



FOR RESEARCH AND CARE. FOR A CURE. FOR WISCONSIN.

July 2019

Although we have always philanthropically supported cancer research, we did not truly understand the magnitude of the disease until it became excruciatingly personal to us. As was well documented, Greg's father, Glen Gard, passed away in October 2015 after a six-month battle with glioblastoma multiforme, a form of brain cancer. A few months after his death, we began reflecting on our journey and having conversations about how to embrace and carry forward the lessons we had learned. We considered the best ways we could use our experience to help other people while honoring Greg's late father. Through this process, it became clear to us that we wanted our impact to be across the state of Wisconsin — our presence to be felt by patients and researchers from border to border. Thus, our Garding Against Cancer (GAC) initiative was born.

Since the December 2016 launch of GAC, we have successfully raised more than \$4 million. Thanks to the support of so many friends of our mission, GAC has taken on an exciting life of its own. Together we are making a difference in the lives of researchers, patients, and families throughout the state. Partnering with the University of Wisconsin, UW Health, and the Wisconsin Foundation and Alumni Association, we're pursuing a mission to philanthropically support the cancer-fighting community of Wisconsin. We will generously provide funds to those in the medical field who have made it their lives' work to find a cure and/or better treatment options for patients battling cancer. We will compassionately promote the welfare of people with a cancer diagnosis as well as the benevolent families and friends who support them. All funds raised will stay in Wisconsin, making the most positive impact on current and future residents of this state.

This year, we will host a reception in La Crosse on September 12, with all dollars raised staying in the La Crosse community to assist with local patient care. The evening will come complete with delicious dining, one-of-a-kind silent auctions, lively entertainment, a patient story, and more. Please mark your calendars now, and find the sponsorship opportunities enclosed.

In addition to the excitement of supporting efforts in the La Crosse area, we're proud to report that at the UW Carbone Cancer Center, GAC donations are already helping in numerous ways: developing more effective therapies for brain tumors, advancing precision medicine for breast cancer patients, enhancing

detections of metastatic cancers, and increasing vaccination rates to prevent HPV-related cancers in youth. The center is able to better understand how pancreatic cancer cells grow, and it continues to conduct innovative studies in pediatric cancer and immunotherapy to improve cure rates thanks in part to GAC support. Along with that amazing research happening in Madison, we've also been able to offer support for a variety of patient-focused initiatives in and around the local communities of Menomonie, Wisconsin Dells, Wausau, and Oshkosh, where we hosted events in 2017 and 2018.

To stay up-to-date on the work being done by our amazing and quickly expanding Garding Against Cancer team, please visit GardingAgainstCancer.org, "like" our Garding Against Cancer Facebook page, and find us on Twitter @GardingCancer.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Greg & Michelle". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Coach Greg and Michelle Gard