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**The Friends of the Mass General Cancer Center Celebrate 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Fall Benefit  
*Volunteers Raise Funds For Essential Programs That Support Patients and Their Families***

**(Boston, Mass.)** – The Friends of the Mass General Cancer Center – a group of active volunteers who raise funds to bridge exceptional medical and supportive cancer care through innovative programs that promote whole-person healing – recently celebrated with cancer survivors and those who care for them at their 25<sup>th</sup> annual fall benefit and fashion show, *Couture for Cancer Care*, held at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel in Boston.

Co-chaired by Susan Barry and Sylvia Fernández-del Castillo, the event included a runway fashion show, reception and remarks from the night's emcees Jenny Johnson— Emmy Award winning executive producer and television personality—and David P. Ryan, MD, Clinical Director of the Mass General Cancer Center, as well as Brenda Flavin Warshaw, President of the Friends. Mass General Cancer Center caregivers and their patients walked the runway together wearing designs from Details and Goods, Mr. Sid and Cole Haan and sporting hair and make-up by Fulham Salon and Giorgio Armani Beauty.

Since 1984, the Friends of the Mass General Cancer Center have worked to fund the diverse services and resources that complement the Massachusetts General Hospital Cancer Center's 29 fully integrated, multidisciplinary clinical programs. Funds raised at the fall benefit help support these vital programs which are provided to cancer patients and their families at no cost. These include:

- The Katherine A. Gallagher Integrative Therapies Program, providing massage therapy, acupuncture, music and art therapy and other services.
- The Financial Assistance Fund for Patients and Families, which serves as a resource for families struggling with the financial burdens of cancer.
- The Howard Ulfelder, MD, Healing Garden, a peaceful rooftop garden for quiet reflection.
- The Network for Patients & Families, a peer support program for patients, families and friends.
- The Maxwell V. Blum Cancer Support and Education Hub, a comforting and welcoming space for meetings and educational workshops.
- The Center for Fertility and Cancer, a program that addresses the infertility concerns of young adults undergoing cancer treatment

According to Dr. Ryan, "Through their efforts, the Friends provide our patients with the valuable services they need now and for years to come. This annual fall benefit allows us to celebrate these essential programs that support both patients and family members alike."

**About the Massachusetts General Hospital Cancer Center**

An integral part of one of the world's most distinguished academic medical centers, the Massachusetts General Hospital Cancer Center's commitment to eradicating cancer is fueled by scientific investigation conducted as part of the largest hospital-based research program in the United States. Through a powerful synergy between scientists in the laboratories and physicians at the bedside, the Cancer Center fosters innovation in basic, translational and clinical research. The Cancer Center can be found online at: [www.massgeneral.org/cancer](http://www.massgeneral.org/cancer).

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