



## **MRA Welcomes MD Anderson’s “Moon Shots” Program Effort**

MD Anderson’s newly announced 10-year, \$3 billion “Moon Shots Program” to accelerate research, diagnosis and treatment to cure or treat melanoma, along with five other types of cancer, is a bold and welcome initiative that complements the Melanoma Research Alliance’s (MRA) determined efforts to spur worldwide, high impact translational research.

The MRA has been an active supporter of MD Anderson’s world-class scientists and clinicians in the pursuit of better treatments and eventual cures for melanoma, one of the fastest growing cancers, especially among women and teenagers. Since 2008 MRA, the largest private funder of melanoma research has contributed \$38 million to 97 research programs at 65 institutions in 10 countries.

At MRA, we have leveraged our affiliation with the Milken Institute in identifying and supporting an international, cross-disciplinary portfolio of biomedical research programs with the clinical and scientific expertise to explore, identify and pursue innovative projects aimed at better outcomes for melanoma patients and everyone at risk for this deadly skin cancer. MD Anderson’s “Moon Shots” effort underscores how the clinical and scientific communities are responding to the tremendous opportunities for progress that now exist thanks to recent breakthroughs and new discoveries. There has been much progress, but a great deal more needs to be done, and MRA, in cooperation with all stakeholders like those at as MD Anderson, is committed to seeing these efforts through.