Western Michigan University Homer Stryker M.D. School of Medicine (WMed) exists today because of an engaged community determined to resolve pressing healthcare issues and make Kalamazoo and southwest Michigan a better, more inclusive, safer, healthier place to live for all. The Imagine Kalamazoo initiative, a 10-year visioning project, is a testament to the community’s forward-thinking. It is that sort of thinking and community partnering that created WMed. Inspired by this vision, key community leaders provided the resources necessary to build the medical school. The ongoing support of the philanthropic community helps to sustain its operations. WMed graduated its first class of medical students this past May and is now operating at full educational capacity. The future is bright as we transition to the next phase of our growth, which includes focus on our clinical operations, our commitment to health equity and access, our integration into the network of community service organizations that serve Kalamazoo and southwest Michigan, and our biomedical research capacity.

To build on our early success with our educational program, we must continue to grow to meet the healthcare needs of the community while building a robust biomedical research engine to fuel bench-to-bedside translational research. Philanthropic support for these key growth areas is a critical next step for WMed. For this reason, we hope you find the information in this report compelling evidence of the community’s willingness to support our growth. It is a commitment we require to continue our progress and achieve the community’s collective vision.

Sincerely,

Hal B. Jenson, MD, MBA
Founding Dean

deans statement

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Founding Dean

mission, vision, values, and strategies

TOGETHER WE COLLABORATE

\[ \text{WMed Engagement & Impact Report 2017-18} \]
Our Class of 2019 medical students achieved a 100% first-time pass rate for the USMLE Step 1 exam, which surpassed the national average of 96%.

All of our residency programs had a 100% fill rate in the National Resident Matching Program Match.
Imagine a society where everybody is in and that there wouldn't be a need to have special attention to lifting up people who are on the outside looking in.

— William D. Johnston, Chairman & President, Greenleaf Trust
It’s important to understand that, while the recognition of Bill and Ronda is foremost in our minds, the result of this fundraising — building the endowment — is what will do the most to cement their legacy by creating the financial strength for WMed to continue its trajectory along the path leading to national prominence.

— William U. Parfet
Chairman & CEO,
Northwood Group

The Imagine Gala is the exclusive, signature event in downtown Kalamazoo at the W.E. Upjohn M.D. Campus, featuring a substantial, sophisticated audience who appreciate commitment to our community. This year’s Gala attracted its largest-ever crowd as almost 400 people gathered for the black-tie event featuring an evening of fine dining, dancing, and camaraderie.
The renaming of the third-floor boardroom was made official Tuesday, May 22, during a celebration and unveiling in honor of the Dunns.

“The evening was very, very special, as was the setting and the people who participated, and of course the unveiling of the signage acknowledging not only me, but also, importantly, my wife Linda,” said Dr. Dunn, who retired as president of Western Michigan University in August 2017 and is now a professor emeritus at WMU and president emeritus of WMU.

The renaming of the executive board room is in recognition of a significant gift to WMed from the Dunns that was announced in November 2017 during a special donor reception at the W.E. Upjohn M.D. Campus.

It was Dr. Dunn, through his visionary leadership and relentless passion, who championed the medical school beginning in 2007 and garnered broad support, enthusiasm, and engagement for the new endeavor from the university, Kalamazoo’s two hospitals — Ascension Borgess and Bronson Healthcare — donors, and the community.

In 2011, WMed was formed through a collaboration of WMU, Ascension Borgess, and Bronson Healthcare. President Dunn served as the founding Chair of the Board for the medical school.

“We’re very fond of our time here at Western Michigan University and certainly we’re fond and very pleased with the development of the medical school and how it has grown,” Dr. Dunn said.

During Tuesday’s unveiling, Linda Dunn equated the development of the medical school to giving birth to a child and then watching as the institution took its first steps, took on a few scrapes and bruises, grew and matured.

“I do like to think that with a little bit of luck I will be alive 20 years from now,” Dr. Dunn said. “To me, it’s going to be fascinating to watch the development of the medical school. I think the next big breakthroughs we’re going to see will be in the areas of research and we have some very, very fine scientists here.

“This medical school was never designed to be just another medical school,” he added. “It was designed to be a very special medical school. It carries a very distinctive name, the Stryker name, so innovation, making sure we’re at the forefront of good research, to me, it’s going to be very exciting to watch that develop.”

Dr. Hal Jenson, WMed’s founding dean, expressed gratitude for the Dunns and their continued support of the medical school. He also, on Tuesday, thanked Dr. Dunn for the opportunity he was given in 2011 to take the helm at WMed.

Dr. Dunn said he hopes the glass plaque bearing his and Linda’s names outside the executive boardroom will remind anyone who sees it of the privilege the Dunns were given, “of playing a role in helping to develop the medical school and that all great things happen through the cooperation and support of lots of people.”

“I think that’s what, hopefully, the conversations that occur in the boardroom will always be about — how can we work together in a positive way to continue our success and make it even better, and continue to think about our aspirations. Our aspirations are high and they should always be high.”

Going forward, Dr. Dunn said he is excited to witness the continued growth of the medical school and its impact on the Kalamazoo community and southwest Michigan.

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During Tuesday’s unveiling, Linda Dunn equated the development of the medical school to giving birth to a child and then watching as the institution took its first steps, took on a few scrapes and bruises, grew and matured.

“We’re in a full gallop now and it’s pretty obvious this is a highly successful medical school due primarily to great leadership, faculty, the students who have chosen to come here and, of course, our two outstanding hospital partners, Borgess and Bronson,” Dr. Dunn said.
In life, Martha Parfet was a pillar of the Kalamazoo community, a stalwart supporter of her hometown, and a champion for its growth and continued prosperity.

“She really devoted herself to this community,” William U. Parfet, the eldest of Martha Parfet’s four children, said recently of his mother, who passed away in February 2017. “She really cared, and not so much about herself or her own wellbeing, but about others. Her energy, her family’s energy was really directed toward this city.”

Parfet’s devotion to Kalamazoo — her philanthropic spirit — is well-known and well-documented. She served as chairwoman of Gilmore Bros. Department Store, at one time an anchor of the Kalamazoo Mall, and served as president of the Kalamazoo Foundation, known today as the Kalamazoo Community Foundation. She was a strong driver behind the Kalamazoo Nature Center and served on the board, and she and her husband, Ray T. “Ted” Parfet, for many years owned the Kalamazoo Wings, a hockey team they founded in 1974.

Today, Martha Parfet’s legacy and generosity endure and in late December the medical school received a $2 million bequest from her estate to establish the Martha G. Parfet Discovery Fund at WMU’s W.E. Upjohn M.D. Campus in downtown Kalamazoo is — continues to flourish. The medical school’s W.E. Upjohn M.D. Campus sits on the plot of land acquired by W.E. Upjohn that became the growth center for the Upjohn Company or, as Martha Parfet often called it, “the sacred ground of Upjohn.” The campus, at one time, housed the very research facility where Motrin, Xanax, Halcion, Rogaine, and Zyvox were discovered.

“We’re a Kalamazoo family, this is home,” William Parfet said. “We were fortunate that one of our ancestors was W.E. Upjohn. The rest is kind of history in terms of how the company grew but this was the ground that was the original growth place ... We’re excited about it being able to continue in medicine.”

Parfet herself played an integral role in creating what would become WMU’s W.E. Upjohn M.D. Campus. In 2011, when he was the chairman and CEO of MPI Research, Parfet donated the 330,000 square-foot building that has been home to the medical school since the institution welcomed its inaugural class of MD students in 2014.

The donation of the building came on the heels of the announcement of the building donation in 2011, William Parfet said he and his mother visited the site and took time to envision what would become of the property.

“She just came to life because, once again, she could see where she could make a difference,” he said. “She liked what Ronda and Bill were doing. To think that we could have a medical school here in Kalamazoo was exciting to her. I remember when we came home from that first visit, it was on her mind what she could do.

“It was important to her that the medical school would flourish.”

Martha Parfet saw the medical school as an important addition to Kalamazoo and its history of medical and life science exploration. William Parfet said her decision to give $2 million to research efforts at WMU was part of a lifelong goal to help people live longer and healthier lives. “My brother and my two sisters joined me with a lot of excitement at the news of the $100 million to research efforts at WMed was part of of Martha Parfet and her family for the recent gift. He said the $2 million will ensure that the W.E. Upjohn M.D. Campus becomes a beacon of medical education and research in south west Michigan.

“The importance and impact of this gift can’t be overstated,” Dr. Hal B. Jenson, the medical school’s founding dean, said he, as well as WMed leadership and the Board of Directors were extremely grateful to Martha Parfet and her family for the recent gift. He said the $2 million will ensure that the W.E. Upjohn M.D. Campus becomes a beacon of medical education and research in southwest Michigan.

“Ted Parfet said it was also important to his mother to be a part of ensuring that WMU — as an institution and a driver of medical discovery and innovation — continues to flourish. The medical school’s W.E. Upjohn M.D. Campus in downtown Kalamazoo is named for Martha Parfet’s grandfather, the founder of the Upjohn Company, and medicine was an integral part of her life as her father and her husband.

Ray T. “Ted” Parfet, each later served as chairman of Upjohn.

The histories of the Upjohn Company and the medical school are forever intertwined as the W.E. Upjohn M.D. Campus sits on the plot of land acquired by W.E. Upjohn that became the growth center for the Upjohn Company or, as Martha Parfet often called it, “the sacred ground of Upjohn.” The campus, at one time, housed the very research facility where Motrin, Xanax, Halcion, Rogaine, and Zyvox were discovered.

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A generous $1 million gift from Hospice Care of Southwest Michigan will fund an endowed palliative care fellowship at the medical school.

The gift, which was approved by the Board of Directors at Hospice, is a launching point for the one-year fellowship, which will provide training for up to two physicians seeking certification in geriatric and chronic illness management care after their completion of residency.

“The implementation of palliative care in a community involves high-quality services, education about palliative care for families and providers, and the third sphere is workforce supply,” said Michael Raphelson, MD, medical director of Hospice Care of Southwest Michigan and a clinical assistant professor in the medical school’s Department of Family and Community Medicine. “This fellowship is really the third component of competing palliative care services in the community.”

Doug Czajkowski, the medical school’s Associate Dean for Development, said the $1 million gift is “a great start” towards getting the new fellowship up and running at WMU. The process of gaining approval of the new fellowship by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) is underway.

He said the medical school will initially bring one fellow to Kalamazoo for the new palliative care fellowship program. According to Czajkowski, the medical school hopes to raise $4 million so that the endowment can fund the training of competent and compassionate palliative care physicians for the foreseeable future.

“We can’t thank Hospice CEO Jean Maile and the Hospice board enough for providing the resources to make this fellowship a reality,” Czajkowski said.

Dr. Raphelson said the new fellowship and the gift from Hospice could not come at a better — and more critical — time for the community.

“Never before have our demographics demonstrated the need more,” Dr. Raphelson said. “Ten thousand people turn 65 every day in this country and there are more families in Michigan with a member over the age of 65 than there are with children. There are 5.1 million people in the country with Alzheimer’s and there will be 7 million by 2020, and our elderly population is going to increase to 25 percent of the population by 2030.”

Once the new palliative care fellowship launches at WMU, Dr. Raphelson said fellows will be welcomed into a program that will offer them a wealth of experiences, including rotations at Kalamazoo’s two VA Medical Centers, Hospice Care of Southwest Michigan, and the Vaist Michigan Cancer Center.

“We’ll train two fellows per year with the goal that if they train here maybe they’ll stay here,” Dr. Raphelson said.

Maile credited Dr. Raphelson for being “the heart and visionary,” and the driving force behind the new fellowship. She said the new program and the decision by the Hospice Board of Directors to give the $1 million gift came after seven years of work by Dr. Raphelson to see a palliative care fellowship become a reality in Kalamazoo.

“This fellowship fulfills our mission of compassionate care at the end of life and will add resources to our community,” said Maile.

He said the new fellowship at WMU will help fill what he said is an “enormous shortage” in the number of certified palliative care providers in the U.S. Currently, he said, there are a little more than 5,000 certified providers despite an ever-growing need and a U.S. population that is aging rapidly.

“Never before have our demographics demonstrated the need more,” Dr. Raphelson said. “Ten thousand people turn 65 every day in this country and there are more families in Michigan with a member over the age of 65 than there are with children. There are 5.1 million people in the country with Alzheimer’s and there will be 7 million by 2020, and our elderly population is going to increase to 25 percent of the population by 2030.”

Dr. Raphelson said that in addition to helping feed the demand for certified palliative care physicians, he believes the new fellowship will also lead to increased awareness about palliative care among medical students and residents in Kalamazoo and spark interest among them and physicians in the community about broadening their skill set.

“I feel this community has everything it needs to provide high-quality palliative care training,” Dr. Raphelson said.

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When he retired in 2017 after 20 years of service at Western Michigan University (WMU) — mainly as Director of Projects and Construction — Conn Macomber had directed a number of pivotal projects for the university, among them the building of the new Sangren Hall, the remaking of East Campus, including Heritage Hall, and, most notably, the renovation of the building in downtown Kalamazoo that became the medical school’s W.E. Upjohn M.D. Campus.

Since closing the book on a very special career at WMU, Conn and his wife, Sheri, have spent their days enjoying their farm and tending to their beloved horses. And, more than anything, the couple has sought out ways to give back to WMU and the community. Recently, that led the Macombers to make a generous bequest to the medical school that will establish the Macomber Family Endowed Scholarship Fund. The scholarships, once available, will benefit future WMed students who demonstrate a financial need and recipients will be chosen during any year of their enrollment at the medical school.

“We wanted to do something that was going to benefit everybody,” Conn said. “For us, this is the place. I feel very passionate about the medical school. I love the school, I love the concept and I think Dr. (John M.) Dunn did a fabulous job getting it in place. I think it was his greatest gift to the university as far as I’m concerned.” It’s the gem,” Conn added. “I think it’s the gem of downtown Kalamazoo too.”

WMU is special to the Macombers and both are alumni of the university. Sheri earned her bachelor’s degree in education from WMU and Conn earned his bachelor’s degree in Physics, Chemistry and Math. Conn also earned his master’s degree in Experimental Psychology from WMU. Prior to the W.E. Upjohn M.D. Campus opening in 2014, Conn was part of the team that led the $68 million renovation of the building. Today, he recalls the scope of the project fondly and how he worked to have every detail covered right down to the decision to install the building’s terrazzo flooring. The Macombers said they value the mission of the medical school to train competent and compassionate physicians who will have a positive impact on healthcare in the U.S. The economic impact of the institution also can’t be overstated, Conn said.

“It’s very exciting,” he said. “I think it’s one of the greatest things to ever happen to the city of Kalamazoo. I think two great things really happened recently and one of them was the Kalamazoo Promise and the other was the medical school. "The economic impact is so great and it’s going to pump small businesses, research businesses and healthcare, I think, is paramount for our country, as well as training physicians and making services available to everyone," Conn added. "If you can help that situation out by training more qualified people, the community is going to benefit and the country is going to benefit. "The Macombers said they are excited about the impact their bequest will have on the medical school and medical education in Kalamazoo. It is a legacy both say they are proud of.

They said they are hopeful that their gift to the medical school will give life to the dreams of aspiring physicians at WMed. They also are hopeful that their generosity will become contagious and prompt alumni and others in the community to give back to the medical school and their alma mater, no matter the size of the gift.

“I know there are people who can’t go to medical school or don’t feel they can because of the money situation even though they are well-qualified,” Conn said. “If we can open that up to them, we’ll have more trained physicians and a better community.”
We are very pleased to be able to share with you the progress we have made due to the generosity of our philanthropic partners. As a private, non-profit community collaboration, WMed relies upon the support of the community to provide a philanthropic revenue stream to supplement tuition and the revenue associated with clinical services. Without the support of generous donors, WMed would be unable to sustain its educational mission or grow into the economic hub of biomedical science envisioned by our founders.

In this report you have seen tangible evidence of philanthropic dollars put to good use returning value to our community and the educational community at-large. Considering that the medical school welcomed its first class in 2014, great strides have been made in a short time.

If you have been part of the WMed philanthropic community, I thank you for your support. If not, I think after you’ve read what’s been accomplished, you’ll agree that there’s not a better way to put your philanthropic dollars to good use.

Thank you for your interest in WMU Homer Stryker M.D. School of Medicine.

Sincerely,

Doug Czajkowski, MA
Associate Dean for Development

associate dean’s statement

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Sincerely,

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Associate Dean for Development

2017-2018 giving

Gifts Received: $24,216,016
Gifts Pledged: $1,264,520
Planned Gifts Received: $2,056,112
Planned Gifts Pledged: $125,000
In-Kind Gifts Received: $103,592
Unique Donors: 578

59% increase over last year
Departmental Endowments
- Anesthesiology
- Biomedical Sciences
- Emergency Medicine
- Family & Community Medicine
- Medical Education
- Medical Library
- Medicine
- Nursing and Clinical Support Services
- Obstetrics & Gynecology
- Orthopaedic Surgery
- Pathology
- Pediatric & Adolescent Medicine
- Psychiatry
- Radiology
- Research
- Simulation Center
- Surgery

Program Endowments
- Biomedical Informatics
- International Experiences
- Medical Engineering
- Medical Ethics, Humanities, and Law
- Medical Student Pipelines

Facility
- Entire Floor
  - $10 million
- Learning Hall
  - $5 million

Facilities
- Atrium, Bioskills Lab, Conference Room, Entrance Lobby, Exterior Space, Learning Labs, Learning Rooms, Library, Research Labs, Simulation Center, Student Center, etc.
  - $100,000 – $1.5 million

Faculty
- Awards, Fellowship, Professorship, Chair, Deanship
- $500,000 – $5 million

Educational Programming
- One year, Four year, Medical Promise
- $50,000 – $1.5 million
- Annual Lecture, Symposium, Visiting Professor, Lectureship
- $50,000 – $100,000

Research Support
- $100,000+
Because of the dedication and tireless effort of our students, faculty, residents, fellows, staff, and donors — along with sustained community support — we are making continuous progress on our journey to excellence in medical education.

Together, our donors are helping us fulfill our mission to educate and inspire lifelong learners to be exceptional clinicians, leaders, educators, advocates, and researchers of tomorrow.

Thank you to those who have helped us on our journey to create the future of medical education in southwestern Michigan.

To learn more visit: med.wmich.edu/donorrecognition