50 YEARS OF COMPASSION AND DISCOVERY
Dear Friends,

Over the last 50 years, University of Washington Medical Center has been recognized as a world-class health-care organization known for our medical discoveries, teaching programs and, above all, the compassionate care we provide to patients every day.

UWMC was named as a top 10 hospital in U.S. News & World Report’s Best Hospital Honor Roll in 2008. UW biomedical research programs rank the highest among public research universities in the receipt of National Institutes of Health grant funding. Our School of Medicine has been ranked by U.S. News as the No. 1 primary care medical school in the country for 16 consecutive years.

UWMC has received the Washington State Quality Award twice, most recently at the Leadership Level. Patients ranked UWMC highest among all hospitals in the Puget Sound area on overall care in a national patient satisfaction survey.

Many medical discoveries that are now the standard of care throughout the world were developed at UWMC. Our physicians developed the use of the Doppler ultrasound to detect vascular disease, a shunt that made long-term kidney dialysis possible and the multistage treadmill test, which has become a standard way of evaluating heart problems. You will read more about our discoveries in this report.

More than 10 years ago, UWMC, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center and Seattle Children’s formed the Seattle Cancer Care Alliance as a way to provide the most advanced cancer care and research to patients.

The partnership fosters cancer discoveries and provides a comprehensive continuum of care for our patients by sharing UW School of Medicine faculty to provide care and services at all sites. Many outpatient medical oncology services are provided at the SCCA building near South Lake Union while UWMC houses the oncology-related surgical clinics, treating patients that require surgery or hospitalization. Both UWMC and SCCA provide advanced imaging and radiation oncology services. Pediatric patients from Seattle Children’s receive specialized radiation oncology treatment at UWMC.

As an academic medical center, the UWMC is an exceptional training environment for our future generations of physicians and allied health-care professionals. We are a regional resource, as patients travel from across Washington and from Wyoming, Alaska, Montana and Idaho for the highly specialized health care we provide.

While discovery is an important part of our mission, patient care is at the heart. We focus on patient- and family-centered care, always placing the patient first in all we do. Patients, their families and the team of health-care professionals are all involved in making decisions at every point throughout their care. The neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) is one of the best examples of this. In this report we tell the remarkable story of Diane and Thad Hathaway who chose to give birth to their quintuplets at UWMC.

To continue to serve our patients, we are expanding our building, and we will break ground this year on a new five-story addition, which will include a new NICU that will care for up to 50 babies. We will be able to treat more patients with an additional 32-bed adult acute care unit. The expansion will have more space for diagnostic imaging, including additional MRJ machines, CT scanners and new interventional radiology rooms.

Medical discovery is founded on the compassion we have for patients and our mission of improving the health of the public. As we look forward to the next 50 years, UWMC is focused on patient safety, quality of care and providing superior service to our patients and families. Thank you for supporting UWMC and celebrating with us.

Sincerely,

Stephen P. Zieniewicz, FACHE
Executive Director – University of Washington Medical Center
We greatly appreciate contributions from our community. Gifts are vital to UW Medical Center’s mission of improving the health of the community through compassionate patient care, leading-edge research and training tomorrow’s medical professionals.

To learn more about the impact of philanthropy at UWMC, please visit www.uwmedicalcenter.org to read more about our services and programs. And thank you for your support — as a donor, volunteer or advocate — of UW Medical Center. With you, we look forward to the next 50 years.