



# The Peachey Effect

June 2020

## From our Program Manager

The Catherine Peachey Fund hopes that this newsletter finds you healthy and enjoying summertime. While COVID-19 has impacted our scheduled events and fundraising, I am pleased to share that because the fund is a nimble and accessible funding source for Indiana breast cancer researchers, we are uniquely positioned to assist in providing gap funding for research dollars that have been pulled back by larger funding sources, as well as in providing additional budget dollars to projects that have been put into hibernation over the past few months. In a recent conversation with Dr. Hari Nakshatri, he shared that putting research into hibernation inevitably causes not only loss in time, but also physical resources such as mice and other sensitive elements used in labs, thus the need for additional dollars that were not in original budgets. I assured him that the Peachey Fund stands ready to help as much as possible. I am working with our researchers to address their current needs and I will have exciting news in to share in the coming months about how the Peachey Fund will continue to fund breast cancer research and programs in 2020.

- Stephanie Rufenbarger Leshner

## Event News:

*Wine Tasting with Peachey has moved to Aug. 3. See the new event details below.*

*Shopping Social at Evereve Clay Terrace has been scheduled for Oct 1, from 11 am to 1 pm.*

*Amelia Project research symposium was cancelled due to COVID-19. This annual gathering that fosters collaboration across institutional boundaries will return in 2021 and remains a cornerstone event for the Peachey Fund.*

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## Support Us:

[heroesfoundation.org/peacheyfund/donate](https://heroesfoundation.org/peacheyfund/donate)

## Wine Tasting with Peachey

Mark your calendar: Wine Tasting with Peachey has a new date and format! This year's "blended" event will be held virtually as well as in-person, on Monday, August 3, from 6-8 p.m. This year's event will feature emcee and comedian Jeff Bodard and music from Shane Rodimel. Virtual event packages will be available soon, so keep an eye out for ticket information.

We extend special thanks to Lilly Oncology, Bright Ideas, eimagine and the Peachey Family for their lead sponsorship of this year's event.



## 2020 Gifts

**\$50,000:** The Catherine Peachey Breast Cancer Prevention Program Fund endowment has made this allocation to research being led by Dr. Anna Maria Storniolo re: *Epigenetic Changes Among High Risk Women*. In 2001, the Catherine Peachey Breast Cancer Prevention Program Fund endowment was

established at the IU Foundation with an approximate investment of \$1M. Since that time, \$650,000 of breast cancer research has been funded via income from the endowment.

**\$2,000:** The Catherine Peachey Fund is once again happy to be a

“Health & Wellness” sponsor of the R.E.D. Alliance’s upcoming Breast Health Summit. Originally scheduled for March 2020, the event is being rescheduled due to COVID-19. We are also donating *Just Peachey: Bearing Fruit* cookbooks for attendees of the event.

**“Without groups like Peachey, investing in projects and researchers when they are just starting out, we would never receive national funding at this level.”**

## Research Updates

For the fourth straight year, Indiana University School of Medicine set a school record for research funding received from the National Institutes of Health (NIH). “This funding is because of pilot support. Without groups like Peachey, investing in projects and researchers when they are just starting out, we would never

receive national funding at this level.”  
- *Lizzie Conkle Knol, Senior Associate Director of Development, IU Simon Comprehensive Cancer Center*

The Catherine Peachey Fund was proud to make a new Data Analyst position possible in the Komen Tissue Bank (KTB) at

the IU Simon Comprehensive Cancer Center. The position was part of a \$100K gift made in 2019. Jenny Cui began her work with the KTB earlier this year and is helping prepare systems to receive the large amount of data coming from the Catherine Peachey Fund Normal Breast Taxonomy Project.

Dr. Hari Nakshatri has received a three-year, \$1.33 million grant from the Department of Defense. The grant allows Dr. Nakshatri to continue a project that the Catherine Peachey Fund helped initiate.

The goal of the project is to answer the critical biological question of why breast cancer is more or less aggressive among women of different ethnic groups. IU is the only place with resources to address these questions,

because of the availability of more than 5,000 normal breast tissue samples available through the Komen Tissue Bank at the IU Simon Comprehensive Cancer Center.