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Director of Planned Giving Dartmouth-Hitchcock /Geisel School of Medicine One Medical Center Drive, HB 7070 Lebanon NH 03756-0001

Dartmouth Dartmouth-Hitchcock

Office of Planned Giving Dartmouth-Hitchcock/Geisel School of Medicine One Medical Center Drive (HB 7070) Lebanon NH 03756





Contact us at (603) 646-5808 to get started.

Carla Manley-Russock, RN, Co-Chair, Pinnacle Society William Nelson, MDiv, PhD, Co-Chair, Pinnacle Society Katherine D. Blackman, Director of Planned Givina

James Couto/Loren Lortscher and Ginni Walsh photos © 2022 Mark L. Washburn

## PINNACLEPERSPECTIVES

SMART, TAX-WISE GIVING NEWS FOR SOPHISTICATED DONORS

## PHILANTHROPY MEANS CHANGING PEOPLE'S LIVES

Loren Lortscher always knew he was going to be a doctor. "I excelled in the health sciences and I wanted to help people," he says. "My older brother went to medical school and my main idea was to follow in his footsteps. He became a pediatric cardiologist. He studied at the University of Colorado Medical School and so did I. I was an undergrad at Dartmouth and then, after medical school, came to Dartmouth-Hitchcock for three years for my residency."

As a resident, Lortscher found his calling in psychiatry. "I was so lucky to have Gary Tucker [the head of the psychiatric residency program] as my mentor. The Dartmouth Mental Health Center was just starting in the late 60s and early 70s. They even had telemedicine—televised interviews in Hanover with the hospital in Claremont, so we could interact with psychiatric patients there. Dartmouth has always been prescient with technology. The psychiatry program was very innovative, considering that we were in a small New England village."

When asked why they would give a \$3 million bequest to the Geisel School of Medicine for student-based oncology research, both Lortscher and his spouse, James Couto, talk about their personal experiences with the



James Couto (left) and Loren Lortscher, MD, (right) in their Manhattan apartment.

institution and how captivated they were by the students they met at Dartmouth alumni events. "The clincher was meeting these kids—these incredibly talented, smart kids who were doing such remarkable research," Couto says. "We were at an event and I said to Loren, 'We've got to do something."

Lortscher was impressed with Geisel Dean Duane Compton and felt that Couto was right—they had to commit in a big way to students working in oncology research. Couto elaborates, "Philanthropy gives us the opportunity to help change people's lives. Even if it changes just one student's life, I would be happy."





## **EXECUTING RAY CHACHO'S ULTIMATE GIFT**

Ray and Susan Chacho were longtime residents of New London, N.H., when they met Ginni Walsh, who worked at a law firm specializing in estate planning. Back then, Ray spent a lot of time on the road as a traveling pharmacist, but the trips that meant the most to him were those he took with Susan. When Susan died just days after being diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia (AML), Ray knew he wanted to do something to honor her legacy. He named Dartmouth's and Dartmouth-Hitchcock's Norris Cotton Cancer Center (NCCC) as a beneficiary of his estate, and asked Walsh to be the successor trustee, settling his estate after he died and administering his ultimate gift to NCCC.

"Everyone loved Ray," Walsh says of her friend, who passed away in 2021. "And he loved everyone back."

When asked what advice she has for someone who has agreed to be the executor of a trust, Walsh offers three tips: "have a good, honorable attorney to guide you; understand that it's a system and there are steps in the system that need to take place; and a systematic approach is essential."



Ginni Walsh, trustee of the Chacho Family Trust

Walsh has just the credentials needed for a trusted executor, with over thirty years of experience as an accountant. It's a duty to honor the wishes of a loved one, including executing their ultimate gift. In Walsh's case, it's a labor of love to make Ray's final gift to oncology research at NCCC. She says, "Ray was very adamant that his estate go to hematology research at NCCC, and I'm making sure that they will get the utmost benefit from his wishes."

## A GIFT IN YOUR WILL

A gift in your will that supports the work of Dartmouth-Hitchcock Health and/or Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth should be directed to:

One Medical Center Drive, Lebanon, NH 03756

Tax ID# 26-4812335 (for D-H) and Tax ID# 02-0222111 (for Geisel).

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"I hereby, give, devise, and bequeath to	
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whichever is less, to this purpose:				



A \$25 million gift from Dorothy Byrne launched the Byrne Family Cancer Research Institute at Dartmouth's and Dartmouth-Hitchcock's Norris Cotton Cancer Center. This new enterprise will fast-track world-class scientific discoveries from the laboratory to the bedside to benefit cancer patients in the region and around the world.

A new Dartmouth-led study found that infant and early-childhood gut microbiomes were related to neurobehaviors such as anxiety, depression, and hyperactivity. The researchers established that microbiome changes occur before behavioral changes, findings that may inform future studies about possible interventions.

Dartmouth-Hitchcock neurologists developed HOBSCOTCH, a behavioral program that helps adults with epilepsy who have memory or other cognitive issues. The U.S. Department of Defense has now funded a study to examine the program's impact on patients with post-traumatic epilepsy.

Geisel's Center for Technology and Behavioral Health (CTBH) received a \$7.1 million grant to expand its work in digital therapeutics. Digital tools developed by CTBH provide ongoing innovative approaches to help individuals in need treat and manage substance use disorders.

For more information about tax-wise giving, please contact Katherine D. Blackman, Director of Planned Giving. Email Katherine.D.Blackman@Hitchcock.org, or phone or text her at (603) 646-5808 You can also visit DHGeiselPlannedGiving.org. All inquiries are confidential.



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