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CAMC nears finish line of cancer center campaign goal

by Candace Nelson
Staff writer



The Charleston Area Medical Center's "Power of Many" campaign to raise \$15 million to build a cancer center is nearing the finish line.

A \$25,000 gift from Old Colony Company Realtors and a \$102,400 gift from Spilman Thomas & Battle employees has pushed the campaign total to \$14,034,297.

"When I added in these two nice gifts and topped more than \$14 million, that was exciting," said Gail Pitchford, CAMC Foundation president. "I can see the \$15 million. I can see it!"

The John L. Dickinson family gave the CAMC Foundation a \$750,000 match gift, which requires CAMC to raise \$750,000 on its own by June 1.

CAMC has raised about \$656,074 and needs \$93,926 to procure the gift.

Then it will aim for \$371,777 because the Maier Family Foundation has pledged to contribute the last half million needed for the campaign.

The CAMC Foundation has received more than 2,000 gifts to date.

"Now it's every dollar gets us so much closer," Pitchford said. "Every dollar really gets us there to that \$15 million."

The proposed 100,000-square-foot David Lee Cancer Center will bring all of CAMC's cancer services under one roof.

"We are in conversation with several people that I'm hoping will be our next donors, but I don't have the written pledge in hand. Hopefully, they'll come through," Pitchford said.

The foundation's goal of \$15 million is in addition to \$35 million CAMC will borrow to build the cancer center.

As she approaches the goal, Pitchford is looking to the future.

"We want to have several celebrations -- with CAMC employees and all of the donors. We'll plan something different," she said.


"I just want to thank everyone. I want to make sure they know how grateful I am and everyone at CAMC is. And especially how grateful many, many cancer patients and their families will be."

To join the Power of Many and make a pledge, contact the CAMC Foundation at 304-388-9860.

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