Your City, Your Hospital
On the cover: After suffering a traumatic brain injury in a bicycle accident, San Francisco resident Chris Chang went through four months of rehabilitation at CPMC. “To say my recovery was difficult is a big understatement,” he says. “But I’m forever humbled and grateful to those who cared for me and every time I go past CPMC I smile.”
Dear Friend,

Last year, thousands of caring people in our community were catalysts in advancing Sutter Health CPMC’s mission to transform health care here in San Francisco and beyond. Their vision and foresight made a major impact all across the Medical Center and their philanthropic investments – more than $37 million – are already paying great dividends, every single day.

This includes funding a remarkable scientific investigation called the Cancer Avatar Project where CPMC scientists are studying live tumors from eight of the most aggressive cancers. This idea is considered quite innovative because, unlike using static tissue samples, live tumors can continue to grow and change, just as they would in a real patient. CPMC is one of only about 20 hospitals in the world using this bold method of research that allows our scientists to rapidly test hundreds of drug combinations to pinpoint the treatment that will work best for each individual patient, based on his or her own genetic makeup. Other important advances in research and education funded by philanthropy include ongoing investigations that are improving care for patients with melanoma, breast cancer, and liver cancer. In addition, it is providing extensive nursing training, as well as medical student education on palliative care for those who are suffering or nearing end-of-life.

In patient care, our philanthropic partners are providing more advanced treatments for heart failure caused by blocked blood vessels, family-centered services for premature babies in our Newborn ICU, compassionate care for children with developmental disabilities, support programs for women with gynecologic and breast cancer, groundbreaking work for adults with Alzheimer’s, and much more.

These are just a few examples of how visionary philanthropic investments from caring people in our community are empowering CPMC physicians and their teams to provide extraordinary care for your family, friends and neighbors. And as the excitement surrounding the construction of our two new hospitals continues to build, we look forward to their rapidly approaching openings in mid-2018 and early 2019 – a full year ahead of schedule – to provide our community even better care than ever before.

Best regards,

Douglas Nelson
President, CPMC Foundation
In 2016, our caring philanthropic partners invested more than $37 million into exceptionally skilled, compassionate care and innovative research at Sutter Health’s CPMC.

Community’s Commitment to Care

$37,455,795

Gifts Received: 8,000+
Including these visionary commitments

Chuck Williams, founder of Williams-Sonoma, bequested $9 million to CPMC’s Cancer Program, bringing his total lifetime philanthropic investments in the Medical Center to more than $12 million.

The CPMC2020 Gala, presented by iconic luxury brand Chanel, raised nearly $2.5 million for food allergy research and other CPMC programs.

Ken and Debby Novack have made it possible for even more children to receive calm, reassuring care at CPMC by endowing the newly named Novack Family Child Life Services.

Care provided through CPMC senior services and programs will be available to more people, thanks to a $1 million philanthropic investment from Tomoye Takahashi.

Roberta Neustadter has ensured that our entire community will continue to have access to leading-edge information about integrated, holistic methods of care, thanks to her $3 million endowment for the Roberta E. Neustadter Mini-Medical School in Integrative Medicine at the Institute for Health & Healing.

Renita Mock made a $5.6 million charitable gift that will improve and expand the complementary care of pediatric support services, which make such a positive difference in kids’ outcomes.
Neurosciences

A Long Road to Recovery

Riding your bicycle on the streets of San Francisco without a helmet is a risky proposition. But riding without a helmet or back brakes? Even Chris Chang admits that was foolhardy. “I was pretty cocky back then,” he says, “and I paid for it, big time.”

Chris was riding down Post Street on his way to work one morning about a year ago when a vehicle in front of him suddenly stopped. He reacted instantly, grabbing both brake handles as hard as he could. But with his rear brakes out, only his front wheel stopped and he was catapulted forward, smashing face first into the back of the car. He collapsed to the concrete, cracking his skull and suffering a traumatic brain injury.

After he was stabilized at another hospital, Chris’ family insisted that he be transferred to CPMC for what was certain to be a complicated recovery. “It was a long road back, but my doctors, nurses and therapists really listened to my concerns,” says Chris. “They understood my unique challenges and customized treatment in a way that totally allowed me to heal at my own pace.”

Over the course of four months, Chris gradually built up his strength and mental focus to the point where he was able to return to his regular, everyday life. “To say it was difficult is a big understatement,” he admits. “But everyone was so kind, and there is a tenderness to the care that’s very much like a mother gives to her child. I’ve spent time in other hospitals and I’ve never experienced that anywhere else.”

Ultimately, he says that he feels fortunate to have been treated at CPMC. “Going through what I did could easily have left me with feelings of anger or regret. But I’m forever humbled and grateful to those who cared for me, and every time I go past CPMC I smile.”

Many key elements of Chris’ recovery program took place in CPMC’s Archibald/Ehrenberg Rehabilitation Terrain Park, which was built almost entirely with philanthropic investments.
Pediatrics

Investing in Kids

Having three grandchildren with health issues that required hospitalization, Ken and Debby Novack know all too well how stressful it can be to see a little loved one in need of serious medical attention. Because of this, they had been looking to make a major investment in a program that provides comforting care to kids here in San Francisco. They recently found what they were looking for in the newly named Novack Family Child Life Services at Sutter Health CPMC.

Caring for children and families in CPMC hospitals, emergency departments, and outpatient clinics, Child Life Specialists use toys, games and dolls to ease anxieties and explain medical treatments in terms kids can understand. They also accompany children to procedures, teach them pain management skills, help hospitalized kids with their schoolwork, and much more.

“Providing quality care for children goes far beyond their physical needs,” says Debby. “You have to address their psychological and emotional needs, too. So when I see the effect these Child Life Specialists have on kids, it just puts a smile on my face.”

“We know from our own experience there is nothing more traumatic for a child than being hospitalized,” adds Ken. “So we want to do everything we can to help local children and their families feel more secure and more comfortable when they are in the same situation, and Child Life Services does an outstanding job of that.”

The Novacks’ philanthropic investment will significantly expand Child Life Services at CPMC, which is already handling nearly 30,000 patient encounters a year. “It’s not often that you can make an impact this big,” says Ken. “We are extraordinarily grateful that we have the opportunity to touch the lives of so many families by partnering with this wonderful program.” “It’s just so rewarding,” says Debby. “It feels fantastic!”

Ken and Debby Novack have made a visionary philanthropic investment in the newly named Novack Family Child Life Services at Sutter Health’s CPMC that will empower this extraordinary program to care for more children and families than ever before.
For nearly a century, spanning the Midwest to San Francisco, where Theodore and Sylvia Walker were active philanthropists in the 1900s, the T.B. Walker Foundation has supported a wide range of public works and institutions in education, civic improvement, the arts, the environment, and more.

Its leadership has been looking for a new project to fund and recently chose to name the T.B. Walker Foundation Family Garden at Sutter Health CPMC’s new hospital currently under construction at Van Ness and Geary. The garden is on Level 5, and can be viewed from numerous Labor & Delivery rooms and a family lounge.

“The timing was perfect. It was very exciting for us to get in on the ground floor, so to speak, of such a wonderful opportunity right in the heart of San Francisco,” says Walker Foundation President Carolyn Walker.

Because Sutter Health and CPMC are funding the building itself, our philanthropic partners can immediately put their dollars to work in programs, services, research and technology that benefit patients and their families. The Walker Foundation chose Pediatrics.

“We were lucky to have the opportunity to tour the hospital construction site with Dr. Lorry Frankel, the chair of Pediatrics at CPMC,” adds Colleen Marsh, one of the organization’s directors. “He was thrilled when showing us how new innovations in the hospital will serve children and families.”

“In our family, we have spent more than our share of time in hospital settings,” says Adrian Walker, also a director of the Walker Foundation. “It can be a stressful and scary experience. The idea that there is a restful, green garden space in the midst of a big city hospital where families can take a moment and a breath, attracted us immediately.”
End-of-Life Care Offers Life-Changing Moment

She was so moved by an experience that she and her dying mother had at CPMC that Dr. Carla Fracchia is changing her career path from OB/GYN to palliative care. Seen here hiking Wood Line in The Presidio, she starts her Fellowship in Hospice and Palliative Medicine this summer.

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Palliative Care

This is a letter written by Carla Fracchia, M.D., to Catherine Seeley, M.D., Medical Director of CPMC’s Palliative Care Program.

Dear Dr. Seeley,

Many months ago, you did a palliative care consultation for my mom, Ann. She had extreme pain and other complications after being given the diagnosis of metastatic cancer of unknown origin. I’m not sure if you remember her or me, but I think I told you that I myself am a doctor.

She lived another nine weeks after that at CPMC’s Coming Home Hospice. I was tremendously moved by the end-of-life care she received and our experiences with your team have inspired me to make a career change and apply for a palliative care fellowship.

I finished residency quite a long time ago, in 1997, and have worked as an OB/GYN ever since. That means I could retire in about eight years. But I’ve been thinking about making the switch to palliative care literally since about a half-hour after you walked in to see my mom. I was deeply touched by your team’s kindness and patience. That is the kind of doctor I am too, and I want to be in a specialty that truly emphasizes this type of patient-centered care.

My 21-year-old stepdaughter Lily describes my move going from one end of life’s spectrum to the other with my work as poetic. I agree. Thank you again for what you did for mom, and me.

Sincerely,

Carla Fracchia

CPMC has become a national leader in palliative care training for medical residents thanks to major philanthropic funding from Shoshana Ungerleider, M.D., and her father Steven Ungerleider, Ph.D.
For Jim Benney, R.N., Senior Project Manager for Facility & Property Services at Sutter Health, his work is his passion. Spanning 19 years from nurse director to project leader, Jim cites the core challenges as the same.

“Whether evolving how you provide care to patients, designing a better way for a team to work, or building a new hospital, the old process won’t fit the new, so change must occur,” he says. “I like facilitating these kinds of transitions to ultimately benefit a community I love.”

Jim is now in his fifth year of managing the design and transition of CPMC’s two new hospitals at Van Ness and Geary and Valencia and Cesar Chavez, which will open in the next two years well under their $3.2 billion budget and ahead of schedule. Planning for these two big moves is already underway.

“The patient move is the easiest – it will be seamless, safe and take place in two phases over two weekends,” says Jim, who was on the team that opened the new campus for Sutter Health’s Mills-Peninsula Medical Center in Burlingame. “The bigger challenge is preparing the organization for how it will inhabit and work in the new space.”

Family time with his children John, 11, and Terri, 10, whom he notes attend public school in the city, is Jim’s way to recharge for his multifaceted, fast-paced and demanding job.

“Sutter is investing in two major projects that will serve the people of my hometown, and many more from around the region and the country, for decades to come. We’ve designed visionary processes, systems and technologies into our buildings. At every step of the way we’ve reached for the best we can imagine in delivery of care for our patients and families. I could not be more proud.”
Ways to Give

Sutter Health’s CPMC is a not-for-profit medical center. Your philanthropic partnership enables our physicians and researchers to do what they otherwise could not for our patients and their families:

- **Innovate** new care models
- **Recruit** and retain experts
- **Inspire** intelligent research
- **Empower** patient navigation
- **Elevate** medical education
- **Enable** support services
- **Acquire** new technology

Your charitable investment options include:

- Appreciated securities
- Bequests in a will or revocable living trust
- Cash gifts
- Charitable gift annuities
- Charitable lead trusts
- Charitable remainder annuity trusts
- Charitable remainder unitrusts
- Life insurance
- Real estate
- Retained life estates
- Retirement plan assets

“It is a privilege to be able to help this hospital that has helped me so much.”

**Chuck Williams** (1915 – 2015), founder of the iconic Williams-Sonoma kitchen store chain. Mr. Williams was so grateful for the care he received at CPMC that he gave $12 million in his lifetime to benefit cancer services and research at Sutter Health CPMC.
Your City, Your Hospital is a publication of CPMC Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Sutter Health’s CPMC.

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We care for the city that delivered your proudest moments.

We deliver more grandbabies than any other hospital in San Francisco. When you call this city home, you call CPMC your hospital.

Photography: Nick Otto, Marla Aufmuth, Alain McLaughlin