

EVMS FOUNDATION FUND

ANNUAL REPORT



FISCAL YEAR 2025

JULY 1, 2024 – JUNE 30, 2025

INTRODUCTION



Dear Friends and Supporters,

While walking our medical campus each day, I am reminded how much the Eastern Virginia Medical School (EVMS) Foundation Fund means to our students and faculty — and how much your generosity makes possible. Because of you, we provide scholarships that ease financial burdens, invest in technology that strengthens learning, and recruit outstanding faculty who inspire the next generation of healthcare providers.

This past year, your support helped bring exceptional talent to Eastern Virginia Medical School at Old Dominion University, including two new faculty featured in this report, Dr. Michael Henry and Dr. Salvatore Carbone, whose expertise and leadership will enrich our academic community in new and exciting ways. At the same time, our students benefited directly from the support you made available through this Fund — resources that shape their futures and prepare them to care for our community.

As you read this annual report, I hope you see the lasting impact of your philanthropy reflected in the stories of our students and the accomplishments of our faculty. Together, we are forward focused — preparing the healthcare workforce of tomorrow, strengthening our community, and advancing the mission of EVMS and the EVMS School of Health Professions at Old Dominion University.

With our thanks and gratitude,

Warmest regards,



Sylvia Ameen, M.P.A.
Executive Director
EVMS Foundation

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DRIVING CHANGE & INNOVATION

YOUR SUPPORT of the EVMS Foundation Fund helps transform the future of medicine and healthcare. Gifts to this fund provide essential unrestricted resources — opening doors for student scholarships, strengthening faculty excellence, and providing technology that drives innovation. By contributing, you directly empower students and faculty at Eastern Virginia Medical School and the EVMS School of Health Professions at Old Dominion University, ensuring they have the tools and opportunities needed to make a lasting impact in our community and beyond.

ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES:



GIVING TOTALS EVMS FOUNDATION FUND:

<div>\$987,965</div> <div>Total Raised</div>	<div>1,128</div> <div>Total Donors</div>	<div>353</div> <div>Total Alumni Donors</div>
<div>282</div> <div>Faculty Staff Donors</div>	<div>225</div> <div>First Time Donors</div>	<div>47</div> <div>Total Recurring Donors</div>

STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS: DRIVING PURPOSE

THE PURPOSE PRINCIPLE: CONNOR'S JOURNEY

FOR CONNOR TEMBE, preventative medicine isn't just a professional interest: it's personal.

Connor's passion for medicine was shaped at a young age while watching his father navigate the complications of Type 2 diabetes. That experience, along with the loss of his father, left a lasting impression – one that continues to guide his purpose today.

Now a second-year medical student at Eastern Virginia Medical School at Old Dominion University, Connor serves as a coordinator for the H.O.P.E.S. Free Clinic (Health Outreach Partnership of EVMS Students), a student-run clinic that provides free medical care to uninsured and underserved residents of Hampton Roads. The clinic, supported by EVMS students and faculty, allows future physicians to learn by serving – addressing real health disparities while offering the best and most compassionate care to those who need it most.

"Growing up in Virginia Beach, I was always looking for ways to contribute to the community," Connor said. "EVMS provides me with a great platform to do that, specifically through the H.O.P.E.S. Clinic. I can engage with the community and see patients who may not receive consistent medical care. I feel the impact of that on both a personal and a greater community level."

Through his work at the clinic, Connor's dedication to preventative care has deepened, igniting his interest in pursuing primary care, a specialty he can now follow wholeheartedly because of generous scholarship support through the EVMS Foundation Fund.

"The scholarship allows me to stay in the community and practice a specialty I'm passionate about, one where there is a need for more doctors in our community," Connor said.

Connor is one of many students whose future is shaped by the EVMS Foundation Fund. By alleviating financial stress, the Fund ensures students can focus on learning, caring, and leading. It empowers them to stay rooted in Hampton Roads, serving the very communities that helped shape them.

Your generosity fuels that purpose. It enables students like Connor to care for others, lead with empathy, and carry forward the promise of healthier communities for generations to come.



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—CONNOR TEMBE

STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS: WHEN PURPOSE ALIGNS

BEYOND FAMILIAR ROADS: JODY'S JOURNEY

AS THE YOUNGEST DAUGHTER of Jamaican immigrants, Jody Smith grew up in a small town in upstate New York dreaming of becoming a physician. The road ahead, however, was not an easy one.

Although she was drawn to medicine from an early age, Jody understood the barriers she would face – particularly the steep cost of medical school. For out-of-state students like her, annual tuition with room and board begins at \$65,163 a year and can exceed over \$92,000 with loan fees. Without scholarship support, the financial burden might have stood between Jody and her purpose.

Thanks to the generosity of donors to the EVMS Foundation Fund, Jody received a life-changing scholarship that lifted that weight and allowed her to pursue her calling: advancing health access and providing compassionate care to those in need.

“What attracted me to EVMS was the dedication towards helping the surrounding community; the emphasis on community service really stood out to me,” Jody said.

Her commitment to access took shape on a mission trip through the Jamaicans Abroad Helping Jamaicans at Home (JAHJAH) Foundation, where she witnessed firsthand how lack of access to consistent, preventative care affects people's ability to thrive. The experience reaffirmed her belief that medicine must extend beyond the doctor's office to truly make an impact.



“I was so moved by the idea that people were generous enough to support my dreams,” Jody shared. “The scholarship really lightens the financial burden of going to medical school.”

Now a second-year medical student at EVMS at ODU, Jody is determined to stay in Hampton Roads – the very community she is already serving through her education – and to build a career that expands access to care for those who need it most.

For Jody and for many EVMS students, scholarships are more than financial assistance. They are investments in the future where healthcare is more just, more accessible, and more compassionate. And their impact will be felt not only by students, but by every patient whose life is touched by their care.

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—JODY SMITH

FACULTY RECRUITMENT & RESEARCH: ADVANCING RESEARCH THROUGH COLLABORATION

DR. MICHAEL HENRY, INAUGURAL CHAIR OF TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCES

TO AN OUTSIDER, Marceline, Missouri may look like a small, storybook town — quiet, quaint, and best known as the childhood home of Walt Disney. But Marceline is also where another visionary began his journey: Dr. Michael Henry, a nationally recognized educator and researcher whose work is shaping the future of medicine.

In June, Michael D. Henry, Ph.D. joined Eastern Virginia Medical School at Old Dominion University as the inaugural Chair of the newly created Department of Biomedical and Translational Sciences. With more than 21 years of experience in academic medicine and leadership, he brings a passion for discovery, collaboration and innovation.

Thanks to your philanthropic investment in transformative research, EVMS was able to recruit Dr. Henry to lead a bold new vision: uniting three basic science departments under one umbrella. Together, these programs advance discovery in high-priority research areas such as women and child health, tumor biology, cardiopulmonary, and metabolic diseases and neurological sciences.

Dr. Henry's own research has long focused on understanding how cancer spreads, particularly prostate cancer – and developing new ways to diagnose and treat the disease. Today, his work explores the resilience of cancer cells as they move through the bloodstream, seeking to identify opportunities for life-saving intervention.



Dr. Michael Henry

As Chair, Dr. Henry is committed to breaking down silos and fostering collaboration between laboratory scientists and clinical providers.

"It's important for lab-based scientists to collaborate with clinical providers," Dr. Henry explained. "This dialogue advances research. The relationship between clinicians and providers is bi-directional."

**I'M ALSO EXCITED
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MORE COLLABORATION."**
—DR. HENRY

His vision for the department includes expanding hands-on research opportunities for students, recruiting world-class scientific and clinical talent, and positioning EVMS at ODU as a national leader in biomedical and translational discovery.

"I'm excited about working with the current faculty and staff within the department," he said. "I'm also excited about attracting new people to the institution. I believe we can achieve national recognition for Macon & Joan Brock Virginia Health Sciences at ODU and foster more collaboration."

So what does it mean to advance biomedical and translational science?

Put simply, biomedical science uncovers the building blocks of health and disease, such as cells, genes, and biological systems that reveal new knowledge. Translational science takes those discoveries and brings them into the clinic, bridging the gap between the laboratory and the patient's bedside.

Your generosity makes this bold vision possible. Because of you, EVMS at ODU is recruiting pioneering leaders like Dr. Henry, advancing science, and translating bold ideas into real-world care. Together, we are shaping the future of healthcare and improving lives in our community and beyond.

FACULTY RECRUITMENT & RESEARCH: ADVANCING RESEARCH THROUGH COLLABORATION

DR. SALVATORE CARBONE, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR AND DIRECTOR OF NUTRITION PROGRAM

WHEN SALVATORE CARBONE, Ph.D., R.D.N., FHFS, FASPEN, talks about nutrition, his enthusiasm is contagious. For him, food is more than sustenance, it is a powerful tool to prevent and treat chronic disease and to inspire the next generation of dietitians and healthcare professionals to view nutrition as central to patient care.

Dr. Carbone joined the Division of Endocrine and Metabolic Disorders in the EVMS School of Health Professions at ODU in March, bringing with him a passion for advancing nutrition science and a vision for a healthier, more equitable future. His recruitment, along with the launch of the new Master of Science in Nutrition program, was made possible through the generosity of donors who believe in the transformative power of education and science.

He is also a key contributor to the development of the Joan P. Brock Institute for Nutrition Science & Health – a new initiative that will integrate nutrition into health education, clinical care, research, and community engagement across Hampton Roads. Philanthropic support is fueling this effort, which will expand access to nutrition training and care with far-reaching impact.

A native of Italy, where food and culture are inseparable, Dr. Carbone began his research career at the University of Rome studying metabolic diseases, such as Type 2 diabetes, and their impact on cardiovascular health. That work led him to the Division of Cardiology at Virginia Commonwealth University where he discovered a troubling trend: although heart failure patients were receiving strong cardiovascular treatment, many were not improving as expected. Underlying metabolic conditions such as obesity and diabetes were playing a critical role.

Today, his translational research – bridging the lab and the clinic – explores the role of dietary fats in improving outcomes for patients with metabolic disease, such as the health benefits of incorporating olive oil into existing diets. But for Dr. Carbone, research alone is not enough; he sees a disconnect between science and patient care, starting in the classroom.

“Medical schools often provide just one or two hours of nutrition education,” he explained. “We want to change that by training future healthcare professionals who also understand food as medicine.”

Through the Master of Science in Nutrition program, set to launch next fall, Dr. Carbone aims to prepare leaders who will bridge this gap — dietitians and clinicians working side by side to tackle pressing health challenges. The need is urgent. According to the Virginia Department of Health, more than 35% of adults in Portsmouth and Norfolk are classified as obese, well above the state average with related rates of hypertension and diabetes climbing across the region.

The crisis extends beyond Virginia.

“In the U.S., more than 40% of adults have obesity, and when you include people who are considered overweight, the number rises to over 70%,” Dr. Carbone said. “Severe obesity, defined as a Body Mass Index (BMI) over 40, has doubled in the past 15 years. That’s alarming. Individuals with obesity are at much higher risk for cardiovascular disease, diabetes, sleep apnea and obesity-related cancers.”

Addressing this epidemic requires a fundamental shift in how healthcare professionals are taught, trained, and care ultimately delivered. Dr. Carbone sees the Joan P. Brock Institute for Nutrition Science & Health as a vital driver for the shift.

“Investing in a nutrition institute is an investment in the future — not just for research, but for education and for our community,” he said.

Guided by four pillars – education, research and innovation, clinical care, and community engagement – the Institute will empower students, providers, patients, and communities to prioritize nutrition in disease prevention, health maintenance, and disease treatment.

Your generosity is making this vision possible. By investing in faculty recruitment, you are ensuring that food is recognized as medicine – and that future generations have the opportunity for healthier futures.



Dr. Salvatore Carbone



BUZZ AROUND BROCK

HIGHLY REGARDED MATERNAL-FETAL MEDICINE PHYSICIAN NAMED DEAN OF EASTERN VIRGINIA MEDICAL SCHOOL AT ODU

JUDETTE LOUIS, MD, M.P.H., joined Macon & Joan Brock Virginia Health Sciences at Old Dominion University as Dean of Eastern Virginia Medical School on September 2, 2025. Previously, Dr. Louis served as Chair of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of South Florida. She is a nationally recognized leader in maternal-fetal medicine whose career has focused on improving outcomes for mothers and babies and closing gaps in care for vulnerable populations. She brings extensive experience in medical education and academic leadership and will strengthen EVMS' commitment to health access, research, and training future generations of physicians.

A PATHWAY TO MEDICINE: HEALTH SCIENCES ACADEMY PREPARES LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS FOR A CAREER IN MEDICINE

THIS SUMMER, the EVMS Foundation proudly hosted the Health Sciences Academy Luncheon, celebrating the success of a pathway program made possible by donor generosity. In partnership with Portsmouth, Chesapeake, and Northampton County Public Schools, the Health Sciences Academy introduces rising tenth graders to careers in medicine and the health professions, fostering early connections with physicians, nurses, researchers, and other members of the healthcare team. Over the summer, students gained hands on experience – from practicing sutures to working with standardized patients in a simulated clinical settings – sparking curiosity, confidence and purpose. Your support is helping to inspire the next generation of the healthcare team and ensure that promising young minds in our region see a future for themselves in health sciences.

**I ENJOYED
BEING
EXPOSED TO
DIFFERENT FIELDS OF
MEDICINE AT A
YOUNGER AGE."**

— KYLEIGH S.
Health Sciences Academy Student





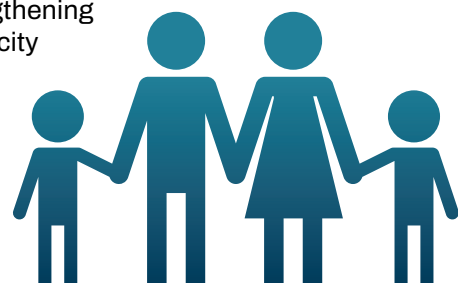
\$400,000 GIFT FROM VIRGINIA ONCOLOGY ASSOCIATES EXPANDS SCHOLARSHIP SUPPORT FOR EVMS MEDICAL STUDENTS

THE EVMS FOUNDATION is honored to announce a \$400,000 gift from Virginia Oncology Associates (VOA) to establish an endowed scholarship fund for medical students, with a focus on those pursuing careers in oncology and hematology. A longstanding partner of EVMS at ODU, VOA has collaborated closely with faculty physicians and served as a regional leader in cancer care. This latest gift ensures that future generations of students will have the support needed to train, specialize, and carry forward VOA's mission of advancing cancer treatment and improving patient outcomes.



COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS STRENGTHENS SUPPORT FOR MOTHERS, BABIES, AND FAMILIES

THIS YEAR, the Hampton Roads Community Foundation and The Blocker Foundation deepened their commitment to improving maternal and child health through generous support of Minus 9 to 5, a collaborative initiative within the EVMS - M. Foscue Brock Institute for Community and Global Health at ODU. Minus 9 to 5 unites providers, hospitals, nonprofits, and advocates to close gaps in prenatal and postpartum care and ensure families have the resources they need from birth to age five. The Hampton Roads Community Foundation's investment sustains this vital work, while The Blocker Foundation's gift expands the role of the Collective Impact Coordinator, strengthening the program's capacity to serve even more mothers, babies, and families across our region.





BALANCING REST & RIGOR: REDEFINING STUDENT WELLNESS



MEDICAL SCHOOL is demanding by design. But for students carrying the weight of intense coursework, clinical training, and personal responsibilities, even a single setback, such as an unexpected medical bill or a sudden car repair – can threaten their education and their future as a healthcare provider.

At Eastern Virginia Medical School and EVMS School of Health Professions at ODU, student wellness is not an afterthought, it's a core value. The EVMS Foundation Fund, together with the generosity of private donors such as Dr. Bruce and Baila Waldholtz, is helping to build a culture of care that supports students not only academically, but also emotionally, financially, and physically.

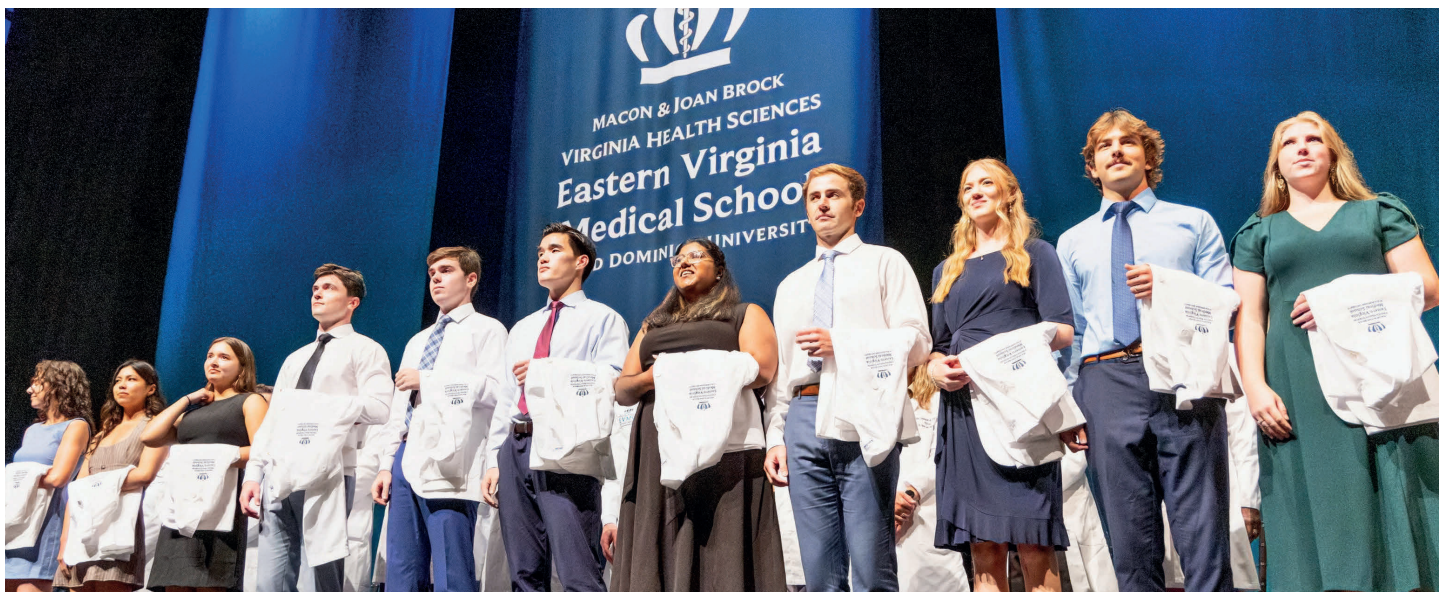
One example is the Emergency Grant Program which provides immediate financial relief to students facing urgent expenses that could derail their education. For some, this safety net is the difference between staying on track and stepping away from medical school.

The Waldholtz family has also invested in programs that strengthens student and community resilience. Monthly wellness and social events bring students together across disciplines, while the Phoenix Committee – a peer led student support group – offers a safe space to talk openly about challenges and share coping strategies. Student-led clubs and the Student Government Association expand that network of support, helping students nurture friendships, pursue interests, and give back to the community they will one day serve as professionals.

Wellness at EVMS at ODU also means accessible healthcare. The Student Health Clinic, a dedicated primary care center, provides low or no-cost medical and mental health services, ensuring that students can care for themselves while caring for others.

Philanthropy is making this possible. By supporting wellness initiatives, donors are helping students navigate the rigors of training with resilience and empathy. These investments ensure that the next generation of physicians and health professionals are not only highly skilled but also deeply grounded in the empathy and balance their patients will one day need most.





EVERY GIFT MATTERS. EVERY GIFT HEALS.

EVERY GIFT MAKES A DIFFERENCE. Your support of the EVMS Foundation Fund empowers students to pursue their dreams, fuels faculty who are advancing education, care and discovery, and strengthens the overall health of our community. No matter the size, your gift creates opportunities, inspires curiosity and innovation, and ensures we can rise to the occasion when it matters most. Together, we are shaping the future of healthcare for our region – one student, one patient, and one community at a time. Thank you and please continue to join us.



By supporting the EVMS Foundation Fund, you are helping the institution further our mission of excelling in education, research, and patient care. Every gift – large and small – truly makes a difference.

To make a gift:

Online: Scan the QR code
or visit evmsfoundation.org/give

By Check: Send payment to:
P.O. Box 5
Norfolk, VA 23501-0005

By Phone: Call (757) 965-8500



The EVMS Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and the institutionally related foundation supporting Macon & Joan Brock Virginia Health Sciences at Old Dominion University, including Eastern Virginia Medical School, the EVMS School of Health Professions, the Ellmer College of Health Sciences, the Ellmer School of Nursing, and the Joint School of Public Health in partnership with Norfolk State University. The EVMS Foundation Tax ID# is 23-7053028.



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