



ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON
MEDICAL SCHOOL
University of Medicine & Dentistry of New Jersey



Contact: Michele Fisher
Media Relations Specialist
732/235-9872
fisherm2@umdnj.edu

Honorees Announced for Cancer Institute of New Jersey Foundation's 14th Annual Award of Hope Gala and Benefit Auction

Longtime Supporters and Leaders in Patient Care, Research Recognized at Monte Carlo-Themed Event

New Brunswick, N.J., August 19, 2009 – “A cure for cancer won’t happen by chance.” That reminder from the Cancer Institute of New Jersey (CINJ) Foundation serves as the theme for its 14th Annual Award of Hope Gala and Benefit Auction, which will recognize pillars of New Jersey’s cancer community this fall. The October 3rd Monte Carlo-themed affair at the Hyatt Regency in New Brunswick, will honor two individuals for their significant contributions to CINJ, which is New Jersey’s only National Cancer Institute-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center and is a Center of Excellence of UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School.

Since its inception, the Award of Hope Gala has raised nearly \$9 million to benefit cancer research, patient care and education programs at CINJ. “The Award of Hope Gala provides a great opportunity to raise awareness about CINJ research, patient care and programs and to recognize those who are making a difference in the fight against cancer,” said Subha V. Barry, chair of the CINJ Foundation Board of Trustees.

Award of Hope

The Award of Hope was established in 1997 to publicly recognize those who have demonstrated untiring leadership and a deep commitment to serving the cancer needs of the people of New Jersey. By supporting and recognizing the enormous contributions of distinguished corporations and private citizens, it is the CINJ Foundation’s goal to nourish the spirit of advocacy and philanthropy throughout the state.

Sheri S. McCoy, (Montgomery Township, New Jersey)

Since its inception, CINJ has strived to become one of the nation’s premier cancer treatment centers and has accomplished that mission in part due to the philanthropic and research support of New Brunswick-based Johnson & Johnson. One of the leaders charged with continuing to help shape that vision on behalf of the Johnson & Johnson team is Sheri S. McCoy, who has been with the comprehensive healthcare company for nearly 30 years. Ms. McCoy is the worldwide chairman of Johnson & Johnson’s Pharmaceuticals Group and a member of Johnson & Johnson’s Executive Committee. Having previously worked in research and development as a scientist, she understands the importance of cancer clinical trials and the commitment needed by community partners such as Johnson & Johnson in this area. The collaboration in cancer research between CINJ and Johnson & Johnson has resulted in, and will continue to produce, new and better treatments for patients. Ms. McCoy’s dedication to the cause of cancer, both personally and as a corporate executive and organizational leader for Johnson & Johnson employees, has a profound effect that extends well beyond the borders of New Jersey. The CINJ Foundation is inspired by such a global vision and is pleased to honor Ms. McCoy.

Award for Leadership in Patient Care

The Award for Leadership in Patient Care was established in 2000 to acknowledge the health care professionals whose life and work exemplify the spirit and mission of CINJ.

Darlene G. Gibbon, MD, (Westfield, New Jersey)

As clinical director of gynecologic oncology at CINJ, Darlene G. Gibbon, MD, has focused on providing her patients with the most comprehensive cancer care since her arrival in 2000. She also has championed services and support for cancer patients in their late teens and twenties -- a unique population that has numerous unmet needs in relation to cancer care and survivorship.

Dr. Gibbon, who is also an assistant professor of Obstetrics, Gynecology & Reproductive Sciences at UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, goes above and beyond her traditional duties as a doctor. She can often be found alongside many of her patients at CINJ fundraising events and other community efforts that highlight the need for research dollars for the various gynecologic oncology disorders that she studies and treats. In addition, she often is a “voice” for raising awareness of these disorders, having participated in a national progress review group for adolescent and young adult cancer and presented information at peer forums. She also dedicates her time to educating patients, their families and the greater community at public health fairs and other events. Her personal spirit and passion for patients serve as a role model for others in the oncology field. The CINJ Foundation is proud to recognize Dr. Gibbon.

“This year’s honorees exemplify the great accomplishments that can be achieved when we work together with a common purpose as a larger community,” noted Ms. Barry. “Under Sheri McCoy’s leadership, Johnson & Johnson continues to provide collaborative opportunities for CINJ’s research arm so that the development of the next generation of cancer drugs continues to move forward. And Dr. Darlene Gibbon’s passion in going beyond CINJ’s doors to educate the community is a testament to CINJ’s commitment to serving as a resource for the greater public. We are proud to honor these exceptional members of the New Jersey cancer community.”

Sponsorship opportunities and tickets for this year’s Gala can be obtained by calling CINJ Foundation Director of Special Events Leanne Kochy at 732-235-4956 or by visiting www.cinjfoundation.org.

The CINJ Foundation raises funds to support cancer research, treatment, prevention and education programs at CINJ. Gifts are received from corporations, foundations, individuals, and through special events and planned gifts. To make a tax-deductible gift to New Jersey’s only NCI-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center call 732-235-8614 or visit www.cinjfoundation.org.

About The Cancer Institute of New Jersey

The Cancer Institute of New Jersey (www.cinj.org) is the state’s first and only National Cancer Institute-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center, and is dedicated to improving the prevention, detection, treatment and care of patients with cancer. CINJ’s physician-scientists engage in translational research, transforming their laboratory discoveries into clinical practice, quite literally bringing research to life. The Cancer Institute of New Jersey is a Center of Excellence of UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. To support CINJ, please call the Cancer Institute of New Jersey Foundation at 1-888-333-CINJ.

The Cancer Institute of New Jersey Network is comprised of hospitals throughout the state and provides a mechanism to rapidly disseminate important discoveries into the community. Flagship Hospital: Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital. Major Clinical Research Affiliate Hospitals: Carol G. Simon Cancer Center at Morristown Memorial Hospital, Carol G. Simon Cancer Center at Overlook Hospital, and Jersey Shore University Medical Center. Affiliate Hospitals: Bayshore Community Hospital, CentraState Healthcare System, Cooper University Hospital*, JFK Medical Center, Mountainside Hospital, Raritan Bay Medical Center, Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital at Hamilton (CINJ at Hamilton), Saint

Peter's University Hospital, Somerset Medical Center, Southern Ocean County Hospital, The University Hospital/UMDNJ-New Jersey Medical School*, and University Medical Center at Princeton. *Academic Affiliate

###