Our collaboration with the Notre Dame women’s basketball team through the Pink Zone initiative is to assist women in our community who cannot afford breast cancer screenings and mammograms. It is a natural outgrowth of our commitment in the College of Science to research aimed at overcoming this disease.”

—Gregory P. Crawford, William K. Warren Foundation, Dean of the College of Science

One of the most visible signs of our collaboration against cancer is Harper Hall, the $20 million, 55,000-square-foot home of expanded medical and cancer research between Notre Dame and the Indiana University School of Medicine–South Bend. This private-public partnership will conduct fundamental research and translate discoveries to the clinic, engaging local clinicians and moving the fight against cancer forward in northern Indiana.

Oncologist Rudolph Navari, assistant dean and director of the Indiana University School of Medicine–South Bend, serves as the clinical director of the Mike and Josie Harper Cancer Research Institute. M. Sharon Stack has been named the Ann F. Dunne and Elizabeth Riley Science Director of the institute.
“Notre Dame Women’s Basketball is ecstatic about partnering with the College of Science to honor community cancer physicians and researchers. They do so much for the people in our community, and we will be forever grateful for their efforts.”

—MUFFET MCGRAW, HEAD COACH, NOTRE DAME WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

“Cancer isn’t about dying, it is about living. You can live with cancer—millions do. Quiet battles that never make headlines, but are remarkable nonetheless. It is a battle you cannot fight alone. I attacked my cancer like it was a story—learning everything I could, finding the best experts, and most importantly finding options.”

—ANNE THOMPSON ND ’79, NBC CORRESPONDENT

The Fighting Spirit of Science, Fighting Cancer

The College of Science is proud of our role in facilitating and participating in partnerships with leading academic, medical, educational, social, and athletic activities on the Notre Dame campus and across the community aimed at improving conditions for people at home and around the world.

Notre Dame Science is engaged in cancer research on a broad range of fronts, from genetics to computation, aimed at translating tools of healing into society. We partner with the women’s basketball team and other community and clinic efforts in the common cause of women’s health.

24-hour Spin-a-thon

The College of Science recently partnered with the women’s basketball team and Knollwood Country Club to raise more than $24,000 for Pink Zone. Dean Gregory Crawford and his wife Renate—who rode bikes from Tucson to Notre Dame last summer to highlight their collaboration with the Parseghian Medical Foundation—led more than 400 people on 20 stationary bicycles in the 24-hour event. Leaders from the local medical community as well as Notre Dame Athletics, Department of Development, the College of Science and other offices also participated. It was a great moment for Notre Dame as so many gave their time and effort to spin for the health of our community.

Docs in Pink

NBC News’ chief environmental affairs correspondent Anne Thompson, who graduated from Notre Dame in 1979 and began her broadcasting career at WNDU-TV, is the speaker for the Pink Zone luncheon. Thompson, a member of the Notre Dame Board of Trustees, is a breast cancer survivor, having been diagnosed in 2006. The luncheon, themed “Docs in Pink,” is organized by the College of Science and the Notre Dame women’s basketball team in conjunction with local physicians James Kelly and Rafat Ansari to honor our cancer doctors and health professionals in our community and our cancer researchers at Notre Dame and Indiana University School of Medicine–South Bend.