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Hansen Family Donates \$200,000 to Sarasota Memorial Healthcare Foundation, Inc. for Parkinson's Disease Resource Center

SARASOTA – Poul Hansen and his family recently donated \$200,000 to Sarasota Memorial Healthcare Foundation, Inc. to establish the Hansen Parkinson's Research and Resource Center Fund in association with the Sarasota Memorial Health Care System's (SMHCS) Bishopric Medical Library.

The Hansen family made this gift to the Healthcare Foundation in appreciation of the excellent care Mr. Hansen received during deep brain stimulation (DBS) surgery performed by James M. Schumacher, M.D., director of the Parkinson's program at SMHCS. As part-time residents of Casey Key, the Hansens felt this was an important way to support healthcare for the Sarasota community.

Dr. Schumacher is an internationally known expert in the field of neurosurgical treatment of Parkinson's disease and movement disorders. He is a pioneer in the development of DBS, a minimally-invasive technique that does not result in the destruction of any brain cells and is a proven treatment for Parkinson's disease. Deep brain stimulation allows for direct modulation of brain activity and a decrease in symptoms of neurological diseases.

Sarasota Memorial's Neuroscience Center of Excellence, located at the Institute for Advanced Medicine at Clark Road campus, will include a multidisciplinary clinic devoted solely to the diagnosis, treatment and management of Parkinson's disease and other movement disorders.

Sarasota Memorial Healthcare Foundation, Inc. has provided grants of more than \$1 million for Parkinson's disease technology, research and education.

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