“The School of Medicine has a tremendous impact on many lives. Our scientists conduct research that unravels medical mysteries and gives society hope. Our physician faculty and alumni have gained the trust of thousands for quality, compassionate health care throughout the state and world.”

Dr. Richard Hoppmann, Dean
“Wherever the art of medicine is loved, there is also love of humanity.”

- Hippocrates

It is a place where promises to students and society are made – and kept. A place that constantly expands innovation and knowledge to improve lives. A place that is responsive to an ever-changing health care landscape.

This place is the University of South Carolina School of Medicine.

Founded nearly four decades ago, the School of Medicine has emerged as a national leader in primary care medical education, pioneering research, and humanistic patient care. Noted for its high-quality medical education, the School of Medicine passionately provides students with one-on-one, personal instruction.

The promise? Graduating compassionate, highly skilled physicians.

Our medical students represent the diverse mosaic of backgrounds, geographies, cultures, and experiences that make up our world. They share a common pursuit: to improve the health of South Carolinians and citizens around the globe.

Distinguished basic science and clinical faculty form the heart of the academic experience at the School of Medicine – a faculty enriched by a large number of community physicians who help guide student training in clinical environments.

With a strong teaching foundation, growing research portfolio, and internationally renowned areas of innovation including ultrasound education and NIH-funded center for the study of inflammation, the School of Medicine is now poised to leap forward as a national model in medical education.
“Ultrasound technology is changing the future of medicine. The School of Medicine is a global leader in introducing ultrasound training into the medical education curriculum over all four years. Point-of-care ultrasound improves quality of care, patient safety, and it can be applied to almost all specialties.”

Dr. Mary Beth Poston
“One of the essential qualities of the clinician is interest in humanity, for the secret of the care of the patient is in caring for the patient.”

- Francis Peabody

While excellence in primary care medical education continues to be an enduring value, the School of Medicine has forged a path of innovation in several areas. Some examples include ultrasound in medical education, the patient-centered medical home, stroke and neurology, congestive heart failure, and inflammation research.

The School of Medicine has become a center of ultrasound excellence. We were the first in the nation to incorporate ultrasound training into all four years of medical education. Our partnership with GE Healthcare, a major manufacturer of medical devices, assures that our students train on the most advanced ultrasound units, and a Duke Endowment grant has allowed us to put ultrasound technology in the hands of physicians and nurses at 12 clinics in rural South Carolina communities.

The School of Medicine reinforced its leadership role as an international center for ultrasound education when it hosted the World Congress on Ultrasound in Medical Education in 2011 in Columbia. Over 400 industry and education leaders attended the conference, representing more than 20 countries.

Your support provides a desperately needed supplement of gifts provided by partners like GE Healthcare. Your generosity will play a role in our ability to train future physicians and scientists in the most up-to-date technologies and state-of-the-art equipment, sometimes in advance of it being introduced into practice.
“Our faculty, staff, students, and supporters are all committed to making the future of medicine relevant for life today.”

Dr. Richard Hoppmann, Dean
“Noblesse Oblige – ‘Nobility obligates’ – Much is expected of those to whom much is given.”

- Ancient Doctrine

School of Medicine-led innovations also include:

- Groundbreaking research across multiple disciplines in relation to autoimmune diseases, cardiovascular and neurodegenerative conditions, as well as certain types of cancer.

- The School of Medicine is home to the NIH Center for Inflammation, a $6 million center that investigates the effect of complementary and alternative medicine, specifically the effect of botanicals on inflammatory diseases.

- Building the expertise in the Midlands region in order to secure the Joint Commission’s certification as a Primary Stroke Center – the first and only stroke center in the Midlands to receive this recognition.

- The School of Medicine’s efforts to elevate its expertise in stroke-related care received a major boost with the recruitment of leading stroke expert Dr. Souvik Sen as chair of the Department of Neurology at the School of Medicine.

- The Department of Family and Preventive Medicine, along with partner Palmetto Health, recently became the first primary care practice in South Carolina to be recognized by the National Committee for Quality Assurance as a Level-III Patient-Centered Medical Home (PCMH)—the highest possible designation.

Your support of new programs and initiatives strengthen our faculty, students, and community. By supporting student scholarship endowments, you can help us attract more outstanding students and keep student debt at a level that does not affect their decision to attend medical school or pursue a desired practice area.
“It meant a lot to me to receive a scholarship, and I hope to one day return the favor and donate money to students to ease their financial burden. I think that donor support is important for maintaining a high level of school pride, and it shows current students how much former students valued their time at USC.”

Ashley Martinez
The aim of medicine is to prevent disease and prolong life; the ideal of medicine is to eliminate the need of a physician. — William J. Mayo

At the School of Medicine, students learn both the art and the science of medicine.

They receive excellent classroom, lab, and clinical training; they graduate confident in their abilities; and they excel in residencies and fellowships.

Our students are passionate about making a difference, about providing primary care, and about learning with state-of-the-art technologies. They’re also concerned about the high cost of becoming a doctor and whether their debt burden at graduation will dictate what type of medicine they end up practicing.

That’s where your support for these future physicians comes in. With state funding dwindling to less than 10 percent of the University’s budget — and additional reductions in our school’s funding amounting to 50 percent the past three years — private giving is more critical to our mission than ever. We must keep medical education affordable and continue to attract the very best students — it is what the people of South Carolina deserve.

“Scholarships take some of the burden of paying for a medical education off my shoulders, and every little bit helps,” says Ashley Martinez, a USC medical student. “It can be very daunting to borrow such large sums of money every semester. By receiving scholarships, some of the worry is removed, and we can focus all of our energy towards schoolwork.”

When you support medical student scholarships, you’re also supporting the thousands of individuals these future physicians will care for in the future.
“Our legacy gift to the USC School of Medicine will mean that other outstanding young people like Jean-Louis Gabriel have an opportunity to become doctors. It’s just part of giving back to our community and our state — that’s all any of us can do.”

Jane Poster
“Medicine is not only a science; it is also an art. It deals with the very processes of life, which must be understood before they may be guided.”

- John Ciardi

Jane and David Poster feel blessed that they had a chance encounter with an extraordinary young man.

“I served as the Baptist collegiate minister for 36 years, and I met literally thousands of students,” explains Jane. “But a young Haitian student named Jean-Louis had something special. No one in his family had ever been to college. But Jean-Louis had met some USC students doing a project in Haiti, and he thought, ‘If they can come here, I can go there.’ ”

Jean-Louis Gabriel, ’00, excelled as an undergraduate with an impressive GPA and was accepted by the School of Medicine. Jane’s husband, David Poster, recommended a new navy blue suit for his pre-admission interview. “David is still convinced the new suit was key to his med school admission,” jokes Jane.

After graduation from the School of Medicine, he was accepted for an orthopaedic residency at the Mayo Clinic and now practices hand surgery in Wichita, Kan.

“Jean-Louis became a central part of our lives,” according to Jane. “David and I consider him to be the son we never had. Eventually, it occurred to us that we could help others like Jean-Louis.”

The generosity of the Posters will make a real difference in the lives of students to come at the School of Medicine. Your gift can build on that promise for the future.
“The School’s focus on primary care puts it in a unique position to foster and cultivate students who want to care for those who need care most. Primary care docs are needed everywhere. Ninety percent of what I do in Haiti is diabetes and hypertension. The other 10 percent might be more exotic and interesting, but what’s really needed is primary care.”

Dr. Katy Close
“A physician is obligated to consider more than a diseased organ, more even than the whole man - he must view the man in his world.”
- Harvey Cushing

At the School of Medicine, promises become actions.

They involve inspiring students and sharing knowledge in the classroom, discovering better ways to prevent or treat disease, and providing care where it’s needed most, especially in the area of primary care.

The School of Medicine lives the promise. Our School is among the nation's leaders in the percentage of medical graduates practicing primary care.

Dr. Katy Close, ’88, clinical associate professor of internal medicine at the School of Medicine and a global humanitarian, has spent extensive time practicing primary care medicine at its most extreme – in Haiti and Nicaragua, as well as in underserved communities in South Carolina. She says simply, “I consider myself lucky to be able to do what I do.”

“While still in school, I went with Dr. Charley Bryan to Central America in the wake of a massive earthquake,” she says. “It was both appalling and intriguing to work amidst such devastation – a chance to see the most interesting pathology on the planet. Who wouldn’t want to pursue this type of work?”

In recognition of her service abroad and at home, Dr. Close received the University’s highest alumni honor, the Algernon Sydney Sullivan Award, in 2007.

Your support of the School of Medicine transcends borders to provide not only medical care but much needed reassurance and hope to those faced with tragedy and tribulation around the world.
“The cost of educating just one physician is enormous. As alumni, we were fortunate to have support that enabled us to receive our training with limited debt from financial aid. Now, it is our opportunity, privilege, and obligation to give back to our alma mater as the next generation of physicians is educated.”

Dr. Todd Crump
“The practice of medicine is an art, not a trade; a calling, not a business; a calling in which your heart will be exercised equally with your head.”

- William Osler

Dr. Todd Crump, ’98, packs plenty into his “day job” as an emergency medicine physician.

He credits both his medical training and his student experiences with faculty for creating his other passion: serving as medical director of The Free Medical Clinic in Columbia, SC.

“I was incredibly fortunate and blessed to be taught by some of the most brilliant minds in medicine,” says Dr. Crump. “I was taught the art and humanity of medicine by compassionate, empathetic, and altruistic faculty at the School of Medicine. As students, we couldn’t help but be motivated by their work ethic and their innate desire to serve their fellow humans.”

“Frequently, when I encounter underserved patients at The Free Medical Clinic or in the emergency department, their health has deteriorated, and they have reached the point of desperation. If I can use my training, knowledge base, and skill set to provide hope to those in most need, I can go to bed at night knowing I made a difference.”

Your investment, whether the gift of your time or financial support, is an investment in medical students, researchers, faculty, and our communities. Each gift has a multiplying effect on many lives throughout the country and around the world.
“Scholarships are so important because that financial support can be the difference between deserving students achieving or not achieving their goals as a physician.”

Nadya Toubou, USC medical student
“I wanted to go to medical school. But, I never got a college scholarship.”

- Grandma Moses (Anna Mary Robertson Moses)

In many ways, scholarships, fellowships, and other donor-supported financial assistance are the most important instruments in modern medicine.

For many bright, talented, and profoundly dedicated young students, that kind of economic support can be the difference between going out into the world as a highly trained medical professional or never going to college at all.

And no one can say it better than the students who have been there.

“The support I’ve received has made a great difference in my life,” says USC medical student Patrick Gleason. “My scholarship made it possible to get non-paid positions in research that enhanced my education and my understanding of medicine. It’s preparing me for whatever avenue I take in medicine.”

According to Jembber Robinson, a School of Medicine student, “I was the bread winner in my home and facing the kind of debt incurred by the average medical student caused real concern for myself as well as my husband. Getting a scholarship made an immeasurable difference in the amount of financial stress that I have to burden my family with. A large portion of that burden was lifted.”

Gifts large and small in support of scholarships at the School of Medicine have an enormous impact on the students who need them, deserve them, and benefit from them. And, in the end, the benefits extend to many, many others who need and deserve quality health care.
"Every day, we take progressive, insightful, ground-breaking steps to advance health in South Carolina and beyond. We take pride in our contributions to humanity and the sense of confidence we bring to the education of future physicians and scientists, the discovery of medical treatments, and the delivery of health care."

Dr. Richard Hoppmann, Dean
The School of Medicine has built a strong foundation and is recognized as a leader in medical education innovation, research discovery, and health care delivery. Now is the time to increase our impact by fulfilling the promise of the School of Medicine by investing, financially and academically, in the lives and accomplishments of the world’s future physicians.

With your gifts we can:
• support medical breakthroughs – every day we unravel more of the mysteries of heart disease, cancer, stroke, and neurological disorders.
• extend service to South Carolinians – we deliver care to thousands who have no access to basic health services in rural and low-income communities.
• sustain the mission of the School of Medicine – your ongoing support ensures that we remain true to our excellence in primary care education.
• educate future physicians, scientists, and health care professionals – to help them meet society’s health demands, made greater by physician shortages.
• shape the future with better health for all – solidify our future through funding of scholarships, professorships, and pioneering research.
• create a center for women’s health – by educating women, we have the ability to educate the family they support and to address their unique challenges.

To lend your support, please contact:
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www.med.sc.edu or (803) 216-3314
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to the school of medicine

CarolinasPromise.sc.edu

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