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The Peachey Effect: JAN-JULY 2019

Impact of Catherine Peachey Fund Flourishes

With so much happening at the Catherine Peachey Fund, we wanted to share some highlights with our loyal supporters. We cannot do our work of funding important breast cancer research in Indiana without you!

Catherine Peachey Fund grantees selected by Chan Zuckerberg Initiative for Human Cell Atlas Award:

The research group receiving this award is led by Hari Nakshatri, Ph.D., with co-principal investigators, Anna Maria Storniolo, MD, and Yunlong Liu, Ph.D. The project will analyze healthy breast tissue samples from the Komen Tissue Bank, a unique resource that exists only at IU School of Medicine. These samples from women of different genetic ancestries will be used to produce a complete map of the normal breast. This approach of using samples from women of various ethnic backgrounds appealed to the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative's focus on social equality. Dr. Nakshatri shared that this research would not be possible without the Peachey Fund's 2018 gift of \$250,000 for the Catherine Peachey Fund Normal Breast Taxonomy Project. For the complete information on this exciting announcement, please visit: <https://medicine.iu.edu/news/2019/06/chan-zuckerberg-initiative-picks-iu-team-for-human-cell-atlas-award/>



The Amelia Project, which continues to be the cornerstone event of the Catherine Peachey Fund and a highlight of our year, was held at Indiana University-Kokomo on Saturday, March 23. More than 100 researchers, clinicians, and advocates from across Indiana came together to share research, learn from each other and initiate invaluable collaborations that likely would not happen without this event. Featured speakers included leading researchers from the University of Notre Dame, Purdue University and the Indiana University Simon Cancer Center, as well as the keynote speaker, Danny P. Welch, Ph.D., who joined us from

the University of Kansas Cancer Center. Major themes of the meeting included metastasis research and the role of engineering in breast cancer research, how obesity contributes to breast cancer and the hallmark of this event, which is collaboration. The Catherine Peachey Fund's mission has always revolved

around funding breast cancer research in Indiana. The Amelia Project brings together the most brilliant minds in this area of research and is the culmination of the work that we do, annually.

R.E.D. Alliance Breast Health Summit: On Saturday, February 9, the Catherine Peachey Fund was a \$2,000 “Health & Wellness” sponsor for the R.E.D. Alliance Breast Health Summit held in Indianapolis. The mission of the R.E.D. Alliance is to eliminate the disparity in breast cancer mortality between African American women and Caucasian women in Indianapolis. The Breast Health Summit is their annual outreach and education initiative, bringing together healthcare professionals, community members, survivors, caregivers, advocates and policy makers for a day of learning and engagement. Several Peachey Fund volunteers attended the event, and 120 *Just Peachey: Bearing Fruit* cookbooks were donated to summit attendees.



The Catherine Peachey Fund awarded a \$2,700 gift to Kathi Ridley-Meriweather, M.A., to fund transcription costs, in order to deliver a findings-informed, culture-focused video intervention tool. Kathi is responsible for the Komen Tissue Bank having the much needed and appropriate representation of minority women and women who face disparities in their ability and willingness to participate in medical research. This opportunity to fund a project that works to create a new tool for outreach and inclusion of a diverse pool of women in research is in line with the goals and objectives of our fund.

The Catherine Peachey Fund Breast Cancer Prevention Endowment has allocated \$70,000 for a pilot study of the effects of bariatric surgery on imaging, tissue and blood biomarkers of breast cancer risk. Obesity has been linked to an increased risk of developing post-menopausal breast cancer and worse prognosis following diagnosis. This research team will utilize the funds from the Catherine Peachey Breast Cancer Prevention Program Fund to complete a clinical trial analyzing what drives the relationship between obesity and this increased risk. Principal Investigators on this study are Tarah Ballinger, MD, Kandice Ludwig, MD, with Co-Principal Investigator Anna Maria Storniolo, MD.

Wine Tasting with Peachey 2019 events were our most successful yet, raising nearly \$30,000 for breast cancer research in Indiana. Peace Water Winery hosted two evenings for us in June, in their beautiful tasting rooms in Carmel and downtown Indianapolis. Their generosity, along with the support of our many sponsors, will help us make a meaningful impact. Attendees enjoyed wine, food, friends and beautiful surroundings. The brief program included a short video featuring Cathy Peachey speaking two weeks before she lost her battle with breast cancer, followed by a video showcasing our support of the Catherine Peachey Fund Normal Breast Taxonomy Project at the IU Simon Cancer Center. Dr. Tara Spivey and Dr. Erica Giblin of St. Vincent Ascension, also joined the program. We look forward to making this event even bigger and better for 2020!



