# SAVING LIVES. SAVING CAREERS.

A publication of the Physician's Health Program of the Tennessee Medical Foundation

Spring, 2011

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J. Mack Worthington, M.D. TMF President

TMF has made. I wanted to share this with each of you who are so important to us.

It was a number of years ago that I first learned about the work of the TMF. The late Dr. David Dodd, Emeritus Medical Director, called me about a physician who needed help. The physician had gone through the Physician's Health Program and had advocacy with the TMF. However, the Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners felt that additional training was needed in order to reinstate the license.

At the time, I was the Program Director of a Family Medicine Residency Program focused on the academic qualifications of prospective residents. Dr. Dodd explained the TMF program to me and the needs of this particular physician. Only after learning about the ongoing monitoring program provided by the TMF was I willing to take this physician into the program. I did not have the ability to provide this oversight.

This physician was successful in completing upcoming 500 Doctors...\$500 the program, obtaining a license, and return- with me in supporting the TMF!

# **Message from The President**

I will be ending my ing to a career in medicine. Since that time I term as President have taken other physicians who had advoof the Tennessee cacy with the TMF and watched over them Medical Foundation through their training and saw them return to in June. This has productive lives. Without the TMF, I would not allowed me the have been able to help them.

> Dr. Roland Gray, current Medical Director of the TMF, continues the remarkable work of the TMF. Over the years, the TMF has achieved and maintained a success rate of over 95% with alcohol and drug cases. What a tremendous impact this has been not only on the physicians but also on families, patients, physician groups, and hospitals. I have seen many of these physicians become leaders in the medical profession and in their communities.

Pause for a moment and consider organizations that you believe are valuable to society. You may think of your church, a service organization, or your professional organization. Which organization would you consider most valuable to physicians? I cannot think of any organization that has given so much to physicians as the TMF.

I extend my thanks to all of you who have supported the TMF through the years. Physicians, SVMIC, the Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners, the Tennessee Medical Association, Hospitals, and many others have made it possible to continue to serve physicians in need. Make a donation to honor someone or in memory of a special person. Watch for the upcoming 500 Doctors...\$500 campaign. Join with me in supporting the TME!

THE MISSION OF THE PHYSICIAN'S HEALTH PROGRAM IS TO PROTECT PATIENTS BY IDENTIFYING, INTERVENING ON, REHABILITATING, AND PROVIDING ADVOCACY FOR PHYSICIANS IMPAIRED BY ADDICTIVE DISEASE AND/OR MENTAL OR EMOTIONAL ILLNESS.

I will be ending my term as President of the Tennessee Medical Foundation in June. This has allowed me the opportunity to reflect on my work with some outstanding people and to see firsthand the impact that the



Roland Gray, M.D. TMF Medical Director

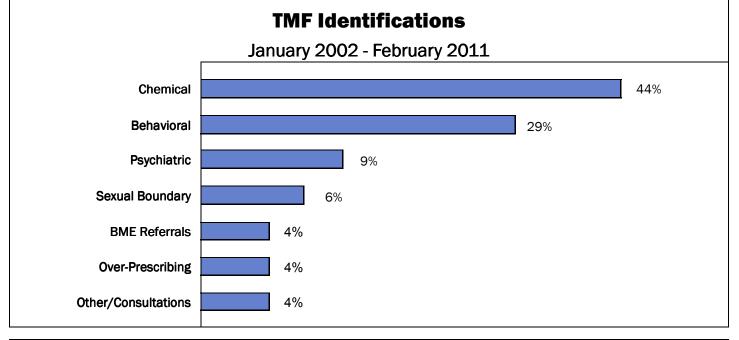
# Message from the Medical Director

If there is a constant in my decade long year tenure as Medical Director of the Physician's Health Program, it's the ever increasing demand for services by the physicians and healthcare system in Tennessee. While the personal and organizational stressors facing doctors have varied, the need for assistance to address the life threatening, career destroying issues physicians face have seemingly mounted daily.

Throughout 33 years of existence, the TMF has accomplished its mission by connecting with physicians, linking them with treatment providers and expert specialty resources, providing them with ongoing support, monitoring and advocacy. It is an essential and crucial enterprise, benefitting physicians, families, communities, and third parties invested in healthy physician practice.

Ours is an important calling – one we cannot accomplish alone. I invite you to get to know us better, to support our work with your physician colleagues, and to spread the word about what many consider the most admired and respected physician health program in the country.

I frequently remind our participants about the importance of gratitude. **Thank you** very much for your referrals, encouragement, support and donations. For you and these, I am most grateful.



# **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**



### What is the role of the Tennessee Medical Foundation?

Since 1978, the Tennessee Medical Foundation Physician's Health Program has existed to protect patients and to promote the health of Tennessee's physicians through identification, intervention, rehabilitation and the provision of monitoring and advocacy for doctors with addictive disease, mental or emotional illness and behavioral problems. By doing so, lives and careers are saved and patient safety preserved.

#### How are cases identified?

Any physician, family member, patient or colleague may confidentially and/or anonymously report concerns about a physician by phone at (615)467-6411 or the TMF website at <u>www.e-tmf.org</u>.

### How are donations to the TMF used?

The Tennessee Medical Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization, allowing it to receive tax deductible donations as determined by IRS laws. Expenditures per the 2009 TMF Audit: Administrative Program Services 75%, Management 19%, and Fundraising efforts 6%. TMF participants are responsible for payment of all assessment and treatment expenses.

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# Remembering David Dodd, M.D.

After a long and remarkable life, David Tennyson Dodd, M.D. died on December 18, 2010 at the age of 83. He is survived by his loving wife, Nancy Sugg Dodd and his four children, Leslee Dodd Karl, David T. (Chip) Dodd, John H. Dodd and Phillip S. Dodd.

Dr. Dodd was a committed husband, father, physician and healer. Among his many outstanding and enduring accomplishments was the development of the

Tennessee Medical Foundation Physician's Health Program. As its first full-time Medical Director, he ably served the physicians and citizens of Tennessee. He is widely acclaimed as one of the pioneers in the physician health movement in the United States. His passion, zeal for helping and dedication permeates the organization to which he devoted his heart and soul.

We join thousands of Tennessee physicians in mourning his loss. He was tremendously gifted and saved the lives and careers of many physicians and enriched the hospitals, medical offices and communities where he tirelessly labored. While his passing leaves an enormous void in the hearts and lives of many, his legacy of service and compassion for the ill or troubled physician lives on. Ultimately, his work touched the lives of patients throughout Tennessee. For these things, we are profoundly grateful.

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J. Mack Worthington, M.D.

President

Roland W. Gray, M.D. Medical Director

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William C. arden

William C. Anderson, M.D., Chairman Physicians Health Peer Review Committee

Dr. Dodd's family included the Tennessee Medical Foundation Endowment Fund among the organizations to which memorials may be made. If you would like to make a tax deductible donation in memory of Dr. Dodd to the TMF Endowment Fund, you may do so by sending a check to:

The Tennessee Medical Foundation Endowment Fund In Memory of David T. Dodd, M.D. 216 Centerview Drive, Suite 304 Brentwood, Tennessee 37027 The following is excerpted from Dr. Scott Portis' column in the Spring 2006 TMF Newsletter.

# **HEROES**

### By Bill Scott Portis, M.D.

We all have heroes—people who have helped shape our lives to become the people we are today. One such person is Dr. David Dodd. He is a tall stately looking fellow, with a gentle manner, and a soft voice—previously a surgeon and later the first Medical Director of the Tennessee Medical Foundation (TMF) Physician's Health Program (PHP).

I have often thought that Dr. Dodd could "walk on water" for I saw him perform what I consider to be a miracle. Several years ago, I had a medical colleague and close friend who fell into the dreaded cycle of addiction. He was a dedicated fellow, true to his patients, smart, well liked and "pulling all the right levers" to become a superstar in the medical field. Unfortunately, his addiction threatened his life and livelihood.

Enter Dr. Dodd. Working his magic, Dr. Dodd successfully guided my friend through several weeks of therapy into a program of recovery. Today this person has realized his previous potential and has been a successful MD in our community for nearly 30 years. His career was saved, his family was saved, and his patients, his hospital, and the community were the beneficiaries. Afterward, Dr. Dodd melted into his surroundings, picked up his hat and went modestly on to his next patient. To me this was a true miracle and Dr. Dodd a hero.

Later when asked to serve on the board of the TMF, I could not wait to become associated with such a remarkable organization (secretly, it was my desire to get closer to Dr. Dodd and to find out his secrets).

Over the years, I watched with awe and admiration as Dr. Dodd performed these miracles again and again with much success. He was tireless in his efforts to help addicted physicians receive treatment so they could restore their families and return to practice.

As the years of service, dedication, and hard work took their toll, Dr. Dodd reluctantly was compelled to slow his pace and eventually take on a more abbreviated role in the TMF. He acted mainly as a fundraiser and consultant, albeit, no ordinary fundraiser. His fundraising efforts raise thousands of dollars each year that allows this fine organization to carry on the work that it does so well and that is so needed.



From left to right: Annette Tuttle, Phyllis Bauman, Dr. Roland Gray, Amanda Rambo, Michael Todd, Jeanne Breard, Vince Parrish, and Julie Eberle.

# Meet the TMF Staff

**Roland Gray, M.D., Medical Director** – Dr. Gray has served as Medical Director of the Tennessee Medical Foundation's Physician's Health Program since January 2002. Prior to this, he served as a TMF Board member and long-time volunteer for the Physician's Health Program. Certified in Addiction Medicine in 1987, Dr. Gray has treated more that 10,000 patients for addiction diseases, and serves as a Special Government Employee and consultant to the FDA Subcommittee on Drug Abuse. A practicing pediatrician from 1976 through 2001, Dr. Gray is a Fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics as well as a Fellow of the American Society of Addiction Medicine. Dr. Gray is also a member of the clinical faculty at Vanderbilt University.

Dr. Gray has served as the Vice President & volunteer Medical Director for the Davidson County Drug Court Support Foundation since 1997. The Drug Court Support Foundation helps first-time convicted drug offenders reclaim their lives. Since 1996, he has worked with addicted mothers and their children as volunteer Medical Director of Renewal House; a halfway house for women and children. In 2004, the Davidson County Drug Court honored Dr. Gray by naming their rehabilitation building the "Dr. Roland Gray Vocational Building". In 2005, Dr. Gray was the recipient of the John P. Mulloy, Jr., Community Service Award given by the Alcohol and Drug Council of Middle Tennessee. A Nashville native, Dr. Gray has been married for more than 40 years to his wife Diane. The couple have three children: Will, a cardiac anesthesiologist in New York married and father of one, Camilla, a homemaker and mother of four, and Andrew, a Ph.D. candidate at Harvard University. In his spare time, Dr. Gray enjoys running and ballroom dancing.

**Michael Todd, Administrator** — Mike joined the TMF in December 2003. Prior to joining the TMF, Mike was Director of Substance Abuse Services and Outpatient Mental Health Services for River Valley Behavioral Health in Owensboro, Kentucky. He has three children: Jason who is married to Beth; Amy who is married to Bo Link; and Rebecca. Amy and Bo have one daughter, Allyson who is two years old. Jason and Beth are expecting their first child in November. Mike also has an English Mastiff: Henry. Mike enjoys his family time, golf, fishing, and photography.

Jeanne Breard, R.N., Field Coordinator – Jeanne began working with the TMF in August of 1988. She has been married to her husband, Mike, since 1977. They have two adult daughters, Nicole and Jessica. Nicole graduates from Middle Tennessee State University in May 2011 with a degree in Criminal Justice. She plans to further her education and pursue a career as an attorney. Jessica is happily married to Jerry Puffenbarger and they live in Clarksville. Jessica completed her Master's Degree at Austin Peay State University and works as a Research Analyst in the Research and Prospect Development Office at Vanderbilt University. Jeanne is an active member of the Holly Grove Baptist Church. She enjoys reading, scrapbooking, and maintaining Cichlid aquariums.

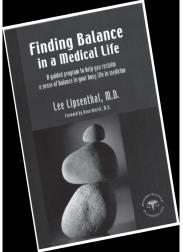
Vince Parrish, LCSW, Compliance Coordinator and Development Director – Vince joined the TMF in 2003. He and his wife, Janie, have been married for over 40 years. Their daughter, Lindsey, and her husband, Scott, have one son, Drew. Vince enjoys bookstores, libraries and watching Drew play sports.

Julie Eberle, Administrative Assistant – Julie began working with the TMF in December 2004. She has two daughters, Erin and Dana. Erin moved to Nashville 10 years ago, but was quickly followed by Dana and her husband Mike. With both girls here, Julie, who was born and raised in Buffalo, New York, was not too far behind. She enjoys cooking, being outdoors, the friendly people of Middle Tennessee, Mac the Cat, and working at the TMF.

**Phyllis Bauman, Executive Administrative Assistant** – Phyllis joined the TMF in August of 2007. Phyllis met her husband Deryl on the golf course the day of her first hole-in-one. They enjoy golf, snow skiing, scuba diving, hiking, Predators games (hockey) and travel together. Phyllis and Deryl are also members of the Lions Club International and enjoy volunteering.

Amanda Rambo, Administrative Assistant – Amanda began working with the TMF in October 2009. Amanda has been married to her husband, Brandon, for 9 years. Brandon works for Southland Constructors. They have two sons: Wyat, age 3 and Hoyt, born February 2011. She enjoys spending time with her family and being a mother and wife.

Annette Tuttle, Staff Support – Annette joined the TMF February 2010. She married Peter Tuttle in August 2006 and has 2 children Aaron, 29 and Amanda, 25. Peter & Annette are NHL Nashville Predator fans and parents to 2 rescue dogs, Domino & Lucy.



**FINDING BALANCE IN A MEDICAL LIFE** 

**BOOK REVIEW** 

Have you ever wondered why physicians have a burnout rate of about 67% annually and why we struggle to work our way out of this rut? After all, we are very smart, creative, and well-meaning people. It should be easy to address our own unhappiness. The medical profession is unique, particularly as practiced in the United States, with extraordinary challenges and demands made upon its members....a practitioner tax per-se. Life balance is often a goal, a moving target not achieved on a day-to-day basis. Recently, I read Lee Lipsenthal's "Finding Balance in a Medical Life" which I felt compelled to share.

**In** the first half of his book, Lee describes how we are set up for burn out, fatigue and a state of feeling incomplete. Part of this is due to the increasing complexity of our health care system and associated stress with 28% of doctors showing above threshold levels. Another facet of this is due to the underlying personality type ...THE SEESAWIS that is attracted to medicine in ALWAYS IN MOTION the first place. We are intelligent. caring, inquisitive, sensitive and

people oriented individuals. We are also type A, perfectionist (predisposed to a self-righteous and judgmental attitude), compulsive, hyper-focused, goal oriented and competitive who have a tendency toward co-dependency and "over-caring" to our own detriment. Although these attributes are not considered by most to be positive, it may very well be difficult to survive medical school and postgraduate training without them. However, they don't serve us well in our personal lives. We are so busy caring for others that we no longer take care of ourselves. The challenge is not learning how to be a great doctor, but learning how to live a great life while being a doctor. These attributes are further engrained and enhanced in the training process. Fear of failure enhances type A and competitive behaviors. Fear of error enhances perfectionism to obsessive levels. Social isolation is increased with our long hours and exhaustion. The learned emotional dissociation (dehumanization), in order to remain objective and functional under extreme stress, tends to shut down our compassion and ability to connect with others, especially those outside the patient/doctor relationship. This is exemplified when referring to patients as "the chest pain in room 201, etc". The emotional connection needs to be with self, social, family and others outside the emotional disconnection required at times in the workplace.

In his book through a process of self-analysis, self-awareness and a deeper level of understanding of influences and expectations, Lee teaches us how to be better teachers and leaders for our communities, patients, students and families; ultimately, enhancing the ability to obtain life balance. The book expounds on various techniques to be utilized for maintenance, restructuring, and crisis. He shows us a simple way to balance extrinsic and intrinsic life values by monitoring the four key areas of life and development: the physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual.

Physical Well-Being The basic body needs must be met. This includes food, water, exercise, and sleep. The first two, physicians do well with; it is the latter where we are deficient. Lee describes how our physical health affects our emotional health, mental well-being and ultimately our performance and happiness in life.

Emotional Well-Being Lee leads us through many steps towards emotional well-being as follows:

Stop whining and complaining. This is energy draining and leads

Reprinted with permission by our friend P. Bradley Hall, M.D., Medical Director, WVMPHP.

Originally printed in the "West Virginia Medical Journal".

"Finding Balance in a Medical Life" is available at Amazon.com

to no positive outcomes in the long run. Those who can use this energy to think creatively and solve problems can create positive changes in their practices and lives. The ego centric central position of "it's all about me" is a sure fire way to remain out of balance and unhappy in life.

Accept that life is change. Change is inevitable. Do not let change in medicine or your life upset you more than necessary. To paraphrase John Lennon, "Life is what happens when you are busy making other plans."

Be willing to give up some control. Physicians live and work within a large, interdependent system. Be realistic about what you can change. As the serenity prayer says, "God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change (other people, places and things), the courage to change the things I can (my action and attitudes), and the wisdom (which requires some serenity and preferentially a power greater than yourself) to know the difference."

Forgive yourself the errors you have made. As physicians, we make multiple decisions daily, at work and at home. Which one of us does not make mistakes in the course of a year? Remember, we are human and have the right to be perfectly imperfect. It is reasonable to review these errors to learn from them. It is unreasonable to obsess about these errors and drive yourself crazy! Ask yourself, "What would I say to a colleague who made this same error?" We are often much kinder to our patients and friends than to ourselves.

Learn to manage stress. Yoga, meditation, exercise, prayer, family time, and hobbies are all great stress management techniques. If you have one that works for you, do it at least four times weekly. If you don't, consider finding your own outlet or take a class.

Enhance the relationships in your life. Spend time with and be in contact with those whom you most care about. Be grateful that you have these relationships! An emotional connection with others makes us happier and more complete.

Mental Well-Being He gives us concepts and tools to enhance our mental well-being including the processes of learning, creating, and experiencing personal growth. He also discusses the concept of emotional intelligence, the idea that emotions affect your functionality, performance, and outcomes.

Spiritual Well-Being Lee also addresses spirituality and how it can be defined in many ways that incorporate religious practices and beliefs or can be of a non-religious nature. His approach is nonsectarian and supportive of religious endeavors. He defines spirituality as a sense of connection with others and a connection with something larger than us.

Putting it all together Lee puts this all together in a way that becomes manageable, not adding more to your plate, but showing you how to shift your perception and creativity to manage what is already on your plate. I might add that I would like to see the concepts of his book being taught in medical schools and residency programs. Fortunately, it already is. Lee has created a curriculum that is being used in multiple residencies and medical schools throughout the country.

I highly recommend this book to all of us; young, old, in private practice and in academics. As we approach the changing world of medicine for the future, we need to learn to create and flow with change and not to resist and then complain! If we help create the next chapter of medicine with love and compassion toward ourselves, our families and our patients, it will be a better vision of the health care system than exists today. "Finding Balance in a Medical Life" is a must read personal call to action that may help you save a very important life - yours!

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# **PHYSICIANS' HEALTH**

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## **PHYSICIANS' HEALTH**

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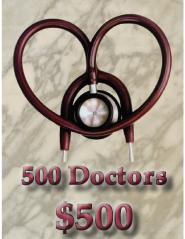
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# **Development Report**

By Vince Parrish, LCSW, Development Director And Michael Todd, Administrator

At its March, 2011 meeting, the Tennessee Medical Foundation Board of Directors approved the 2011 Annual Giving Campaign: **500 Doctors...\$500.** The campaign, which launches in June, 2011 with a direct mail solicitation to all actively licensed Tennessee physicians, has a goal of raising \$250,000 by having 500 doctors donate at least \$500.00 to support the work of the Physician's Health Program. This amount would exceed by approximately \$65,000.00 any previous amount raised from physicians. The donations will support the ever increasing demand for the expert services provided by Dr. Gray and the clinical and support staff of the TMF Physician's Health Program. Ahead of the campaign, our brochure has been updated and ads showcasing the work of the Physician's Health Program will soon appear in *Medical News*,

a highly regarded monthly newspaper distributed statewide to all physicians, hospitals and healthcare executives.

For over 30 years the TMF has been known and respected for **Helping Physicians Heal.** Moving forward, the emphasis of our message will not just be healing but will be **Saving Lives. Saving Careers.** For this is truly what we do - save lives **and** save careers by helping good but troubled physicians become better doctors. We need the financial support of all Tennessee physicians to continue this crucial work. Please join your fellow physicians and other generous TMF supporters by donating to the **500 Doctors...\$500** campaign. Your support means so much to our participants and, more importantly, all Tennesseans.



Upcoming Calendar of Events Caduceus Retreat June 24–26, 2011 IDAA Annual Meeting August 3–7, 2011





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