

LEGACY OF HOPE.

SUMMER 2020



A CHARITABLE AND GIFT PLANNING GUIDE FOR THE BARBARA ANN KARMANOS CANCER INSTITUTE

TO SUPPORT THE CRITICAL NEEDS OF OUR CANCER PATIENTS DURING COVID-19, PLEASE DONATE TODAY — SEE INSERT INSIDE OR VISIT WWW.KARMANOS.ORG/DONATECOVID19.

IN THANKS TO OUR COMMUNITY



As the leader of many dedicated scientists, oncologists and staff members at the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute, I deeply appreciate the tireless support we receive from our community. We are inspired that so many have shown their commitment to our research efforts and continue to support our patients. With the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19), that commitment is more important than ever.

In this issue of *Legacy of Hope*, we are sharing the stories of two longtime friends of the Karmanos Cancer Institute: Leslie Devereaux and Connie Claybaker. Ms. Devereaux has supported our lifesaving work for nearly 30 years. Recently, she made a significant gift to help Karmanos establish a Cancer Metabolism and Metabolomics Program. Ms. Claybaker retired from Karmanos as the associate center director of Research Administration before facing her own ovarian cancer diagnosis. Because of her work here, she sought treatment at Karmanos with an understanding of the quality treatment available thanks to our team of specialists.

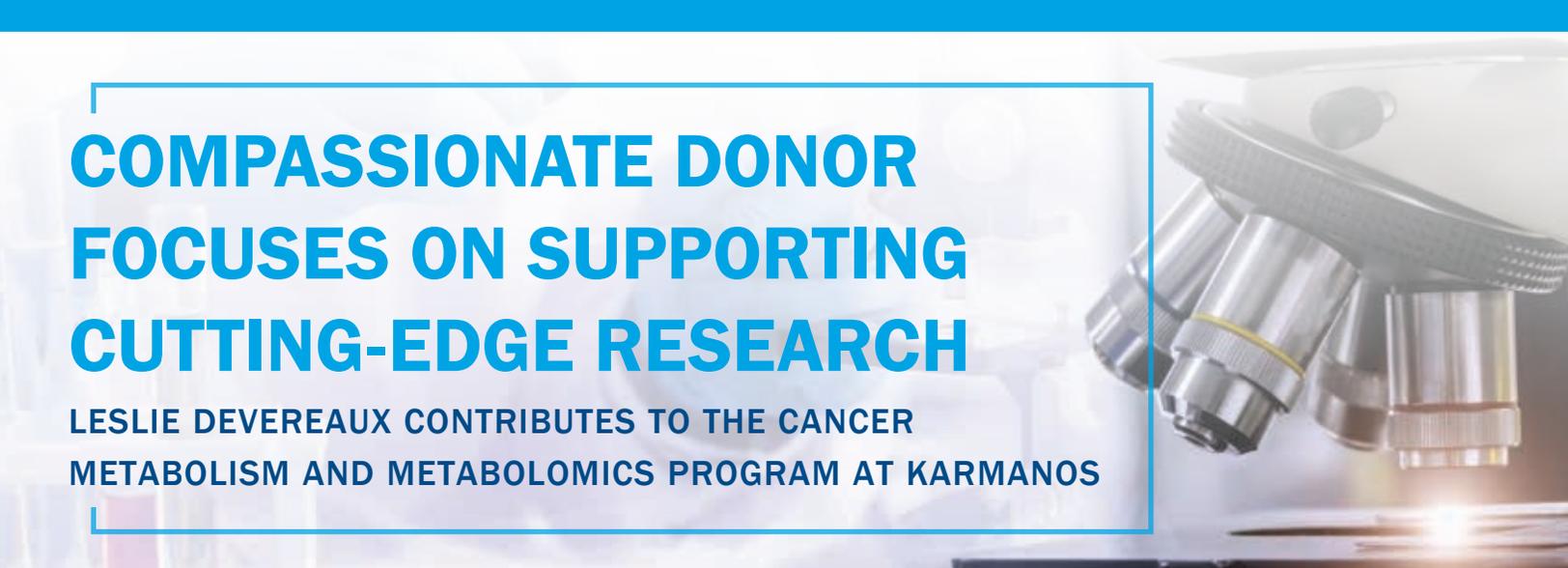
Our fall 2019 issue featured a story on Dr. Jeffrey D. Forman titled, “The Other Side of Cancer: Doctor committed to impacting cancer patients in a different role—post life-saving transplant.” We wish to share a remembrance of Dr. Forman who passed away on April 8, 2020. His work demonstrated his passion for supporting cancer patients and raising funds to support world-class cancer care for Karmanos. This conviction and philanthropic passion have always been at the core of Dr. Forman’s work, leaving an indelible mark on the field of oncology.

On behalf of the Karmanos team and the patients we serve, thank you for supporting our vision of a world free of cancer. I wish you and all those dear to you good health and strength during this challenging time.



Sincerely,

Gerold Bepler, M.D., Ph.D.
President & Chief Executive Officer
Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute



COMPASSIONATE DONOR FOCUSES ON SUPPORTING CUTTING-EDGE RESEARCH

LESLIE DEVEREAUX CONTRIBUTES TO THE CANCER
METABOLISM AND METABOLOMICS PROGRAM AT KARMANOS

Leslie Devereaux of Bloomfield Hills has long used her passion for helping others to make a transformational impact on our community.

Through the Richard C. Devereaux Foundation — named in honor of her late father who was president of the Ferro Stamping Company in Detroit — Leslie has made gifts to support educational causes, wildlife preservation, human services organizations, public television and health care organizations.

“I know in my heart that philanthropic giving isn’t just a strategy — it’s the right thing to do,” says Leslie. “I believe in supporting issues and causes that have touched me personally. When you give, you receive. I’m always touched by the way giving impacts people and organizations.”

Cancer research has long been important and personal to Leslie, who has generously supported the Karmanos Cancer Institute for nearly 30 years. In addition to providing grants to support strategic research initiatives at Karmanos, a National Cancer Institute-designated comprehensive cancer center, she helped fund the Richard C. Devereaux Foundation Intensive Care Unit and Family Hospitality Suite.

“My father passed away from lung cancer and my mother had breast cancer,” Leslie says. “My father was a very special person in my life. I wanted to honor him and help other people and families touched by cancer.”

Since cancer has personally impacted Leslie, she has made it a point to help researchers take strides toward developing new treatments and diagnostic techniques. To that end, Leslie has made a significant gift to help Karmanos establish a Cancer Metabolism and Metabolomics Program.

Cancer metabolism involves the study of how cancer cells grow and develop. Karmanos researchers are using a

variety of biochemical and analytical techniques to alter the distinct development pathways of cancer cells. This research could help scientists develop entirely new treatments for breast, lung, ovarian and prostate cancers as well as leukemia — all of which occur at a higher incidence in the Midwest region.

Recently, Karmanos physicians invited Leslie to tour their research lab to learn more about the Cancer Metabolism and Metabolomics Program. The tour inspired her to support the program knowing it will impact so many patients.

“The researchers I met struck me as true professionals,” Leslie says. “I’ve been involved with Karmanos over the years because their work doesn’t just focus on current treatment regimens, but it also steps toward the future of cancer care. Metabolomics is a very important initiative with great future potential. Karmanos is taking a very important first step toward helping patients in the near and long-term future.”

Always demure and never seeking special recognition, Leslie remains a selfless person with a kind heart who’s made philanthropy her way of helping others as shared by Katrina Studvent, chief development officer for the Karmanos Cancer Institute.

“I support issues and organizations I believe in,” Leslie reiterates. “Cancer is devastating to individuals and families in our society. I support the work underway at Karmanos because it is important now and for the future.”

To learn more about the Cancer Metabolism and Metabolomics Program at Karmanos, please contact Linda Filipczak at 313.576.8102 or filipczl@karmanos.org.

WHEN FACING HER OWN DIAGNOSIS, FORMER ASSOCIATE CENTER DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH ADMINISTRATION CONNIE CLAYBAKER UNDERSTOOD THE KARMANOS ADVANTAGE

► “If I had not taken that position at Karmanos way back in 2003, I know I would have chosen to be treated at a community hospital. I didn’t understand the incremental difference in quality and treatment offered by Karmanos...” – Connie Claybaker

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Connie Claybaker, recipient of the Hope Award at the Karmanos 2019 Heroes of Cancer. Connie will always be a hero to us. Photo credit by Patricia A. Ellis.

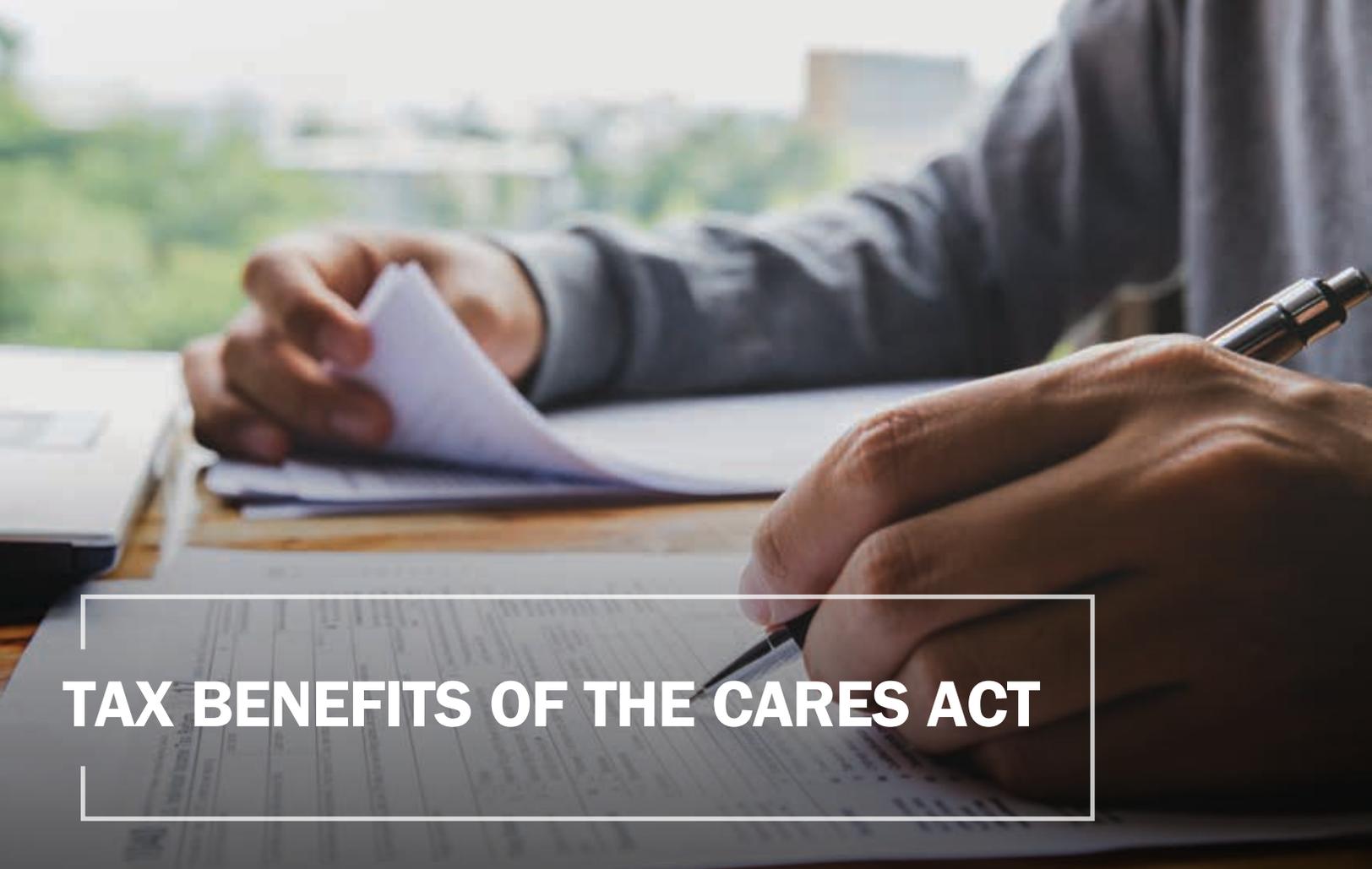
Before her diagnosis, Connie Claybaker had worked at the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute since 2003, serving as associate center director of Research Administration for the last 10 years before retiring in December 2016. Her first goal was to lose weight, and through diet and exercise, she lost 35 pounds in about a year. “I was feeling mighty self-righteous when I started experiencing pain in my abdomen. ... Sixteen months into retirement and I find myself with ovarian cancer,” Connie says.

Connie’s first visit as a patient to the Karmanos Cancer Institute was in May 2018. She was treated by Robert Morris, M.D., leader of the Gynecologic Oncology Multidisciplinary Team. Her treatment included surgery and an infusion schedule of six visits every three weeks. She also participated in a clinical trial. “I had managed the administrative aspects of all the clinical trials at Karmanos and felt both a professional and personal obligation to participate,” says Connie.

Because of the compassionate care she received from Dr. Morris and other Karmanos caregivers, Connie says, “I never once, not once, thought that cancer would strike me down.”

To read the full article about Connie’s cancer journey or learn more about Karmanos’ compassionate care, visit karmanos.org/donor-stories.

Karmanos is the only National Cancer Institute-designated comprehensive cancer center in metro Detroit and one of just 51 centers of its kind in the United States. That means patients can access treatments exclusive to Karmanos as well as clinical trials, cancer prevention programs and multidisciplinary teams of cancer specialists — a comprehensive approach not found at a community hospital.



TAX BENEFITS OF THE CARES ACT

The new CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security) Act provided a few key provisions for your charitable goals:

- Required minimum distributions (RMD) are temporarily suspended for the 2020 tax year. But if you are 70½ or older, you can still make a tax-free gift to us from your IRA and see your gift put to use today.
- A charitable deduction of up to \$300 is available if you take the standard deduction.

- Cash contributions to qualified charities can be deducted up to 100% of your adjusted gross income for the 2020 calendar year for those who itemize.

TAKE THE NEXT STEP

If you have any questions, please contact the Office of Planned Giving at johnsoli@karmanos.org or 313.576.8115 and we'll help you get started with creating a plan that protects the important people and causes in your life.



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Gerold Bepler, M.D., Ph.D.
President and Chief Executive Officer

Katrina Studvent
Chief Development Officer

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Mission: To lead in transformative cancer care, research and education through courage, commitment and compassion.