



NEWSLETTER OF THE DANFORTH CENTER

WHD Legacy Society

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WHERE THERE'S A WILL

Legacy Gifts Make a Measurable Impact

Last month, the Danforth Center and many charities around the country celebrated **National Make a Will Month**. Make a Will Month is a reminder of the importance of making and regularly revising a will.

At the Danforth Center, it's a time for us to reflect on the generosity of our Legacy Society members. Since our founding in 1998, nearly 60 households have made a gift to the Danforth Center through their will or other means of legacy giving. These acts of generosity have funded early-stage scientific projects and educational opportunities for students while cementing St. Louis as

the world capital of plant science. To our supporters who have chosen to give in this special way, we thank you for being a partner in our efforts to improve the human condition through plant science.

If you've ever considered making a gift like this to support the Danforth Center, we'd be honored to have a conversation with you. Either way, we hope that everyone who supports the Danforth Center has a will that fits their wishes and protects the peace of mind of them and their loved ones.

Visit legacy.danforthcenter.org to find the best option for you, or contact Parker Butler at 314.587.1071 or pbutler@danforthcenter.org.

PAYING IT FORWARD

Mike and Barbara Willock Have a Passion for Giving Back

Recently, when Barbara Willock was asked about the Danforth Center, and why she and her husband Mike have become two of its most dedicated supporters, she said, “The whole enterprise is not *profit*-driven, but *people*-driven. It’s not: What do we want to make profit from? It’s: How do we help people?” That same sentiment sums up the mission of Mike and Barbara.

Having first met as students at the University of Texas at Austin, the couple were married two years after they began dating. And in 1981, when Mike got a job within Monsanto’s ag group as a chemical engineer, the two of them, and their son, John, moved to St. Louis.

Here, Mike and Barbara have worked to support their community and are particularly active within Second Presbyterian Church. When Barbara learned about the Center from a friend, they found that it aligned perfectly with their values, and the two became members of the WHD Legacy Society last year. “The big motivation for us both in



Mike and Barbara Willock, members of both the Danforth Society and the William H. Danforth Legacy Society.

becoming involved and increasing our involvement is the nonprofit-driven desire to help people, and give away what we have,” Barbara says. “To me, that’s just what we’re put here to do.”

With every new gift the Willocks make, their goal is to pay it forward. And by becoming a part of the Danforth Center, they have been able to extend their generosity further than ever. “You can’t pay back for what’s been done. But you can try to create a better future,” says Mike. “The Danforth Center is right at the cutting edge of that.”



“The potential to make an impact motivates me every day. Each day brings a new opportunity to make a scientific discovery.”

Kevin Cox, PhD
Principal Investigator



LEGACY SOCIETY LUNCHEON

On June 9, we welcomed some of our strongest supporters to the Center for our annual Legacy Society Luncheon. Principal Investigator Kevin Cox, PhD, was the featured guest.

Future-proof your giving. Planned gifts offer flexible funding to bridge research and keep momentum strong. Call Parker Butler at 314.587.1071 to learn more.



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**THERE IS A
FUTURE...**

**Concludes
Dec. 31!**