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Meet the Doctors:



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LIU, MD



DR. MARI
BAKER, MD



DR. ELIZABETH
BOCKEWITZ, MD



Learn more about
the program

Thank You

Dear Noble Friends and Supporters,

Are you ready to partake in a grand celebration? It is with immense joy that I welcome you to Illinois CancerCare Foundation's 15th Annual CUREageous: A Royal Affair!

This evening, we gather to honor our esteemed 2024 Rock Doc and AMP Champ. These distinguished healthcare leaders embody the highest standards of research and are unwavering in their dedication to enhancing patient lives throughout central and western Illinois.

In our pursuit of excellence, we proudly uphold research as a foundational pillar of our noble mission. This vital initiative empowers cancer patients and their families within our local communities by granting access to groundbreaking clinical trials and innovative treatments. We ensure that every patient receives the highest standard of care - all within the comfort of their own homes. Through fostering collaboration among researchers and healthcare professionals, we create a sanctuary where hope flourishes and lives are profoundly transformed. Together, we are charting the path toward a brighter future in cancer care.

No One Fights Alone signifies not only our steadfast commitment to exploring the latest advancements in cancer treatment but also our sincere promise that no individual in western and central Illinois shall ever face their battle with cancer in solitude.

Every dollar raised tonight stays local - directing state-of-the-art treatments, groundbreaking research, and essential patient support services to all Illinois CancerCare patients - enabling them to remain in the comfort of their homes surrounded by their most devoted supporters: family and friends.

Research serves as the cornerstone of every effective treatment available in our time and shall be the beacon that guides us toward new transformative therapies in the years to come. Illinois CancerCare Foundation is unwavering in our mission to bridge the federal research funding shortfall of \$500,000, ensuring every cancer patient has access to the most advanced clinical trial research.

Thanks to the groundbreaking research being done at Illinois CancerCare, our patients facing cancer are enjoying longer, healthier lives. Since 2009, over 13,000 Illinois CancerCare patients have participated in more than 1,500 nationally recognized cancer research trials. This research enrollment propels the advancement of interventions aimed at prevention, treatment, recovery, and, one day, the cure of cancer.

Your partnership ignites HOPE!

We couldn't do what we do without your generous giving.

Hope. It is a precious gift we can all share during a cancer diagnosis. Your presence and participation this evening provides essential hope to local families navigating the challenges of cancer.

On behalf of our Board of Directors, Young Leaders Board, and our CUREageous committee, I extend my heartfelt gratitude for joining us, supporting our mission, and giving so generously.

Friends in the Fight,

Tonda L. Thompson

Tonda L. Thompson | Foundation Executive Director



Welcome to CUREageous!

6-7 PM

Cocktail Hour - Complimentary beer, wine and soda
Enjoy a Buffet Dinner & Dessert

7:30 PM

Program Begins - Hosted by Emcees Madhuri Bajaj, MD and Greg Gerstner, MD
of Illinois CancerCare

2024 Rock Doc Awards for Research

2024 AMP Champ Award for Research

Third Party Event Recognition - Tonda Thompson, Foundation Executive Director

Raffle Prize Drawings

Survivor Story - Connor Todd

Live Auction

High Five - Funding Research - Tim Gullett, Young Leaders Board Co-Chair

Closing Comments

Live Music by The Breakfast Club!

Times to Note:

7:30PM RAFFLE CLOSES!

9:15PM SILENT AUCTION CLOSES!



Timeline

PAR·A·DICE HOTEL BALLROOM | CUREAGEOUS

*Cold
Station*

Assorted Domestic & Imported Cheese Wheels
with Grapes, Strawberries, Raspberries, Carrots, Celery, Cherry Tomatoes

Brie Wheels with Preserves, Water Crackers & French Baguettes

Anti-Pasta Display with Salami, Pepperoncini & Olives

Grilled Asparagus with Aged Balsamic Drizzle

*Hot
Station*

Grilled Chicken Tenders with Teriyaki Sauce

Vegetable Spring Rolls with Plum Sauce

BBQ Meatballs

Water Chestnut Rumaki

Salmon Bites

*Carving
Station*

Beef Filet Mignon with Horseradish Sauce

Mini Pretzel Buns

*Mashed
Potato Bar*

Yukon Gold & Sweet Potatoes Whipped

Top with Assorted Cheese, Bacon, Spring Onion, Sour Cream, Salsa,
Brown Sugar, Marshmallows, Pecans, Butter & Maple Syrup

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Tell us about you - Where did you grow up? Where did you go to school? What makes you, YOU?

I grew up in a small village in China and came to the US in 2005 to support my family. I worked at a restaurant as a waitress for several years, then received my GED and graduated from medical school at Louisiana State University.

My desire to be become a doctor came from watching the traveling doctor who carried a rectangular box when I was little. From that special box, he gave pills to my neighbors to relieve pain and suffering... I wanted to be the person carrying that magical box.

Looking back over your career, what are you most proud of?

Becoming a breast surgical oncologist! Treating patients like my sister, mom and grandmom. Being an integral part of their cancer journey and making a difference in their lives.

How do you spend your time when you're not working? How do you like to relax?

Walking. Exercising. Watching a movie with my husband.

If you had an extra four hours in the day, how would you fill that time?

I would listen an audiobook while reading a book corresponding to that audiobook.

Why are you passionate about research?

Research plays a significant role in the advancement of our understanding of tumor biology and cancer treatments; it gives us powerful tools to provide more personalized care.



Tell us about the best part of your work.

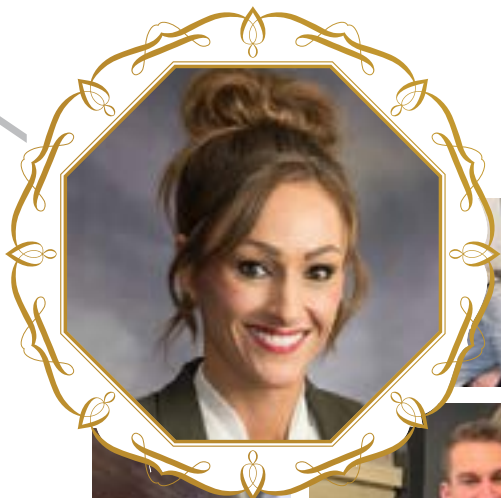
Reviewing surgical pathology report with patients. From the good result, I am happy and celebrate with them; from the bad result, I ensure them we will take care of it as a team and they are not alone.

What is your favorite song?

I do not have a favorite song. In the OR, I always ask the OR staff to choose the song.

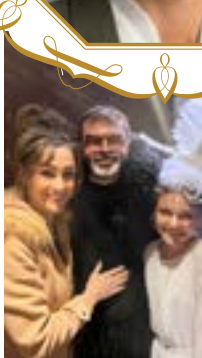






Kristin Ansteatt, APRN, FNP-BC

Advanced Practice Provider Supervisor | BCDI



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Congratulations

TO ALL OUR ROCK DOC & AMP CHAMP WINNERS THROUGHOUT THE YEARS!

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Dr. Jim Gerstner*

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*Dr. Carter Young
Dr. Dennis Garwacki
Dr. Robert Sparrow
Dr. James Knost
Dr. John Kugler
Dr. Michael Tarantino*

2011 ROCK DOCS

*Dr. Barry Clemson
Dr. Sachdev P. Thomas
Dr. Lynne Jalovec
Dr. David Wang
Dr. Patrick Whitten*

2012 ROCK DOCS

*Dr. Andrew Tsung
Dr. Denise Mammolito
Dr. James McGee
Dr. Kevin Khater
Dr. Nguyet Le-Lindqwister*

2013 ROCK DOCS

*Dr. Pankaj Kumar
Dr. David Trachtenbarg
Dr. Revathi Swaminathan
Dr. William Tillis
Dr. Matthew Scheidt*

2014 ROCK DOCS

*Dr. Vaugh Hanna
Dr. John Hafner
Dr. Michael Veeder*

2015 ROCK DOCS

*Dr. Lisa Snyder
Dr. Paul Fishkin
Dr. Zahangir Khaled*

2016 ROCK DOCS

*Dr. Ann Stroink
Dr. Kishore Karamchandani
Dr. Jane Liu
AMP Champ: Chetaye Knox*

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*Dr. Richard Anderson
Dr. Madhuri Bajaj
Dr. Glyn Jones
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Dr. Steven Tsoraides
Dr. Jonathan Roberts
AMP Champ: Carrie Geoffroy*

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Dr. Joseph Evans
Dr. Patrick Gomez
AMP Champ: Rachel DeLong*

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AMP Champ: Sarah Gonzales*

2021 ROCK DOCS

*Dr. Candace Correa
Dr. Gregory J. Gerstner
AMP Champ: Trupti Hattiangadi*

2022 ROCK DOCS

*Dr. Guy Petruzzelli
AMP Champ: Shannon Foiles*

2023 ROCK DOCS

*Dr. Min-Kyu Han
Dr. Gary R. MacVicar
AMP Champ: Angie Earles*

Rock Docs

Boards & Committees

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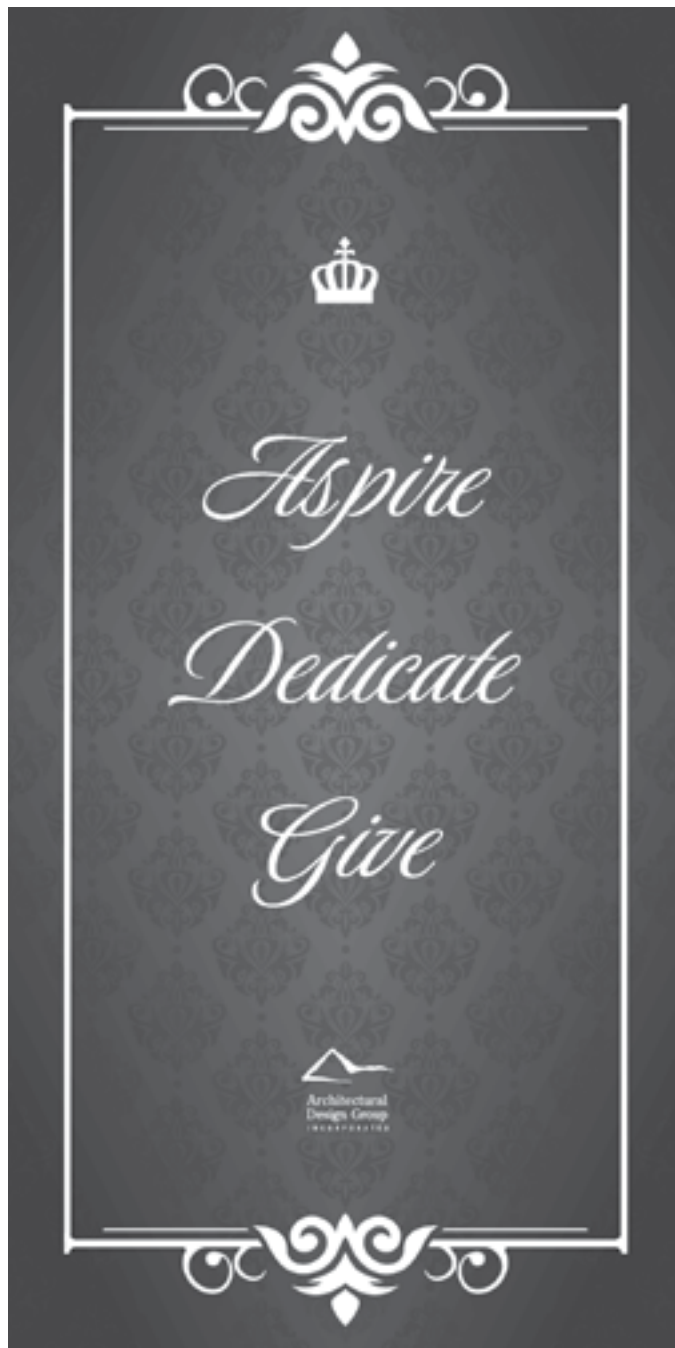
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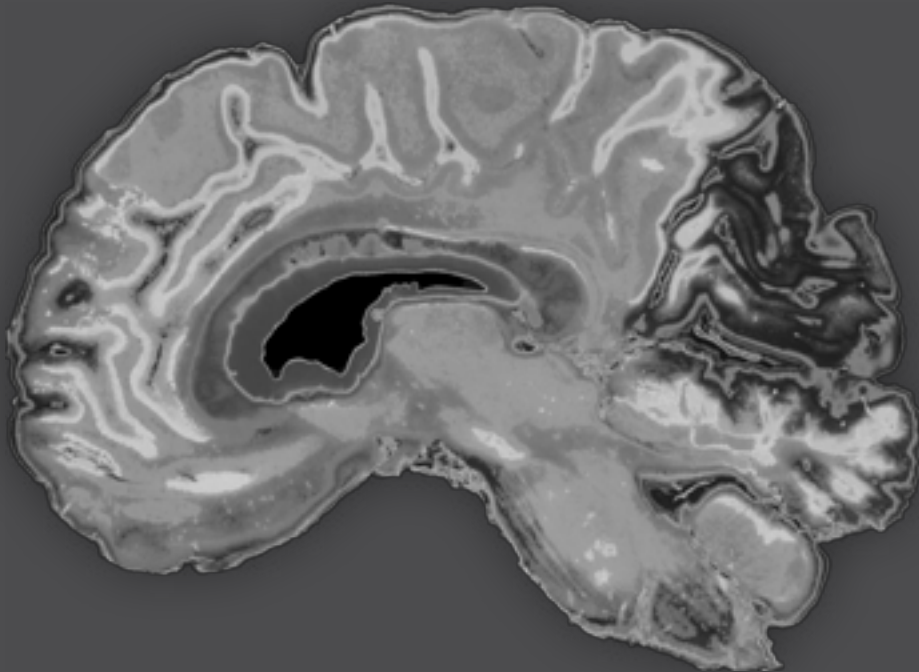
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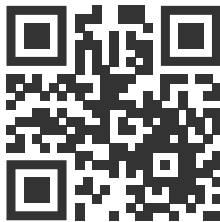
ILLINOIS CANCERCARE FOUNDATION PATH *of hope* TRIBUTE GARDEN

Looking for a way to honor a loved one, neighbor, friend or colleague who has fought or is fighting cancer?

Whether it's a special message engraved along our ribbon walking path, or a bench nestled in the perfect spot, tributes can mark all of life's important moments: Birthdays · Anniversaries · Retirements · Memorials · Milestones · and more!

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A Helping Hand for the Holidays

Illinois CancerCare physicians and staff understand the demands that treatment can place on our patients and their families. We recognize that this could be especially true during the holidays.

In an effort to engage in our mission of providing comprehensive, compassionate care, Illinois CancerCare Foundation's Trust In Hope program provides Thanksgiving meals and holiday gift donations to eligible patients and their families.

In the last 15 years, 4,716 Thanksgiving meals have been delivered and 439 families with 715 children have received holiday gifts. Through this program, we are able to provide even more compassion, support and HOPE to our patients over the holidays.

IN 2023

585 Thanksgiving meals
were delivered to **82** families

54 families were provided
holiday gifts for **71** children