ATSU DONOR AND FRIEND FORTIFIES ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP WITH ANNUAL AND ESTATE GIFTS

Tom Curtin, MD, dedicated his career to helping others, especially those who need it most. Inspired by this commitment, Dr. Curtin’s colleagues, family, and friends stepped up with their charitable gifts to fund a scholarship endowment in his honor and to support students at A.T. Still University of Health Sciences (ATSU) who share his passion for serving the underserved. Dr. Curtin’s generous spirit is now on further display as this endowment grows with annual gifts and a significant gift from his estate.

During his 17-year career as the senior vice president of clinical services with the National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC), he worked with ATSU to develop an integral, one-of-a-kind curriculum and helped put into place innovative strategies to advance the future of healthcare.

Dr. Curtin devoted more than 15 years of service to advance the health center movement, infusing this important safety net through the School of Osteopathic Medicine in Arizona (ATSU-SOMA), which features one of the most innovative curriculums in medical education. He was crucial in helping ATSU shape its programs, giving students an unprecedented opportunity to train in community health centers throughout the U.S.

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His compassion for the less fortunate is imbedded in ATSU, as students serve some of our nation’s most underrepresented and underserved.

Created in 2016, the Tom Curtin, MD, Endowed Scholarship is awarded to Hometown Scholars who are students committed to working in a community health center upon graduating with either a doctor of osteopathic medicine (DO) degree from ATSU-SOMA or a doctor of dental medicine (DMD) degree from the Arizona School of Dentistry and Oral Health (ATSU-ASDOH).

The Hometown Scholars program is a health professions pipeline strategy in partnership between NACHC and ATSU. Hometown Scholars are endorsed by community health center movement leaders and chosen because of a desire and willingness to serve the underserved.

As one of the six graduates so far to receive this scholarship, Seth Loofbourrow was a 29-year-old husband and father of three when he graduated from ATSU-SOMA in 2018. At just 16 years old, Dr. Loofbourrow earned his high school diploma and began a construction career.

Wanting to make a difference in his community, he joined a volunteer search and rescue team when he was 18 and was deputized. He then trained to be an EMT and joined his local fire department as a volunteer, concurrently returning to school to earn a biology degree. While working as a professional firefighter and free clinic volunteer, he applied to ATSU-SOMA due to the innovative training and mission for serving the underserved.

“I was deeply honored to receive the Tom Curtin, MD, Endowed Scholarship. It came at a highly opportune time in my training and it was most welcome. I am proud to be among the inaugural recipients and share my love for underserved populations around the U.S. and to work toward a better future,” Dr. Loofbourrow said.

Stories like Dr. Loofbourrow’s are just one reason Dr. Curtin continues to make monthly contributions to build this endowment while arranging significant deferred support with a generous bequest from his estate.

“This bequest will not only ensure my life’s work lives on, but it also will provide meaningful support to countless generations of future ATSU students who will serve our country’s most underserved populations.”

Seth Loofbourrow, DO, ’18, a Tom Curtin, MD, Endowed Scholarship recipient
Support your passions with less

Times of downturn can have a profound effect on how we think about the future for ourselves and our loved ones. It can be difficult to consider charitable gifts when you aren’t sure what your financial future looks like. We understand your passion for ATSU runs deep, and we want you to know that you can make a difference without giving up peace of mind. How?

Consider percentage giving. By leaving a portion of your estate to us, you ensure the future for ATSU students but aren’t obligated to give up any assets now. Percentage giving is simple and flexible, allowing you to provide for loved ones and your favorite nonprofit organizations.

Smart ways to give

Your will
• Specify a percentage of your total estate is left to ATSU.
• Leave a remainder percentage of your estate to us. This is the amount left over after all other claims and considerations are settled.

Your retirement plan
• Use part or all of your retirement plan assets to provide for future students.
• Name ATSU as primary or contingent beneficiary.

Your life insurance policy
• Designate a percentage of your life insurance policy be transferred to ATSU after your lifetime.
• Name us as primary or contingent beneficiary.

EVERY GIFT COUNTS
No matter the size of your gift, whether 1% or 100%, you can make a difference for future generations of ATSU students. Contact Brad Chambers at 660.626.2494 or bradchambers@atsu.edu to learn more.

HOW DO YOU WANT TO BE REMEMBERED

Our new resource 7 questions to help build your legacy is more than just a worksheet. It’s a time capsule. It’s your story. It’s a gift to those who mean the most to you. To get your FREE copy, complete and return the enclosed reply card.
DON’T LEAVE YOUR LOVED ONES IN THE DARK

Make sure you have a data beneficiary

It’s no secret that we live in an increasingly digital world. From streaming video and social media, to mobile banking and email, many of us rely on our usernames and passwords to stay up to date with friends, manage our finances, and relax during our downtime.

Now, think about how many accounts you have, how many different usernames and passwords you keep track of. Do you use a specialized app or program to organize and access your information? Maybe you keep a folder or notebook with handwritten or typed notes about your online accounts. Regardless of how you store your passwords, it’s important that you have a “data beneficiary”—a trusted person who can access your information in your absence.

Sharing is caring

They may not seem like the most valuable assets to inherit, but passwords are the keys to your digital life. Determine who should be your data beneficiary—a friend or family member for example—and follow these steps to secure your online accounts.

1. Create a list of your digital assets and passwords. Use an online platform with encryption or save them on a flash drive for security. Also, be sure to update your list whenever you change a password. (Don’t forget the passcode for your phone!)
2. Find a safe place to store this list. If keeping a hard copy, choose a secure location that will be accessible to your data beneficiary.
3. Make a plan. Determine what you want to happen with each account and outline the details.