

- NIH Directors Awards honor 16 Clinical Center employees
- Local school raises \$8,000 for patients, families

## Clinical Center

### Clinical Center employees honored for clinical excellence, compassionate care of patients



Staff Clinician of the Year, Dr. Colleen Hadigan (center), and Nurse Practitioners of the Year, Karen Baker (left) and Victoria Anderson (right) are honorees by the Clinical Center Recognition Program.

In October, Dr. Colleen Hadigan from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases was named Staff Clinician of the Year, and Clinical Center colleagues Victoria Anderson and Karen Baker were named Nurse Practitioners of the Year. The honor comes from the Clinical Center Clinical Recognition Program.

The new awards offer formal recognition to NIH's staff clinicians, nurse

practitioners and physician assistants for outstanding clinical excellence and compassion in the care of patients.

More than 40 nominations were submitted for the awards. Typically only one Nurse Practitioner or Physicians' Assistant of the Year would be chosen — but there was a tie this year by the recognition committee. Read more online: <https://go.usa.gov/xP9bz>

### Fighting the flu — one shot at a time



On Oct. 1 (left), NIH employees line up to receive a flu shot. Among the first to receive the shot was Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute on Allergy and Infectious Diseases (right).

The NIH Office of Research Services and the Clinical Center provided free flu shots Oct. 1 through Nov. 9 to staff. In the first week, over 4,400 employees received the flu vaccine. More than 3,800 of those vaccinated work in Building 10. Getting immunized each year provides

the best protection against influenza throughout the flu season.

Looking for more ways to fight the flu? Join a research study working to improve immunizations and find better ways to protect people. Learn more and volunteer: <https://go.usa.gov/xP9bz>

### NHGRI Scientific Director named 2018 Federal Employee of the Year



Dr. Daniel Kastner and patient Sarkis in the Clinical Center.

Dr. Daniel Kastner of the National Human Genome Research Institute was named 2018 Federal Employee of the Year as a part of the Samuel J. Heyman Service to America Medals (Sammies). The Sammies are presented to the best in federal service for their significant contributions to the country and the world. It's considered one of the most prestigious honors a civilian can earn and is given by the non-profit Partnership for Public Service.

Kastner, who began his career at NIH as a Rheumatology fellow in 1985, was honored for the identification of a new class of rare genetic diseases and treatments to alleviate suffering for thousands of patients in the U.S. and around the world. He serves as the Scientific Director of NHGRI and cares for patients with both known and undiagnosed disorders of inflammation at the Clinical Center.

One of Kastner's patients, Sarkis, says there is quite deserving of this honor.

"Dr. Kastner not only changed my life, he and his research team have improved the lives of an entire segment of people suffering from auto inflammatory disease," Sarkis said. "When you grow up with a genetic or inherited illness you honestly don't know what it feels like to be truly healthy because you have no source of reference. Because of Dr. Kastner and his research team plus the NIH...today I know what it feels like to be truly healthy."

While nearly 30 federal employees were honored, nine received a Sammies award. NIH employees have a long track record of earning the prestigious title of Federal Employee of the Year (2007, 2012, 2013, 2015).

View more details, including patient testimony, online: <https://go.usa.gov/xP9bz>

## High hopes for new 7-Tesla MRI magnet



On Saturday Aug. 25, a 38,000 lb. magnet was delivered to the NIH Bethesda campus and hoisted into a newly renovated room at the NIH Clinical Center in the Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Center. The 7 Tesla (7T) magnet will be used in Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) to produce very detailed images of tissues and organs within the human body for research and diagnostics.

The 600-ton capacity crane required for the “rig-in” was so large it required an 80-ton capacity crane to assemble it on site. The larger crane boom towered approximately 140 feet over the Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Center and reached 175 feet across it from South Drive near Multi-Level Parking Garage 9 to the open hatch in the roof. It was no small feat maneuvering the magnet and rigging block, which together weighed 41,200 lbs – roughly the same weight as two NIH ambulances – through an opening with barely an inch to spare on all sides.

Learn more: <https://go.usa.gov/xP9bz>

## National Symphony Orchestra “types” a tune at Building 10



On Sept. 11, the National Symphony Orchestra performed in the Clinical Center atrium as part of its Sound Health Initiative which brings orchestral music to area hospitals and medical centers. The program included works by Beethoven, Dessner, Copland, Berghmans, Barber, Montgomery, Bottesini, Vaughan Williams and Anderson. The performance was led by conductor Steven Reineke and featured David Murray on trombone, Richard Barber on bass and Eric Shin on typewriter. Yes, the typewriter. The event was co-presented by the Clinical Center and the Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences.

## Department of Transfusion medicine hosts annual symposia in September

The Clinical Center Department of Transfusion Medicine and the American Red Cross co-hosted the **37th annual Immunohematology & Blood Bank Symposium** Sept. 11. Over 150 people gathered to learn about recent developments, current practices, controversies and laboratory management issues relative to transfusion medicine. Topics included uses of group A plasma, storage temperature of platelets, red blood cell use in cardiac disease, and extracorporeal photopheresis. Three clinical vignettes were presented as well with focus on clinical practices and patient safety.

In addition, the Clinical Center

Department of Transfusion Medicine with Versiti and its BloodCenter of Wisconsin, co-hosted the **8th annual Red Cell Genotyping Symposium** Sept. 12. The “Patient Care” symposium, brought 100 people together to review the risks of red cell alloimmunization and emerging applications of molecular matching to enhance patient safety. The presented topics were patient care focused and included several talks about strategies to avoid red cell alloimmunization and clinical vignettes to illustrate patient care management utilizing genotyping results.

Learn more: <https://go.usa.gov/xP9bz>

## Clinical Center staff hit their stride in 35th NIH Institute Relay Challenge



The NIH Institute Challenge Relay took place Sept. 20. Participants above include Dr. Xiaowei Lu, Dr. Keith Miller, Merlyn Fritschle, Dr. Jim Gilman, Phuong Tong Nguyen, Rhonda Hewitt, Karen Holcomb, Maureen George, Laurretta Kanu, Dr. Andrew Mannes, Robin Kizzie, Dr. Shireen Gujral and Dr. Daniel Avila.

An estimated 40 Clinical Center employees took to the races Sept. 20 as they participated in the 35th NIH Institute Challenge Relay. The relay includes teams of five runners who each ran a 0.3 mile route around the parking lot behind Building 10. Several staff were from the Clinical Center Operating Room/Surgery Department. Team “Smooth Operators,” seen above, is one of the few made up

of clinical care providers.

According to David Browne, co-president of the NIH Recreation and Welfare Association, who ran the event, it’s an important day for collaboration across NIH and staying active.

“It’s always wonderful to see the NIH community come together, get creative and be competitive, while also being active and having fun,” Browne said.

## Local school raises \$8,000 for patients

This summer, the students of Carderock Springs Elementary school in Bethesda, M.D. presented a check for more than \$8,400 to benefit patients and families participating in a clinical trials at the Clinical Center.

“The generous donation will directly benefit the pediatric inpatients and their families,” said Kathy Baxley, chief of the Social Work Department at the Clinical Center. “This donation supports the Patient Emergency Fund for the Clinical Center, which helps provide for the morale, comfort and well-being of inpatients and their families.”

The Patient Emergency Fund provides short-term emergency funds during times of crisis or financial stress and may include money for emergency food, clothing and shelter.

The school’s philanthropic initiative – driven by a competitive “Penny Wars” – began in 2012 under the guidance of Matthew Ghaman, a fifth grade teacher and



Students Gabriel Lee, Caroline Easley and Emma Graf display a check to the NIH Patient Emergency Fund with fifth grade teacher Matthew Ghaman. After this photo was taken, additional fundraising efforts brought the total 2018 donation to more than \$8,400.

Student Government Association officer.

“I am so proud of our kids and the lesson they learn during this short week each year. The NIH is a tremendously special place and the Carderock community is beyond thrilled to be a piece of the work you do to advance medicine and save lives every day,” said Ghaman.

## Participate in staff engagement tours



The Nutrition Department hosts an inaugural staff engagement tour Sept. 11.

A lot goes into operations at the NIH Clinical Center. Everyone has an important role to play. NIH staff, you may know your own area of expertise, but have you ever wondered about work being done in other departments and clinical areas?

In response to staff feedback, the Office of Communications and Media Relations is excited to offer the opportunity to learn how other departments do their work through scheduled tours. Visit our intranet to learn more and sign up as a tour participant or tour provider (staff only): <http://intranet.cc.nih.gov/about/tourprogram>

## Join a study at NIH

For information on trials below, or to learn about other opportunities, contact the NIH Clinical Center Office of Patient Recruitment at [prpl@cc.nih.gov](mailto:prpl@cc.nih.gov), 1- 866-444-2214 (TTY for the deaf or hard of hearing: 1-866-411-1010), <https://cc.nih.gov/recruit>

NIDDK seeks healthy normal weight men, 18-35, to participate in a research study. Doctors want to learn how the body burns energy at different temperatures. Participants will have a 17-day inpatient stay in the Metabolic Clinical Research Unit of the Clinical Center with weekends off. Compensation is provided. Study: 13-DK-0200 cohort 2. <https://go.usa.gov/xUmVp>

Food allergy? NIAID researchers are seeking volunteers 2 and older who have at least one food allergy to participate in a study to better understand how food allergies affect health. Participants receive a comprehensive nutritional evaluation and meet with a dietitian for individualized counseling. Compensation for participation is provided. Refer to study 15-I-0162. <https://go.usa.gov/xQYw9>

Read more online! Scan the barcode or visit [www.cc.nih.gov/about/news/newsletter.html](http://www.cc.nih.gov/about/news/newsletter.html)



• Clinical Center CEO speaks at first annual Children’s National and National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Symposium  
• Inspirational artwork on 15 flights of stairs encourage staff to stay active

Use a downloaded app on a smartphone or tablet to scan the Quick Response (QR) barcode. You will be directed to the CC News online.

### Clinical Center News

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## Technology Transfer facilitates innovation

The NIH Clinical Center has been at the forefront of innovation since it opened its doors in 1953. But how do those innovations go from concept in the lab or bedside to application in care throughout the world?

The Clinical Center's Office of Technology Transfer works with researchers and clinicians to help identify new biological molecules, processes and pathways, novel medical treatments or technologies and innovative applications of existing medical knowledge so these improvements can be brought to the public.

Technology transfer can help researchers to patent an innovation or link them with others who might want to pay them to use their invention or scientific advancement.

The office also connects researchers at NIH with researchers in industry, at non-profits and universities to share samples, data and innovations through materials transfer and cooperative research agreements. This benefits Clinical Center staff by opening up opportunities to collaborate with people they might not otherwise have the chance to work with.

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*20 advances from Clinical Center researchers have moved from concept to worldwide use since 2010*

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David Saeger, a technology development coordinator at the Clinical Center, noted that whenever an employee discovers something new or has a new technique that they'd like assessed for patent protection, the hospital assesses if the discovery has been made previously or if it's novel enough to be a new innovation. If there have been prior discoveries that are very similar, then the idea isn't eligible for a patent.

"We help connect researchers or someone who has discovered something new with the outside bodies that want to learn about it," said Saeger. "The point of the program is to help research happen at the Clinical Center which can help clinical care and ultimately all patients."

What should a Clinical Center employee do if he or she has made an important discovery or has a great idea? Read more at <https://go.usa.gov/xP9bz> or contact David Saeger at 301-451-9023, [David.Saeger@nih.gov](mailto:David.Saeger@nih.gov).

## NIH Director's Awards honor 16 CC employees

The NIH Director's Award Ceremony celebrated 770 staff members across the 27 institutes for superior performance related to fulfilling the mission of the NIH. Dr. Francis Collins, director of the NIH, spoke of the honor to lead such remarkable, dedicated, enthusiastic champions of health. In August, awards were given in three categories are Scientific/ Medical, Administrative and Technical/Clerical/Support.

Congratulations to the 16 Clinical Center staff for their outstanding contributions! Listed below are Clinical Center staff who received individual or group awards. View program (NIH Staff Only): <https://go.usa.gov/xPXRc> View photos: <https://flic.kr/s/aHsmse5hmP>

### Pediatric Exoskeleton Development Team

was nominated by the Clinical Center in recognition of extraordinary bio-engineering innovation and achievement leading to the successful development and testing of the first pediatric exoskeleton for children with cerebral palsy.

- Thomas C. Bulea • Ji Chen
- Jon D. Hochstein • Christina J. Kim

### NIH Clinical Center RADIS Film Library Team

was nominated by the Clinical Center in recognition of superlative service in imaging data management.

- Erica J. Bolden • Sean E. Harris
- Scott E. Martin • Shawn R. Thomas

### Medical Rehabilitation Research Coordinating Committee

was nominated by the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development for exemplary team-based efforts to stimulate trans-institute and agency rehabilitation research and to collaboratively create and publish the NIH Rehabilitation Research Plan. *(Not photographed)*

- Leighton Chan • Diane L. Damiano

### NIH Distressed Trainee Work Group

was nominated by the National Institutes of Mental Health for special recognition of the initiative, creativity, and far-reaching effectiveness of the NIH Work Group on

behalf of intramural trainees in distress.

- Robert M. Lembo

**First in Human Documentary Group** was nominated by the Office of the Director for the promotion of Discovery's First in Human documentary series.

- Justin G. Cohen • Cindy C. Fisher
- Molly H. Freimuth

**Optimize NIH IC POC Team** was nominated by the NIH Office of the Director for outstanding work to communicate and engage stakeholders in the Optimize NIH Phase I implementation of Ethics, Freedom of Information Act, and Committee Management. *(Not photographed)*

- Colleen A. McGowan

**Tricia S. Coffey** was nominated by the NIH Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, in recognition of her leadership for incorporating gender identity in the Clinical Research Information System and educating staff about gender identity.



Dr. Francis Collins, Tricia Coffey, Dr. Jim Gilman and Treava Hopkins-Laboy.



Dr. Francis Collins, Dr. Thomas Bulea and Dr. Jim Gilman.



Dr. Francis Collins, Shawn Thomas and Dr. Jim Gilman.



Left image, First in Human Documentary Group award recipients. Pictured from the Clinical Center, Molly Freimuth (sixth from right) and Justin Cohen (fourth from right). Right image, NIH Distressed Trainee Work Group award recipients. Pictured from the Clinical Center, Robert Lembo (center).