

D BUSINESS

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Simmons gifts keep coming

The Harold Simmons Foundation has made two new gifts totaling more than \$2 million, one to fund a clinical center that offers noninvasive cancer treatments at UT Southwestern Medical Center and the other to a program that provides clinical care services for indigent patients in South Africa.

These gifts bring the total donated to UT Southwestern by the Simmons family and foundation to over \$127 million.

The first Simmons gift will support a stereotactic radiation treatment facility designed to offer the most advanced, noninvasive therapies for brain tumors and extracranial lesions, such as lung, liver and kidney cancers.



Harold Simmons



Annette Simmons

The new **Annette Simmons Stereotactic Treatment Center**, named for Mr. Simmons' wife, is in a newly renovated wing at UT Southwestern University Hospital-Zale Lipshy.

It features the latest models of the Cyberknife and Gamma Knife, both of which deliver precise, highly focused doses of radiation to destroy benign and malignant tumors.

Neurosurgeons, radiation oncologists, radiologists, neuro-interventional radiologists and physicists, supported by a nursing staff, review each case to devise the optimal treatment plan.

"Annette and I are impressed by the unprecedented benefits of this high level of technology, and our foundation has for many years maintained an interest in cancer treatment," Mr. Simmons said.

"This simply was a perfect opportunity to support UT Southwestern in another new and promising venture."

The second gift will help underwrite a novel program in which UT Southwestern physicians work in a clinic funded by **Trisha Wilson** of Dallas in one of the poorest parts of South Africa.

UT Southwestern's initial involvement was funded in 2006 through contributions from **Linda and Mitch Hart**, and the Simmons donation will enable the program to be expanded dramatically.

"Obviously, there is a great need for high-caliber medical care in South Africa, and it's exciting that UT Southwestern has the capacity to deliver it," Mr. Simmons said.

"We try to give where there is need, and this clearly is one of those times. We've supported UT Southwestern for a very long time, but it's especially gratifying when we can be part of a program so promising and new."

Dr. Kern Wildenthal, president of the medical center, said that Mr. Simmons and his family "are among our country's most outstanding philanthropists. UT Southwestern is extremely fortunate and proud that they have chosen to invest so generously and loyally in our programs."

"The Simmons' steady support through the years has had a major impact on UT Southwestern's ability to build great research and patient care programs that will benefit countless people for years to come," said **W. Plack Carr Jr.**, president of Southwestern Medical Foundation.

Correction: An item in Tuesday's column gave the wrong date for the North Dallas Chamber of Commerce's annual Real Estate Symposium. It's Sept. 24, not next Monday.