Every September, Alice Scherr and her husband, Coby, celebrate reaching not one, but two milestones—his birthday and the anniversary of her stem cell transplant. This year marked the 14th anniversary of Alice receiving a stem cell transplant as part of her treatment for multiple myeloma at Dana-Farber/Brigham and Women’s Cancer Center. Though the Scherrs’ usual celebrations in their home state of Maryland were limited by COVID-19, they were just as special.

This year, Alice and Coby reflected on the path that brought them from her Maryland home to Boston to meet with Kenneth Anderson, MD, program director of the Jerome Lipper Multiple Myeloma Center and LeBow Institute for Myeloma Therapeutics at Dana-Farber for treatment.

“We never doubted that coming to Dana-Farber and to Ken was the right choice,” said Coby. “Through every step of Alice’s treatment, we felt like we were a part of the team. It is a good team to be on.”

Over the past decade and a half, the Scherrs have had a front row seat to immense progress in multiple myeloma research and treatment. They find comfort knowing that, should Alice need them, there are numerous new treatment options—and that their “team captain” Dr. Anderson had a prominent role in developing many of them.

Continually impressed by Dr. Anderson’s leadership at the research bench and grateful for his personal approach to Alice’s treatment, the Scherrs make annual qualified charitable distributions (QCDs) through their individual retirement account (IRA) to support Dr. Anderson’s research. This tax-free way to give also helps to satisfy their required minimum distribution (RMD) for the year.

“We are giving within our means, but we know that every little bit contributes to Dana-Farber’s excellence and ability to make progress in multiple myeloma,” said the Scherrs. “We are pleased to do it and will continue to do it. It is money that could not be better spent.”

Since the beginning of their cancer journey, the Scherrs have considered Dr. Anderson and the surrounding Dana-Farber community to be part of their family. Recently, they decided to further recognize this gratitude and bond by including Dana-Farber in their estate plans.

“This is how we will leave a legacy for all of the good years and good health we have shared with our family and friends as a result of care from Dana-Farber,” said the Scherrs. “We are just two people doing what we can, but there are many people like us. We’d like to encourage anyone in our position to participate like we have.”

Coby and Alice Scherr, pictured here on a recent Zoom call, generously added Dana-Farber to their estate plans, and also give annually through their IRA.

LEARN MORE ABOUT TAX CHANGES THAT COULD AFFECT YOUR YEAR-END GIVING AT DANA-FARBER.ORG/CARESACT

Note: IRA RMDs have been waived in 2020 by the CARES Act. However, you can still make a gift to charity from your IRA if you are age 70 ½ or older.
Dear Friends,

The theme of our Winter 2020 newsletter is certainty. This year has undeniably presented many moments of uncertainty. As the calendar year draws to a close, we’re reflecting on what brought us comfort and confidence when it was needed most – a degree of certainty in moments of doubt and unpredictability.

Dana-Farber’s unofficial 2020 mantra was “cancer doesn’t stop, and neither will we.” We’ve always felt this drive as part of our mission, but these words took on new meaning in the face of a pandemic. We were inspired by how our researchers, faculty, and staff rose to the unprecedented challenges of this year. Our team developed creative solutions to welcome patients safely into our clinics to receive lifesaving screenings and treatment. There were even new research discoveries amid the COVID chaos. And we deeply appreciated the trust and confidence from our patient community as they came in for appointments. Though the need to adapt and pivot will continue into the next year, our mantra remains true.

The loyal dedication of our Dana-Farber Society (DFS) community was also remarkable – with every phone call asking how to adjust estate plans, every Zoom meeting, every email just checking in. We’ve always felt inspired by YOU, our donors, especially as we marked the 30th anniversary of the DFS, but your continued outreach exhibited amazing goodness and positivity. Your kindness and generosity encouraged the Planned Giving team to remain focused on how to help our donors find ways to give smarter, and together, we found efficient ways to align your financial goals with Dana-Farber’s mission. The enclosed story featuring Alice and Coby Scherr embodies this exact dedication.

While we’re looking forward to a new year, we realize the work must continue. We will continue to find ways to offer our patients and their families a safe and equitable environment where they can receive lifesaving treatment, care, and support. We will continue to pursue bold ideas. We will continue to be here for you and our entire donor community. If you’d like to attend one of our virtual events or have a question, please contact us at 800-535-5577 or gift_planning@dfci.harvard.edu. Thank you again for being a source of certainty, comfort, and inspiration.

Kindly,

Erin M. McKenna
Assistant Vice President, Planned Giving
What to Know: SECURE Act and CARES Act

Two new legislative changes have taken effect that could impact your 2020 taxes and the ways you can support Dana-Farber and the Jimmy Fund. With this legislation in place, now is the time to review your financial plans and ensure you are set up to reach your ultimate goals.

■ The Setting Every Community Up for Retirement Enhancement (SECURE) Act: The SECURE Act made significant changes to retirement plans. Three major changes include increased time to contribute to your Individual Retirement Account (IRA), a higher required minimum distribution age, and a significant update to the IRA beneficiary rules.

Learn more at Dana-Farber.org/SECUREAct

■ The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act: The CARES Act was passed to support individuals, businesses, and nonprofits during the COVID-19 outbreak and stipulated changes that are good news for donors and non-profits alike. For those who do not itemize their deductions, up to $300 per tax filing unit will be available in an additional tax deduction to donors who make cash gifts to charities. For those who itemize their deductions, the CARES Act allows donors to apply 100% of their adjusted gross income to cash gifts to public charities—rather than the standard 60%—in 2020.

To learn more, visit Dana-Farber.org/CARESAct

Mark Your Calendar

Making Connections

In this digital and COVID world, face-to-face interactions are happening less frequently. We’re introducing a new feature in our newsletter that highlights a Planned Giving staff member. This way, you can become more familiar with the team, and when it’s safe to meet in person, you’ll know our faces and some fun facts!

Jill Ng
Director, Planned Giving

1 I’m a “repeat/boomerang/returning” staff member, having started my work career at Dana-Farber in 1994 and rejoined the team in 2020

2 I love DFCI so much that I have named it a beneficiary of my estate plan

3 As a native New Englander, I could eat steamers or a hot lobster roll any day of the week

DANA-FARBER SOCIETY RECOGNITION EVENT

Thursday, January 21, 2021 via Zoom
5:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Join us to reflect on the Society’s 30th anniversary, share a toast with fellow Society members, and learn what’s on the horizon for the Institute
Stay Informed

In the face of the election results, we will continue to provide updates on any legislative or tax changes that may affect your philanthropy decisions. Please visit Dana-Farber.org/PGNews for the latest information.

As the pandemic continues to affect our lives, your commitment to the future of Dana-Farber is more important than ever. We are a community committed to overcoming great challenges and obstacles, and with your help, we can get through this. We call on you during this time to review your financial plans and consider how a legacy gift can allow you to achieve your charitable and financial goals. If you have questions about planned gifts, please contact our team.

As always, you have our thanks.

Have you heard of the SHE Center?

The unique Science Health Education (SHE) Center at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute will empower the health care community in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) to establish best practices in public health and medicine – stabilizing and strengthening the fabric of conflict-torn societies through health.

The SHE Center’s program director and founder, Navid Madani, PhD, is a Senior Scientist in Dana-Farber’s Department of Cancer Immunology and Virology, with appointments at Harvard Medical School in the Departments of Microbiology and Global Health and Social Medicine. She leads health education and training symposia and workshops throughout the MENA region.

Dana-Farber.org/Science-Health-Education-Center

Yes, I will help conquer cancer by including Dana-Farber in my legacy plans!

- I have included Dana-Farber and the Jimmy Fund in my estate plans
  - Please list name(s) in the Dana-Farber Society as
  - I prefer to remain anonymous
- I am interested in learning more about planned giving options benefiting Dana-Farber and the Jimmy Fund
  - Tell me more about __________________________
- I am interested in learning more about Dana-Farber’s President’s Circle, honoring donors who make gifts of $1,500 or more

☐ Other __________________________

Name
Street Address
City/State/Zip
Phone
Email

☐ Financial Advisor contact information:

- Email
- Phone
- Name of Firm
- I have a donor-advised fund at __________________________

For more information, visit Dana-Farber.org/PGNews

If you wish to opt out of receiving fundraising mailings, please call 800-525-4669 or visit JimmyFund.org/Opt-Out.

AGDMUPGM20
We all have a favorite food that gives us that warm fuzzy feeling and evokes comforting memories. Below is a delicious recipe submitted by a fellow Dana-Farber Society member that is sure to bring you comfort!

**CARROT SOUFFLE** (a souffle that doesn’t fall!)

1 lb. carrots, cooked
3 eggs
1/4 cup granulated sugar
2 T. flour
1 t. baking powder
1 t. vanilla extract
1/2 cup butter, melted
Dash ground nutmeg
Dash ground cinnamon

**Topping:**
1/4 cup corn flakes, crushed
2 T. light brown sugar
2 T. butter, melted
1/4 cup chopped nuts (pecans are a great option)

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Puree cooked carrots in blender. Add eggs to pureed mixture and blend well. Add sugar, flour, baking powder, vanilla, butter, nutmeg and cinnamon. Puree until smooth. Pour into greased 1 1/2 qt. souffle dish. For topping, combine crumbs, brown sugar, butter and nuts. Sprinkle over casserole. Bake 1 hour. If a knife inserted into the center comes out clean, the souffle is done. Serves 4-6.
Madelyn, a patient in Dana-Farber’s Jimmy Fund Clinic, in April 2019