



For Immediate Release
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**'Pathways of Promise' campaign exceeds \$250 million goal
to support the University of Massachusetts Medical School**

**Most successful comprehensive fundraising campaign in school history enables future
research, teaching and learning, community, and global health**

WORCESTER – In concluding the largest comprehensive fundraising campaign in the history of the University of Massachusetts Medical School, Chancellor Michael F. Collins, MD, announced today that the Medical School surpassed its \$250 million goal, raising \$279 million in philanthropic gifts and pledges from individuals, corporations and foundations. Highlights of the *Pathways of Promise* campaign include the largest alumni donation in school history; funding to accelerate research in a variety of neurodegenerative conditions; the establishment of a rare diseases research institute; 19 new endowed chairs for faculty; \$4.7 million for student scholarships and financial aid; the most significant contributions in school history for community service initiatives and global health; and a donation to establish a Duchenne muscular dystrophy program.

“On behalf of the UMass Medical School community, I extend my deepest gratitude to our most generous and loyal benefactors who have made possible the resounding success of this historic campaign,” said Chancellor Collins, who also serves as senior vice president for the health sciences for the University of Massachusetts. “Each and every day at the Medical School we are privileged to witness and support students, staff and faculty who are on the path to reaching their fullest potential toward noble goals that unquestionably improve the health and well-being of the people of the commonwealth and the world. Our donors, through their generosity, have opened up countless new pathways.”

Pathways of Promise prioritized support for three critical areas of the Medical School’s mission: research, teaching and learning, and community and global health. The quiet phase of the campaign began in July 2012, and was publicly launched in September 2016.

The success of the *Pathways of Promise* campaign represents a singular moment for our world-class medical school,” said Marty Meehan, president of the University of Massachusetts. “Through the transformative power of education and scientific discovery made possible by these investments, people across the commonwealth, the country and the globe will benefit.”

Accomplishments made possible by the *Pathways of Promise* campaign include:

- A \$6 million donation to establish the Duchenne muscular dystrophy program at UMass Medical School. This clinic—supported philanthropically by Charley’s Fund and led by Brenda Wong, MD—brings together highly-specialized, integrated and interdisciplinary care, as well as cutting-edge clinical trials, in a single location.
- The largest-ever community health and service donation, by the Remillard Family Foundation, endows a \$3 million fund to invest in community outreach programs led by UMass Medical School faculty, staff and students.
- A \$2 million gift by Dan Riccio and his wife Diane M. (Casey) Riccio, PhD, GSBS ’03 marks the largest alumni donation in Medical School history and will support the UMass ALS Cellucci Fund and the establishment of the Riccio Fund for Neuroscience, to encourage investigation, collaboration and innovation in the neurosciences throughout the institution, as well as with partners outside the Medical School. This fund is designed to broaden our understanding of the brain in ways that might open new pathways to treat a range of neurodegenerative disorders.
- The establishment of 19 new endowed chairs, allowing some of the Medical School’s most renowned faculty members to pursue innovative and trailblazing research. UMMS now has endowments for 50 named chairs and professorships.
- \$4.7 million for student financial aid and scholarships intended to relieve the debt load of our nation’s best and brightest.
- The new Li Weibo Institute for Rare Diseases Research supports the collaborations and investigations of more than 40 faculty members committed to discovering life-changing treatments and cures for some of the more than 7,000 so-called “orphan” diseases.
- Looking to the future, donors established 101 new endowed funds totaling more than \$40 million.

UMass Medical School attracts more than \$250 million annually in external research funding and is consistently ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* in the top 10 percent of all U.S. medical schools for primary care education.

Home to three graduate schools—the School of Medicine, Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and the Graduate School of Nursing—UMass Medical School, as the commonwealth’s first and only public medical school, has maintained fidelity to its founding mission of providing affordable, high-quality education, rooted in a commitment of serving our communities. UMMS has recently expanded its School of Medicine class to include a limited number of highly qualified out-of-state students and launched a regional campus, UMMS-Baystate, to help increase the number of physicians serving the western part of the state.

Our esteemed clinical and basic science faculty thrive in a uniquely collaborative atmosphere and include a Nobel Laureate, Breakthrough Prize recipient, Lasker Award winner, investigators of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute and members of the National Academies, who lead

research teams making seminal discoveries in RNA, gene therapy and neuroscience; impacting diseases including ALS, cancer, diabetes and HIV; and global and community health.

Learn More

Additional information and a video about *Pathways of Promise* can be found at umassmed.edu/campaign.

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About the University of Massachusetts Medical School

The University of Massachusetts Medical School is the commonwealth's first and only public academic health sciences center. Our mission is to advance the health and well-being of the people of the commonwealth and the world through pioneering education, research and health care delivery with clinical partner UMass Memorial Health Care and regional clinical campus, UMMS-Baystate. Consistently ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* as one of the leading medical schools in the nation for primary care education, our research enterprise includes a Nobel Laureate and attracts more than \$250 million in annual funding. Founded in 1962 and located in Worcester, Massachusetts, UMMS is one of five University of Massachusetts campuses and comprises three graduate schools—the School of Medicine, the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and the Graduate School of Nursing—as well as Commonwealth Medicine, a health care consulting division, and MassBiologics, the only nonprofit FDA-licensed vaccine and biologics manufacturer in the United States.