expanding the frontiers of neuroscience

to accelerate healing and inspire hope
MISSION

The Mayfield Education & Research Foundation exists to advance the care of patients with brain and spine disorders through leading-edge education and research.

THE FOUNDATION

Since 1978 the Mayfield Education & Research Foundation has supported groundbreaking advancements in the neurosciences, a field that exists largely on the outermost boundaries of knowledge. Neuroscientists have made great advancements in the last century, but there is still much we do not know. These uncharted territories offer limitless opportunities to save lives or vastly improve the quality of life for those suffering from some of humanity’s most painful, chronic, and unpredictable diseases and disorders.

Patients with neurological diseases and disorders are often stricken forcefully and without warning, or are suffering for long periods of time with mysterious symptoms, not knowing where to turn for help. The Mayfield Education & Research Foundation funds research that seeks answers and that works to translate those answers into effective treatments, useful information, and hope.

THE CLINIC

The Mayfield Education & Research Foundation is affiliated with the Cincinnati-based Mayfield Clinic, recognized as one of the world’s leading organizations for clinical care, education, and research of the brain and spine. Supported by 20 neurosurgeons, the Clinic treats more than 20,000 patients from 35 states and 13 countries in a typical year while continuing a long history of excellence, innovation, and compassionate care.

Since its founding in 1937, the Mayfield Clinic has been a leader in the field of neuroscience, building a long and distinguished tradition through a commitment to innovation in the laboratory and the operating room. Today, Mayfield neurosurgeons continue their pursuit of life-changing and life-saving techniques through multi-disciplinary, collaborative research in the areas of traumatic brain injury, stroke and aneurysms, brain tumors, Parkinson’s disease, epilepsy, spinal disorders, and chronic pain.

Each day, these physicians strive to know more than the day before. Every working moment, they are teaching those whose hands will hold the surgeon’s tools tomorrow. And at every possible opportunity, they are instilling new hope in patients and their caregivers. Taken together, this dedication to research, teaching, and patient care puts the Mayfield Clinic at the forefront of neurosurgical care.

The Mayfield Education & Research Foundation exists to support and sustain the legacy of the Mayfield Clinic by promoting leading-edge research and development alongside accessible, relevant education for physicians, patients and their families, and the community at large.

Joyce and Basil were facing a future of disability from complex spinal disorders when they discovered the Mayfield Clinic. Spinal fusion surgery relieved Joyce’s pain, and 20 hours of spinal reconstruction enabled Basil to stand up straight and look people in the eye again.

Dr. Frank Mayfield founded the Mayfield Clinic in 1937 and started a tradition of innovation.
PRIORITIES

• We support innovative research that advances the field and spurs the development of tools, technologies, and procedures that improve patient care before, during, and after treatment.

• We support hands-on education of residents, fellows, and physicians to guarantee that Cincinnati and the United States will continue to lead the way in the international field of neuroscience.

• We support compassionate education of patients and the community; we seek to help patients and families understand their own unique condition and treatment options; and we offer additional ways to cope.

AREAS OF FOCUS

Foundation funds are allocated to targeted areas that are either underfunded or likely to yield benefits from additional resources or exploration:

• Laboratory (Bench) Research at the Molecular Level to unearth new ideas and investigate alternative possibilities

• Seed Money for Innovative, Small-Scale Studies that offer the potential to yield preliminary results capable of drawing larger federal grants, corporate sponsorship, or capital venture funds

• Clinical Trials of New Therapies for Patients to further test and explore promising treatments and potential cures

• Development of New Technologies that enhance surgical capabilities and improve patient outcomes

• Renovation and Expansion of Education & Research Facilities to sustain state-of-the-art exploration and learning environments

We also seek to educate patients, their caregivers, and their clinical teams through:

• Resident, Fellow, and Surgical Training that advances knowledge in the field

• Patient Education: Preventive, Procedural, and Post-Procedural to supply timely, relevant information and support

• Clinics, Conferences, Symposia, and White Papers that contribute to international research and educational dialogue

Inside the brain, a millimeter can separate failure from survival. Precisely measuring anatomical structures enables us to teach the safest surgical path, leading to improved surgical outcomes and better care for patients.
CONTRIBUTING Since 1978 the Mayfield Education & Research Foundation has supported groundbreaking research and has promoted the sharing of knowledge with both the medical community and the patient population. Dedicated to their work and devoted to their patients, Mayfield Clinic physicians already contribute a significant portion of their earnings to the foundation annually. Nevertheless, as the frontier of neuroscience continues to expand with every new discovery, we wish to go further. We look to our community and corporate leaders to strengthen Cincinnati’s stellar medical community and support our transition to an international model for collaboration and forward thinking. We hope you will join us on our quest.

Today, more than 50 million Americans are living with a neurological disease, and more than 20,000 individuals are served by the Mayfield Clinic each year. The Mayfield Education & Research Foundation is thus uniquely positioned to impact people all around us: our colleagues, our neighbors, and the family we hold most dear. We seek to build upon existing knowledge and expertise to give hope for an improved condition, a better quality of life, a cure.

Your contribution can be earmarked for any area of special interest—research, medical education, or patient support. You can support research of a specific condition or disease, remember or inspire a loved one, or honor a doctor or caregiver. Like our work, the opportunities at the Mayfield Education & Research Foundation are boundless.

ONGOING RESEARCH*

- Investigating the formation of aneurysms to identify warning signals of an oncoming rupture
- Developing a simple blood test to diagnose and prescribe tailored therapies for Parkinson’s disease
- Studying the effect of sports-related concussions on young children, a population never studied before and especially vulnerable to brain injury
- Monitoring the brain activity of patients with severe head trauma to protect them from spreading waves of dangerous brain-cell inactivity
- Isolating why malignant brain tumors are resistant to conventional chemotherapy and radiation, and determining how to circumvent that resistance at the cellular level
- Studying repeat concussive injuries, with the goal of developing more accurate “return-to-play” guidelines and reducing long-term brain damage
- Inventing a robotic system for use in highly intricate neurosurgical operations to enable safer, more successful procedures

KERRY’S STORY One morning while Kerry was enjoying coffee and doughnuts at her church, she suddenly felt as if she might faint. Kerry sat down, then suffered a seizure. An MRI at a community hospital revealed a ruptured aneurysm, and Kerry was flown to University Hospital by helicopter for advanced care by Dr. Andrew Ringer, a neurosurgeon with the Mayfield Clinic. Research funded by the Mayfield Education & Research Foundation helped Dr. Ringer determine that endovascular coiling was the optimal treatment. The next morning, Dr. Ringer threaded a catheter up to Kerry’s brain from an incision in her leg and shut off the aneurysm’s blood supply by filling the aneurysm with tiny platinum coils. Today, Kerry is once again playing tennis with her friends, running in 5K races, and enjoying life with her husband and two young children. Says Kerry: “After a traumatic experience, I’m now back to that 100 percent and leading an active, aneurysm-free life.”

Members of Kerry’s family, grateful for the excellent care she received, are active supporters of the Mayfield Foundation.

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For more information, please contact the Foundation office at 513.569.5277 or moreinfo@mayfieldfoundation.org

* More information about our ongoing research can be found at www.mayfieldfoundation.org

When her brain cancer returned six months after her initial treatments in 1999, Sandra found her way to the Mayfield Clinic. Radiosurgery eradicated her tumor without an incision, and today Sandra is enjoying life, spending time with her husband of 44 years and tending her backyard garden.
Our educational mission has a global impact:
Graduates of our neurosurgery training program work in leading centers throughout the world.