



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

WEXNER MEDICAL CENTER

College of Medicine

Davis Heart and Lung Research Institute

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From the Desk of Peter Mohler, PhD

At the Davis Heart and Lung Research Institute and Ross Heart Hospital, our physicians, scientists and staff are focused on providing new hope to patients living with heart disease. When it comes to those patients and their families affected by heart failure, the need has never been greater to find new understanding of this deadly disease and to forge new treatments.

Recently, the deaths of three young people in our community from complications of heart failure highlight the continuing importance of this research.

Heart Failure is the inability of the heart to meet the body's demands and pump with normal efficiency. It affects nearly five million Americans, with an estimated 500,000 new cases diagnosed each year. Heart failure can result from many conditions including high cholesterol or blood pressure or heart attack, damage to the heart valves, congenital heart disease and more.

Heart failure does not discriminate – affecting men and women equally and as we have seen recently in our community, too often the very young. Your contributions to support research at Ohio State can help us accelerate advances in heart failure treatment and prevent more tragedies like these in the future.

Each day at Ohio State, our laboratories are working toward heart failure treatments. For example, the work of Ohio State congenital heart expert Elisa Bradley, MD, is focused on a project to understand the molecular “blueprints” for heart failure, and how these may differ between forms of heart failure and also within different chambers of the heart. We are building data models on more than 25,000 molecules that will help us understand how the disease develops and progresses. Ultimately, we hope this research will lead to potential new therapeutics to target this disease.

Here at Ohio State we have developed a fund through the generous support of Mended Hearts of Central Ohio to support research efforts like those mentioned above. This fund is in memory of the recent friends we have lost, but will allow us to focus on research discoveries that have the promise to benefit everyone currently struggling with heart failure. We are grateful for your support to date of more than \$140,000. Our goal is to continue to grow this fund in the hopes of reaching \$500,000 by 2017.

Donations to the Courtney Williams Fund in Heart Failure Research (Fund #315265) can be mailed to:
OSU Foundation
P.O. Box 183112
Columbus, OH 43218-3112
or online at: give.osu.edu/CourtneyWilliams.

Sincerely,

Peter Mohler, PhD
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William D. and Jacquelyn L. Wells Chair in Cardiovascular Research