

# KNOX MARTIN FOUNDATION

## For Brain Cancer Research



### *A Message from Becky Martin, KMF Co-Founder & President*

As we close out another remarkable year, my heart is overflowing with gratitude. Because of your generosity, encouragement, and steadfast belief in our mission, **KMF granted \$400,000 to the Duke Brain Tumor Center in 2025, bringing our total giving since 2021 to \$1.5 million.** That is extraordinary!

Every dollar entrusted to us fuels groundbreaking research, supports patients and families in moments of crisis, and extends the legacy of our beloved Knox in the most meaningful ways. **Thank you for being part of this work, this community, and this HOPE.**



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### January

The Howard and Sullivan families hosted **Sav's Crack at a Cure** and raised **\$45,000** during this Inaugural Mahjong Tournament in memory of Saville Sullivan Larkin who lost her battle with brain cancer at the young age of 26.

*"Knowing that — thanks to KMF and their platform — this event could directly contribute to saving someone else's Saville, is profoundly healing. It turns our grief into purpose and ensures that her legacy is one of hope, awareness, and action."*

— **Molly Mazur**, Sav's Crack Event Committee member and friend of Saville



### February

**KMF at UGA** became an official University of Georgia Student Club. This means more opportunities for students to come together and make a real impact in the fight against brain cancer.

KMF held its **biennial Board of Directors Retreat** in Charlotte, focusing on strategy, collaboration, and planning for 2025





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### March

#### KMF turned FOUR!

We earned our **2025 Platinum Seal of Transparency** from Candid.

Our website got a much-needed refresh thanks to a generous volunteer designer - check it out at [knoxmartinfoundation.org](https://www.knoxmartinfoundation.org)

UGA AEPI selected KMF as the beneficiary of their **Annual Dog Off Fundraiser**, raising over **\$11,000**.



### April

The **5th Annual Night For Knox Gala** raised nearly **\$400,000** for brain cancer research!

**Kelsey McGuire**, undergraduate student and KMF at UGA affiliate, ran the **Boston Marathon**, raising **\$4,650** for KMF in honor of her beloved Aunt Lori who passed away from glioblastoma in 2017.

Becky's **Wellness Wednesday Spring Series** kicked off in Gainesville, GA at the Smithgall Arts Center.





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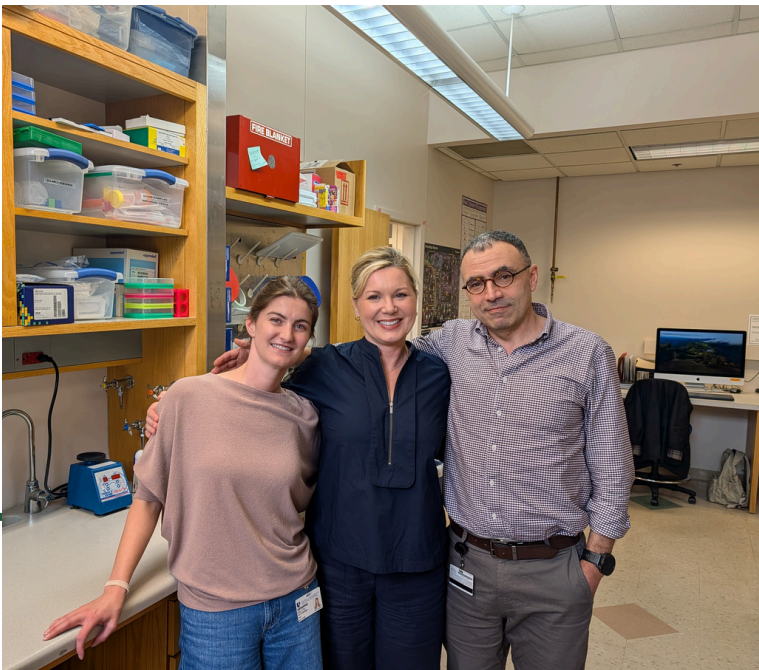
### May

Our staff took some much needed R&R after a successful winter and spring full of fundraising!



### June

We sent a **\$250,000 mid-year gift** to the Duke Brain Tumor Center, supporting the startup phase of KMF's FIFTH glioblastoma research project at Duke since 2021. The **MOAB Trial** is now open at Duke, Kansas City, Huntsman Cancer Center in Utah, and UCSF. So far, **35 patients are enrolled**, and KMF support is enabling deep analysis of their tumor samples.





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### *KMF's 5 Landmark Projects at the Duke Brain Tumor Center*

Dear KMF Community,

As we come to the end of 2025, we want to share a heartfelt update from the Tumor Immunobiology Lab (TIL) at Duke. Every step forward in brain tumor research is made possible by the generosity of donors like the Knox Martin Foundation. **Your support not only funds specific studies, but also builds the infrastructure, team strength, and research capacity that make progress across our entire program possible.**

Here's what your partnership has helped us achieve this year:

1. **PESKE Trial** – Now completed and closed, results have been published. Based on what we learned, we are now launching a follow-up project that uses focused ultrasound to safely open the blood-brain barrier and improve how drugs reach tumors inside the brain.
2. **FLIRT Trial with Fluoxetine** – Also completed, this trial has produced encouraging early findings. We are preparing a scientific abstract for presentation at the American Association for Cancer Research meeting in spring 2026, with a full manuscript to follow.
3. **TIL Development** – Preclinical efforts are advancing to prepare the next wave of IND-enabling studies. We expect a publication next year describing biological determinants of successful TIL expansion.
4. **Personalized Vaccine Program** – Functional validation is underway as our lab moves toward IND submission and first-in-human testing.

**5. MOAB Trial** – This multicenter immunotherapy trial is now open at Duke, Kansas City, Huntsman Cancer Center (Utah), and UCSF, **with 35 patients enrolled**. Foundation support has enabled the purchase of specialized reagents and kits for deep analysis of patient samples. These studies will help us understand how therapy reshapes the tumor immune environment and how those changes relate to clinical benefit.

**These initiatives span the full continuum of brain cancer research:** from completed trials moving toward publication, to cutting-edge preclinical innovation, to an ongoing trial already making a difference for patients. **Your support is the bridge that sustains these efforts** with our team here at the Duke Brain Tumor Center and accelerates discoveries that would otherwise not be possible.

In addition to the studies detailed, the TIL Lab is advancing other important glioblastoma trials: **PuMP** (NCT06126744), **ETAPA** (NCT05283109), and **GIANT** (NCT06816927). While the Knox Martin Foundation is not directly funding these specific trials, **the infrastructure, staffing, and research environment enabled by your support have been instrumental in making them possible.**

**We are deeply grateful for your partnership.**

Sincerely,

**Mustafa Khasraw, M.D. & the Tumor Immunobiology Lab at Duke**



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### July

The young women of the **Charity League of Albany's 2025 Debutante Class** hosted a Mahjong Tournament in Albany, GA and raised **\$17,000** for KMF in memory of Saville Sullivan Larkin.

KMF observed **Glioblastoma Awareness Day** - a day to honor and reflect on the courage and strength of all GBM fighters and caregivers. *Did you know glioblastoma is the most common malignant brain tumor in adults?*



### August

KMF began its FY2024 Accountant Financial Risk Assessment and Review with Smith + Howard, an Atlanta-based accounting firm.





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### September

Our **3rd Annual Golf Tournament**, a sunny day at Lake Lanier filled with fun and competition, raised over **\$50,000**.

The Dempsey and Perry Families hosted KMF's very first **Fall Fest**, filled with good food, great friends, dove hunting, Dawgs football, and Nashville singer-songwriters performing under the stars.

Becky's **Wellness Wednesday Fall Series** kicked off in Gainesville, GA at the Smithgall Arts Center.



### October

The **Duke Cancer Institute** honored KMF with the **Shingleton Award**, recognizing exemplary generosity, service, and dedication to advancing cancer research, care, and patient-support initiatives.

**UGA FIJI** hosted its **2nd Annual Pickleball Tournament** benefitting KMF in collaboration with the KMF at UGA club, and raised over **\$10,000**.

KMF completed its **FY2024 Accountant Financial Risk Assessment and Review** with Smith + Howard, concluding that there are no changes that need to be made in our financial best practices at this time.





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### November

Becky attended the **Duke Brain Tumor Center Board of Advisors** meeting and visited KMF's labs for our bi-annual facilities tour to stay up to date on how our funds are being directed.

KMF at UGA hosted a **Glioblastoma Awareness Tailgate** during the Georgia vs. Texas football game in Athens, GA.



### December

KMF sent a year-end gift of \$150,000 to the Duke Brain Tumor Center, finishing out 2025 with a grand total of \$400,000 in funds granted to Duke for innovative brain cancer research!!

This year-end gift will sustain patient enrollment, serial biospecimen analysis, and longitudinal immune profiling for the MOAB Trial. Over the next two years, the MOAB trial will continue to mature and generate data critical for future clinical development and impact.





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### The Corporate Sponsors Who Made This Year Possible





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### The Individual Sponsors Who Made This Year Possible

ANGELA & JOHNNY LAUGHTER	LEWISES, MANZOS, OXLEYS & TERRY
LORI BARNETT	ANNA LOUISE MARGESON & NANCY VEST
ELIZABETH & BARRY BINGHAM	EDDIE & DINAH MARTIN
CHARLOTTE BOYD & PARKER CHUBA	BECKY & EDDIE MARTIN
BETSY & ALFRED BRAND	CORINNE & JOE MARTIN
'BRUNCH CLUB'	KELSEY MCGUIRE
PEGGY & MICHAEL COHEN	PAIGE MERRITT
PAYGE & JIM COX	THE MITCHELL MCINTIRE FOUNDATION
THE DEMPSEY FAMILY	DONNA MONTGOMERY & FAMILY
D-REX DEFENDERS	TREVOR PITT
TINA FOWLER	DENISE & DARRELL ROCHESTER
STACEY FORSYTH & BOB IRELAND	DAVE & TONI ROBISON
JEN GARNER	ROB ROBINSON & MITCH STEPHENS
'GIRLS GROUP'	THE STRATTON FOUNDATION
GRACE-MARIE HOWARD	COLLEEN & TOM SULLIVAN
GINNY & SLOAN HOWARD	THE PERRY FAMILY
DAVID & SHANNON HUGHS	KMF AT UGA CLUB
JEFF & JEANNE JENKINS	



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### *Thank You, from the bottom of our hearts.*

This Holiday Season marked five years since Knox's passing. Some days it feels like a lifetime since we last saw his face... and other days it feels like we were just celebrating the very first Night for Knox.

This 5 year milestone brought a sadness, a tenderness, and a profound appreciation. We are humbled by how far KMF has come, and even more so by the strong and passionate community that has walked alongside us since 2021, helping carry forward the light and legacy that Knox left behind.

Over Thanksgiving, we witnessed a glimmer of HOPE Knox's legacy continues to create. A friend in LA reached out about a young mother of two newly diagnosed with a brain tumor. By 10:30pm that very same evening, Dr. Henry Friedman of the Duke Brain Tumor Center confirmed his team would retrieve her scans and present them to Dr. Allan Friedman of the Duke Brain Tumor Center the next morning.

**Each of you have made this possible through your dedication to KMF's mission.**

**Your service and steadfast support are creating new treatment pathways that simply didn't exist when Knox was fighting. You offered HOPE to a young mother and her family on Thanksgiving.**

Though we miss our Knoxy every day, we find comfort in knowing that his spirit endures through this foundation, our dedicated team, and each of you who continues to lift our mission with love and generosity. All of you keep his spirit alive in ways that touch us deeply, and we are endlessly grateful.

With the help of our donors, we are truly advancing research on brain cancer to give warriors like Knox a shot at a long life. Please consider coming alongside us once again in 2026 as we strive to continue funding this important and vital research at the Duke Brain Tumor Center. We couldn't do what we do without you.

**Let's fund the next breakthrough in brain cancer research. TOGETHER.**



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### Dates to Know in 2026

**Saturday · January 10**

2nd Annual Sav's Crack at a Cure

**Saturday · February 7**

6th Annual Night for Knox Gala

**Friday · September 11**

4th Annual Golf Against Gliomas Tournament

**Saturday · Early September**

2nd Annual Fall Fest

*(Anticipated date: September 12)*

**Thursday · October 29**

Inaugural NYC Masquerade Ball

*Our newest event!*