



GUT INSTINCT

MAKING SENSE OF IT ALL 2016 | Issue 4

A Newsletter of the Gastro-Intestinal Research Foundation and The University of Chicago Medicine Digestive Diseases Center



Medical Director David T. Rubin with Attendees at the 2016 GI Research Foundation Donor Appreciation Picnic

GI RESEARCH FOUNDATION DONOR APPRECIATION PICNIC

Donors, family, friends, physicians, and patients came together on Sunday, September 25th to enjoy the festivities of the GI Research Foundation Associates Board Donor Appreciation Picnic at the Vertiport helicopter hangar in Chicago. The first event of its kind, the afternoon included many wonderful amusements for children of all ages, including carnival games, a bounce house, face painting, balloon artistry, music, picnic fare, ice cream, and food trucks. All were provided free of charge, as a special thank you for the donors' ongoing commitment to the GI Research Foundation.

The venue offered guests a front row seat to parked helicopters in the hangar, providing photo opportunities for would-be pilots, as well as to helicopter takeoffs and landings from the adjacent helipad. Event organizers, Frank Matagrano and Katie Chudnovsky, worked tirelessly to put together a fantastic event. David T. Rubin, MD, offered a warm thank you to the event organizers and the GI Research Foundation Associates Board.

As an exciting conclusion to the day's fun, attendees participated in a raffle, trying their luck to win travel, art, sports memorabilia,

continued on page 2

DONOR APPRECIATION PICNIC HIGHLIGHTS



Event Co-Chairs Katie Chudnovsky and Frank Matagrano



Attendees enjoyed face painting, balloon art, carnival games and more



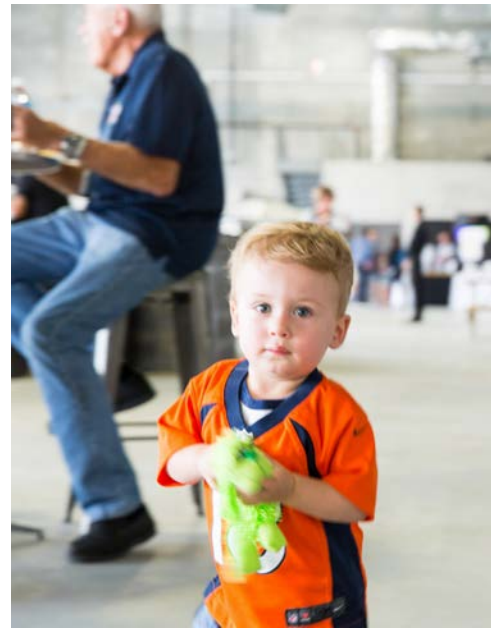
GI Research Foundation Board President Eric Berlin with Norm and Patty Hanson



Sushila Dalal, MD, with Sonali Paul, MD, and families



David T. Rubin, MD, and a young fan



The event was a first for the GI Research Foundation, and well attended by donors and their families.



Vanessa Leone, PhD (pg 5) and guest



Vertiport Chicago is a working heliport on Chicago's southwest side



Participants tried their luck to win raffle prizes.

DONOR PICNIC

continued from page 3

photography, and the best prize of all, dinner with Medical Director David Rubin. As an especially generous contribution, the Chudnovsky family agreed to match all donations raised on the day up to \$10,000, making the fundraiser a great success.

“We have been looking for new ways to bring our donors together and invite new donors to join our organization, and spending this afternoon together was a wonderful way to begin. I hope it becomes a GI Research Foundation tradition,” said Sabrina Bier, outgoing GI Research Foundation Executive Director and longtime organization volunteer.

To become involved with the GI Research Foundation Associates Board, please email girf@uchicago.edu.



Lots to do for littles at the GI Research Foundation Donor Appreciation Picnic



NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME

KIMBERLY COADY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The GI Research Foundation Board of Directors is pleased to welcome Kimberly Coady as the new Executive Director of the Foundation. Kim was previously the Associate Director of the University of Chicago Cancer Foundation for 7 years, and brings a wealth of experience in nonprofit administration, fundraising, and event planning. We look forward to her continued success at the GI Research Foundation.

EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR FOR PATIENTS AND FAMILIES

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2017

An evening seminar featuring the multidisciplinary team from the Inflammatory Bowel Disease Center. *Free.*

ibcenter.uchicago.edu

SAVE THE DATE:

2017 GI RESEARCH FOUNDATION ANNUAL BALL

SATURDAY, MAY 20, 2017

Don't miss next year's gala event at the Radisson Blu Chicago! Visit giresearchfoundation.org for the latest information.

ABOUT THE GASTRO-INTESTINAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION:

A non-profit dedicated to raising funds to support the physicians and scientists at The University of Chicago Medicine Digestive Diseases Center in their efforts to provide outstanding care, train future leaders and perform innovative clinical and laboratory research in order to treat, cure and prevent digestive diseases.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO DIGESTIVE DISEASES CENTER

is a collaborative, multidisciplinary network of physicians, researchers, and allied health professionals who share a legacy of innovation and a common purpose: to improve the lives of patients who suffer from digestive diseases.

CONTACT INFORMATION

The Gastro-Intestinal Research Foundation

Executive Director: Kimberly Coady

70 East Lake Street, Suite 1015, Chicago, Illinois 60601

Email info@girf.org Phone 312.332.1350 Fax 312.332.4757



@ResearchGI (GIRF)



/GIResearchFoundation

The Digestive Diseases Center

Newsletter Editor: Anna Gombert

5841 S. Maryland Avenue, MC 4076, Chicago, Illinois 60637

Email ibdcenter@uchicago.edu UCM Connect 1.888.824.0200

Physician Referrals 1.866.UC.GI.DOC



@IBDMD (David T. Rubin, MD)



/UChicagoIBDCenter

@UChicagoIBD (IBD Center)