UC San Diego HIV Institute

Creating a Future Without HIV/AIDS
Executive Summary

HIV/AIDS will never cure itself, but at the University of California San Diego and UC San Diego Health, we believe that we can put an end to this disease with the help of forward-thinking experts and the support of our community partners — partners like you.

Since the 1980s, HIV/AIDS research at UC San Diego has been at the forefront of discoveries that shape treatment standards on a global scale. Building on our stellar reputation, intellectual power and collaborative culture, the UC San Diego HIV Institute, overseen by Director Douglas Richman, MD, is a place where researchers and physicians are improving and saving lives with leading-edge treatments and research. Ranked second only to Harvard University Center for AIDS Research as the highest-impact institution for HIV/AIDS research,¹ we are profoundly changing the study, treatment and prevention of HIV/AIDS throughout the world.

Philanthropic support will be key as we lead the charge toward state-of-the-art, interdisciplinary HIV/AIDS education, research and clinical care. It will bring hope and healing to our global community, redefine health care and drive us toward our ultimate goal: defeating one of the most insidious diseases we face as a society.

¹ Science 321:521, 2008
Although it is an academic health care system just five decades in the making, UC San Diego Health uses its youth to its advantage, infusing creativity, passion and innovation into everything we do. We combine research, education and clinical care in a unique way that advances new possibilities and serves our community through better health. U.S. News & World Report has ranked us as one of the nation’s best hospitals across multiple specialties for the past 22 years and as the No. 1 health system in San Diego since 2011.

UC San Diego is a research powerhouse, and one of our greatest strengths is our dedication to teamwork. We forge partnerships across campus, across disciplines and across institutions to facilitate a culture that sparks medical discoveries, develops novel therapies and advances health care better and faster than nearly any other institution. Our faculty members transcend the traditional boundaries of academia with ease and enthusiasm, and our environment attracts some of the most talented and sought-after leaders within the medical and scientific fields.

Throughout campus, our internationally recognized biologists, engineers and computer scientists collaborate with our renowned clinicians and physician-scientists to develop tomorrow’s therapies and speed them into clinical care settings. At UC San Diego School of Medicine, the brightest young doctors-in-training are gaining hands-on experience and honing their skills in order to advance a new era of dedicated, compassionate care.

Ultimately, this richly connected hub allows patients within our community and far beyond to experience the future of health care as it happens. The HIV Institute is a key contributor to this innovation, and serves as a center of excellence for research and treatment development. Since the Regents of the University of California established The HIV Institute in 1996 to coordinate UC San Diego’s diverse HIV/AIDS programs, we have brought breakthroughs from the laboratory bench to patient bedsides.

We cultivate up-and-coming researchers and care providers; nurture leading-edge, cooperative scientific research and academic exchange that contribute to new treatment methods and greater hope for a cure; champion UC San Diego’s world-class HIV/AIDS programs; foster investigators to improve prevention efforts locally and abroad; provide state-of-the-art clinical and educational resources and training to the San Diego community and international partners; and raise vital funding to support the unmet needs of critical research, clinical care and training for our members and programs. In addition, our discoveries have contributed to research breakthroughs in other fields, such as cancer.

In reimagining the standards of HIV/AIDS care, we are creating a healthier world — one life at a time — through new science, new medicine and new cures.
Possibilities for Progress

Our Opportunity
In 2015, approximately 40,000 people in the United States were newly infected with HIV, and there are 1.2 million currently living with HIV/AIDS. Approximately 14 percent of Americans with HIV/AIDS are unaware of their infection, and only three in 10 who do know their status receive adequate treatment. Although knowledge of preventive and diagnostic options is growing, there remain enormous real-world challenges in ensuring awareness and access, as well as in effectively connecting patients with treatment and ongoing care. We are charged with tackling these problems domestically and abroad.

Our Environment
Under the leadership of Dr. Richman, the most cited HIV/AIDS researcher in the world, we have recruited and assembled some of the most brilliant, dedicated and talented individuals in the HIV/AIDS field. This has ensured that our programs continue to be on the forefront of research and care. Since the majority of the HIV/AIDS research at UC San Diego has been funded by peer-reviewed grants, the dramatic economic constraints on federal and state budgets over the past few years have significantly hampered the ability of our programs to sustain the research and training that is critical to gain an edge over this aggressive disease.

Our Programs
Our funding is a shared resource for all HIV/AIDS programs at and associated with UC San Diego, making philanthropic support a crucial sustaining element for dozens of care, education and research initiatives. Examples of specific programs include the following:

- **Center for AIDS Research**: This National Institutes of Health–supported program coordinates groundbreaking HIV/AIDS research and development among our local member institutions — UC San Diego, The Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla Institute and Sanford Burnham Prebys Medical Discovery Institute — as well as exciting research and training projects in developing countries around the world.

- **Owen Clinic at UC San Diego Health and the Special Infectious Disease Clinic at VA San Diego Healthcare System**: These leading UC San Diego Health HIV/AIDS clinics provide standard-setting HIV/AIDS care to nearly 4,000 patients annually.

- **Partnership with Martin Delaney Collaboratories – Towards an HIV-1 Cure**: UC San Diego is proud to be a part of this global collaboration that is working toward the cure and eradication of HIV/AIDS.

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2 aids.gov, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
• **UC San Diego HIV Neurobehavioral Research Center and UC San Diego AntiViral Research Center**: These centers conduct internationally recognized clinical trials and investigations of HIV/AIDS–associated neurobehavioral disorders and HIV infection and its complications.

• **International Maternal Pediatric Adolescent AIDS Clinical Trials Network and UC San Diego Mother, Child and Adolescent HIV Program**: These nationally recognized programs offer comprehensive care, psychosocial services and clinical trials to benefit vulnerable children and mothers affected by HIV/AIDS.

• **Lead the Way San Diego**: This model “test and treat” program identifies previously unrecognized HIV/AIDS infections in San Diego County with the goal of expanding care to those in need and preventing transmission of infection.

• **International AIDS Vaccine Initiative (IAVI)**: Multiple UC San Diego investigators partner with the IAVI Neutralizing Antibody Consortium to design, develop and deploy groundbreaking HIV/AIDS vaccine candidates.

• **UC San Diego AIDS International Training Research Program**: In partnership with the Graduate School of Public Health at San Diego State University, El Colegio de la Frontera Norte, Xochicalco University and the Instituto Nacional de Salud Pública, the Division of Global Public Health within the Department of Medicine at UC San Diego School of Medicine has developed this intensive research and training program to address HIV/AIDS along the United States/Mexico border, the most heavily traveled border in the world.

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*We appreciate your consideration of partnering with us in these efforts. It is with your support and investment that we will be able to train the next generation of HIV/AIDS innovators, grow and empower our team of exceptional physician-scientists, and make discoveries that will change the face of HIV/AIDS care as we know it. Your investment in this work will bring lifesaving expertise to an international community of patients, resulting in widespread and immediate impact.*
At the University of California San Diego, challenging convention is our most cherished tradition. The Campaign for UC San Diego is a university-wide comprehensive fundraising effort to transform the student experience, our campus, and ultimately the way humanity approaches problems and develops solutions.

Liz Johnson
Associate Director of Research Development
UC San Diego AIDS Research Institute

9500 Gilman Drive #0716
La Jolla, CA 92093

liz@ucsd.edu
858.246.2103