Turning scarcity into abundance

Stephen A. Kahn, MD ’99, came to Harvard Medical School to learn how to address critical global health challenges. As a student, he worked in rural and urban hospitals in Zambia and Bolivia, and as an emergency medicine physician, he has treated patients in Costa Rica and Haiti.

“I learned so much from these talented and committed doctors and nurses. However, their countries’ health systems desperately needed help. I quickly realized that clinical skills alone were not going to solve these challenges,” says Kahn, who established the Abundance Foundation to partner with visionaries who, as he puts it, are transforming scarcity into abundance.

Since 2009, Kahn has supported many such visionaries at HMS. Recently, he has directed more than $2 million to advance key initiatives in the Department of Global Health and Social Medicine (DGHSM), which have strengthened global research efforts and increased access to quality care for Ebola, cholera, and mental illness. His dedication to increasing educational opportunities for global health practitioners has led to the creation of the Master of Medical Sciences in Global Health Delivery (MMSc-GHD) program, the development of the Global Health Delivery Project collaboration platform (GHDonline.org), and the distribution of a global surgery manual to physicians in resource-poor settings.

“Stephen has been one of our biggest and most consistent supporters, not to mention the profound impact of his dedication, partnership, and thought leadership on global health equity and sustainability,” says DGHSM Chair Paul Farmer, MD ’90, PhD ’90, Kolokotrones University Professor, chief of the Division of Global Health Equity at Brigham and Women’s Hospital, and co-founder and chief strategist of Partners In Health.

**Infinite Impact**

Launched in 2012, the MMSc-GHD program is a two-year program that prepares future leaders in the design, implementation, evaluation, and improvement of health programs in resource-poor settings. The first class of MMSc-GHD students graduated in 2014. 12 students are currently enrolled, and eight students from an applicant pool of 52 will enter the program this summer.

“Stephen has served not only as our benefactor, but also as a steadfast champion in training global leaders who will define the discipline of global health delivery in the coming decades,” says Joia S. Mukherjee, MD, MPH ’01, director of the MMSc-GHD program and an associate professor of medicine at HMS.

Through Kahn’s support for the Global Health Research Core, HMS is working to understand the most urgent research questions around Ebola: Megan Murray, MD ’90, MPH ’96, DPH ’01, professor of global health and social medicine, is leading the Sierra Leone Diagnostics Study—funded entirely through Kahn’s support—to test the efficacy of a new point-of-care diagnostic. She and her team have shown that the test may speed diagnosis, getting people without Ebola out of treatment units so they are not exposed to infection and not burdening the clinical staff in the “red zone.”

Kahn says HMS’s work directly supports the mission and vision of the Abundance Foundation to train the next generation of global health visionaries. “As an alumnus of HMS and member of the Global Health Advisory Council and the Advisory Council on Education, I am inspired by my opportunity to work with some of the most innovative thinkers and doers in the global health community,” he says.

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**JANUZZI NAMED HUTTER FAMILY PROFESSOR OF MEDICINE**

James L. Januzzi Jr., MD, director of the Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) Cardiac Intensive Care Unit and the Roman W. De Sanctis Endowed Distinguished Clinical Scholar in Medicine at MGH, has been named the inaugural incumbent of the Hutter Family Professorship in Medicine in the Field of Cardiology at Harvard Medical School.

The professorship is made possible by Arthur and Sandra Irving through the Arthur L. Irving Family Foundation and honors Adolph “Dolph” Hutter Jr., MD, director of the MGH Cardiac Performance Program and professor of medicine at HMS. The Irvings’ philanthropic gesture pays tribute to Hutter’s 40-year tenure at HMS, his contributions to the MGH Division of Cardiology, and the care Arthur Irving has received from Hutter.

Hutter is a general adult clinical cardiologist with special interests in coronary artery disease, valvular heart disease, and the athletic heart. Upon his retirement from HMS, the professorship will be renamed the Adolph M. Hutter Jr. Professorship in Medicine in the Field of Cardiology.

At right (left to right): Hutter celebrates the professorship with Sandra and Arthur Irving.