



HISTORY

In the **1950's**, a group of civic-minded women of Dade County organized The Woman's Cancer Association of the University of Miami (WCA) to help fight the battle against cancer.

There were 28 members at the first meeting, but by 1959 the enlarged membership was ready to broaden its scope of service. A resolution for an organizational charter was adopted, and this group became known as the Woman's Cancer Association of the University of Miami. Mrs. Fred Ravlin was elected Founding President. WCA beginnings were small with a treasury of \$13. Nonetheless, with the philanthropic support of Mr. W. L. Philbrick, WCA launched its first money-raising project, The Bargain Box.

In its first year of affiliation with the University of Miami, WCA received the Miami Herald's Honorable Mention Award for service to Dade County and The Miami Daily News' Special Achievement Award. In the **1960's**, WCA's service record produced second place in The Miami Herald's Club of the Year contest for 1962. All chapters shared in these honors. Teamwork and cooperation were the keynote of WCA's service program. By 1963, WCA branched out to 18 Chapters and raised \$245,766.80 for the UM School of Medicine's cancer research program.

In addition to our research grants and educational programs, and with the blessing of the University of Miami, the Molly Bush Silver Lady Fund was established in 1963. Members gave birthday dollars and funds from the Silver Lady Tea enabled WCA to assist cancer patients being treated at UM

The year 1964-65 will be remembered as one of even greater responsibilities for WCA. With a sturdy record for service and ability and a well-founded trust in the loyalty of its membership, WCA pledged the first \$500,000 support to the University of Miami Medical School Building Program, matched equally by the National Health Institute. WCA's supporting effort assured \$1 million of available funds for cancer facilities in Dade County. Five summer fellowships for cancer research were provided for young medical students and \$38,000 created a new "Family Medicine" research program designed to teach the importance of early diagnosis in the family doctor's office. WCA's Bargain Box literally burst at the seams, and a bigger and better location was necessary. By the end of 1967, WCA members had raised \$601,665.42, Dr. Calvin spoke to the WCA in January 1968, thanking the organization for raising more than \$600,000 in support of the UM School of Medicine.

The groundbreaking for the Basic Science Building, for which WCA pledged its funds, became a reality in 1967, and the most modern and up-to-the-minute scientific equipment was purchased through the monies raised by WCA for cancer detection at the School of Medicine. The University of Miami honored the WCA by membership in the *Society of University Founders*. WCA support continues to be recognized each year by the University.

In the **1970's**, WCA received a legacy of \$703,770.82 from the Estate of Glenn H. Curtiss, Jr., for whom the Diagnostic Center at the University of Miami Hospitals and Clinics was named in 1972.

In May 1974, the final \$50,000 payment of WCA's \$500,000 pledge was made, and in the fall of 1974 a new pledge of \$1 million was made to the University of Miami School of Medicine in unrestricted funds to be used at the Comprehensive Cancer Center. By 1977, Dr. Emanuel M. Papper, Vice President for Medical Affairs and Dean of the University of Miami School of Medicine, announced that the Center had a home at the University of Miami Hospitals and Clinics -a long awaited dream come true.

In the **1980's**, a resolution commending WCA was presented to its President by the Public Health Trust of Dade County at its April 15, 1982 meeting. Active WCA Past Presidents were also presented with Certificates of Appreciation. Dr. Bernard Fogel, Interim Dean of the University of Miami School of Medicine, offered glowing words of praise for the work that WCA had done for the School of Medicine, the Comprehensive Cancer Center, and Jackson Memorial Hospital.

In May 1984 the final payment on WCA's second \$1 million pledge was made and a third pledge of \$1 million was approved by WCA's Board of Directors.

In 1985, WCA purchased the building that housed the Bargain Box for \$233,800, a portion of which was financed. At the end of fiscal years 1985 and 1986, WCA was able to pay additional amounts of \$28,739 and \$25,000, respectively. In 1988 the mortgage balance of \$66,647.53 was satisfied. Within a four-year period, WCA had paid the entire purchase price for the building. At the WCA Installation Luncheon on May 11, 1989, the Mortgage for 1350 W. Flagler St., home of the Bargain Box, was burned, with President Mary Nolan and Bargain Box Chairman Kathy Logan officiating.

In the **1990's**, during the year 1990-91, an evaluation of WCA contributions determined that WCA's third pledge of \$1 million made in 1984-85 had been fulfilled. The Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center (SCCC) then requested that WCA join their "Decade of Triumph Campaign" with a new pledge of \$1 million to be paid within a five-year period. WCA's first contribution of \$245,000 toward this new pledge was made on May 10, 1991.

At the WCA Installation Luncheon May 10, 1992, President Mary Nolan presented a check for \$210,000 to Dr. Norman Altman, Director, SCCC. On May 13, 1993 at the WCA Installation luncheon, President Mary Nolan presented a check for \$240,000 to Dr. Azorides Morales, the current Director, SCCC. This was the third payment for WCA's "Decade of Triumph" \$1 million pledge, with payments now totaling \$695,000.

In May 1994, President Eileen Cubillas presented a \$340,000 check to Dr. Azorides Morales, completing in a 4-year period WCA's \$1 million five-year pledge to the "Decade of Triumph Campaign," with the overage of \$35,000 to be applied to future WCA grants.

At the May Installation Luncheon in '95, President Eileen Cubillas presented a \$255,000 check, payable to the UM School of Medicine, to Pres. Edward D. Foote, funds that would receive matching Federal grants.

President Nan Diffenderfer presented Dr. W. Jarrard Goodwin, Director, SCCC, a check in the amount of \$172,500 during the May 1996 Installation Luncheon.

In May **1997** President Nan Diffenderfer presented a \$115,000 check to Dr. W. Jarrard Goodwin for research at Sylvester. She also presented a check in the amount of \$50,000 to Dr. Mariana Baum, Director of the Women's Health Initiative. In appreciation of WCA's support, on May 27, 1997, Dr. Baum presented the WCA with a beautiful commemorative plaque and Congresswoman Ileana Ros-Lehtinen presented WCA with an American Flag, that flew over the Capitol on May 21, 1997. The flag, with accompanying certificate and the commemorative plaque remain on display at the Bargain Box.

An Unveiling Ceremony of the Donor Wall of Benefactors of Sylvester was held on May 15, 1997. This wall is located in the Patio Area of the SCCC and WCA is featured prominently.

At the WCA **1998** Annual Installation Luncheon, President Barbara Voight presented a check in the amount of \$278,000 for cancer research to Dr. W. Jarrard Goodwin, Director, SCCC.

May 1999, at WCA's 41st Annual Installation Luncheon, two checks totaling \$565,000 were presented by President Barbara Voight to Dr. W. Jarrard Goodwin, Director, SCCC to be distributed as follows: An Endowment Fund in the amount of \$400,000 was established with the University of Miami/SCCC in the name of *The Woman's Cancer Association of the University of Miami* in memory of *Pearl M. and Edwin L. Powell*. It will be rewarding to watch this contribution grow and to see the new discoveries and advances resulting from this endowment from Mrs. Powell. Mrs. Powell was a former member of the Franklin C. Bush Chapter. A check for \$165,000 was also presented to the SCCC from funds raised by WCA chapters and the Bargain Box. Another \$200,000 was received from the Powell Bequest and added to the endowment in September to make the total \$600,000.

In **2000**, President Cheryl Culbertson presented three checks at the May Installation held at the Rusty Pelican—\$25,000 to Oncologist, Dr. Stuart Toledano, Pediatric Oncology and Hematology, \$50,000 to George Batchelor Foundation, University of Miami School of Medicine for children's cancer research, and \$175,000 to the Medical School's Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center. Funds were also set aside for refurbishing the Bargain Box.

At the **2001** WCA Installation, President Cheryl Culbertson presented \$200,000 to Dr. Jarrard Goodwin of the University of Miami Medical School's Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center. WCA projects this year included a successful "Sale Day" in partnership with Bloomingdale's and a new project "Driven to Find a Cure". The Silver Lady Tea added an honorary "Golden Lady" designation.

Another bequest of \$100,000 from the Evelyn Kelly Shelley Estate to the Granada Chapter enabled the WCA to name the Family Education Center of the Batchelor Children's Research Institute in her honor.

2002 - President Gail Highland awarded \$50,275 from the accrued interest in the Powell Endowment to Dr. Robert Kirsner's Cancer Control Research Project at SCCC. Additionally, \$5,000 was provided to furnish a bereavement room for families of cancer patients in the Gynecology/Oncology Unit at UM Jackson

Memorial Hospital. In December, \$20,000 was provided to the Department of Pediatrics, Division of Critical Care, to establish The WCA Bereavement Fund, the only named program of its kind in the U.S.

The May Installation Luncheon was held at the Riviera Country Club. University of Miami President, Donna Shalala was our guest of honor. Recipients of WCA grants included: Dr. Daniel Armstrong, The Madelon Ravlin Award for \$82,500, Dr. Lisa Baumbach, The Archy Clot Award for \$75,000; Dr. Carlos Sandoval-Cros, \$50,000; Dr. Jie Li, \$49,000; Robert Levy and Monica Jones, \$21,744. These grants brought the total year's donations to \$353,869 and increased WCA's total contributions since its inception to \$8,742,106.21

In tribute to WCA's founding President, Madelon Ravlin, a bronzed plaque has been created and will be displayed at WCA Headquarters. A web site, www.wcaofum.org was established for the WCA in 2002.

2003 - The John Foster Dulles Chapter, one of the oldest WCA Chapters, decided to merge with other WCA Chapters.

Interest earned from the Powell Estate Endowment provided an early grant of \$28,354 for Dr. Rakesh Singal of the Sylvester Cancer Center.

The Installation was held at the Coral Reef Yacht Club with guest speaker, Dr. John Clarkson, Dean of the Medical School for the University of Miami, sharing highlights of the school's 50 years of progress. The grant awards given by President Gail Highland totaled \$211,382: Dr. Kent Lai – The Madelon Ravlin Award, \$50,000; Dr. Mathias Lichenheld – The Archy Clot Award, \$47,882; Dr. Luis Raez - \$40,000; Dr. Diana Lopez - \$30,000; Dr. Stuart Toledano - \$25,000; Dr. Patricia Cantwell - \$15,000; Dr. Pasquale Benedetto - \$2,500; Dr. R. Rodney Howell, Tribute Fund \$1,000.

2004 - The WCA, led by President Judi Wilcox, raised \$149,500. Additionally, through the accrued annual interest from the Pearl and Edwin Powell Endowment, \$23,409 was granted to Dr. Bal and Vinata Lokeshwar for prostate and bladder cancer research.

WCA joined the Doral Golf Tournament Birdies for Charity fundraiser. The association by-laws were amended to welcome male members and junior members. The traditional Silver Lady Tea was repeated, but with a new twist. Instead of being held in a home, the Coconut Grove Ritz Carlton was chosen as the venue. "Puttin' on the Ritz" proceeds of \$8,423.64 were now available to support patients at UM.

The Installation Luncheon was held at the Coral Reef Yacht Club with guest speaker, Dr. Bernard J. Fogel, MD. The presentation of grants/ awards included: Madelon Ravlin Award - \$50,000, Sheldon Greer, Ph.D.; Archy Clot Award - \$30,000, May Abdel-Wahab, M.D., Ph.D.; \$25,000, Kent Lai, Ph.D. (a published paper acknowledged the financial support from the WCA); \$25,000, Stuart Todedano, M.D.; \$15,000, Woman's Cancer Association Bereavement Fund at UM; \$4,500, Deborah Olin Heros, M.D.

2005 - The popular Silver Lady Tea was again held at the Ritz Carlton, Coconut Grove, with income of \$15,799.36. The WCA Board approved an increase to \$150 per month to aid cancer patients being treated at UM.

The May Installation/Grants Luncheon at the La Gorce Country Club saw President Judi Wilcox present \$190,000 to fund five valuable projects: Madelon Ravlin Award - \$50,000, Steven E. Lipshultz, M.D., Department of Pediatrics; Archy Clot Award - \$50,000, Partha M. Das, M.D. Sylvester Cancer Center; \$45,000, Roland Jurecic, Ph.D., Department of Microbiology and Immunology; \$30,000, Yao Shan Fan, M.D., Ph.D., Department of Pediatrics; \$15,000, Woman's Cancer Association Bereavement Fund at UM, Department of Pediatrics.

2006 – A fantastic turnout for the Silver Angel Tea held at Casa Casuarina on Miami Beach allowed the Association to provide assistance for a much larger number of cancer patients needing support.

At the Installation/Grants Luncheon at La Gorce Country Club, President Suzie Harbour presented a total of \$246,200 in awards:

Madelon Ravlin Award - \$50,000, Arvtar Krisham, Ph.D., Parvin Ganjei-Azar, M.D. and Merce Jorda, M.D., Pathology Department; Archy Clot Award - \$50,000, Yao-Shan Fan, Ph.D., Dept. of Pediatrics; \$50,000, Joseph Lucci, M.D., Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology; \$50,000, Marugeson Manoharan Department of Urology ; \$25,000, Shanchun Guo, M.D., Ph.D, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center; \$15,000, G. Patricia Cantwell, M.D., Bereavement Fund, \$ 6,200, Nan Van Den Burgh, Ph.D. and Lourdes Grenier, L.C.S.W., SCCC.

2007- At the Bargain Box a new system for pricing merchandise was initiated with color-coded tags attached by a tagging gun.

To expand the invite for the Silver Lady Tea, a name change to The Silver Angel Tea was introduced, Pre-publicity in full-page ads in *Miami Magazine* featured a gathering of WCA's "Silver Angels" on Fisher Island beach. The Silver Angel Tea took place at the Biltmore Hotel, with record breaking attendance.

In May 2007, the annual Installation and Grant Luncheon was held at the Miami Beach Rod and Reel Club. President Suzie Harbour distributed \$280,000 to the following recipients:

Madelon Ravlin Award: \$50,000-Dr. Tracie Miller, Dept. of Pediatrics

Archy Clot Award: \$50,000-Dr. Julio Barredo Pediatric/Oncology

\$50,000-Dr. David Sandberg, SCCC Neurological Surgery

\$50,000-Dr. Lisa Baumbach & Dr. Stefan Gluck, Breast Cancer, SCCC

\$50,000-Dr. Tony Luongo, Dept of Urology

\$26,800-Dr. Patricia Cantwell-Bereavement Fund

\$3,200 – Dr. NanVanDen Burgh, Social worker, SCCC

At the conclusion of the luncheon, Incoming President, Bonnie Weston, her Executive Board and Officers of each chapter were installed.

2008 - The WCA had a successful fundraising year with the participation and creativity of the individual chapters. This year's donation for cancer research was \$327,000. In addition, \$27,409, from the accrued interest in the Powell Endowment, was awarded to Dr. Khaled A. Tolbs for the Tumor Immunology Program in cancer treatment.

Individual Chapters worked tirelessly on a variety of projects. Barton Ravlin Chapter benefitted from the loyal family of Archy Clot (WCA's President 1975-77) and Bill Clot with their amazing annual Clot Christmas display. The Chapter introduced "Shopping for a Cure" and repeated its annual gala, "Dancing for a Cure." Heidi Hewes Chapter was again grateful for Miami Country Day School's dedication to cancer research with its annual "Walk for a Cure." HH "Lemonade Kids" created a new summer fundraiser with their lemonade stands. In December, community supporters turned out for their annual "Heidi Hewes Holiday Walk" showcasing beautifully decorated homes in Miami Shores. Bay Park Chapter continued regular contact with consignment shops for donations to the Bargain Box. The Chapter also hosted a book review party and plans to repeat this event in 2008-2009. Franklin Bush Chapter brought out supporters in May 2007 for their Kentucky Derby party. The chapter's annual Second Time Around Fashion Show/Luncheon/ Auction/ Boutique, with WCA members modeling Bargain Box finds, followed in the fall.

The four WCA Chapters also participated in Bloomingdale's Shopping Benefit, Doral's Birdies for Charity, and Pecan Sales.

During the summer months, a new roof was completed at the Bargain Box.

At the September WCA Board Meeting, guest speaker Dr. Patricia Cantwell shared with WCA members her appreciation for WCA's on- going support of the Bereavement Fund. This fund has been supported by WCA since 2003. The "Ruth Self Education Day" was hosted by the Department of Pediatrics and the Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center. Cancer researchers shared some of the encouraging advances in research and treatment taking place at UM. In January, the University of Miami honored the WCA for its lifetime contributions, now exceeding \$10 Million, by inducting WCA into UM's Miami Society.

The Installation/Awards Luncheon was held at the Coral Reef Yacht Club, marking the beginning of **WCA's 50th year** as a chartered nonprofit organization. Keynote speakers at the event were Dr. Steven E. Lipshultz, Chairman; Department of Pediatrics and Dr. Sean Scully, M.D., Ph.D., Department of Orthopaedics, who shared their appreciation of the "50 Years" of continuing support from the WCA. This year's grant recipients: **Madelon Ravlin Memorial Award-\$100,000**

Nandor Garamszegi, PhD. & Sean Scully M.D. PhD.

Department of Orthopaedics & Rehabilitation at Sylvester; Osteosarcoma

Archy & Bill Clot Memorial Award- \$50,000

Steven Lipshultz, M.D., Department of Pediatrics; Childhood Leukemia

John D. Nolan Award- \$50,000

Additional WCA Grants

\$50,000 Kavitha Ramachandran, PhD. & Rakesh Singal, M.D. Sylvester-Research in Pancreatic Cancer

\$50,000 Teresa Zimmers, Ph.D. Sylvester research in Tumor Growth

\$22,500 Patricia Cantwell, M.D.-Bereavement Fund

2008-2009's new WCA Officers were installed by 2nd Vice President and Luncheon Chair Frances Baboun. President Bonnie Weston concluded the event on a high note of enthusiastic anticipation of new goals to continue our support to the University of Miami School of Medicine for cancer research grants.

2009 – This year was most successful for our Bargain Box re-sale store. It was the first time gross proceeds at the Bargain Box totaled more than \$100,000. All members of WCA support this project by getting donations, bringing merchandise to the Box and marking and displaying merchandise at the store. Many WCA and chapter fundraisers, as well as foundation grants and gifts, contributed additional funds in support of our 2009 cancer research grants. On May 14, 2009, President Bonnie Weston presented WCA grants and awards to the following UM doctors.

Vincent G. Bird, M.D. and Collaborators, Madelon Ravlin Memorial Award - \$49,520, "Early Detection and Novel Treatments for Kidney Cancer";

Mingli Liu, M.D., Ph.D., Archie & Bill Clot Memorial Award - \$50,000, "Developing a Novel Biomarker in Antiestrogen-Tamoxifen Resistant Breast Cancer";

John M. Goldberg, M.D., John D. Nolan Award - \$50,000, "A Phase I/II Trial of Vorinostat and Methotrexate with Vincristine in Patients with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia at Risk of Recurrence";

Ling Tang, Ph.D. & Jie Li, M.D. - \$50,000, "Targeting Laminin-511 Matrix Protein in Melanoma Therapy";

Mark Soloway, M.D. and Collaborators - \$50,000, "A Simple Urine Test for Bladder Cancer";

G. Patricia Cantwell, M.D. - \$20,000, "WCA Pediatric Palliative Care Program";

Jackie Butler, WCA - \$5,000, "A Further Commitment by WCA to Provide Assistance for Cancer Patients".

These awards, combined with our earlier grants of \$32,280 from the Powell Endowment and the Kobb family to the Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center resulted in cancer research grants to UM of \$306,800 for the year.

Claire Fairnington then presented awards to WCA Chapters, followed by the installation of 2009-2010 officers conducted by Kathleen Aissen. WCA's new president, Sara Lee Sanderson, closed the program by

thanking all WCA members for their continuing support and dedication to the objectives of the Woman's Cancer Association.

WCA's annual Silver Angel Tea was again masterfully coordinated by Patricia Delinois. The tea and art show was held on Feb. 28 at the Eden Roc Hotel, and a huge crowd enjoyed celebrity performances, a curated art show, wonderful food, and knowing they were helping support cancer patients receiving treatment at the University of Miami. Jeff Burnside of NBC6 served as moderator for the event and Jeff Sloman, Esq. was a featured speaker. We must say that 2009 was a very good year for the Woman's Cancer Association of the University of Miami.

2010 - WCA members worked throughout the year to raise funds for cancer research and patient care. WCA actively supported the Bloomingdale's Shopping Benefit and Doral's Birdies for Charity. Individual chapters sponsored fundraisers including Bay Park's book review, Bush's Second Time Around, Ravlin's beauty bash and pecan sales, and Heidi Hewes' golf event, Walk for Cancer by Miami Country Day School, holiday homes, big band event and art lecture. WCA's Silver Angel Tea was held at UM's Bank United Center in March and it was hugely successful. Christopher Sanderson served as moderator and introduced UM President Donna Shalala who inspired all of us to continue our good work in support of research and cancer patients receiving treatment at UM. WCA's Bargain Box resale store grossed more than \$100,000 this year as a result of thousands of volunteer hours by members. Significant donations were also received from foundations and friends, including the Clot family, the Garfield Foundation, the Kelly Foundation, the Powell Endowment, and the Cobb family.

Cancer research grants for 2009-2010 totaled \$200,000. At WCA's luncheon held May 13, President Sara Lee Sanderson awarded grants to: David I. Sandberg, M.D. – Madelon Ravlin Award; Dené C. Wrenn, M.D. – Archie & Bill Clot Award; Steven E. Lipshultz – John D. Nolan Award; Jennifer Clarke, Ph.D. – WCA Grant; G. Patricia Cantwell, M.D. – WCA Grant. Earlier in the year Brian Lally, M.D. received a WCA grant endowed by the Powell family and the Cobb family. Kathy Cutler presented chapter awards followed by the installation of officers conducted by Mary Nolan. In closing President Sanderson thanked the WCA family and friends for their dedication to WCA's mission and renewed our commitment to raising even more funds for next year's cancer research grants.

2011 – What a wonderful year for the Woman's Cancer Association of the University of Miami! President Sara Lee Sanderson presented \$456,000 in cancer research grants at our annual grants/installation luncheon held at the Biltmore Hotel on May 12. In addition WCA granted \$27,824 in October for another grant funded by the Powell Foundation and the Cobb family. Those receiving cancer research grants included Dr. Marta Torroella-Kouri, Dr. John M. Goldberg, Dr. David Robbins, Dr. Rakesh Singal and Dr. Kavitha Ramachandran, Dr. Julio C. Barredo, Dr. Awtar Krishan and Dr. Parvin Ganjei-Azar, Dr. Zhar-Jun Liu, Dr. G. Patricia Cantwell, Dr. Mark D. Pegram and Dr. Toby Ward, Dr. Glen N. Barber, and Dr. C. Marcela Diaz-Montero. Their research will be conducted at UM's Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center and Pediatric Cancer Institute. WCA also supported patients receiving cancer treatments at UM with monthly stipends and necessary products. Much of the funds to help these patients was a result of our most successful Silver Angel Tea held at UM's BankUnited Center on January 23.

Our Bargain Box resale store located at 1350 W. Flagler St. continues to be our best local fundraiser. Each year WCA members volunteer thousands of hours bringing donations and marking/displaying them at The Box. WCA and chapter fundraisers added considerably to the monies provided for cancer research. We all participated in the Bloomingdale's Shopping Event, and chapter events included The Second Time Around, Holiday Walk, Miami Country Day School Walk for Cancer, BR annual gala Cocktails & Candlelight for a Cure, the big band event, an art lecture, pecan sales, a book review and more. The Clot family continued to lead our community and foundation donors. They were joined by the Garfield Foundation, the Powell Endowment, the Cobb family and the Weuthrick Trust. In addition, the WCA Bay Park Chapter received a most generous, anonymous donation in support of cancer research at UM.

New WCA and chapter officers were installed in May for the 2011-2012 year. We welcomed incoming president Tammy Austin and her executive board along with chapter presidents Michele Locicero, Suzie Harbour, Elizabeth Bain, Edie Cooper/Robin Hechler and their chapter officers.

WCA members are proud that we were able to provide more than \$500,000 for cancer research and patient care at UM this year, and we dedicate ourselves to another year of support for the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine. Indeed, it was a wonderful year for WCA.

WCA grants awarded for 2011:

WCA Madelon Ravlin Memorial Award - \$50,000. John M. Goldberg, M.D. Dept. of Pediatrics & Sylvester Comp. Cancer Center, "Combination Treatment with HDAC Inhibitors and Chemotherapy: Boosting the Positive & Blocking the Negative in Bone Cancer"

WCA Archie & Bill Clot Memorial Award - \$50,000. David Robbins, Ph. D. Department of Surgery, Miller School of Medicine, "Novel Hedgehog and WNT Inhibitors for Treatment of Lung Cancer"

WCA John D. Nolan Memorial Award - \$50,000. Mark D. Pegram, M.D. & Toby Ward, Ph.D. Dept. of Medicine; Div. of Hematology/Oncology Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center, "Investigation of Novel Breast Cancer Resistance Mechanisms to ERBB2-targeted Therapies"

WCA of UM Grant - \$50,000. Glen N. Barber, Ph. D. Dept. of Medicine; Div. of Hematology/Oncology Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center, "A Novel Assay to Detect Multiple Viral Gene Expression in Cancer"

WCA of UM Grant - \$50,000. C. Marcela Diaz-Montero, Ph. D. Dept. of Medicine; Div. of Hematology/Oncology Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center "Nanoparticle Gel Delivery of Cancer Vaccines"

WCA of UM Grant - \$50,000. Julio Barredo, M.D., Dept. of Pediatrics and Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center, "Co-targeting AMPK-induced ER stress/unfolded protein response (UPR) and protein degradation in Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (ALL)"

WCA of UM Grant - \$50,000. Zhao-Jun Liu, M.D., Ph.D., Sylvester Comp. Cancer Center, "Regulation of Melanoma Heterogeneity and Metastasis by Stromal Fibroblasts in Tumor Microenvironment"

WCA of UM Grant - \$50,000. Awtar Krishan and Parvin Ganjei-Azar, Pathology Dept., Sylvester CCC, "A Simple Test for Prostate Cancer Diagnosis"

WCA of UM Grant - \$50,000. Rakesh Singal, M.D. and Kavitha Ramachandran, Ph.D., "A Simple Test for Prostate Cancer Diagnosis"

WCA of UM Grant - \$6,000. Patricia Cantwell, M.D., Department of Pediatrics, A Renewal of grant funding to support Pediatric Palliative Care Program at Holtz Children's Hospital.

WCA Grant from Powell Endowment and Cobb Family - \$27,824. Marta Torroella-Kouri, Ph.D., Sylvester Comp. Cancer Center, "The crossroad between tumor immunology, inflammation and cancer and immune modulation"

2011-2012 - Members of the Woman's Cancer Association of the University of Miami (WCA) were particularly active this year. Again our thrift store, the Bargain Box, grossed more than \$100,000 for cancer research. In addition, members volunteered even more hours making the Bargain Box shine with new paint, clothing racks, shelving, re-organization of our wonderful store and terrific new signage. We hope you will come by to donate and to shop at the 'New' Bargain Box located at 1350 West Flagler Street.

In addition to supporting this effort, WCA and all chapters held many fundraisers throughout the year. WCA supported Macy's Shopping for a Cause in August and our Silver Angel Tea in January. The tea was held Jan. 29, 2012, at the Newman Alumni Center on the UM campus, and a terrific afternoon it was. Christopher Sanderson served as emcee for the program, and after presentations by Rosie Weisberg, Rosa Caiseda and Dr. Martin Andreansky, he introduced WCA Bay Park member Barbara Voight. She came to the podium to announce WCA's receipt of a \$100,000 donation for the Silver Lady Fund from the estate of Bay Park member Ernestine Funk. Jackie Butler, WCA Silver Lady Fund coordinator, thanked all contributors to the Silver Lady Fund for their support of WCA's mission to provide patient care for cancer patients receiving treatment at UM's Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center and the Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Department.

Members of the Barton Ravlin and Heidi Hewes chapters prepared gift bags for over 50 patients and enjoyed visiting with these patients at UM hospitals.

The Barton Ravlin Chapter held its first Ultimate Bazaar in October, wreath and pecan sales for the holidays, and our very special gala, A Night of Charity & Cheer for a Cure in March. The chapter gratefully announced another generous donation of more than \$20,000 from Josh and Diane Clot & friends in honor of Archie (WCA's 10th president) and Bill Clot and a grant from the Garfield Foundation.

A book review of The Brickells was sponsored by the Bay Park Chapter in October. At the end of the year Barbara Voight announced that the Bay Park Chapter would no longer be a separate chapter, but members would continue to support WCA's mission and active members would join other chapters.

The Franklin Bush Chapter supported all WCA events and again held their wonderful Second Time Around Luncheon, Boutique and Fashion Show. Models from all chapters participated, and fun was had by all.

The Heidi Hewes Chapter was again most grateful for the generous donation for cancer research from the Miami Country Day School's Annual Cancer Walk held on Oct. 22, 2011. In addition, Heidi Hewes hosted many fundraisers, including their fabulous Holiday Walk, the Big Band event, a Bunco Party, a Fashionista Sale for Charity and Art by the Bay hosted by member Beth Hitt.

WCA thanks the Pediatrics Dept. and Sylvester CCC for hosting the 53rd Annual Ruth Self Memorial Education Day on February 9th at the Mailman Center. The doctors shared how WCA grants allow them to make tremendous progress in the areas of cancer treatments and cancer cures as well as providing data for additional grant requests at the national level. Their remarks were particularly uplifting and motivating for all of us.

Because of WCA members' efforts and support from family, friends and foundations, WCA president Tammy Austin presented grants totaling \$240,000 at our Grants/Installation Luncheon held on May 10, 2012 at the Coral Reef Yacht Club. We funded grants in the areas of Breast Cancer, Lung Cancer, Melanoma, Leukemia and Colorectal Cancer. Another cancer research grant funded by the Powell Endowment and the Cobb Family Grant was provided in September 2011.

It was surely a very good year for the Woman's Cancer Assoc. of UM, and we all look forward to continuing to work tirelessly in support of cancer research and patient support at the University of Miami. Remember to keep all members and supporters informed about your considerable efforts to raise funds by sending information to our website, teija@wcaofum.org and to our monthly newsletter, The Chatterbox, writenow@bellsouth.net.

2012-2013 – This year the Woman's Cancer of the University of Miami (WCA) enjoyed much success raising funds for cancer research and providing support for patients receiving cancer treatments at UM. There were many wonderful WCA fundraisers and chapter events dedicated to providing grants for cancer research. Our thrift store, The Bargain Box, 1350 West Flagler St., Miami, again grossed more than \$100,000 for research grants. Perhaps a very important aspect of WCA is that it is a 100% all-volunteer organization. The many thousands of hours members dedicate to fundraising and patient care are entirely volunteer which makes our annual donations to the Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center and the Pediatric Cancer Institute even more meaningful.

Here are some highlights of our activities during 2012-2013. WCA again supported Macy's Shopping for a Cause in August and the Silver Angel Tea in January. Each chapter provided a themed basket for the silent auction at the Silver Angel Tea, and the auction, boutique and raffles added to the huge success of this event. We also were privileged to be invited to Education Day on Feb. 14, 2013, to learn from the research doctors and be wowed by a tour of UM's Tissue Bank.

Presently WCA is made up of three chapters. The Barton Ravlin Chapter held numerous fundraisers throughout the year, along with very active support of our Bargain Box. The main event was the annual gala, Dancing for a Cure, held Sat., Feb. 16 at the UM Newman Center. We honored Dr. Awtar Krishan and Dr. Parvin Ganjei-Azar as our cancer researchers of the year, and Dr. G. Patricia Cantwell as our WCA Pediatric Champion. Two hundred guests enjoyed dinner and drinks, a silent auction and raffles, and dancing the night away. Emceed by Elliott Rodriguez, CBS4 News Anchor, it was a memorable evening for all, and it provided more than \$33,000 for research grants. Barton Ravlin also put on the Ultimate Bazaar in Sept., sold fresh, Georgia Pecans and Pecan Treats in Nov.-Dec., held Spring in Style/Shopping for a Cure in May and actively supported igive.com/WCA. Again we were honored to receive the 2012 Clot Family and Friends donation of \$16,450 and a \$4,000 donation from the Joseph & Sherrie Garfield Charitable Foundation. These forever friends continue to support WCA on an annual basis.

The wonderful Second Time Around annual luncheon, boutique and fashion show was held Nov. 14, 2012. We know that masterpiece event is sponsored by the Franklin Bush Chapter and members of all chapters serve as models and attend this fabulous fundraiser. Bob Soper came down from Stuart to serve as emcee for the event. His fabulous voice and skill as auctioneer contributed greatly to the fast and furious bidding for the clothing being modeled. The Bush Chapter also supported all WCA events, attended many fundraisers sponsored by other chapters, and provided a steady stream of donations for the Bargain Box.

Heidi Hewes' first event for 2012-2013 was the Miami Country Day School's annual cancer walk held in October. Becky Witherington, a teacher at MCDS, who lost her battle with ovarian cancer, was honored this year. The chapter received a check for \$40,000 to be directed to cancer research at UM as a result of the efforts of these very special high school students and MCDS faculty/administrators. A main event for Heidi Hewes is its annual Holiday Home Tour held in Miami Shores. This sensational evening with the showing of beautiful homes dressed for the holidays, entertainment, and refreshments yielded \$22,000. A Bunco Night fundraiser was also enjoyed by all. The Heidi Hewes Chapter was chosen Best Civic Organization for the 2013 Best of the Shores competition sponsored by the Miami Shores Chamber of Commerce. Congratulations to all who made this significant honor possible. Great job!

Both Barton Ravlin and Heidi Hewes chapters delivered very nice goodie bags filled with gifts of every kind to more than 75 cancer patients being treated at UM hospitals. Patients were delighted with their gifts, and WCA members found very special meaning in this service.

The WCA Bargain Box was upgraded throughout the year with fresh paint, improved electrical and air conditioning systems, new displays, an improved boutique, and lots more. Members participated in work days and additional store hours were added on select Fridays. Each day you will find several WCA members volunteering their time to bring in donations and mark/display items for sale at the store.

WCA's Silver Lady Fund supported 22 patients receiving cancer treatments at UM during the year and provided transportation vouchers for patients to come to Sylvester CCC for treatment. We provided \$14,200 for these services.

The cancer research grants awarded for 2012-2013 included:

October 12, 2012 - Powell Endowment Grant

\$24,475, Dr. Michael Xu, Ovarian Cancer Research.

May 9, 2013 – WCA Grants/Installation Luncheon

\$50,000, WCA Madelon Ravlin Memorial Award. Abigail E. Witt, Ph.D. and Tan A. Ince, M.D., Ph.D., “Targeting the Histone Decetylases, HDAC1 and HDAC7, in Breast and ovarian Tumor Stem-Cells.”

\$50,000, WCA Archie & Bill Clot Memorial Award. David J. Robbins, Ph.D., “Identification of Novel Inhibitors to Treat Pediatric Brain Tumors.”

\$50,000, WCA John D. Nolan Memorial Award. Jaime R. Merchan, M.D., MMSc, “Oncolytic Virotherapy Strategies for Pancreatic Cancer.”

\$45,000, WCA Grant, Ronan Swords, M.D., Ph.D., “New Indication for an Old Drug: Exploring Sodium Salicylate Activity in Patients with Myelodysplastic Syndrome (MDS) and Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML).”

\$5,000, WCA Award, G. Patricia Cantwell, M.D., “Pediatric Palliative Care Program.”

We had a very successful year contributing more than \$230,000 to UM for cancer research and patient care. Hearing from the cancer research doctors at Education Day and at the grants luncheon, welcoming many new WCA members, receiving significant donations from family, friends, foundations and sponsors, and meeting with Dr. Stephen Nimer, SCCC Director, have all been particularly motivating for us. We dedicate ourselves to working even harder in 2013-2014 in support of WCA's mission to fund cancer research, patient care and community education at the University of Miami.

2013-2014 – The Woman's Cancer Association of the University of Miami (WCA) had a very successful year in every regard. The three WCA chapters, Barton Ravlin, Franklin Bush and Heidi Hewes, worked tirelessly on fundraisers and at our thrift store, the Bargain Box, to raise funds for cancer research at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center and to provide support for patients receiving cancer treatments at UM. WCA and the three chapters held fundraisers throughout the year. WCA supported Macy's Shopping for a Cause in August and held its most successful Silver Angel Tea in February.

Barton Ravlin Chapter held its 3rd annual Ultimate Bazaar in October at UM's Newman Alumni Center, sold fresh Georgia pecans for the holidays and worked diligently to present our most successful gala ever, White Hot Dancing for a Cure, on March 1st. We honored Ronan Swords, M.D., Ph.D., as our cancer researcher of the year at the gala. Elliot Rodriguez, CBS4 News Anchor, made the entire event work as gala emcee, and more than 220 people enjoyed a spectacular evening while raising more than \$53,000 for cancer research at UM. A new tennis tournament fundraiser was introduced on March 18th, and its success will prompt continuing this fun event. The chapter also visited cancer patients at UM hospitals, providing them with gift bags brimming with goodies, and actively supported the Holtz Children's Hospital Patients' Prom. Contributing to the Bargain Box is very important to the chapter, and many members put in tons of hours

getting donations and working at the store. Josh Clot Family and Friends and the Garfield Foundation donations added immensely to the bottom line, and Barton Ravlin was able to make its largest ever annual contribution for cancer research grants.

The **Franklin Bush Chapter** wowed the crowd again in November with its Second Time Around annual luncheon, boutique and fashion show. Bob Soper provided his melodious voice and charm as emcee, and women from all three chapters lit up the runway. Another effort by the chapter was the re-emergence of the Kentucky Derby party held May 3rd at the South Miami/Coral Gables Elks Lodge. Those who attended this fundraiser enjoyed dancing to Ziggy, eating great food, buying raffle tickets, making wagers, and having fun!, fun!, fun! Plans are in the works to hold the derby party again next year.

Heidi Hewes Chapter began its fundraising year in October by partnering with Miami Country Day School for its annual Walk for a Cure in support of cancer research at the Sylvester CCC. December 15th saw Miami Shores lit up beautifully as Heidi Hewes held its 22nd annual Home for the Holidays Walk and Tour in Miami Shores. This exquisite private tour through five beautiful homes is always sold out and a very special event for the community. A new fundraiser for the chapter this year was their inaugural Bark Off held March 15. Games and contests for all varieties of dogs provided lots of entertainment, and many Miami Shores residents and local sponsors supported the Bark Off to raise awareness and funds for UM's Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center. Spero Canton was guest emcee, and the celebrity judges' panel, Hedy Goldsmith, celebrity pastry chef, Adam Kuperstein, NBC6 News Anchor, and Mary Ann Sprinkle, Associate VP of Medical Development and Alumni Relations at UM, judged the dog contests. Heidi Hewes Chapter also supported the Holtz Patients' Prom and brought holiday cheer to cancer patients at UM hospitals.

Members of the Woman's Cancer Association of UM were motivated to work even harder in support of cancer research at SCCC after hearing from Dr. Stephen Nimer, SCCC Director, Dr. John Goldberg, Dr. Jonathan Trent and Dr. Patricia Cantwell at UM's Education Day held February 13.

A wonderful WCA Grants and Installation Luncheon was held Thursday, May 8, 2014 at the Coral Reef Yacht Club to award WCA Cancer Research Grants for 2014. Nora Tenney, WCA President, awarded the grants.

WCA Madelon Ravlin Memorial Award, \$50,000 – Ankita Thakkar, Ph.D. and Tan A. Ince, M.D., Ph.D., **Breast Cancers.**

WCA Archie & Bill Clot Memorial Award, \$50,000 – Niramol Savaraj, M.D., **Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer.**

WCA John D. Nolan Memorial Award, \$50,000 – Rakesh Singal, M.D., **Prostate Cancer.**

WCA of UM Grant, \$50,000 – Lan Wang, Ph.D., **Leukemia.**

WCA of UM Grant, \$40,000 – Erin Kobetz, Ph.D., Sylvia Daunert, PharmD, Ph.D & Sapna Deo, Ph.D., **Cervical Cancer.**

WCA Silver Lady Fund Grant, \$5,000 – G. Patricia Cantwell, M.D., **Pediatric Palliative Care.**

Additionally we presented our annual Endowment Fund Grant for \$26,828 to Jonathan Trent, M.D., Ph.D. for his **sarcoma research**.

For the 2013-2014 year, the Woman's Cancer Association of the University of Miami, an all- volunteer 501C3 non-profit organization, proudly granted \$271,828 for cancer research grants at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine and provided monthly stipends for 30 patients receiving cancer treatments at UM. If our mission is one that you embrace, we encourage you to seek membership in one of the three WCA chapters by calling 305-643-2945 or by sending your inquiry to www.wcaofum.org.

2014-2015 – The Woman's Cancer Association of the University of Miami (WCA) and chapter fundraisers were most successful this year. Our thrift store, the Bargain Box, grossed more than \$100,000 for cancer research grants to the University of Miami. The Silver Angel Tea was enjoyed by all who attended and added considerable funds to WCA's Silver Lady Fund whose mission is to support patients receiving cancer treatments at UM. The three WCA chapters held their annual fundraisers, including Miami Country Day School's "Walk the Walk", the Ultimate Bazaar, Fresh Georgia Pecans, Second Time Around Fashion Show & Luncheon, Home for the Holidays – Miami Shores, Dancing for a Cure, Fight Against Cancer Tennis Tournament and the Bark Off. New fundraisers added this year were the Marlins Baseball Event, Kentucky Derby Party and Grape Therapy with an Educational Twist. These considerable efforts, with support from family, friends and foundations, contributed significantly to WCA's 2014-2015 donation of \$280,000 for cancer research at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer and patient care at UM Holtz Children's Hospital .

President Nora Tenney presented the WCA 2014-2015 grants totaling \$280,000 to the following cancer researchers:

WCA Madelon Ravlin Award – Arlene Garces-Soto, M.D., Brett Slomovitz, M.D., Early Endometrial Cancer, \$50,000.

WCA Archie & Bill Clot Award – Nagi Ayad, M.D, Stephan Schurer, Ph.D., Ronan Shields, M.D., Arthur Zelent, Ph.D., Acute Myelogenous Leukemia, \$50,000.

WCA John D. Nolan Award – Kerry L. Burnstein, Ph.D., Metastatic Prostate Cancer, \$50,000.

WCA Grant – Francisco Vega, M.D., Ph.D., Chae Hwa Kim, M.D., Large B Cell Lymphoma Xenograft Model, \$50,000.

WCA Grant – Noriyuki Kassahara, M.D., Ph.D., Brain-Metastatic Breast Cancer, \$50,000.

Silver Lady Fund Grant – G. Patricia Cantwell, M.D., Pediatric Palliative Care, \$5,000.

Powell Endowment Grant – Macarena de la Fuente, M.D., Brain Cancer Research, \$30,000.

Other highlights for the year included an updated website – www.wcaofum.org, our first year to participate in Give Miami Day, a new WCA brochure, holiday visitation and gifts for cancer patients at UM hospitals, and a South African Photo Safari. The Bargain Box now is open from 10 AM to 5 PM, Mon. through Saturday, credit cards are accepted, the store has been re-organized, and special promotions are regularly offered. We were guests of UM – Sylvester CCC and Pediatrics – for Education Day and left the luncheon highly motivated after hearing the UM cancer researchers share their research outcomes and goals for further study. Indeed, it was a very good year, and WCA will continue to support our mission to fund cancer research, patient care and community education at the University of Miami.

2015-2016

The highlight of our year was held on May 12, 2016, when the Woman's Cancer Assoc. of UM presented cancer research grants to the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center. The cancer researchers who received our grants included the following:

WCA Madelon Ravlin Memorial Award – Jonathan C. Trent, M.D., Ph.D., Gastrointestinal Stromal Tumors, \$50,000.

WCA Archie & Bill Clot Memorial Award – Sophia George, Ph.D. and Marilyn Wang, M.D., Ovarian Cancer-Neoadjuvant Chemotherapy, \$50,000.

WCA Mary & John Nolan Award – Brian Slomovitz, M.D., Nori Kasahara, M.D., Ph.D., Gene Therapy Against Ovarian Cancer, \$50,000.

WCA Grant – Kerry L. Burnstein, Ph.D., Metastatic Prostate Cancer, \$50,000

WCA Grant – Jie Li, M.D., Ph.D., Melanoma Spreading, \$50,000.

WCA Grant – Xin-Hai Pei, M.D., Ph.D., Negative Basal-Like Breast Cancers, \$35,000.

WCA Powell Endowment Fund – Jaime Merchan, M.D., Pancreatic Cancer Research, \$32,000.

WCA Silver Lady Fund Grant – G. Patricia Cantwell, M.D., Pediatric Palliative Care, \$5,000.

The hardworking women and men of WCA, led by Linda Lieber, President, made our annual donation for cancer research grants grow to \$322,000 this year. Activities that contributed to this significant donation included chapter and organizational fundraisers, proceeds from our Bargain Box resale store, corporate, retail and private donations, and support from foundations, family and friends. In addition, WCA provided support for unmet needs of cancer patients receiving treatment at Sylvester CCC, donated funds and services for pediatric cancer patients, and provided gifts for cancer patients at UM hospitals.

Our improved WCA website, www.wcaofum.org, an updated brochure, a photo site of all WCA events, and a WCA display board also contributed to a most successful year for WCA and increased support from the community for the Woman's Cancer Assoc. of UM and its mission. Indeed, 2015-2016 was a very good year!

2016-2017

The year was filled with wonderful activities and fundraisers. The Bargain Box saw terrific updates at the store and on Facebook and other social media. It has become a wonderful place to shop. Fundraisers included the Annual Home for the Holidays Evening in Miami Shores, the Cancer Walk led by Miami Country Day School, WCA Junior Members at the Artisan Fair, the sale of fresh Georgia pecans, the Luncheon and Trunk Show on the Bay, the annual Silver Angel Brunch, Education Day, the Ultimate Bazaar, Visitations and Gifts for Cancer Patients at UM Hospitals, Grape Therapy with an Educational Twist, the Dolphins Cancer Challenge-Team Hurricanes-WCA, the African Safari auction, the Pit Barrel Cooker raffle at Publix, the WCA Annual Gala, and the Grants/Installation Luncheon.

The Franklin Bush Chapter was disbanded effective April 1, 2017. Members of the Bush Chapter have been welcomed by the two other WCA Chapters, Barton Ravlin and Heidi Hewes.

The Woman's Cancer Association of the University of Miami (WCA) made a commitment to the Miller School of Medicine, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center for a donation of \$ 1,000,000.00 within the next four years. For 2017 at our grants luncheon, we awarded the following grants: Lifetime Achievement Grant in honor of Lifetime WCA Honorees Barbara Voight and Ruth Jacobs - \$100,000 to Drs. Serafini and Weed, Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma; Archie & Bill Clot Memorial Grant - \$100,000 to Dr. Gilbola, Pancreatic Cancer Growth and Metastases; Jack Lombardo Grant - \$23,000 to Dr. Kasahara, Pediatric Cancer Research; WCA Silver Lady Fund Grant in Memory of D'Arcy Le Mire - \$10,000 to Dr. G. Patricia Cantwell, Pediatric Palliative Care. An additional \$32,000 (**get actual amount from Linda L.**) was awarded to Dr. (**Please get her name from Linda Lieber**), as recipient of the WCA Powell Endowment Grant. We surpassed our annual \$250,000 commitment for 2016-2017 which made all of us proud and happy.

WCA's fiscal year is from April 1 through March 31, and our 2017-2018 year has begun. We have already done much to improve the Bargain Box, had a Tina Turk fashion day, held a tennis tournament, and started working on all kinds of fundraisers. Now we are looking ahead to another most successful year. All interested supporters are encouraged to follow us on Facebook, shop with us at our Bargain Box, and join us as members of The Woman's Cancer Association of the University of Miami. It is guaranteed to add special meaning to your lives and to the lives of so many others.

2017-2018

The most successful fundraising efforts of the Woman's Cancer Association of the University of Miami (WCA) resulted in grants totaling \$336,126 for cancer research at the Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center and Holtz Children's Hospital. The grant recipients for 2017-2018 are:

Ralf Landgraf, Ph.D.-Cell Receptors Madelon Ravlin Memorial Award - \$100,000.

Mingjiang Xu, M.D., Ph.D.-Myeloid Malignancies and Tumor Suppression Archie and Bill Clot
Memorial Award - \$100,000.

Julio Barredo, M.D.- Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia, Pediatrics
- \$50,000.

Jack Lombardo Grant

David Robbins, Ph.D.-Colorectal Cancer WCA Grant - \$25,000.

Matteo Trucco, M.D.-Pediatric & Young Adult Sarcoma WCA Pediatric Grant - \$25,000.

G. Patricia Cantwell-Pediatric Palliative Care WCA Palliative Care Grant - \$5,000.

Breelyn A. Wilky, M.D.-Sarcoma Program WCA Powell Endowment Fund - \$31,126.

Under the leadership of Lourdes Beltran, WCA President, members contributed thousands of volunteer hours to provide support for cancer research, cancer patients' needs and cancer education. Fundraisers included "Walk the Walk" at Miami Country Day School, Home for the Holidays, Dolphins Cancer Challenge, the Ultimate Bazaar, Grape Therapy with an Educational Twist, Networking Project, and Dancing for a Cure with Asha Pillai, M.D., Pediatric Cancer, selected as our cancer researcher of the year.

In addition, WCA held its annual Silver Angel Brunch with proceeds donated to cancer patients receiving treatment at UM, enjoyed learning from Dr. Nimer and three cancer researchers at Education Day hosted by UM, supported I Give Miami, and were honored by the naming of the Woman's Cancer Association reception center at UM Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center's Coral Gables branch.

Our thrift store, the Bargain Box, has made great strides this year. Significant improvements are in place and the shoppers and sales have increased markedly. WCA members volunteer their time and talent to contribute to our updated Bargain Box.

During 2017-2018 we have welcomed many new members, and we look forward to another hugely successful year with additional members and new fundraisers planned. On we go to 2018-2019, WCA's 60th anniversary! It will be another great year.

2018-2019 – Lourdes Beltran, WCA President, began our Sept. 2018 WCA meeting by announcing WCA's celebration of its 60th anniversary in 2019. Indeed, we have been funding cancer research, cancer patient care and cancer education for 60 years and continuing!

WCA and chapter fundraisers were held throughout the 2018-2019 year, and our Bargain Box Boutique Thrift Shop sold improved merchandise, had a complete update of the store, and soon began to see more and more excited shoppers. WCA's Silver Angel Brunch, the Miami Marlins game, and the Dolphin Cancer Challenge fundraisers saw terrific participation which added to our Silver Lady Fund and grants for the Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center. Cancer research grants included:

Madelon Ravlin Award - \$100,000, Krishna Komanduri, M.D., Adult Stem Cell Transplant Program; Archie & Bill Clot Memorial Grant – \$100,000, Nipon Merchant, M.D., Pancreatic Cancer; Jack Lombardo Grant, \$45,000, Heather J. McCrea, M.D., Pediatric Brain Tumors; WCA Palliative Care Grant - \$5,000, G. Patricia

Cantwell, M.D., Pediatric Palliative Care; WCA Powell Endowment Fund - \$31,126, Susan Kesmodel, M.D., Breast Surgical Oncology.

The Barton Ravlin Chapter had its Ultimate Bazaar, Dancing for a Cure, Fresh Pecans, and the Clot Family and Friends Holiday Donations. The Woman's Club of Coconut Grove held a Meet & Greet for WCA and made a nice donation to Barton Ravlin. Heidi Hewes Chapter received a major donation from the Miami Country Day School Cancer Walk and held their wonderful Home for the Holidays event. The chapter received the 2019 'Citizen of the Year' award from the Miami Shores Chamber of Commerce and were the benefactors of the UM Sports Celebrity Bowling Tournament. Both chapters brought goodie bags to cancer patients being treated at UM and held GrapeTherapy with an Educational Twist events. Education Day, sponsored by UM, presented a program that brought members lots of up to date information about some of the research and clinical trials being conducted at UM.

When our fiscal year ended, March 31, 2019, we happily reviewed the WCA treasury and made decisions about supporting our mission. First we funded \$250,000 in support of cancer research at UM Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center and an additional \$31,126 from our Powell Endowment Fund for cancer research. Then we set aside funds to bring the Bargain Box up to date in every way and support unmet needs of cancer patients by making a donation to the Silver Lady Fund. For certain, we surpassed our goals because of WCA's leadership, and our members' dedication, generosity, and hard work. In addition, we are most grateful for the support of our families, friends, sponsors, donors, the UM Development Office, and the community. The entire WCA family makes it all happen, and everyone benefits!!

In closing, the Woman's Cancer Association of the University of Miami congratulates the University of Miami Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center for receiving the prestigious NCI designation from the National Cancer Institute on July 29, 2019. Sylvester CCC is only the second NCI designated facility in Florida, and there are just 71 institutions with NCI designation in the United States. It is a pleasure and an honor to partner with Sylvester.

2019-2020 – The Woman's Cancer Association of the University of Miami (WCA) had a most successful year led by President Bill Tenney. Our fiscal year began April 1, 2019 and ended March 31, 2020, and our mission remains to provide support for cancer research, cancer patients and cancer education. Here are WCA's highlights.

The Woman's Cancer Association's cancer research grants for Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center's doctors totaled \$285,020.34 this year. The recipients were:

The Madelon Ravlin Memorial Grant – MARZENNA BLONSKA, M.D., Oncogenic Signaling Pathways in B-Cell Lymphomas - \$100,000.00.

The Archie & Bill Clot Memorial Grant – LUISA CIMMINO, Ph.D., Enhancing TET Function with Vitamin C for the Treatment of Leukemia - \$100,000.00

The Miami County Day WCA Grant – JULIO C. BARREDO, M.D. – Targeting the Intersection between Metabolism and Epigenetics for the Treatment of Acute Leukemia - \$50,000.00

The WCA Palliative Care Grant – G. PATRICIA CANTWELL, M.D., Pediatric Palliative Care - \$5,000.00

The Powell Endowment Fund Grant – MACARENA DE LA FUENTE, M.D., Brain Cancer Research - \$30,020.34

Fundraisers this year included Bargain Box and Ebay sales, annual events and new fundraisers. Our Bargain Box is located at 1350 West Flagler Street. With extensive renovations both inside and out and first-rate merchandise, the Bargain Box has become a top-of-the-line thrift store.

Sales for the year totaled more than \$120,000 and Ebay sales added more to that number. WCA annual events included A Night at Tory Burch, Ultimate Bazaar, Home for the Holidays Walk & Tour, Silver Angel Brunch, Fresh Georgia Pecans and Turtles, Dolphin Cancer Challenge-Team Woman's Cancer Association, WCA Gala Dancing for a Cure – The Roaring Twenties. Miami Country Day School held its annual Walk the Walk fundraiser and donated \$60,000 to WCA for pediatric research. We also participated in Give Miami Day and Barton Ravlin (BR) and Heidi Hewes (HH) Chapters held Grape Therapy with an Educational Twist fundraisers to support our Silver Lady Fund which provides support for cancer patients. A terrific new BR fundraiser, Parade of Lights, was sponsored by DeliLane, and HH received donations from the UM Celebrity Bowling Tournament held at Splitsville.

WCA members care about supporting cancer patients. We bring gift bags to oncology patients at Jackson Memorial Hospital twice a year, and it is truly a joyful experience seeing the strength of these beautiful people. In addition, the primary way we support patients is with our Silver Lady Fund. WCA works with SCCC Patient Support Services to arrange for payment to fund unmet needs of patients at SCCC and Holtz Children's Hospital. Many members, friends, and agencies make donations to the Silver Lady Fund. This year we received a \$25,000 grant from the Kirk and Dorothy Landon Foundation. Many more patients will be given much needed support because of this grant. In addition, our annual Silver Angel Brunch, memorial donations and members' donations at our chapter meetings add to the fund. This spring WCA added a Silver Lady Covid 19 Fund to further support cancer patients who also have been afflicted with Covid 19. Presently the Woman's Cancer Association is the only non-profit organization providing support for cancer patients at Sylvester. Meeting this critical need in our community is a very high priority.

WCA enjoyed Education Day, sponsored by UM, in March. We learned about current cancer research being done by doctors and scientists at SCCC. We are also pleased to have SCCC doctors present research updates at our Grape Therapy with an Educational Twist fundraisers. Our objectives remain to fund cancer research grants, to provide support for cancer patients, and to bring cancer education to the community. We welcome all who support our objectives to join us as a WCA member, to make a donation in support of one or all of our objectives, to bring new merchandise/shop at the Bargain Box, to join us at our fundraising events, and to offer your ideas to make The Woman's Cancer Association of the University of Miami the best non-profit organization it can be. Learn more about WCA at www.wcaofum.org.

2020-2021 – This year the Woman's Cancer Association of the University of Miami (WCA) held its monthly board meetings by Zoom in adherence with CDC Covid guidelines. Bill Tenney continued as WCA President and did a masterful job providing leadership for the organization.

WCA was unable to present its two major fundraisers, Holiday Walk and Annual Gala, but we did offer creative Zoom fundraisers and participate in virtual events. WCA members and WCA supporters made significant donations throughout the year, with our largest single donation of \$22,000.00 received from Josh and Diane Clot family and friends. These donations allowed WCA to provide the following WCA cancer research grants to Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center doctors and researchers:

Dr. Zeier-Glioblastoma, \$50,000

Dr. Hung-Ovarian Cancer, \$25,000

Dr. Pillai-Immunotherapy, \$25,000

Dr. Cantwell-Pediatric Palliative Care, \$5,000

The Powell Endowment Fund Grant:

Dr. Nkiruka Ezenwajiaku- gastrointestinal malignancy, \$30,032

In addition, a WCA Pediatric Cancer Research Grant will be awarded during the summer 2021.

Throughout the year, WCA Silver Lady Fund met unmet needs of 39 cancer patients being treated at Sylvester CCC for many different cancers. Many of these patients were also dealing with Covid 19, and our support was hugely important and greatly appreciated. Members again supported this mission most generously. Also, in support of the Silver Lady Fund, Gisele Armour and Steve Johnson began bi-weekly WCA Bingo Nights via Zoom, and this fundraiser has been hugely successful. Members, family and friends from South Florida and around the country find Bingo Thursdays most enjoyable.

WCA's Bargain Box thrift store increased sales considerably this year. Even being closed for two months during 2020 and following all pandemic guidelines, the Bargain Box grossed \$152,949.00 Jan. through Dec. 2020, a 16+% increase from 2019!! Lenora Bach, Cris Beauvoir and Nancy Cigno provided leadership for BB's success. Both Brickell and Key Biscayne Magazines have included extensive articles promoting the BB. WCA members and friends continue to donate upscale merchandise, spend hundreds of hours as volunteers at the store, and bring donations to the store. We have upgraded the store and the merchandise, making the Bargain Box a terrific place to shop and to donate. Shoppers have greatly increased!

This year we have expanded our social media presence on Facebook, Constant Contact and WCA website. You will find up to date information, planned WCA and chapter events, and photos at www.wcaofum.org

In-person WCA Board Meetings will begin in September. All members are most welcome to attend.

2021-2022 – The Woman's Cancer Association of the University of Miami continued to accomplish its cancer research, cancer patient and cancer education objectives during our 2021-2022 year under the direction of Nancy Cigno and Nora Tenney. WCA grants to doctors and research scientists totaled \$ 184,150.00.

The medical doctors and research scientists who received WCA grants included:

MILIANO COCCO, Ph.D. \$ 50,000.00

Madelon Ravlin Memorial Grant “Investigating How Mutant H2A and H2B Histones Mediate Uterine Carcinosarcoma Histogenesis and Therapy Resistance.”

RAMELA CHAKRABARTI, Ph.D. \$ 50,000.00

Archie & Bill Clot Memorial Grant “Exploring the Function of DGAT2 Mediated Lipid Metabolism in MDSCs in Triple Negative Breast Cancer.”

INES LOHSE, Ph.D. \$ 50,000.00

Miami Country Day School Pediatric Grant “Investigating HDAC Inhibitor Panobinostat as a Treatment Option for Pediatric Osteosarcoma.”

PATRICIA CANTWELL, M.D. \$ 5,000.00

“Strengthening the Role of Pediatric Palliative Medicine.”

SOPHIA GEORGE, Ph.D. \$ 29,150.00

Powell Endowment Fund “Mapping the Fallopian Tube Epithelial of Rare Germline Mutation Carriers to Study Early Events in Ovarian Cancer Development.”

WCA's Bargain Box had gross sales of \$198,000 this year. In addition to increased sales, a new roof was installed and first-rate merchandise helped us attract new shoppers and deliver gift bags to patients during winter and spring holidays. The Silver Lady Fund included profits from the Silver Angel Luncheon, Bingo Night, and chapter and memorial donations. Seventy-five cancer patients receiving treatment at Sylvester were given substantial WCA donations.

Barton Ravlin and Heidi Hewes Chapters of WCA worked throughout the year to raise funds in support of our objectives. Both chapters had very successful holiday fundraisers. Barton Ravlin received its largest annual donation from Josh Clot Family and Friends again this year in the amount of \$25,600.00. At the end of year luncheon BR Members were most pleased to welcome new BR Chapter President Steve Johnson for 2022-2023. Heidi Hewes expressed its gratitude to Miami Country Day School for its substantial support of our grant for pediatric research and to those who contributed to chapter events and programs.

2022-2023 – The Woman's Cancer Association of the University of Miami's 2022-2023 year allowed members, family, friends, and the community to enjoy its amazing success in support of WCA's mission to fund cancer research, meet needs of cancer patients, and provide cancer education for the community. This year's WCA grants awarded to physicians and scientists conducting cancer research at UM's Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center totaled \$291,318.00 and included the following recipients:

WCA Pediatric Grants –

Dr. Julio Barredo, Leukemia Research \$50,000

Dr. Aditi Dhir, Sarcomas, \$50,000

General Grants –

Dr. Rehana Qureshi, Breast Cancer, \$50,000

Dr. Prasoon Mohan, Liver Cancer \$50,000

Dr. Priyamvada Rai, Prostate Cancer, \$50,000

Palliative Care Grant –

Dr. Patricia Cantwell, Pediatric Palliative Medicine, \$10,000.

WCA Powell Endowment Fund –

Dr. Carmen Calfa, Breast Cancer, \$31,318.

WCA's Silver Lady Fund supported financial needs of 127 patients receiving cancer treatment at Sylvester during 2022-2023 and provided products and gifts for cancer patients at UM hospitals. We also welcomed young patients to our upscale thrift store, The Bargain Box, to select prom clothes and accessories for their Holtz Prom. Merchandise at our Bargain Box is new or almost new and we provide clothing, accessories, furniture, art, house goods, and so much more. All shoppers are most welcome to shop with us at 1350 West Flagler St. Miami, FL 33135, Mon. – Sat., 10 am to 5 pm. Donations to the Bargain Box are accepted after approval from WCA.

In addition to the Bargain Box, WCA had fundraisers throughout the year to support our mission, including the Silver Angel Luncheon, Making Spirits Bright, Brickell Fashion Show, Grape Therapy with an Educational Twist, Miami Country Day School Walk With Purpose and Bingo Night. Members, corporate and non-profit foundations, family gifts, WCA Endowment Fund, friends of WCA and community businesses provided substantial donations and support for these events.

We updated the WCA by-laws to refine and clarify our goals and objectives and the duties of our officers. Please let us know if you are interested in supporting WCA. New members and ideas are always welcome, and there are countless ways you can help. Kindly contact WCA at www.wcaofum.org, 305.643.2945, 1350 West Flagler St., Miami, FL 33135 for additional details.

Members of WCA are most proud of our accomplishments for the 2022-2023 year. We have worked together joyfully to support WCA's mission because we have learned that There Is An Eloquence In True Enthusiasm and We Are Smarter When We Share. On to 2023-2024!