



VIRTUAL GALA TO HELP HOPE BLOOM FOR CANCER PATIENTS



Paul R. Ross, President

2020 has been a year full of highs and lows, from shared uncertainty to shared compassion. As individuals, as a community, and as a nation, we have been pushed out of our comfort zone to a place where we must be, see, and do more. Amid all the challenges, both a need and an opportunity have arisen to inspire, motivate, and most of all, help hope bloom for our friends, loved ones, and neighbors in need. Each year our annual gala does just that — provides a platform for hope to grow and thrive in our communities. **Although this year has challenged all of us, we have been overwhelmed with gratitude for the people and communities that we serve. Our benefactors, board members, corporate partners, sponsors, and our SSM Health caregivers have truly inspired us with their commitment to providing exceptional health care services to those in need even in uncertain times.**

We are excited to announce that the SSM Health Foundation – St. Louis Virtual Gala, HOPE BLOOMS, will be held on October 10th, 2020. Proceeds from the gala will benefit SSM Health Cancer Care efforts in the St. Louis, St. Charles, and Metro East regions.

The gala's theme, Hope Blooms, is a reflection of both the spirit of shared hope we have witnessed in our communities this year and the healing power of hope for SSM Health Cancer Care patients. We have recognized

a substantial need to support these efforts throughout our St. Louis hospitals during the COVID-19 pandemic, when regular appointments are more important than ever and the immunocompromised face additional risk. The escalating need to provide safe health care to the immunocompromised, along with an increase in the demand for innovative treatment options, has given

us an opportunity to rise to the occasion and provide funding for programs such as clinical trials, impactful patient-centered programs, cutting-edge technologies, and more. Now is the time for us to help hope bloom for those in our communities who are living with cancer.

Attendees to the gala will enjoy a special Hope Blooms “thank you” box delivered to their home on the day of the event (complete with a gourmet dinner, a bottle of wine, and a few extra surprises to show our gratitude!), as well as an evening of exclusive entertainment, a silent auction, and incredible stories from caregivers and patients. All proceeds from the 2020 Virtual Gala will support SSM Health Cancer Care — directly benefiting our local hospitals and the patients they serve.

If you're unable to attend the Hope Blooms gala, **you can still help bring hope and health to our community by participating in the Hope Blooms silent auction**, which will be live October 5 - 10 on our website, and will feature items provided by our generous community benefactors. You can also make a gift to support SSM Health Cancer Care efforts in our region at any time at givetossmhealth.org/donate.

TO PURCHASE TICKETS OR FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT
givetossmhealth.org/events/gala or call **314-523-8044**. You can also send an email to EventSTL@ssmhealth.com.