



Thank you for your generosity and commitment to our mission and faith in the promise of cancer research.

At VCU Massey Cancer Center, we are grateful for our partnership and relationships with our donors, and especially to our loyal, generous **Massey Club** supporters, who've given \$1,000 or more to help Massey meet our most pressing needs. Investments from Massey Club donors in FY 2022 resulted in **\$1.5 million** in unrestricted dollars raised to fuel Massey's mission and to support the greatest needs of our patients.

Together, we are creating a healthier community and building a strong foundation for a future without cancer.



A future without cancer starts with Massey Club. A future without cancer starts with YOU.

READ MORE ABOUT MASSEY CLUB AND ITS IMPACT:

MASSEY CLUB BY THE NUMBERS FISCAL YEAR 2022 JULY 2021 - JUNE 2022

\$1.5

MILLION
raised this year
in unrestricted
giving through
Massey Club

596

total number
of Massey Club
donors/families

58%

of total
unrestricted
annual giving
funds raised

108

new Massey
Club donors
(45 in FY21)

\$2,700

average FY22
Massey Club
gift amount

18

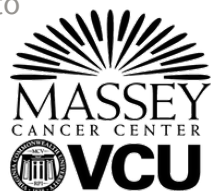
research projects
funded through
Massey Club
in FY22

\$19.4
MILLION
total raised
for Massey
in FY22

VCU MASSEY CANCER CENTER

As a National Cancer Institute (NCI)-designated cancer center in the **top 4%** of all cancer centers in the United States, Massey receives NCI funding to conduct research and trials, making it a leader in the nation's fight against cancer.

Massey aims to increase its number of active clinical trials each year. This is a critical part of the center's quest to earn NCI-designation as a Comprehensive Cancer Center.



Thanks, in part, to the generosity of Massey Club donors, Massey is achieving its goal to be a premier community-focused cancer center and a national leader in cancer health equity research. Massey is committed to providing education, prevention and best-in-class care to Virginians to improve and ensure optimal health outcomes for all. Here are a few initiatives that are being funded in part through the Massey Club this fiscal year — thanks to you!

Cancer Prevention and Control

Making a difference one community at a time



For nearly 50 years, VCU Massey Cancer Center has been committed to eliminating the burden of cancer, for all. Under the leadership of center director, Robert A. Winn, M.D., and through its Cancer Research and Resource Centers, Massey is making a difference where it is needed most by providing cancer education, prevention and treatment programs among traditionally underserved and vulnerable populations in our catchment, or service, area. Over the past year, unrestricted Massey Club funding has been critical to advancing Massey's partnerships in these areas, including Danville and Lawrenceville, to expanding community-focused research in and for our communities.

Research Support | Saïd Sebti, Ph.D.

Signal Disruptions: Giving hope for pancreatic cancer patients



Saïd Sebti, Ph.D., an expert in drug discovery, design and development, discovered a vulnerability of pancreatic tumors by identifying a drug that thwarts the growth of tumors associated with the cancer-causing mutant KRAS gene. The findings could provide a new avenue to combat this particularly aggressive form of cancer.

SAÏD SEBTI, PH.D., ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR FOR BASIC RESEARCH AND THE LACY FAMILY CHAIR IN CANCER RESEARCH AT VCU MASSEY CANCER CENTER

“What is exciting about this is that we’ve identified a genomic signature that could tell us which tumors are, and which are not, KRAS-addicted. The consequences could be huge — we would have a more refined understanding of what factors to potentially attack and how to pursue therapy development for these cancers.”

Dr. Sebti’s lab focuses on understanding the mechanisms by which normal body cells turn cancerous. Cancer develops when mutations occur in some of our genes, which cause aberrant signals that trigger uncontrolled cellular division, growth and metastasis, all hallmarks of cancer. The mutated KRAS protein is frequently involved in the development of some of the deadliest cancers such as lung, colon and pancreatic.

Understanding how the mutations function is an important first step to discovering potential ways to interfere with cell processes and signals and, hopefully, stopping the unfettered growth of cancers. Together with collaborators at Moffitt Cancer Center and other institutions, Dr. Sebti’s lab developed drugs that inhibit the cancer-causing activity of KRAS and have proven effective when applied to human pancreatic, lung and colon tumors in early research.

20%

The protein KRAS is found mutated in around 20 percent of all human cancers.

90%

Around 90 percent of pancreatic cancers have a KRAS mutation.

4th

Pancreatic cancers are the fourth leading cause of cancer-related deaths in the U.S.

