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NEWSLETTER OF THE DANFORTH CENTER

WHD Legacy Society

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 1: FALL 2022

A LIFETIME OF GIVING AND BEYOND

Celebrating Bill Danforth's Legacy

Throughout his remarkable life, Dr. William H. Danforth dreamed big. He was determined to tackle the related challenges of hunger and environmental sustainability, and before his passing in September 2020, he dedicated nearly 25 years of his life to doing just that at the Donald Danforth Plant Science Center.

As we celebrate Bill's role in the creation and success of the Danforth Center, we have even more to celebrate: his lasting legacy. Bill was one of those rare individuals who was just as practical as he was visionary. He understood the challenges that stood in the way of progress and believed in the importance of protecting an investment through endowment.

Bill gave generously to support the work of the Danforth Center. He made regular gifts to the Center each year, and along with his brother,

Senator Jack Danforth, he directed the final funds of the Danforth Foundation to it. He also left a very significant legacy.

Not only did Bill visualize, found, lead, and nurture the Danforth Center during his life, but with this remarkable final gift, he enabled the Center to deliver on much of its strategic priorities: more fellowships for trainees, new investments in technology facilities, further development of a field research site, and targeted research capacity at the nexus of agriculture and the environment. It also provides funding for innovative research with commercial applications and programs to nurture future scientists.

This act reinforces what we already knew about Bill's character and speaks to his profound belief in the purpose of this Center and his confidence in the people who make it great. It is a gift that comes at a critical point

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A LIFETIME OF GIVING *cont.*

in time, when needs to feed the world, address environmental challenges, and strengthen St. Louis as a bioscience powerhouse, have never been greater.

Bill placed the responsibility to act in our hands. When you make a planned gift to the Danforth Center, you join Bill in creating a legacy of hope and opportunity here in St. Louis and around the globe. For more information, call 314.587.1234.



“We can’t relax. Our job is getting more, rather than less, challenging, but I guess that’s the way life is at its best. The next mountain is harder to climb.”

Dr. William H. Danforth

founder, Danforth Center

▲ *Bust in the WHD Wing*

FROM THE LAKE TO THE LAB

Meet New Gift Officer Tina Hissong

When the Danforth Center’s new Development Officer Tina Hissong was growing up in Culver, Indiana, she discovered a passion for nature. “There’s a large natural lake there, and my first nonprofit job was for its environmental fund.”

Today, after a 25-year career working for both environmental and biomedical research organizations, Tina is uniting her passions: “I understand the value plants bring to our health and our lives.”

Tina holds an MBA from Webster University and has three adult children. She looks forward to her work in planned and major



giving at the Danforth Center: “I love uniting our donors’ concerns for the future with science that shows real-world impact. There are many ways to leave a legacy—working to feed people and heal the planet seems an especially meaningful one.”

If you have questions about including the Danforth Center in your estate plans, contact Tina at 314.587.1071 or email thissong@danforthcenter.org.



▲ LOYAL GIVING LUNCHEON

On Wednesday, August 31, the Danforth Center welcomed more than 60 supporters to the third annual Loyal Giving Luncheon. Attendees have supported the Danforth Center through annual giving for ten years or more. Dr. Jim Carrington interviewed Danforth Center Principal Investigator Dr. Dilip Shah about his co-founding the new company Peptide Bio.



DONALD DANFORTH PLANT SCIENCE CENTER

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CLIMBING THE NEXT MOUNTAIN

As the end of the year approaches, you may be looking for ways to maximize financial planning and save on taxes. If you are 70½ or older, you can make a gift to the Danforth Center from your IRA tax-free. Learn more about qualified charitable deductions at legacy.danforthcenter.org.

