WE TAKE CANCER PERSONALLY

Our mission is to see a world free of the devastating effects of BRCA-related cancers.

Through innovative research
By advancing genetics research, carriers of BRCA mutations can live longer, healthier lives. The Basser Center continues to establish a far-reaching network of scientists, geneticists, and physicians dedicated to successfully treating BRCA-related cancers, and eventually preventing them altogether.

Through education and genetic counseling
The Basser Center is a place where families can turn for education and genetic counseling. We are a leader in raising awareness, which is currently the most effective way to save lives and provide options to those affected by a BRCA mutation.

Through generous support
In 2012, through the extraordinary support of Penn alumni Mindy and Jon Gray, the Basser Center for BRCA was established at Penn Medicine’s Abramson Cancer Center. Their visionary gift grows stronger every day through the commitment of our generous donors and philanthropic partners.

OUR STORIES HAVE THE POWER TO SAVE LIVES

The most courageous thing individuals with BRCA mutations can do is tell their stories. This brave and personal act empowers us to understand why cancer is prevalent in our families, and empowers others to understand the value of genetic counseling and to see the possibilities of a future with more choices.
In Carlette’s family, cancer was all too familiar and clearly hereditary. Her mother was diagnosed with cancer at a young age, and eventually succumbed to her cancer, just as Carlette’s grandmother and many of her great aunts did before her. When Carlette was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2009 at the young age of 34, genetic testing played an important role in helping her and her doctor decide among treatment options. As an African-American, she knew many people in her community experienced challenges with knowledge of and access to health care and available innovative care options. She wanted to take charge of her health.

Carlette’s genetic counselor encouraged her to have BRCA testing. She took time to explain exactly what a positive result would mean and that many people are living with a BRCA mutation. Ultimately, Carlette decided that testing would empower her to consider choices and make decisions, not only for herself, but also for her family.

With her mother facing her final battle with cancer, Carlette decided to postpone sharing her own positive BRCA1 results, so as not to take the focus away from her mother’s care. Such a decision is not uncommon. Many women like Carlette, who often find themselves in the role of caretaker, delay important screenings and health maintenance to care for others. After telling her four sisters, three chose to be tested and one tested positive. Cousins and other relatives also chose to be tested, with two more testing positive. Her family was getting the facts.

Being tested helped Carlette understand why cancer was so prevalent in her family, and allowed her to consider more personalized therapeutic options for treating her BRCA1-related breast cancer. Her goal was to reduce her risk of having a second breast cancer, or ovarian cancer and she decided on the option of having a bilateral mastectomy as well as removing her ovaries. Her relationship with the Basser Center helped her understand the value of targeted treatments and preventative surgical measures, and transformed her into a passionate advocate.

“I think people don’t get tested because there’s the fear of the unknown.”
CHARLIE MUNSON
Wilmington, DE, Breast Cancer, Pancreatic Cancer, 77

A breast cancer diagnosis can still come as a surprise to many men. Not so for Charlie. Breast cancer runs in the male side of his family. So when he discovered a lump 23 years ago, he immediately went to see a doctor and, as he suspected, he was diagnosed with breast cancer. Years later, a pancreatic cancer diagnosis followed.

There is some good that comes from a hereditary cancer diagnosis: knowledge about the role genetic mutations play throughout a family, particularly for those not yet diagnosed. Of his six children, all three daughters and one son have a BRCA2 gene mutation. One daughter had breast cancer at 24, and the other two girls, upon discovering their family’s risk, underwent preventative oophorectomies and mastectomies. It’s always difficult when someone finds out he or she has a BRCA mutation, but at least knowing allowed Charlie’s family to learn about options ahead of time.

The Basser Center helped Charlie take control. Five months of chemo had slowed but not completely stopped the growth of Charlie’s pancreatic cancer. Then Dr. Susan Domchek, Basser Center Executive Director, enrolled him in a new clinical trial with a PARP inhibitor therapy—which has prevented his cancer from growing and spreading for over five and a half years. Today, his doctors look at him and shake their heads in disbelief. They see his progress as a promising sign. Charlie even remembers one doctor’s comment: that he just looked unbelievably healthy.

Developments over the past 23 years have improved and expanded the odds for families like Charlie’s. Charlie believes that knowing they have a BRCA2 mutation has enhanced and perhaps even saved lives. To Charlie’s family, the Basser Center is both an indispensable resource and a place to meet the future head on.

“The emerging science at the Basser Center is something my family has come to rely on.”

The Basser Center helped Charlie take control. Five months of chemo had slowed but not completely stopped the growth of Charlie’s pancreatic cancer. Then Dr. Susan Domchek, Basser Center Executive Director, enrolled him in a new clinical trial with a PARP inhibitor therapy—which has prevented his cancer from growing and spreading for over five and a half years. Today, his doctors look at him and shake their heads in disbelief. They see his progress as a promising sign. Charlie even remembers one doctor’s comment: that he just looked unbelievably healthy.

Developments over the past 23 years have improved and expanded the odds for families like Charlie’s. Charlie believes that knowing they have a BRCA2 mutation has enhanced and perhaps even saved lives. To Charlie’s family, the Basser Center is both an indispensable resource and a place to meet the future head on.
Katrina Wells
Mount Royal, NJ, BRCA1 Mutation, 34

Katrina is grateful that genetic testing has finally come out of the darkness. Years ago, Katrina’s paternal aunt had asked about getting tested for BRCA gene mutations. Those were the early days of the medical community’s understanding about these mutations, and she was told that a positive result might cause her to be dropped from her insurance. She didn’t pursue testing and was later diagnosed with ovarian cancer and died. If her doctors had known, they could have recommended preventative removal of the ovaries. They could have saved her life.

Her paternal grandmother also died of breast cancer, but Katrina chose to delay genetic testing until she was older. While pregnant with her second child, Katrina found out she was a carrier for Canavan’s disease and that she should consider further genetic testing. Her research included many references to Dr. Susan Domchek and Dr. Angela Bradbury and the cutting-edge research being done at the Basser Center, so she decided to be tested.

Katrina was not surprised to find out she is a carrier for a BRCA1 mutation. Katrina’s father was also tested, revealing that his family line carries the same mutation. Her experience with Basser prepared her well for taking the next steps.

Knowing about a BRCA mutation, especially before a cancer diagnosis, gives people more options. These “previvors” can take proactive measures, such as more frequent screenings, improving their health through exercise and diet, and considering surgical methods like a double mastectomy or oophorectomy. As we continue to strive for better options, these tools to improve prevention and early detection of BRCA-related cancers are still the best ways to achieve favorable outcomes.

To Katrina, knowing means being proactive. Now when she discovers something of concern, she can call Basser and stay on top of it. Katrina believes knowing her status can help her be the first mother in her family to see her children graduate from college, get married, and have grandchildren.

“Now I have a team of people who is there for me when I need them.”
NANCY CLARKE
Downingtown, PA, Ovarian Cancer, 63

Nancy is proud to be a 13-year ovarian cancer survivor. Her awareness of early-onset cancer in her family led her to believe the cause might be hereditary. Her grandmother had died of cancer at 40. Her mother was diagnosed with cancer when Nancy was a junior in high school. Doctors thought a single mastectomy would be enough to treat her, but her mother’s cancer returned. She died three years later at age 49.

Nancy wanted to be proactive, so she went in for an early colonoscopy at age 49. Sadly, she was told she had colon cancer. While looking into treatment options, she met a Penn Medicine researcher named Dr. Barbara Weber. Dr. Weber ran a clinic for children of parents with early-onset cancer in which genetics may have played a key role. Learning she had a BRCA1 mutation, Nancy qualified for a research study and was asked to come to Penn for her surgery. Her diagnosis of colon cancer turned out to be ovarian. But she was very fortunate in that her gynecologic surgical team at the Abramson Cancer Center was able to remove all traces of her tumor.

Her geneticist told her that she should consider telling the women in her family about her BRCA1 gene mutation. Her sister and two female cousins wanted to get tested, and the testing was positive for all three. They chose to do the available preventative options: a double mastectomy and oophorectomy.

Nancy thinks she has been able to survive so long because she has the support of her husband and her Penn medical team. Although those early conversations with her family were difficult, finding a way to talk about cancer helped them discover their own gene mutation and helped more people in her family get tested, so they could seek out life-saving options.

“I still survive with the good care of my health care team here at Penn. I can’t say enough about them.”
“The Basser Center for BRCA truly advances our work and is bringing us closer to the day when we can stop BRCA-related cancers before they ever appear.”

SUSAN DOMCHEK, MD
Basser Professor in Oncology
Executive Director, Basser Center for BRCA

CREATING BETTER CHOICES FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

Our team science approach seeks a cure by advancing the care for BRCA-related cancers. The work we fund goes well beyond Philadelphia, reaching across the country and around the globe.
The ultimate goal of this project is to develop a novel vaccine that prevents BRCA1/2-related cancer when administered preventively to healthy individuals who carry a BRCA mutation—a “polio vaccine” for BRCA-related cancer. The team is conducting a clinical trial in patients with early stage cancer of a DNA vaccine targeting the protein TERT, which is universally found in malignancy. Once the vaccine’s safety is adequately assessed, the goal is to study the vaccine in BRCA1/2 mutation carriers without prior cancer. In the laboratory, the team continues work to inform next generation vaccines by studying BRCA1/2 mouse models to optimize the vaccination. The researchers have demonstrated that an immunotherapy vaccine given to mice genetically susceptible to pancreatic cancer significantly delays the onset of cancer. They have also performed immunological profiling of tumors from patients with BRCA1/2 cancers and found that these are immunologically “cold” (in contrast to melanoma or lung cancers which are often “hot”). The data suggests some BRCA1/2 patients might benefit from a vaccine that can jump start an immune response.

**Principal Investigators**

Robert Vonderheide, MD, DPhil  
David Weiner, PhD

**Co-Investigators**

Daniel Powell, PhD  
Andrea Facciabene, PhD  
Katherine Nathanson, MD

Individuals who have a BRCA1 or BRCA2 gene mutation have an increased risk for developing certain cancers, including breast, ovarian, prostate, and pancreatic. These hereditary mutations can affect both men and women and can be passed down from either parent. Research funded by the Basser Center propels better prevention, screening, and treatment options for individuals with a BRCA gene mutation—continuing to give hope where there was once little.

**Increased lifetime cancer risk with a BRCA mutation**

- **Breast**: Up to 80%
- **Ovarian**: Up to 45%
- **Prostate**: Up to 25%

**MOLECULAR DETERMINANTS OF CHEMO-RESPONSIVENESS OF BRCA MUTANT CANCERS**

This project studies the molecular basis of the cell’s intrinsic and extrinsic mechanisms that dictate chemoresponsiveness of BRCA mutant cancers, and identifies novel strategies that overcome common mechanisms of resistance. This team’s work is informing us of why these cancers develop with the hope of targeting prevention, and has been published in high profile publications including Cancer, Cell, and Nature.

**Principal Investigator**

Roger Greenberg, MD, PhD

**Co-Investigators**

Angela DeMichele, MD, MSCE  
Robert Mach, PhD  
David Mankoff, MD, PhD  
Andy Minn, MD, PhD  
Warren Pear, MD, PhD  
Wei Tong, PhD  
Lin Zhang, MD
TESTING AT-RISK INDIVIDUALS FOR A BRCA1/2 MUTATION

This project focuses on the implementation of getting at-risk individuals tested for a BRCA1/2 mutation. The study seeks to reach out to individuals in communities with limited access to genetic services to ensure they get tested, particularly those who may not be comfortable coming to the Basser Center or large health systems. Using a two-tiered approach to this problem, the team is developing tailored risk assessment tools that can address cancer risk for women from a variety of backgrounds and by mutation type. In order to effectively deliver risk information and optimize decision making, the team is also testing the effectiveness of TeleGenetics (telephone or videoconferencing) to provide cancer risk counseling and cancer genetic testing to individuals in communities with limited access to genetic services. Efforts to facilitate widespread testing in Ashkenazi Jewish individuals are also underway.

Principal Investigator
Angela Bradbury, MD

OVERCOMING PARP INHIBITOR (PARP) RESISTANCE BY TARGETING THE ATR-CHK1 PATHWAY

This project is looking to overcome PARPi resistance in BRCA1/2 breast, ovarian, and pancreatic cancers by targeting the ATR-CHK1 pathway, a checkpoint kinase that regulates cancer cell survival. The study is proposing that targeting this pathway may serve as an alternative to PARPi treatment, or as a secondary line of therapy following development of PARPi resistance. The team’s preliminary studies indicate this approach kills BRCA1/2-mutant cancer cells—even ones that have been rendered resistant to PARPi. This project utilizes patient derived xenograft (PDX) models, PDX models utilize a patient’s tumor, which is removed and implanted in mice. The tumors grow in the mice and are then tested with different therapies that we can’t yet test in people.

Principal Investigators
Eric Brown, PhD
Fiona Simpkins, MD

Co-Investigators
Rugang Zhang, PhD
Mark Morgan, MD

EXTERNAL GRANTS PROGRAM
FURTHERING SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERY THROUGH COLLABORATION

Our goal is to help the best scientific minds work together to develop more advanced care and find a cure for BRCA-related cancers. It’s unusual for an academic institution to fund research outside of their own institution, but external grants are the best ways to promote cross-team collaboration and keep the entire research community focused on creating a better future for people affected by a BRCA mutation. By working together with the brightest minds around the world, team science can achieve our shared goals.

2014 FUNDED GRANTS

Analyses of the Genetic Interaction Between PARP2 and BRCA1/2
Principal Investigator
Sonia Franco, MD, PhD
Johns Hopkins University

The Role of BRCA1 Isoforms in PARP Inhibitor and Platinum Resistance
Principal Investigator
Neil Johnson, PhD
Fox Chase Cancer Center

DNA Repair Pathway Status and Mutational Profile Associated with Clinical Characteristic of BRCA Mutation Carriers
Principal Investigator
Zolfan Szallasi, MD
Boston Children’s Hospital

Understanding and Exploiting SIRT2/BRCA1 Interplay for Cancer Therapy
Principal Investigator
David Yu, MD, PhD
Emory University

Developing a Culturally Tailored Decision Aid on BRCA Genetic Testing for Orthodox Jewish Women
Principal Investigator
Katherine Crew, MD
Columbia University

2015 FUNDED GRANTS

Transcriptional CDK Inhibition in BRCA-Deficient Breast Cancer
Principal Investigator
Geoffrey Shapiro, MD, PhD
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

2014 FUNDED GRANTS

Mechanism-Based Strategies to Overcome Resistance and Augment Response to Targeted Therapy in BRCA Mutant Cancer
Principal Investigator
Junjie Chen, MD, PhD
MD Anderson Cancer Center

Targeting Familial Breast Cancer with RAD52 Inhibitors
Principal Investigator
Alexander Mazin, PhD
Drexel University

Minority Screenings and Community Outreach
Principal Investigator
Katherine Crew, MD
Columbia University

Analyses of the Genetic Interaction Between PARP2 and BRCA1/2
Principal Investigator
Sonia Franco, MD, PhD
Johns Hopkins University

The Role of BRCA1 Isoforms in PARP Inhibitor and Platinum Resistance
Principal Investigator
Neil Johnson, PhD
Fox Chase Cancer Center

DNA Repair Pathway Status and Mutational Profile Associated with Clinical Characteristic of BRCA Mutation Carriers
Principal Investigator
Zolfan Szallasi, MD
Boston Children’s Hospital

Understanding and Exploiting SIRT2/BRCA1 Interplay for Cancer Therapy
Principal Investigator
David Yu, MD, PhD
Emory University

Developing a Culturally Tailored Decision Aid on BRCA Genetic Testing for Orthodox Jewish Women
Principal Investigator
Katherine Crew, MD
Columbia University

2015 FUNDED GRANTS

Transcriptional CDK Inhibition inBRCA-Deficient Breast Cancer
Principal Investigator
Geoffrey Shapiro, MD, PhD
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

Analyses of the Genetic Interaction Between PARP2 and BRCA1/2
Principal Investigator
Sonia Franco, MD, PhD
Johns Hopkins University

The Role of BRCA1 Isoforms in PARP Inhibitor and Platinum Resistance
Principal Investigator
Neil Johnson, PhD
Fox Chase Cancer Center

DNA Repair Pathway Status and Mutational Profile Associated with Clinical Characteristic of BRCA Mutation Carriers
Principal Investigator
Zolfan Szallasi, MD
Boston Children’s Hospital

Understanding and Exploiting SIRT2/BRCA1 Interplay for Cancer Therapy
Principal Investigator
David Yu, MD, PhD
Emory University

Developing a Culturally Tailored Decision Aid on BRCA Genetic Testing for Orthodox Jewish Women
Principal Investigator
Katherine Crew, MD
Columbia University

The Ashkenazi Jewish community has a BRCA carrier rate ten times greater than that of the general population.

Increased Risk for Ashkenazi Jewish Community

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ashkenazi Jewish</th>
<th>General Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 in 40</td>
<td>1 in 500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
THE BASSER GLOBAL PRIZE

The Basser Center and the Basser Global Prize provide extraordinary opportunities for scientists to pursue research directed at reducing the heavy burden of a BRCA mutation. Support from the Basser Prize will strengthen our ability to identify new, non-invasive means of preventing BRCA1/2-related cancers.

2015 BASSER GLOBAL PRIZE RECIPIENT

David M. Livingston, MD

Over the course of his career, David M. Livingston, MD, has made significant contributions toward understanding how mutations in the DNA damage repair genes BRCA1 and BRCA2, and promote cancer development. Dr. Livingston is the Emil Frei Professor of Genetics and Medicine at Harvard Medical School, and Deputy Director of the Dana-Farber/Harvard Cancer Center. He presented the keynote address at the 2016 Scientific Symposium and we are honored to have him as the 3rd Basser Global Prize recipient. His work will help to better treat and eventually prevent molecular changes in the cells that lead to cancer.

“The Basser Center and the Basser Global Prize provide extraordinary opportunities for scientists to pursue research directed at reducing the heavy burden of a BRCA mutation. Support from the Basser Prize will strengthen our ability to identify new, non-invasive means of preventing BRCA1/2-related cancers.”

DAVID M. LIVINGSTON, MD
2015 Basser Global Prize recipient
Mary-Claire King, PhD, the genetic researcher credited with the first identification of the BRCA1 gene, was honored with the 2nd Basser Global Prize. She is the American Cancer Society Research Professor of Genetics and Medicine at the University of Washington whom demonstrated that a single gene was responsible for breast and ovarian cancer in many families.

Dr. King’s discovery of BRCA1 revolutionized the study of numerous other common inherited diseases, and she continues to pioneer the development of experimental and bioinformatic genomics tools to study common, complex human diseases and health conditions. Dr. King presented the keynote address at the 2015 Scientific Symposium.

“I am honored to be recognized with this prize from the Basser Center for BRCA. With support from organizations like the Basser Center, we will continue to see huge improvements in the prevention and treatment of inherited breast and ovarian cancers.”

MARY-CLAIRE KING, PHD
2014 Basser Global Prize recipient
UNDERSTANDING OPTIONS SAVES LIVES

Our ongoing effort to reach out to affected communities helps individuals become aware, get tested, and understand all of their available options. The Basser Center is here to help each person living with a BRCA mutation make more informed, personal choices.

SPREADING THE WORD

Some of the most important services we provide through the Basser Center focus on communicating what is known of BRCA mutations to individuals and families, and by helping them understand their options. Throughout the years, we’ve made connections with so many individuals and families around the globe, whether at a live event, by editorial or social messaging, or through virtual meetings and seminars.

Outreach

- 1,363 New Individuals in Research Registry
- 800 Educational Emails to Rabbis
- 1,400 Facebook Followers
- 79,482 Facebook Ad Views
- 27 Outreach Events
- 45 Unique News Stories
- 25 States and 4 Countries Accessed the Elizabeth Prostic Webinar Series
- 1,363 New Individuals in Research Registry

Outreach

- Understanding options saves lives
- Our ongoing effort to reach out to affected communities helps individuals become aware, get tested, and understand all of their available options. The Basser Center is here to help each person living with a BRCA mutation make more informed, personal choices.
3RD ANNUAL PROTECT YOUR GIRLS
April 26, 2015
When does a bra become more than an undergarment? When it’s reimagined for a great cause. Moms and daughters came together for the 3rd annual Protect Your Girls Fundraiser, an afternoon of brunch and competitive bra making. The fundraiser, held in New York City, was sponsored by Glamour magazine and featured fabulous bra designs judged by an expert panel, including Milly’s Michelle Smith, Fieldston’s Nancy Fried, Fashionista.com’s Chantal Fernandez, and a Glamour fashion editor.

BASSER ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC SYMPOSIUM
May 11-12, 2015
The Basser Center for BRCA sponsored its 3rd annual scientific symposium, an educational event that attracts experts from around the world to learn about recent advances in breast and ovarian cancer genetics. Topics included vaccines for BRCA-related cancers, population-based screening, and issues with current cancer treatments. Speakers included Basser grant recipients and keynote speaker and Basser Global Prize winner Mary-Claire King, PhD, who is credited with discovering the BRCA1 gene.

1ST ANNUAL BREAKTHROUGHS & DISCOVERIES EVENT
May 11, 2015
Our 1st Annual Breakthroughs and Discoveries event featured more lay-friendly discussions with renowned experts on BRCA-related research and care. Moderated by Basser Center Executive Director Dr. Susan Domchek, guests had the opportunity to learn about the latest in research breakthroughs and ask their most pressing questions about BRCA-related research and care, from the translation of discoveries in the lab to gaining a deeper understanding of what having a BRCA1/2 mutation can mean to affected families.

LAUNCHING THE ELIZABETH PROSTIC MEMORIAL OUTREACH PROGRAM
September 17, 2015
The inaugural Elizabeth Prostic Memorial Outreach Program event was held in Kansas City in collaboration with the Jewish Federation of Greater Kansas City. The event launched the webinar series, which in its first webinar gathered 87 participants from 4 countries and 25 states, to focus on issues surrounding young women with a BRCA mutation.

20TH ANNUAL SISTERS SURVIVING BREAST CANCER
October 10, 2015
The Basser Center hosted the first-ever genetics workshop at the 20th Annual Sisters Surviving Breast Cancer patient education conference co-hosted by Penn Medicine’s Abramson Cancer Center and Women of Faith and Hope.

CENTER FOR JEWISH GENETICS PARTNERSHIP EVENT
October 14, 2015
The Center for Jewish Genetics and the Basser Center for BRCA hosted a panel discussion at the Chicago Botanical Garden to educate women and men in the Jewish community about BRCA-related mutations. The event attracted a great turnout and fostered active discussions about Ashkenazi Jewish population screening and how to broach this sensitive topic with family and friends. Keynote speaker Dr. Susan Domchek was among the experts whom covered strategies for identification of high-risk families and options for interventions, including screening and preventative surgery. Five panelists represented the fields of medical oncology, surgery, genetics, gynecologic oncology, and advocacy.
Financial support for the Basser Center creates powerful change. The funds we raise support research at Penn Medicine and around the world, making information about BRCA mutations available to more people, improving counseling to families, and educating individuals about their options.

$3.2M
GRANTS AWARDED

26
INVESTIGATORS & RESEARCHERS FUNDED

$10M
DONATIONS

1,568
GIFTS RECEIVED

54
PAPERS PUBLISHED

Homologous Hope is the large-scale sculpture created for the Basser Center for BRCA by internationally renowned artist, Mara Haseltine. Suspended from the glass atrium in the Perelman Center for Advanced Medicine, the piece uses a LED light show to illustrate the stages of homologous recombination, the part of the BRCA2 gene responsible for repairing DNA that causes breast, ovarian, prostate, and pancreatic cancer. It represents the beacon of hope the Basser Center is giving to countless families and their loved ones.
On Tuesday, November 10, 2015, the Basser Center held the first-ever Basser Jean Bash, a fundraising event in New York City to honor Basser Center founders Mindy and Jon Gray. Over 1,100 people came out to Unzip their Genes and raise over $8 million to support the Basser Center. Guests heard stories of hope and inspiration and rocked out to Freestyle Love Supreme and American Authors.

The Basser Jean Bash was generously underwritten so that every dollar raised supports the life-saving mission of the Basser Center. The event also launched a dynamic, animated video narrated by Katie Couric that can be viewed at basser.org.

Raising Awareness and Funds Through Fashion

The Basser Center’s partnership with international denim and clothing brand rag & bone created an evening that was custom fit and unique. Guests were able to purchase the rag & bone/Basser jeans at the event. These first-edition jeans are almost gone, but you can order yours at basser.org/rag-bone.

Limited Edition “Unzip Your Genes” T-Shirts

To commemorate the first-ever Basser Jean Bash, we commissioned these unique T-shirts that continue to raise awareness of and support to the Basser Center. To order yours in the perfect size, visit www.basser.org/tshirt.

THE BASSER JEAN BASH

On Tuesday, November 10, 2015, the Basser Center held the first-ever Basser Jean Bash, a fundraising event in New York City to honor Basser Center founders Mindy and Jon Gray. Over 1,100 people came out to Unzip their Genes and raise over $8 million to support the Basser Center. Guests heard stories of hope and inspiration and rocked out to Freestyle Love Supreme and American Authors.

The Basser Jean Bash was generously underwritten so that every dollar raised supports the life-saving mission of the Basser Center. The event also launched a dynamic, animated video narrated by Katie Couric that can be viewed at basser.org.

Raising Awareness and Funds Through Fashion

The Basser Center’s partnership with international denim and clothing brand rag & bone created an evening that was custom fit and unique. Guests were able to purchase the rag & bone/Basser jeans at the event. These first-edition jeans are almost gone, but you can order yours at basser.org/rag-bone.

Limited Edition
“Unzip Your Genes” T-Shirts

To commemorate the first-ever Basser Jean Bash, we commissioned these unique T-shirts that continue to raise awareness of and support to the Basser Center. To order yours in the perfect size, visit www.basser.org/tshirt.
This year, we’re grateful to our amazing partners and collaborators who have helped us increase awareness and provide support to high-risk individuals.

Bright Pink
Center for Jewish Genetics (Chicago, IL)
Chester Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
Congregation Beth El (Voorhees, NJ)
Congregation B’nai Jeshurun (Short Hills, NJ)
Congregation Keneseth Israel (Elkins Park, PA)
Facing Our Risk of Cancer Empowered (FORCE)
HIS Breast Cancer Awareness
Houston Methodist Cancer Center
Jewish Community Center in Manhattan’s PREformances Series with Allison Charney
Jewish Community Center in Manhattan
Jewish Federation of Southern NJ
Jewish Federation of Greater Kansas City
Living Beyond Breast Cancer
Marjorie B. Cohen Foundation
Office of Diversity at the Abramson Cancer Center
Penn Consortium of Undergraduate Women
Pink Ribbon Journey - Stories from the Heart
Program for Jewish Genetic Health
(of Yeshiva University/Albert Einstein College of Medicine)
Protect Your Girls
Sharsheret
Susan G. Komen Philadelphia
Temple Beth Shalom (Manalapan, NJ)
Temple Beth Sholom (Cherry Hill, NJ)

PARTNERS AND COLLABORATORS
Success comes through partnership

This year, we’re grateful to our amazing partners and collaborators who have helped us increase awareness and provide support to high-risk individuals.

Bright Pink
Center for Jewish Genetics (Chicago, IL)
Chester Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
Congregation Beth El (Voorhees, NJ)
Congregation B’nai Jeshurun (Short Hills, NJ)
Congregation Keneseth Israel (Elkins Park, PA)
Facing Our Risk of Cancer Empowered (FORCE)
HIS Breast Cancer Awareness
Houston Methodist Cancer Center
Jewish Community Center in Manhattan’s PREformances Series with Allison Charney
Jewish Community Center in Manhattan
Jewish Federation of Southern NJ
Jewish Federation of Greater Kansas City
Living Beyond Breast Cancer
Marjorie B. Cohen Foundation
Office of Diversity at the Abramson Cancer Center
Penn Consortium of Undergraduate Women
Pink Ribbon Journey - Stories from the Heart
Program for Jewish Genetic Health
(of Yeshiva University/Albert Einstein College of Medicine)
Protect Your Girls
Sharsheret
Susan G. Komen Philadelphia
Temple Beth Shalom (Manalapan, NJ)
Temple Beth Sholom (Cherry Hill, NJ)

BASSER CENTER LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

Special thanks to our Basser Center Leadership Council, who tirelessly advocate, inform, and engage on behalf of the Basser Center. The Council enhances and supports the Center’s broader mission and provides hope to patients and families by securing the resources needed to accelerate BRCA-related research, care, and education.

Council members:
Mindy Gray – Chair
Cindy Gavin
Susan Getz
Michael Haas
Michele Konner
Shari Potter
Jessica Queller
Stacey Sager
Jill Steinberg
Dana Zucker
Anonymous members

“We hope that the Basser Center will eliminate BRCA-related cancers and, in doing so, provide a road map for curing other genetic diseases. As Penn graduates, we are fortunate that our alma mater has the world-class medical facilities and gifted researchers essential for this mission.”

MINDY AND JON GRAY
Founders, Basser Center for BRCA
DONORS

Gifts listed below are from July 1, 2014 through December 31, 2015, and reflect cumulative giving during that time period.

$250,000 and above
David Bonderman
Mindy and Jon Gray
Michelle and Kevin Konner
Shari and Len Potter
The late Margaret Grace Sherman
Carol and Norman Stone

$100,000 - $249,999
Karen and Bill Ackman / Pershing Square Capital
Debra and Ken Caplan
Julie and Frank Cohen
The Derfner Foundation and Jay L. Lieberman
GLP
Nick and Peter Gould
Josefin and Paul Hilal
Susu and George Johnson
Matthew Miller and The National Tenure Family
Lori and Michael Nash
Jamie Nicholls and Fran Biondi
Marjorie Prostic and Dr. Edward J. Prostic
Sara and Eric Resnick
John G. Schreiber / Centaur Capital Partners, Inc.
Simpson Thacher and Bartlett, LLP
Sharon and Bill Stein
Rachel and Gary Sumers
Lydia and George Weiss

$10,000 - $99,999
Betty Adelman and the late Herbert Adelman
Rosieha and A.J. Agnese
Arun and Fran Agarwal Charitable Fund
Anonymous
Apacchi Global Management
Tom August / Equity Office Properties
Lily and Doug Band
Bank of America Merrill Lynch
Abbie and Joe Baratta
Stacey Ethel-Polley
Peel and Philip Basser
Bass Family Foundation
Cassandra and Gordon Berger
Kane Berger
Lee and Ian J. Berg Fund
Wendy and Howard Berk
Geoffrey C. Bible
The Blackstone Charitable Foundation
Lisa and Jeff Bliu
Allison and David Brier
Dorothy and Michael Bontrager
Bost Family Foundation
Brookfield Property Partners
The Byrum Family Foundation
Michael Carroll
CIBER
Melissa and John Ceriale
Alena and Michael Char
Chicago Title Insurance Company
Citi - Corporate and Investment Banking
Neil Clark
Lawrence J. Cohen and Jay Cheesman / Pembroke Companies, Inc.
Carp and Rosalind Cohen
Allison and Tim Coleman
Commonwealth Land Title
Milton Cooper
Debrette
Antonette Delruelle and Joshua L. Steiner
Nick De Martini / Fidelity National Title
Deutsche Bank Securities Inc.
Susan and David Getz
Mark Gibson
Gibson Dunn and Crutcher, LLP
Cindy and Evan Goldberg
Goldman, Sachs and Co
Meg and Bennett Goodman Family Foundation
John and Amy Griffin Foundation, Inc.
Kenneth C. Griffin
Violet and Michael Gross
Robert and Lynne Grossman Family Foundation
Michael J. Haas
Douglas K. Harmon
Joshua J. Harris
Hannes and Boris, LLP
Robert C. Heady
Randy and Eunice Henry
Mary and Stuart Hensch
HFZ Capital
Janine and Tom Hill
Hilton Grand Vacations
Hilton Worldwide
The Hofwyls Family Foundation, Inc.
Holliday Fenoglio Fowler, LP
Amie and Tony James
JDJ Realty Management, LLC
J.P. Morgan Securities, LLC
Jordan Kaplan
Erica and Michael Karsh
Kasowitz, Benson, Torres and Friedman, LLP
Loretta and Victor Kaufman
Sheryl and Chip Kaye
Davidson Kempner Capital Management, LP
Casey Klein and Bruce Menin / Crescent Heights
Debra and Mark Klein
Beth and Michael Klein

"When we have the vaccine for BRCA-related cancers and other powerful preventative and curative strategies, it will be because of the transformative Basser Center for BRCA. Penn is committed to creating a better future for men and women around the world with these inherited cancers."

CHI V. DANG, MD, PHD
John H. Glick, MD Abramson Cancer Center Director’s Professor
Director, Abramson Cancer Center
This work is not possible without partners like you. Your continued vision and generosity is helping the Basser Center work towards our common goal of providing better prevention, early detection, and treatment options for individuals and families affected by a BRCA mutation. From all our patients, families, researchers, caregivers, and staff — we thank you.

Learn more about the Basser Center for BRCA by visiting basser.org or calling (215) 662-2748.

For more information about supporting the Basser Center for BRCA, please contact Laura Ferraiolo at (215) 746-2948 or lferr@upenn.edu.