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\$1.25M gift to aid UTSW research

PHILANTHROPY



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The Presbyterian Village North Foundation has given \$1.25 million toward Alzheimer's research at UT Southwestern Medical Center.

The donation includes \$1 million to the Southwestern Medical Foundation to establish the Presbyterian Village North Foundation Distinguished Chair in Alzheimer's Disease Therapeutic Research. The rest of the gift will go to support the work of Dr. Roger Rosenberg.

Rosenberg and his team at the Alzheimer's Disease Center at UT Southwestern are working on a vaccine that could significantly reduce the levels of toxic amyloid proteins in the human brain. The proteins are thought to cause memory loss and dementia. The vaccine has been tested in mice and could soon be submitted to the Food and Drug Administration for testing.

"We greatly appreciate Presbyterian Village North Foundation's commitment to

helping unravel the mysteries of this disease and find breakthroughs for the treatment of Alzheimer's patients through research," said Dr. Daniel K. Podolsky, president of UT Southwestern.

The foundation's executive committee is led by chair Billye Miars and vice chair Bob Maier. Committee members are Bob Symon, Jack Holmes, Erik Vohtz and Jim Wiley. Its board members were also involved with the donation, including Harvey Cragon, Pat Mills, Margaret Ann Thetford and Dr. Joe Roach.

Foundation executive director Margaret Zagurski said: "We're honored to support Southwestern Medical Foundation and UT Southwestern in their ongoing search for medical breakthroughs."

The Alzheimer's Disease Center at UT Southwestern is one of 29 specialty centers in the country designated by the National Institute on Aging.

Researchers and the staff there are following almost 850 patients, and an additional 420 people are participating in observational studies.

"We are grateful and touched by the tremendous support of Presbyterian Village North Foundation in helping further the understanding and treatment of Alzheimer's disease," said Kathleen Gibson, president and CEO of Southwestern Medical Foundation.

The Presbyterian Village North Foundation provides financial assistance for qual-



KATHLEEN GIBSON

ifying residents of Presbyterian Village North, a North Dallas senior living community. In nearly 30 years of oper-

ation, the foundation has made grants of approximately \$22 million.