the future of thoracic surgery through the sponsorship of surgical research and the education of surgeons in health care policy. TSFRE is your foundation for the future; by supporting TSFRE you are investing in the future of our specialty now.
Giving Opportunities:

Because TSFRE is a charitable organization with IRS 201 (c)3 classification, your gift to TSFRE qualifies as a tax deduction. For some, an outright gift of cash, securities or other property is the best means of contributing. Other giving options are outlined as follows:

Gifts of Cash
A gift of cash is the simplest method of giving. It is not subject to gift or estate taxes. You may be able to deduct the gift amount from your taxable gross income.

Gifts of Securities or Real Estate
A tax-wise gift of stock or real estate can provide generous support for the Thoracic Surgery Foundation for Research and Education. Almost any type of real property—a personal residence, a farm, a vacation home, a commercial building or a parcel of land—can constitute a gift. Gifts of securities or real estate are tax deductible and free of capital gains tax.

Life Income Gifts
Perhaps you would like to make a significant gift to TSFRE right now but believe that you cannot because you need the income your assets earn. If so, you may want to consider a “life income gift.” A life income gift allows you to donate, yet retain life income for yourself and another, if you wish. These gifts frequently increase your income, save income tax, capital gains and estate tax and also benefit the Foundation.

Bequests
You may wish to make a gift to TSFRE by utilizing one of the easiest, most frequently used methods—a bequest in your Will. Tax laws favor bequests, and consequently, they are an excellent way to provide support. If you would like to make a pledge or receive more information about giving to TSFRE, please complete and return the form included in this report, visit www.tsfre.org or call the Executive Director of the Thoracic Surgery Foundation for Research and Education at 978-927-8330.

DONATIONS CAN ALSO BE MADE ONLINE AT WWW.TSFRE.ORG

* This information is not intended as specific legal or tax advice. Consult an attorney when planning for gift and estate giving. State and federal laws, which govern wills and contracts vary and are subject to change.

Funds at Work

Over the past 16 years the Thoracic Surgery Foundation for Research and Education has been the recipient of considerable generosity from the thoracic surgery community. TSFRE is especially grateful to the LUNGevity Foundation for Lung Cancer Research for its willingness to joint fund the LUNGevity Foundation/TSFRE Award in Lung Cancer Research.

Through a partnership with the LUNGevity Foundation, the Foundation is able to coordinate the joint funding of a research grant that focuses on lung cancer research and provides support of up to $35,000 a year for up to 2 years for surgical residents who have not yet completed cardiothoracic surgical training. It is these types of joint ventures that help increase the Foundation’s efforts to fund worthy research projects.

The 2008 recipient of the LUNGevity Foundation/TSFRE Award in Lung Cancer Research is Jane Yanagawa, M.D. of the University of California, Los Angeles for her project entitled: “The Role of Snail in the Regulation of the Invasive Phenotype in Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer”.

The Thoracic Surgery Foundation for Research and Education Annual Report 2008
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Gifts of $1,000,000 or more cumulatively
American Association for Thoracic Surgery
Eugene S. Braunwald M.D.
Datascope Corporation
Edwards Lifesciences
David S. Sheridan
The William J. von Liebig Foundation

Grand Benefactors
Gifts of $500,000 to $999,999 cumulatively
Lazlo N. Tauber Charitable Foundation, Inc.
The Graham Foundation
The Society of Thoracic Surgeons
The Starr Foundation

Benefactors
Gifts of $100,000 to $499,999 cumulatively
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The Cross-Jones Research & Education Fund
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Patrons
Gifts of $50,000 to $99,999 cumulatively
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CHMC Cardiovascular Surgical Foundation
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Lawrence H. Cohn M.D.
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Sulzer Carbomedics, Inc.
Synovis Life Technologies
Robert B. Wallace M.D.
The Western Thoracic Surgical Association

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Gifts of $25,000 to $49,999 cumulatively
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John R. Benfield M.D.
Lawrence I. Bonchek M.D.
Columbia University, Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery

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Dr. Kathryn Quadracci Flores & Dr. Raja M. Flores
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Massachusetts General Hospital, Department of Thoracic Surgery
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Northern Illinois Heart Institute Respirators, Inc.
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Alfred J. Tector M.D.
Dr. & Mrs. Harold C. Urschel, Jr.
James M. Wilson M.D.
James L. Zellner M.D.

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Members have made provisions for an estate gift
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Eugene Braunwald M.D.
Richard E. Clark M.D.
Vincent R. Conti M.D.
David R. Fullerton M.D.
Dr. & Mrs. Robert W. Jamplis
Dr. & Mrs. Martin F. McKneally
Dr. & Mrs. W. Gerald Rainer
David S. Sheridan
Dr. & Mrs. Harold C. Urschel, Jr.
Dr. & Mrs. Robert B. Wallace
James M. Wilson M.D.

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Gifts of $10,000 to $24,999 cumulatively
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Arvind K. Agnihotri M.D.
Cary W. Akins M.D.
William Alford Jr M.D.
The American Board of Thoracic Surgery
Richard P. Anderson M.D.
Atrium Medical Corporation
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David B. Campbell M.D.
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Dr. & Mrs. W. Randolph Chitwood, Jr.
John V. Conte M.D.
Vincent R. Conti M.D.
Denton A. Cooley M.D.

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Delos M. Cosgrove M.D.
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Fred A. Crawford Jr., M.D.
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