



ACCEF

A Community Effort

In April of 2001, several concerned citizens in the Auburn area agreed to raise a significant amount of money to support *cancer research*. After careful consideration, and after reviewing several options, they decided to support the *UC Davis Cancer Center*. Its reputation for innovative research and quality care made the decision to choose the only major cancer research center in this area an easy one. The founders were also aware that a National Cancer Institute designation was soon to be awarded to UC Davis Cancer Center. This distinguished designation has only been given to sixty-one cancer centers in the United States.

By early August 2001 over \$100,000 in contributions had been raised. The group spearheading the effort decided that placing funds in an endowment would allow control by local citizens with no administrative costs and the endowment would be allowed to grow until it reached \$1 million. In cooperation with the UC Davis Cancer Center, the Auburn Community Cancer Endowment Fund was formally established in October 2001. The goal was later increased to \$1.5 million to fund the ACCEF endowed chair for Basic Science Research. This goal has been reached and interest earned from the endowment is now being used to fund research at the UCD Cancer Center.

The endowment continues to grow, thanks to individual contributions and special events. With the help of ACCEF volunteers, many events have significantly added to the endowment. These in-

clude two Jim Otto golf tournaments, the Auburn Rotary Club Fun Run, the grand opening and several dinners at Thunder Valley Casino, golf tournaments sponsored by Magnussen's Auburn Toyota, the Auburn Lions Club Celebrity Chefs dinner, the Coolest 24-Hour Race Against Cancer, an LPGA golf tournament at the Ridge, poker runs, a blues festival and a calendar sponsored by Auburn Harley-Davidson, as well as a gala dinner held in Sacramento.

The value of the endowment currently exceeds \$1.5 million. A worthy cause and a dedicated community have made this project successful.

The ACCEF Goals Are:

- To advance cancer research by providing a conduit for donations from the private and business sectors of Auburn and surrounding areas.
- To stimulate ongoing contributions by maintaining an active and prominent profile in the community.
- To serve as a model for other communities who wish to financially support cancer research.
- To increase public awareness of the devastating effects of cancer, and encourage the earliest possible diagnosis with the most effective professional treatment.
- To continue to identify and secure sources for funding that will add to the \$1.5 million.
- To communicate important information from Auburn and its surrounding communities to the UC Davis Cancer Center so that our local residents can be better served.