

Inspire

winter 2011



Celebrating a Champion of World-Class Medicine for Children

When Mohsen Ziai, MD, became Chairman of Pediatrics at Inova Fairfax Hospital (IFH) in 1982, half the beds in the Pediatric Unit were occupied by adults. The hospital had just five neonatologists, two pediatric infectious disease specialists and one pediatric surgeon. Pediatric subspecialty care was otherwise unavailable in those days, so very sick children had to be transferred to Washington, DC — a process that was extremely stressful for young patients and their families.

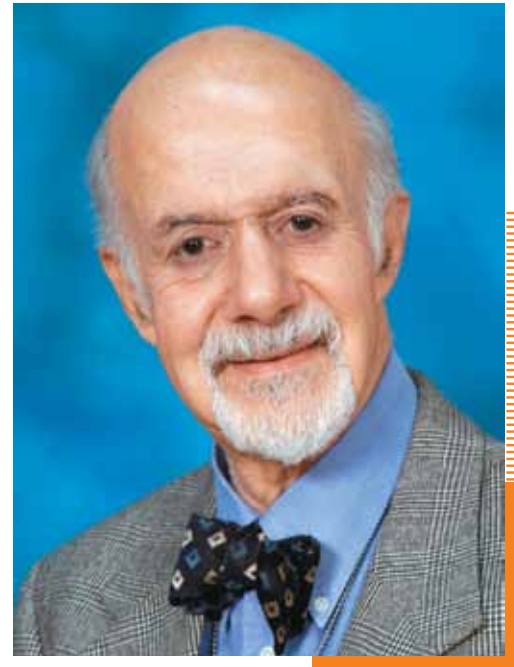
Dr. Ziai quickly perceived the enormous potential to develop a world-class children's hospital in Northern Virginia — one that would provide state-of-the-art medical care in a child-friendly environment close to home. Over the next 17 years, he worked tirelessly to make his vision a reality. His leadership inspired others in the community and produced rapid growth, including:

- Establishment of the only pediatric intensive care unit (PICU) in Northern Virginia
- The opening of the Women's and Children's Building at IFH
- The inception of the Inova Pediatric Center, an outpatient clinic for low-income patients
- The initiation of the pediatric cardiac surgery program and the pediatric residency program

In 1996, Inova Fairfax Hospital for Children (IFHC) was nationally designated a children's "hospital within a hospital" and has grown steadily ever since. Today, the hospital has more than 90 pediatric subspecialties, 184 pediatric beds, and one of the largest, most successful pediatric cardiovascular surgery programs in the mid-Atlantic region.

An Immeasurable Impact

"Dr. Ziai's impact on the health and welfare of children in Northern Virginia is enormous and immeasurable," says Stephen Keller, MD,



Mohsen Ziai, MD

Medical Director, Pediatric Intensive Care Unit, IFHC. "He was the driving force behind IFHC's evolution from a community pediatric hospital to the comprehensive, tertiary children's hospital we have today. His legacy of bold vision, positive leadership and inspiration to others will have a powerful influence on children's healthcare in our community for many years to come."

Medical education and training are among Dr. Ziai's most important contributions. The Inova Pediatric Residency Program, which he established in 1996, has trained more than 150 pediatricians. A Pediatric Emergency Medicine

continued ▶

continued from cover

(PEM) Fellowship has produced PEM physicians who care for children all over the country. Medical students at Virginia Commonwealth University – Inova Campus receive pediatric clerkship training alongside students from other prominent medical schools.

Through Dr. Ziai's foresight, Northern Virginia now has the pediatric manpower to meet the needs of its growing population. Pediatric subspecialists serve virtually all young patients in the community, allowing children to receive sophisticated care near home. Special multidisciplinary programs have evolved to address complex chronic illnesses and disabilities, such as craniofacial anomalies and spina bifida.

A Remarkable Life

Dr. Ziai was born in Iran to a family that included seven generations of physicians. At 18, speaking no English, he came to the United States to pursue his education. He graduated from Davis and Elkins College in West Virginia in two years, earned his medical degree at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, and completed pediatric residencies at Johns Hopkins, Bellevue and Boston Children's Hospital, where he worked as Chief Resident under his great mentor, Charles A. Janeway, MD. He did an infectious disease fellowship at Boston City Hospital in the famous Thorndike Laboratory.

He returned to Iran and became Dean of the Medical School at Tehran University. During that time, he established a unique program to train front-line health workers — called "Behvarz" — to provide basic medical services to Iran's large rural population. This innovative program fundamentally changed the country's health status. Today, Iran's

immunization and infant mortality rates are among the best in the world.

In 1977, Dr. Ziai emigrated to the United States permanently, joining the faculty of the University of Rochester. He established an Endowed Chair at Rochester General Hospital before joining Inova Fairfax Hospital in 1982.

Honoring a Legacy

In addition to spearheading the growth of IFHC, Dr. Ziai established an endowment to support programs and services necessary to sustain a world-class children's hospital in the community.

The Mohsen Ziai, MD, Pediatric Endowment Fund is now IFHC's largest endowment. Since its inception in 1993, it has helped subsidize important research, training and education initiatives, including the hospital's annual fall conference. Last year, the fund paid for a pediatric resident to travel to Haiti to provide medical services.

To further recognize Dr. Ziai's contribution to the advancement of child health in Northern Virginia, IFHC has renamed its annual fall conference the Mohsen Ziai Pediatric Conference.

"Naming the conference in Dr. Ziai's honor is a natural extension of his approach to the promotion of child health through service to the community," Dr. Keller says. "Both the conference and the endowment fund enable IFHC to honor his legacy in ways that are important to him, and will carry on his values and extend his vision in perpetuity."

To learn how you can support The Mohsen Ziai, MD, Pediatric Endowment Fund, contact Kate Paulsen at **703-776-3422** or kate.paulsen@inova.org.

Claude Moore Scholars Program aids students

Sometimes, the best ideas begin on the back of a napkin. Such was the case with the Claude Moore Scholars Program, an innovative training initiative to help young people enter the medical field. The concept came about over lunch as J. Hamilton Lambert, Executive Director of the Claude Moore Charitable Foundation, Knox Singleton, CEO, Inova Health System, and Dr. Edgar Hatrick, III, Superintendent of Loudoun County Public Schools discussed ways to quickly fill critical healthcare jobs. While they talked, Lambert sketched out the plan on a napkin.

Now in its third year, the program trains Loudoun County high school students for the high-tech medical jobs of the future. When they graduate, students have enough education to sit for entry-level boards and start work immediately. If they opt to go to college, they can apply those credits toward a degree.

"Claude Moore Scholars is just one of many successful cooperative ventures between Inova and the Claude Moore Foundation to advance hands-on medical education in Northern Virginia," says Lynn Tadlock, Deputy Executive Director, Claude Moore Charitable Foundation. "This partnership has thrived thanks to its visionary leaders — Knox Singleton and J. Hamilton Lambert — who are committed to finding solutions that benefit the community."

Brighter Futures



Inova's Claude Moore Nursing Scholars with Claude Moore Charitable Foundation Executive Director, J. Hamilton Lambert in center; Lynn Tadlock, Deputy Executive Director (to the right behind Lambert); and Guy Gravett, member of the Board of Trustees (to the left behind Lambert).

What began on the back of a napkin has expanded to a national vision. Claude Moore Scholars is now sharing its online curriculum with Inova's successful Military to Medicine program, which provides healthcare training and employment opportunities to military veterans and their families. "Military to Medicine needed a curriculum so we brought the two together," Lambert explains. "Moving forward, we can apply the program model to train healthcare workers in communities around the world."

Dr. Claude Moore, a successful physician, established the Claude Moore Charitable Foundation in 1987 to enhance educational opportunities for young people in Virginia. As a result, the Foundation has chosen to support Inova initiatives that train the doctors, nurses and healthcare workers so

crucially needed in our community. Major gifts from the foundation include:

■ **The Claude Moore Health Education and Research Center**, which opened in 2008. This state-of-the-art facility houses Virginia Commonwealth University Medical School – Inova Campus, Northern Virginia's first regional medical school, and the Betty and Guy Beatty Center for Integrated Research, which brings together critically important components for a world-class, patient-oriented research program.

■ **Inova Loudoun Hospital Simulation Lab**, which provides a unique setting for nurses, physicians and other caregivers to practice complex procedures and expand their skills. The lab features a mock-up of an intensive care unit (ICU)

room and computer-controlled mannequins that simulate life-and-death patient care scenarios. "It's a remarkable resource for a facility our size and provides a higher level of education for our ICU nurses," says Janell Hoffman, CCRN, Chairman, Inova Loudoun Hospital Foundation Board of Trustees and a practicing ICU nurse at Inova Loudoun Hospital. "The more education you offer, the better the quality of care. And the Claude Moore Foundation has played a huge part in increasing the level of quality healthcare in Loudoun County and Northern Virginia." Top-flight training in the Simulation Lab recently helped the ILH ICU win the prestigious Beacon Award from the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses. The award recognizes nursing excellence and

continued ▶

highest-quality outcomes among hospital ICUs nationwide.

■ **The Claude Moore Foundation Nursing Scholarship Program**, which gives tuition assistance to students enrolled in George Mason University's second-degree nursing program. In return, students make a

commitment to work at an Inova facility for two years after they graduate.

"The Claude Moore Charitable Foundation has been an incredible partner to Inova, helping to improve the health and lives of those in our community through direct programmatic, facility and

educational support," says David Goldberg, Vice President, Inova Health System, and Administrator, Inova Fairfax Hospital for Children. "With each generous investment they make, the Trustees work to meet the spirit of Dr. Moore's vision to help people who want to help themselves."

Philanthropy Paves the Way for New Inova Bloodmobile

Spotting in parking lots around the DC metro area, bloodmobiles offer a quick and convenient opportunity to give the gift of life. For more than 35 years, Inova Blood Donor Services has helped provide a safe and adequate blood supply. The country's largest hospital-based blood collection operation serves over 15 hospitals and medical centers throughout the region and works with national and international blood redistribution programs.

The ongoing demand for blood components — red blood cells, plasma and platelets — is staggering. To keep up with that demand, Inova Blood Donor Services has to collect over 200 units of blood each day — an annual goal of 95,000 — and safeguards each of those units with approximately 13 FDA-regulated tests. Personnel staff four fixed-site collection centers throughout Northern Virginia, but the vast majority of donations — approximately 70 percent — are

made possible by philanthropic and community support, will have such tremendous impact when it is put into service this fall.

Carolyn Bayless, Mobile Operations Manager, Inova Blood Donor Services, says, "We schedule drives with our corporate and community partners almost 365 days a year. Our bloodmobiles are often on the road for up to 18 hours a day so they see a lot of wear and tear. The new bloodmobile will be a great asset. We want to thank the community for this outpouring of support."

The vehicle will replace the oldest of three in the fleet, which has been on the road since 1991. At a cost of \$230,000, the state-of-the-art bloodmobile includes three donor screening booths, five donor beds, a refreshment area and temperature-controlled storage capabilities. Monies raised came from a variety of sources including 1,000 commemorative miniature bloodmobiles that were given

obtained through mobile operations. That is why a brand new bloodmobile,

\$10,000. Ironically, a center-based donor, he had never been in a bloodmobile prior to making his generous gift!

Ultimately, the event that helped Inova Blood Donor Services fulfill their fundraising goal was the September 2009 Inaugural Charity Hockey Classic. Inspired by the slogan, *Give Blood. Play Hockey.*, coaches and dads from two youth hockey organizations, the Ashburn Xtreme and Reston Raiders, squared off in a match that raised more than \$40,000.

Terri Craddock, Director, Inova Blood Donor Services, says, "The new bloodmobile is a very welcome and needed addition to our mobile operations team. With only 38 percent of the U.S. population eligible to donate, and less than 5 percent actually doing so, we have to find ways to make it easier and more convenient for people to include blood donation in their already busy schedules. By acquiring this new bloodmobile for our fleet, we're able to hold more blood drives and see more donors to help us fulfill our blood inventory needs. We are grateful both to our blood donors and to those who contribute financially to our program."

to donors who donated \$100 or more. One gentleman not only donates platelets every two weeks but also gave

Call **1-866-BLOODSAVES** or **1-866-256-6372** to find a convenient donor site or blood drive. Follow us on **Facebook**, [facebook.com/pages/Inova-Blood-Donor-Services/117252588552](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Inova-Blood-Donor-Services/117252588552).

Generous community support made the purchase of a new bloodmobile possible.

