



# THREE'S COMPANY

Partnership spawns new venture that may save infant lives

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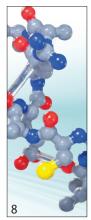
#### Living Our Vision

The Hampton Roads community came together to bring EVMS to life. For 45 years, we've done our best to pay it forward.

page 14

#### departments











- 4 EVMS Pulse
- 6 Picture This
- 7 Behind the Bench
- 10 Vision Quest
- 11 Off Campus
- 22 Photo Essay
- 24 Old School
- 25 Alumni Connections
- 26 My Story

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Recently I learned that an EVMS medical student is here today because of EVMS — literally. After five years of struggling to have a child, Phillip Connell's parents reached out to our Jones Institute of Reproductive Medicine, and Mr. Connell and his twin sister, Cameron, were born. Today, Mr. Connell says his decision to be a doctor is his way of paying it forward.

In the same vein, since our opening in 1973, EVMS has focused on paying it forward to the community that brought our institution to life. Our 45-year anniversary feature (*see page 14*) allows us to reflect on the diverse ways EVMS strives to make a positive difference in Hampton Roads.

Few people can match the positive difference Jane Gardner has made by sharing her battles with cancer. A respected regional newscaster for two decades, Ms. Gardner was working at EVMS when she was diagnosed with the first of four kinds of cancer she has survived. Learn why — when she could have been treated anywhere in the nation — she chose the specialists of EVMS (see page 12).

In our early days, medical research wasn't the priority at EVMS that it is today. Our expanding emphasis on research was confirmed in March by *U.S. News and World Report*, which evaluated the nation's 177 medical schools for research and ranked EVMS number 89.

One scientific discovery that may boost our ranking also could have a global impact. You might not know the terms "ReAlta" or "PIC1" (see page 8), but you soon will. Thousands of newborns who suffer brain damage and sometimes die from what has been a largely untreatable condition could be the first to benefit from this breakthrough.

Perhaps among our Class of 2018 — now embarking on exciting new journeys — is the physician or scientist whose medical advancement will save the life of someone close to you. That was our goal when our doors opened 45 years ago, and it remains our primary focus today. On behalf of everyone at EVMS, thank you for standing with us in that effort.

Sincerely,

Richard V. Homan, MD

Ruhand V. Boman

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Only 44 percent of parents or other caregivers always put their infants to sleep on their backs, says a recent study in the journal Pediatrics, despite ample evidence that doing so reduces the risk of sudden infant death syndrome and suffocation. Many others jeopardize the lives of babies by allowing them to sleep in beds with adults or in cribs that contain soft objects like toys and comforters.

Sleeptight Hampton Roads, launched in March, has aligned 23 regional health organizations to promote infant safe-sleep practices through collaboration, partnership and action. "Remember ABC," says C.W. Gowen, Professor and Chair of Pediatrics at EVMS and a neonatologist at Children's Hospital of The Kings Daughters. "Put babies to bed alone, on their backs and in a crib."

# EVMS earns national rankings in three areas

EVMS has earned a spot in one top-10 listing and two top-100 listings of the nation's best medical schools.

Based on the match rate of the MD Class of 2017, EVMS was named by *U.S. News and World Report* as one of the top 10 schools for students to be admitted to their first-choice residency match.

And for the first time, EVMS is listed among the nation's top medical schools for research in the *U.S. News and World Report* annual ranking. EVMS comes in at number 89 in the survey of all 177 U.S. medical schools.

In the second category, EVMS ranks in the top third of medical schools (number 53) for primary care.

#### Brock scholar turned tragedy into passion

Being at the center of a tragic situation can have a life-changing impact on a person. That was definitely the case for Brian Williams, MD, Medical Director for Parkland Community Health Institute in Texas.



Brian Williams, MD

In 2016, Dr. Williams was the presiding trauma surgeon at Parkland Hospital when a sniper shot 12 Dallas police officers who were protecting a peaceful protest. After that tragedy, he emerged with a new passion for social justice. Dr. Williams came to EVMS recently as a Brock Scholar to share "Resilience and the Second Victim: Nexus of Race, Violence and Medicine."

Check your EVMS Pulse daily. Read these stories and more at evms.edu/pulse.

#### Building a healthier community

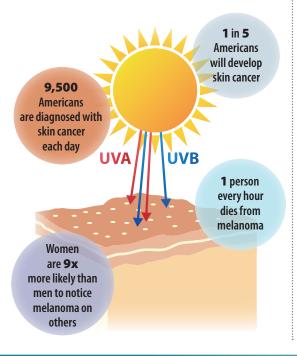
EVMS has broken ground on construction of an \$80 million building. The curving steel and glass structure will stand at the corner of Colley and Brambleton avenues and will serve as a dramatic feature to mark the entrance to Eastern Virginia Medical Center.

The building will provide modern space to accommodate the school's growing educational programs and will consolidate administrative offices now scattered across campus.



## Get checked for skin cancer

May is skin cancer awareness month, and EVMS Dermatology wants you to check your partner and yourself. According to the American Academy of Dermatology:



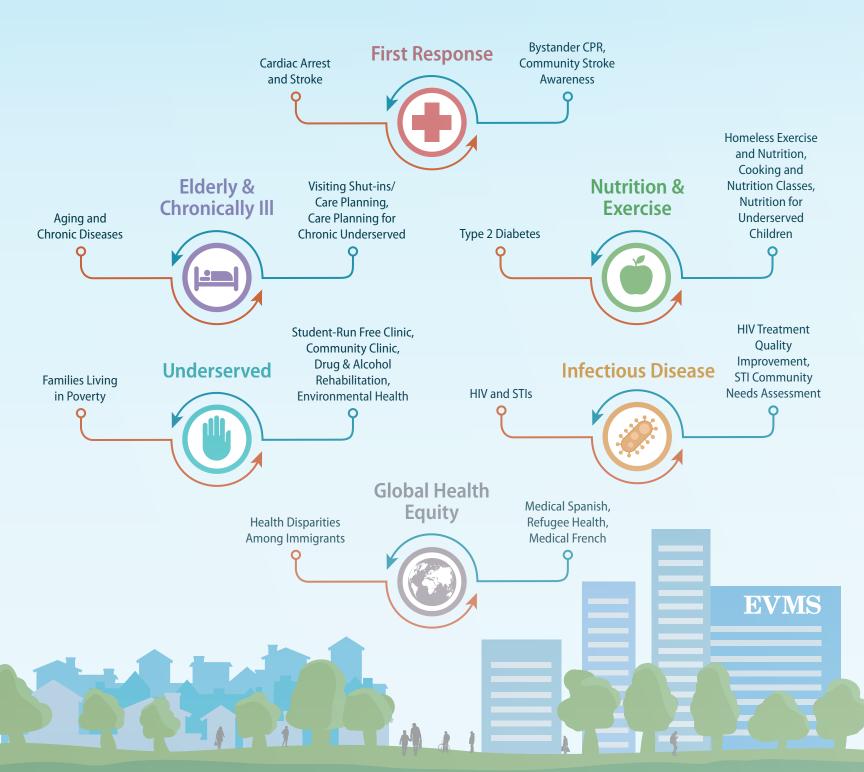


#### **PictureThis**

#### Service Learning: Integrating community and classroom

Service Learning at EVMS integrates meaningful community service with structured learning and reflection experiences to enhance our student physicians' overall education. It is being there with real people in authentic contexts. It is a type of learning that students cannot experience in a classroom alone. Currently, there are six service pathways.





# Viral video helps "safety queen" keep kids alive and well

If you haven't seen the booster-seat safety video produced by Kelli England Will, PhD, Professor of Pediatrics, you're one of the few. Less than two weeks after being posted on the EVMS Facebook page, the video had garnered nearly seven million views.

Through her work in risk communication, Dr. Will knows the life-or-death difference social media can make. A member of the Community Health and Research team in EVMS Pediatrics, she designs and evaluates behavior-change programs that improve the health and safety of children and teens. Several of her programs, including the "Boost 'em in the Back Seat" awareness campaign, have had a national impact.

She started on this path while working on her master's in psychology at Old Dominion University. An ODU professor who hired her as a research assistant for a study in which they proved the need for red-light cameras at traffic intersections.

"Suddenly," she says, "I felt like I was really making a difference in the community." That was in the late 1990s when the use of psychological principles to improve public health was novel to her, Dr. Will says.

As a doctoral student at Virginia Tech, she continued learning about risk communication through a project that addressed the use of children's car seats.



Several of her programs, including the "Boost 'em in the Back Seat" awareness campaign, have had a national impact. "At the time," she says, "nine out of 10 car seats were misused. I was so naïve — I thought it would simply take educating parents about the correct use. The problem was, every parent already thought he or she was the one in 10 using car seats correctly. I learned it wasn't just a knowledge problem. It was a risk-perception problem."

Kelli England Will, PhD

Professor of Pediatrics

**BehindtheBench** 

Since joining EVMS in 2003, Dr. Will has led grant-funded studies focused on preventing substance use and e-cigarette use among teens, as well as improving car-seat safety. "When I came here, I really wasn't sure if I would be successful," she says, noting that nearly all of her research depends on winning grants.

"Sometimes with research, you end up with more questions than you started with." A 2018 Governor's Transportation Safety Award is a recent reflection of her success.

As for her own children, ages 10 and 12, Dr. Will says they've adapted to having a child-safety expert as a mom. "I want them to have fun, but I do make them wear

helmets and other safety gear when it's appropriate.

"My daughter calls me the safety queen," Dr. Will adds, laughing, "and not always in a good way."  $\Box$ 

## THREE'S COMPANY

#### Partnership spawns new venture that may transform care

Three corporate allies in medicine have come together to form a new company that could save infant lives and revolutionize the care of autoimmune and inflammatory diseases.

EVMS, Children's Hospital of The King's
Daughters and Eriko Life Sciences Venture have
established the company known as ReAlta Life
Sciences, LLC. The company arose from the
work of scientist Neel Krishna, PhD, Professor
of Microbiology and Molecular Cell Biology,
and infectious disease specialist Kenji Cunnion,
MD, MPH, Associate Professor of Pediatrics.
Neonatologist and researcher Tushar Shah, MBBS,
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, has since joined

the research team.

Drs. Krishna and Cunnion were working in neighboring EVMS labs when they learned of each other's research and decided to join forces. They discovered a way to suppress a potentially deadly pathologic pathway of the human immune system known as the complement response. The complement system defends the body from infection but in certain

circumstances can be harmful or even lethal.

ReAlta's first clinical application is to reduce the effects of neonatal hypoxic ischemic encephalopathy (HIE), a leading cause of infant death and permanent cognitive disability for tens of thousands of infants each year worldwide. HIE results in brain cellular death or damage from a lack of oxygen due to the pathological effects of an over-expressed complement response.

Restoring oxygen as soon as possible is critical for infants with HIE, Dr. Krishna says. "The saying is, 'Time loss is brain loss.' It's like having a stroke."

No drug exists to treat HIE, according to Dr. Shah.

"HIE is a devastating disease that we see all too often in the Neonatal Intensive care Unit," he says. "The current treatment — temporarily cooling the child's body or brain — isn't always successful and only modestly improves outcomes."

ReAlta's experimental drug, dubbed PIC1 (Peptide Inhibitor of Complement C1), has been

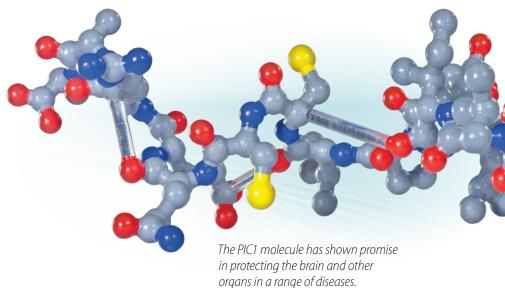
effective in decreasing brain
damage in animal
models of HIE.
"PIC1 is a
remarkable molecule," Dr.
Cunnion says. "It continues to

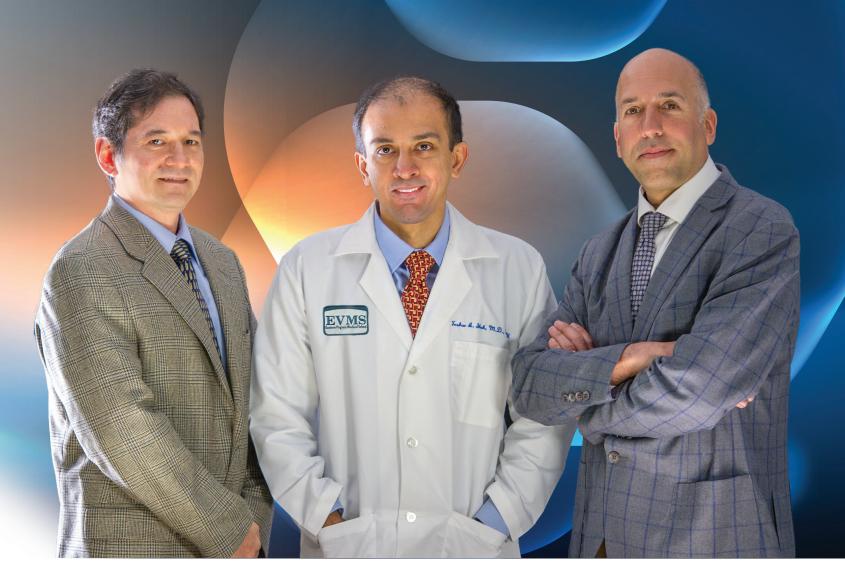
Cunnion says. "It continues to reveal exciting new properties that can protect the brain and other organs from severe damage." So far, the research has resulted

in 17 publications and generated more than \$3 million in grant support to further research.

ReAlta is the first outgrowth of a longstanding relationship among the partners.

ReAlta is the first outgrowth of a longstanding relationship among the partners and one of the first spin-off companies for EVMS.





Pediatric infectious disease specialist Kenji Cunnion, MD, left, and scientist Neel Krishna, PhD, were each conducting their own research when they compared notes and decided to collaborate. Later, they recruited neonatologist Tushar Shah, MBBS, center, to join them.

"We have enjoyed a productive academic partnership with CHKD and its affiliated physicians and surgeons," says Richard Homan, MD, President and Provost of EVMS and Dean of the School of Medicine. "ReAlta has the potential to have a remarkable impact in the care of severely ill children. This is a wonderful example of what can result from such a robust alliance."

CHKD and EVMS have been partners in education since the school opened in 1973. ReAlta's establishment further enhances that relationship, says James Dahling, CEO and President of Children's Hospital of The King's Daughters Health System.

"I'm thrilled to see this research progress to the next level," Mr. Dahling says. "This work has the potential to save many lives and reflects the value of the longstanding collaboration between CHKD, EVMS and the excellent physicians and researchers who bring so much to our organizations and our community."

John Harding, COO of CHKD Health System, worked behind the scenes to help bring the new company to life.

"Working on this project, and seeing all the pieces come together as we move forward, has been an incredible experience,"

he says. "I'm extremely impressed by the dedication and humility of Drs. Cunnion and Krishna, and excited about the impact this research can have on our patients and community."

Julie Kerry, PhD, the EVMS Foundation Distinguished Professor in Biomedical Sciences and Professor and Chair of Microbiology and Molecular Cell Biology, was equally impressed by the research insight, innovation and skills Drs. Krishna and Cunnion demonstrated.

"They had a result in the laboratory that was unexpected and could have been easily ignored," Dr. Kerry says. "Instead, they decided to pursue it, and Dr. Krishna's scientific expertise along with Dr. Cunnion's knowledge of clinical medicine were both necessary to move this research to where it is today. Complement plays a role in so many diseases, and this company could end up generating a therapeutic that could impact millions of lives."

C.W. Gowen, MD, Chair of Pediatrics, agrees that PIC1 has tremendous potential.

"Any disease process where complement plays a significant role," he says, "could respond to PIC1 in a beneficial way." □

#### vision Quest



#### "Community outreach shapes us to become more caring providers"

## Event gives students an opportunity to learn from the community and each other

On a cold morning in February, dozens of EVMS students from every discipline were eagerly waiting as more than 100 people made their way to Norfolk's Military Circle Mall for free health screenings, preventative health information, face painting and more.

Community Care Day has evolved over the years, but now it's being powered by new blood: the EVMS Student Government Association. The event was launched in 1993 as Primary Care Day, where community members could come to the EVMS campus and learn more about their health. Twenty-five years later, this student-led effort is still making an impact.

"As future healthcare providers," says Kim Seymour, MD Class of 2020, "I believe it is our moral obligation to take on as many outreach opportunities as possible because it is the best means to understand the needs of our community. Community outreach shapes us to become more caring and understanding providers while at the same time helps our communities in some small way.

"We want Hampton Roads residents to know that students are willing and interested in helping the community and are always looking for opportunities to get involved," Ms. Seymour says. "We truly appreciate their support to us as students, and giving back is the least we can do."

While the number-one goal is improving the health of the community, Community Care Day also gives students an opportunity to learn about other medical disciplines and the services they can offer.

"Interprofessionalism is an important skill in medicine," Ms. Seymour says, "and there is plenty we can all learn from each other, given the chance."  $\Box$ 

Stories on the Vision Quest page reflect ways in which EVMS strives to achieve its vision of being the most community-oriented school of medicine and health professions in the United States.



n campus, Alexandra Leader, MD, MPH, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics and Director of Global Health, strives to make an impact on the community by forging connections with the students she advises and the patients she sees in the emergency department. Off campus, after she tends to her three young sons, she plays the cello. She says the music helps her make meaningful connections with people and the world.

#### What sparked your interest in the cello?

I started playing the cello when I was 8 years old. Honestly, I think that I chose the instrument because it could make almost all of the animal noises in "Old MacDonald." But I have been continually drawn to the cello ever since because of the instrument's phenomenal repertoire and because its range of tone is similar to the human voice.

#### Where have you played recently?

When I was younger, I played in music ensembles and youth and university orchestras. Then I spent a year teaching cello lessons in Bolivian youth orchestras before going to medical school. In recent years, however, I primarily play duets with my husband, who is a violinist and violist.

# Do you see any connection between music and your work at EVMS?

Music, like medicine, connects you to the whole world. It is a language that transcends borders and allows you to communicate, collaborate, celebrate, learn, teach and grow with others.

#### What are you most passionate about in your work at EVMS?

I work with EVMS students, staff and faculty to address health inequities in Hampton Roads and in communities all over the world. I get to see students and whole communities awakened and empowered by their collaboration in these initiatives. And I work with a fabulous multidisciplinary team in the pediatric emergency department at CHKD. There is nothing I would rather do.

#### Why did you choose EVMS?

I chose to come to EVMS because I wanted to be a part of the Pediatric Emergency Medicine Fellowship program that Dr. Joel Clingenpeel [Associate Professor of Pediatrics] has built here. I received excellent training and was given tremendous support by CHKD, EVMS and Children's Specialty Group for my global health work and research in Latin America. My family and I chose to stay here because we feel very much a part of this community, and I was given the grand opportunity to help build and unify global health programs at EVMS. □

# Jane 4, Cancer 0 Former TV news anchor and EVMS staffer has battled four kinds of cancer — and won.

hen Jane Gardner learned she had breast cancer in 1999, she didn't ask, "Why me?" Instead, the former TV news anchor remembers thinking, "If one in eight women will have breast cancer, well, why not me?"

She won that battle. Then in 2009, she endured another one, this time with melanoma skin cancer. And in 2015, ovarian cancer. And in 2016, lung cancer.

By then, anyone would have asked, "Why me?"

Ms. Gardner, now 66, is small-boned and slight of frame, yet she exudes a quiet fierceness. Rarely has she expressed fear, even after being assigned in 1980 to co-anchor the news at WVEC-TV 13 — the first woman to do so.

After a 25-year career in broadcast journalism, many of those years reporting health stories, Ms. Gardner worked as Public Affairs Director at EVMS from 1998 to 2003. That's where her cancer battles began.

"When I was diagnosed with breast cancer," she says, "I could have gone anywhere in the country, but I wanted to see Roger Perry. He had been on call in the emergency room when my husband's appendix burst, and Dr. Perry saved his life. So I was already mighty fond of that man."

Roger Perry, MD, now Professor Emeritus of Surgery at EVMS and former Chief of Surgical Oncology, recommended that Ms. Gardner take part in a clinical trial. Both she and Dr. Perry credit it with saving her life.

"Jane was very much a participant in her care," Dr. Perry says. "She asked good questions and did her homework along the way. That's so important. She also did a brave thing in being public. It speaks to the kind of person she is, to want to help other people who have cancer. It took a lot of courage for her to do that."

During her breast-cancer treatment, Ms. Gardner experienced painful neuropathy, a side effect of her chemotherapy. For that, she turned to Aaron Vinik, MD, PhD, the Murray Waitzer Endowed Chair in Diabetes Research, Professor of Internal Medicine and Director of Research and the Neuroendocrine Unit at the EVMS Strelitz Diabetes Center.

"Dr. Vinik is world famous for his treatment of neuropathy," Ms. Gardner says. "Some of the drugs that were prescribed for mine, frankly, made me stupid. He helped me find a medication that didn't do that."

Having spent most of her life in the spotlight, she had few qualms about sharing her cancer struggles in *The Virginian-Pilot*, on local TV news broadcasts and in a talk she gave last year at The Chrysler Museum of Art called "Live Each Day."

"When I told my boss at EVMS that I had breast cancer," Ms.
Gardner remembers," she said, 'We can do this one of two
ways. You can keep it a secret, and we will respect your
privacy. Or we can share it with the EVMS community,
and you'll see how helpful and caring this medical
school can be.'

"Since you've seen my bald head in The Pilot, you can guess what I chose. And I learned the value of a support group."

Cancer-free now for nearly two years, she strives to embrace her "Live Each Day" philosophy.

"It's a beautiful day today," she says. "I went to the grocery store this morning and had a great time. I ran into Etta Vinik [Instructor of Internal Medicine and Assistant Director of Education at the EVMS Strelitz Diabetes Center] and had a wonderful conversation with her.

"How can I not feel fortunate that I can still get around?"  $\square$ 



#### Jane's EVMS Team

Twelve physicians and surgeons affiliated with EVMS have helped Jane Gardner beat back four kinds of cancer:

- Surgical oncologist Roger Perry, MD Professor Emeritus of Surgery
- Clinical oncologist Thomas Alberico, MD
   Assistant Professor of Clinical Internal Medicine
- Neuroendocrinologist Aaron Vinik, MD, PhD The Murray Waitzer Endowed Chair in Diabetes Research, Professor of Internal Medicine and Director of Research and the Neuroendocrine Unit at the EVMS Strelitz Diabetes Center
- Plastic surgeon Lawrence Colen, MD
   Professor of Clinical Surgery-Plastic Surgery
- Neurologist Marcus Rice, MD
   Assistant Professor of Neurology
- Dermatologist Antoinette Hood, MD Professor Emeritus of Dermatology
- Internist Gregg Clifford, MD
   Assistant Professor of Clinical Internal Medicine
- Internist Chantal Brooks, MD
  Former Assistant Professor of Clinical Internal Medicine
- Gynecological oncologist Michael McCollum, MD Assistant Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology
- Rheumatologist Roger Lidman, MD
   Associate Professor of Clinical Internal Medicine
- Internist Stuart Sutton, MD
   Assistant Professor of Clinical Internal Medicine
- Dermatologist Abby Van Voorhees, MD Professor and Chair of Dermatology



# LIVING OWN ISION

The Hampton Roads community came together to bring EVMS to life. For 45 years, we've done our best to pay it forward.

#### **EVMS' VISION STATEMENT**

Eastern Virginia Medical School will be recognized as the most communityoriented school of medicine and health professions in the United States.

or five years, Phillip Connell's parents struggled to conceive. In desperation, they reached out to the Jones Institute for Reproductive Medicine at EVMS.

Three cycles of in vitro fertilization later, Mr. Connell and his twin sister, Cameron, were born, becoming Jones Institute babies numbers 962 and 963.

"If it weren't for the civic leaders who fought to make EVMS possible, I would not be here today," says Mr. Connell, now an EVMS student in the MD Class of 2020.

The grassroots effort launched by those leaders in the 1960s garnered the community support and funding needed to establish EVMS. Since the school's opening in 1973, "paying it forward" has been a major focus of EVMS.

"We have always considered our primary responsibility to be that of safeguarding the health of the community," says Richard Homan, MD, President and Provost of EVMS and Dean of the School of Medicine. "We consider it an honor and a privilege."

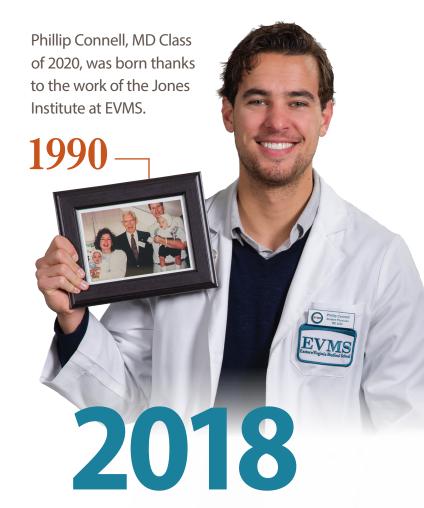
Francis Counselman, MD (MD '83, Emergency Medicine Residency '86), has viewed EVMS' evolution from a front-row seat as a student, a resident and the first chair of EVMS Emergency Medicine, a department he still leads today. He believes the school's founders would be thrilled to see how far EVMS has come.

"Every goal they had has not only been met but far surpassed," says Dr. Counselman, the EVMS Foundation Distinguished Professor in Emergency Medicine. "EVMS trains physicians who help improve the quality of care here locally and all over the United States and abroad. It is truly amazing what a few visionary, hardworking people can accomplish."

In addition to improving healthcare in Hampton Roads, EVMS has contributed significantly to Hampton Roads' economy. A 2017 study reported EVMS' annual economic impact as \$1.2 billion, ranked it as the region's 12th largest non-governmental employer and called it the heart of Hampton Roads' new "med-ed" sector.

"Being a product of EVMS' innovation has had a profound impact on me," Mr. Connell says. "I want to make a difference like the groundbreaking scientists who made the discoveries that made my life possible. That's why I came to EVMS."

Dr. Counselman says the founders' community-focused mission won't be forgotten. "If the past is any indication of the future, and I believe it is, EVMS will continue to improve the quality of patient care and be devoted to cutting-edge research. The solutions for tomorrow are being worked on at EVMS today."



#### You've Got a Friend

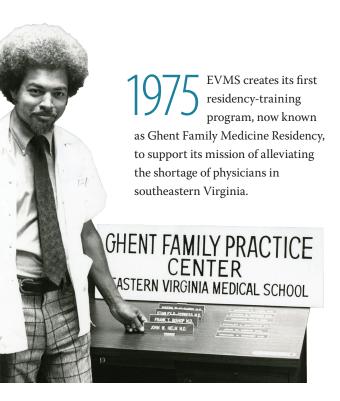
Here are just a few of the diverse ways EVMS has contributed to the community.



First EVMS Students Register

1973

Thanks to a forward-thinking and generous community, the campaign to establish EVMS exceeds its \$15 million fundraising goal by more than \$2.5 million. Nine months later, EVMS opens its doors to 27 medical and art-therapy students. A former nurses' dormitory, located on Norfolk's Mowbray Arch near The Chrysler Museum of Art, houses the fledgling school.





1976

EVMS graduates 23 physicians in its charter MD class. At the time, the MD program was three years long with no summer breaks. In the early 1980s, it switched to a four-year program.



The nation's first child conceived through in vitro fertilization,
Elizabeth Carr, is born, thanks to IVF pioneers Georgeanna Jones, MD, and Howard Jones, MD. Mason Andrews, MD, one of EVMS' founders, performs the delivery at what was then Norfolk General Hospital. A few years later, the Jones Institute of Reproductive Medicine at EVMS is named for Drs. Howard and Georgeanna Jones.

1985 EVMS partners with Sentara Norfolk General Hospital to open the region's first Level 1 Trauma Center. The Level 1 designation indicates that the center is capable of providing total care for every aspect of the most life-threatening injuries. The center handles cases from Williamsburg to the Outer Banks and provides trauma care for the Navy. EVMS surgeons staff the center 24/7 to ensure that this high-level care is possible.



A grant from the National Institutes of Health creates a pilot partnership between EVMS and Norfolk Public Schools to promote academic excellence in the sciences and to increase diversity in the medical and health professions. Starting with 27 high-school students, the Medical and Health Specialties Program at Maury High School now enrolls more than 200 students, and they still attend some of their classes at EVMS.



1987

Because Hampton Roads is within the nation's "diabetes belt," EVMS opens what is known today as the EVMS Strelitz Diabetes Center. The center comprises a renowned team of endocrinology experts — clinical providers, scientists and educators — working to find the cure for diabetes and to prevent the debilitating complications of neuropathy and cardiovascular disease.



EVMS students kick off Operation Overcoat to collect winter coats for underserved children. The name later changes to Coats for Kids, and local media outlets help promote the effort. Thanks to overwhelming support from the community, the project grows so large that WAVY-TV 10 eventually takes it on as the lead sponsor.

1987 One of Virginia's three HIV/AIDS Resource and Consultation Centers opens at EVMS. The center trains healthcare providers, peer educators and EVMS students and residents. It also partners with healthcare clinics, government agencies, professional associations and faith-based organizations to help people in Hampton Roads who have HIV and AIDS access the community resources they need.

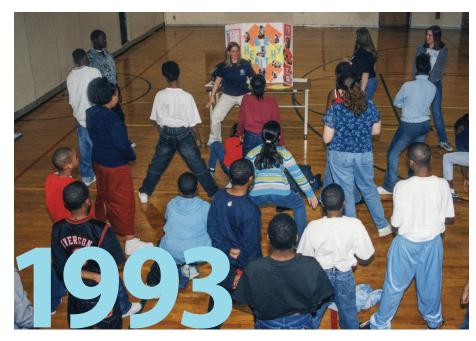
#### 1990s

1992

When a coalition of churches establishes the Norfolk Emergency Shelter Team to house the homeless during winter, EVMS students jump on the opportunity to help. Today, students still volunteer with NEST every year and collect clothing and toiletries to donate to the program.

1993 A grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention creates the 30-member Consortium for the Immunization of Norfolk's Children. Its success inspired area health leaders to broaden the CINCH acronym — and mission — to the Consortium for Infant and Child Health. Based at EVMS, this community coalition creates innovative programs to address obesity, asthma, breastfeeding, injury prevention, health disparities and other children's health issues.





What is now known as Community Care Day launches in Norfolk. Students, residents, faculty and staff join forces to provide free health screenings to people in underserved communities.



EVMS introduces standardized patients, highly specialized actors trained to mimic health conditions or react to examinations in particular ways to help students become better practitioners. One of the nation's first medical schools to use standardized patients, EVMS continues to be a leader in the field.

1996 A transformational gift from Virginia Beach resident
Virginia Glennan Ferguson helps establish the Glennan Center for Geriatrics and Gerontology. Today, the Glennan Center's clinicians not only provide geriatric care throughout the community in a variety of settings, they're also expanding palliative care to address the complex needs of Hampton Roads' surging older population.



Brickell Medical Sciences Library opens at EVMS as a state-ofthe-art facility, serving as a vital resource to both the campus and the community.



2008

Because of its continued expansion into health-professions education, EVMS creates the School of Health Professions. With about 800 students enrolled today, the school offers 21 degree programs that meet the diversifying needs of the region's healthcare workforce.

After learning that the Eastern Shore's overweight and obesity rate is 70 percent, an EVMS faculty member establishes a coalition called Eastern Shore Healthy Communities. From addressing childhood obesity to building walking trails to launching a Healthy Options Restaurants program, this community partnership is making a positive impact on the Shore.



HOPES (Health Outreach Partnership of EVMS Students) Free Clinic opens as the first student-run free clinic in Virginia. Under the supervision of EVMS residents and attending physicians, students provide long-term and specialty care to Norfolk's uninsured citizens. Today, almost all MD students volunteer there, as well as many health-professions students.

Philanthropists Macon and Joan Brock make a gift that enables EVMS to establish the M. Foscue Brock Institute for Community and Global Health. The Brock Institute embodies the giving spirit of its namesake —a beloved local physician — by integrating and expanding EVMS' wide-ranging community-service activities in its clinical, educational and research areas.





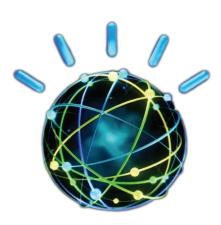
EVMS' incoming medical and health-professions students participate in the inaugural Community Impact Day held at P. B. Young, Sr. Elementary School in Norfolk's Young Terrace neighborhood. Every year since, teams of students work to beautify the school grounds, clean and organize classrooms, assemble student backpacks with school supplies and decorate classrooms and bulletin boards.

#### 2015

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services awards EVMS a \$1.75 million grant for a project known as Transformative Education Advancing Community Health (TEACH), the only one of its kind in Virginia. The grant will enable EVMS to create a clinically integrated network that will reduce healthcare disparities, especially for uninsured people who have chronic diseases.

#### 2016

IBM Watson Health chooses
EVMS to be a founding member of
its medical imaging collaborative.
The hope is that Watson, the famed
"Jeopardy" champion, will eventually
extract insight from comprehensive
medical-imaging data and one
day be able to predict diseases and
identify the best treatments. EVMS
also envisions engaging Watson's
capabilities to examine health
disparities and better manage the
health of the community.





EVMS implements a new MD curriculum that employs cutting-edge technology and advanced teaching techniques. The CareForward curriculum uses clinical cases drawn from virtual families to simulate real-life clinical scenarios, all with a focus of better preparing EVMS graduates to meet the current and future healthcare needs of the community. Later in the year, EVMS receives a national award for the innovative curriculum.

In a desperate attempt to help a Hampton
Roads woman who was dying from sepsis, Paul Marik, MBBCh, the

EVMS Foundation Distinguished Professor in Internal Medicine and Chief of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, develops an innovative new treatment that saves her life. His formula consists of three common compounds given intravenously: vitamin C, steroids and thiamine. Scientists at Old Dominion University independently confirm its effectiveness, and the new sepsis treatment makes national headlines. Several institutions around the world are now performing clinical trials to validate the efficacy of the treatment.











# The envelopes, please.

Graduating medical students at EVMS joined their counterparts across the country to meet their matches.

n Friday, March 16, graduating medical students at EVMS joined others around the nation in celebrating Match Day by opening their envelopes to learn where they will spend their residencies.

According to the Association of American Medical Colleges, 33,167 U.S. and international applicants matched to residency training positions at the nation's teaching hospitals this year. EVMS students are headed to some of the nation's most prestigious residency programs, including Cleveland Clinic, Cincinnati Children's Hospital and Stanford Health— just to name a few.

"This is an exciting time in the lives of our medical students," says Ronald Flenner, MD (MD '89), Vice Dean of Academic Affairs and Professor of Internal Medicine. "We are very proud of the work and dedication our students have put forth to get to this point in their medical school careers."



## **MAKING HIS MARK**

Marcus Martin, MD (MD '76), was a member of the school's first MD class and was EVMS' first African-American graduate. A former Chair of Emergency Medicine at the University of Virginia, he is now Vice President and Chief Officer for Diversity and Equity at UVA, and he serves on the EVMS Board of Visitors.

#### alumni Connections

# EVMS grad helps astronauts sleep their way to Mars

His work might even reduce the cost of space travel

Douglas Talk, MD (MD '10), loves the world of science fiction almost as much as the field of medicine. Now he gets to combine the two.

In addition to his position as an OB-GYN physician at Naval Air Station Lemoore in California, Dr. Talk serves as a medical consultant for SpaceWorks, a private aerospace engineering company. His role? Help find a way to put astronauts to sleep as they travel through space.

Dr. Talk describes it as a medical solution to an engineering problem. "If you can take a crew and make them metabolically inactive," he says, "the space-capsule design can be smaller and lighter, and the amount of consumables a crew needs would be reduced. And all of this also lowers cost."

Their studies have shown that this induced torpor could cut the size and power of the spacecraft needed for a mission to Mars by 55 percent. Hospitals often use the technique, also known as target temperature management, to slow metabolic processes and stop tissue

damage that occurs after cardiac arrest or brain injury. Dr. Talk says that since humans are not meant to operate in zero gravity, the torpor also could prevent common health complications in space like bonedensity loss.

Before he became fascinated by space, Dr. Talk wanted to be a marine biologist. But with a paramedic for a mom, he developed an interest in medicine. What drew him to EVMS was the focus on patient interaction.

"I think it's one of the most important
— and hardest — skills that a doctor has
to learn," Dr. Talk says. "A problem we
have in medicine is the 'Google search'
— a patient provides us with a basic list
of symptoms, and we say, 'Here's your
problem, and here's your medication.'
But if you actually talk to patients
and listen to them, you find there's
something more going on. And that's
how you go from treating a symptom to
treating a patient."

In his spare time, Dr. Talk goes



Douglas Talk, MD (MD '10)

camping with his three boys. He also likes to draw, and he volunteers with his church. And, of course, there's his love of science fiction.

"The SpaceWorks project allows me to embrace something about my job that I love, which is medicine, as well as this boyish ideal of the sci-fi world of space travel. I'm combining them into something that may benefit us going forward."





Donating his body to medical science wasn't enough for Russ Clark. He wanted to take his volunteer work to the next level — so he became a living donor.

After 23 years in the Navy, followed by 20 years in K-12 education, Mr. Clark found himself wanting to give back in his retirement.

"As a career educator, I wanted to find a way to combine that background with volunteer work," Mr. Clark says. "When I decided to donate my body to medical science, I found the answer."

He met with Craig Goodmurphy, PhD, Professor of Pathology and Anatomy and Director of the Anatomy Lab, and asked for a way he could volunteer in the meantime. Now, two years later, Mr. Clark's volunteerism is an integral part of the medical-education curriculum.

"We often say that the body donor is the first patient students will encounter," Dr. Goodmurphy says. "When Mr. Clark approached us, we thought, what better way for our students to learn than by having a living donor they can build a relationship with, understand and ask questions of."

As a living donor, Mr. Clark meets with first-year medical students on a weekly basis. "They look at my medical records," he says, "and I share the experiences I've had, some of which include open-heart surgery and having my gallbladder removed." The students are able to ask questions about his symptoms, diagnosis and treatment, as well as his family's reactions.

While the use of standardized patients — those who have been trained

to portray a patient and are paid for that service — is a valuable resource, Mr. Clark's volunteer work takes it one step further.

"Using case-based learning in medical education has been around for a long time, and the shift has been toward virtual patients, but Mr. Clark brings it to life," says Carrie Elzie, Associate Professor of Pathology and Anatomy. "We hope living donors will be the wave of the future, and that anatomical-donor programs will encourage these types of roles across the country."

"I hope to help students fully appreciate the sacrifice that all body donors make," Mr. Clark says, "but beyond that, build the life story that goes with each of those donors."



# AT THE HELM OF PHILANTHROPY IN

Hampton Roads

SINCE 1950, THE HAMPTON ROADS COMMUNITY FOUNDATION HAS PROVIDED PHILANTHROPIC LEADERSHIP IN SOUTHEASTERN VIRGINIA, HELPING DONORS NAVIGATE THE REGION'S CHARITABLE CAUSES.

With a mission to inspire philanthropy and change lives, the foundation has chosen to give millions of dollars to another life-changing institution— EVMS—since before the school even opened. And it has helped make dreams come true for deserving EVMS students by awarding nearly \$875,000 in scholarships.

Thank you, Hampton Roads Community Foundation. Your generosity has been a philanthropic mainstay for EVMS, and we are truly grateful.



To join the Hampton Roads Community Foundation and countless others in support of EVMS, please contact EVMS Development at 757.965.8500 or visit evms.edu/giving.

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