



The theme of this year's **Forward Blue** campaign report is "Investments and Outcomes." But that could just as easily be the theme of *everything* Creighton does.

This University has always run on the simple but powerful principle that you get what you give. Today, tomorrow, always — Creighton's excellence hinges on what its community puts into it. That remains as true in 2023 as it was in 1878.

Since **Forward Blue** fundraising began in 2017, more than 43,000 donors, including you, have made a gift. This report celebrates the results. What you've given and what it means — for the University as a whole and, on a much larger scale, for every community served by our ever-growing number of graduates.

In the following pages, we highlight the tangible outcomes of your collective investment, the defining moments of the campaign so far and the many exciting things to come. We introduce you to some of the amazing alumni, students, faculty and staff benefiting from your support. We show you a community that never stops investing in — and believing in — itself.

Thank you for everything you do and everything it makes possible for Creighton University.



## Defining Moments

Thank you for believing in Creighton—every step of the way.



#### **Inaugural class of Arrupe Global Scholars starts**

Established by an anonymous \$25 million gift to the campaign in 2021, the program is designed to improve the health and wellbeing of the international poor and educate future servant-leader physicians.

The FNBO Bridge that will link

the existing Criss Complex and

the new CL and Rachel Werner

**Center for Health Sciences** 

**Education building is installed** 

The installation marks significant



**Ceremonial groundbreaking** for the Jérôme Nadal, s., **Jesuit Residence** 

This facility will house the Jesuits who live and work on campus.



#### The campaign surpasses 40,000 donors.

Donors make gifts of all sizes to support our students through scholarships, mission-driven programs, academics and more.



Scott Shipman, MD, MPH, is installed as inaugural holder of the CyncHealth **Endowed Chair for Population Health.** 

Of the 49 endowed chairs at Creighton, 10 (20%) have been funded during Fr. Hendrickson's tenure as University president.



**The Harper Family** Foundation commits \$5.2M million to create the Harper **Scholars Nursing Program** 

which will provide 30 students with scholarships over four years.





#### **Creighton announces that its** new 400-student residence hall will be named Graves Hall

The hall's namesake is Lee C. Graves, BSBA'80, JD'83, who, along with his wife, Judy Graves, made the lead gift of \$12 million for the building.



2022

#### **Next Gen Leaders Program is established**

Which provides full tuition, four-year scholarships to students from underrepresented backgrounds.



#### Nearly 3,000 donors make gifts during a three-week period

Almost 500 alumni and fans make \$16 gifts to Creighton Athletics in honor of the men's basketball program's NCAA Sweet Sixteen (The Jays went on to advance to the Elite Eight for the first time in school history). Two weeks later, nearly 2,400 donors make gifts to 139 areas of campus need on Creighton Giving Day.



#### **District Medical Group** establishes an endowed scholarship fund

This fund will support medical students in Phoenix who come from underrepresented backgrounds.



2023

#### **Creighton names the** Dr. Richard J. Bellucci **Translational Hearing Center**

The Bellucci DePaoli Family Foundation made the lead gift to the Center.

progress in the construction of the \$75 million, five-story facility that will serve as the new home of the School of Medicine.

## By the Numbers

Thank you for making a collective impact.



\$618,538,981

**Total raised** 



43,243



43% of donors
Have given at least 3 times



**20,746** First-time donors



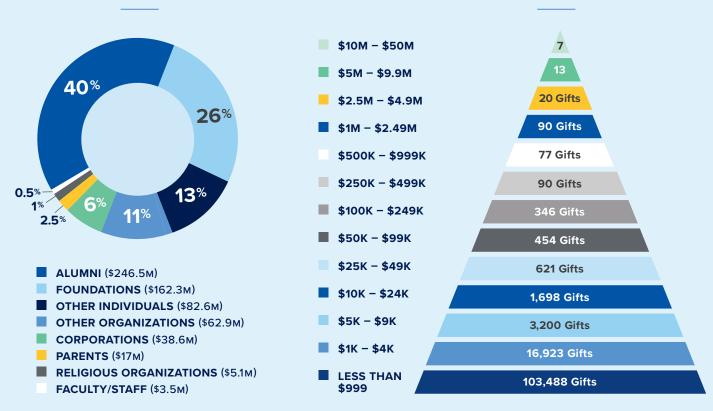
**702** First-time \$50K+ donors



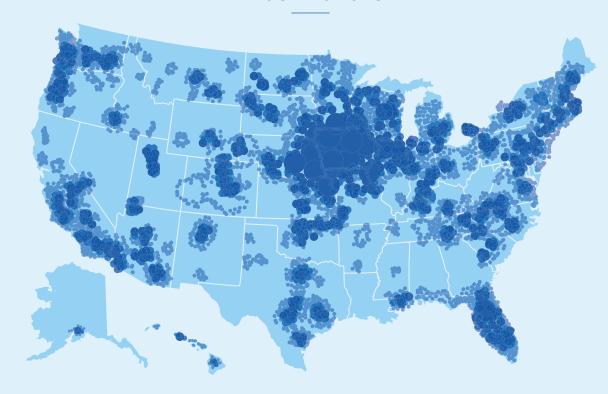
**123,611 gifts**Of \$5K or under

BY GIVING LEVEL

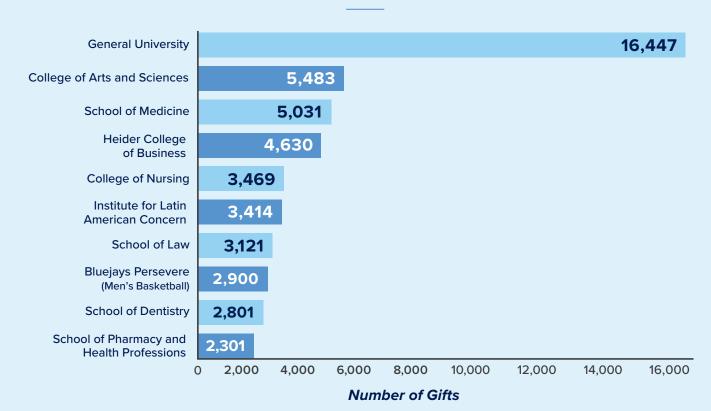
#### **GIFTS BY SOURCE**



#### WHERE OUR DONORS LIVE



#### **BY FUND**



Campaign progress numbers given in this report are as of June 30, 2023.



Like so many Creighton students, David Amorim Caldas' plans changed.

David came to Creighton to pursue a pre-med biology degree. He walked the commencement stage this May with a double-major in neuroscience and medical anthropology. In the time between, he reaped the benefit of so many opportunities — in research, service work and global outreach. Each new experience revealed countless potential paths his life and career could take.

David worked with communities on local Schlegel Center for Service & Justice trips. He took a study abroad fall break trip to Rwanda, immersing himself in the country's culture and meeting with survivors of the genocide. He conducted research in a neuroscience lab studying the aging process at a molecular level. He competed in the BIG EAST Research Poster Symposium at Madison Square Garden ahead of the 2023 men's basketball tournament championship.

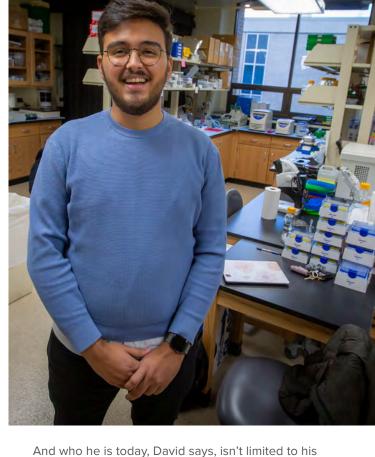
This fall, David heads to Harvard to pursue a master's program in medical anthropology (a passion for which he discovered at Creighton). After that, he plans to go to medical school with hopes of becoming a neurologist specializing in neurodegenerative diseases and working with dementia patients.

Of course, as the past four years have shown him, plans can change. But whatever happens, he knows this:

"Every experience I've had at Creighton — every opportunity, every class and professor — is a building block in the foundation of who I am today."

DAVID AMORIM CALDAS

College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 2023



And who he is today, David says, isn't limited to his major, field or future career.

"Too often, people tend to equate their profession with their purpose. While the two can co-exist, a profession is a *part* of who a person is. It's a way to access our higher purpose of serving others and to become something greater than ourselves."

"That's something I've learned at Creighton that I'll carry with me forever, and I'm grateful to everyone who made that possible."

#### SCHOLARSHIP IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS



\$194.7M raised in total scholarship dollars from 17.166 donors



398 new scholarships established during the campaign



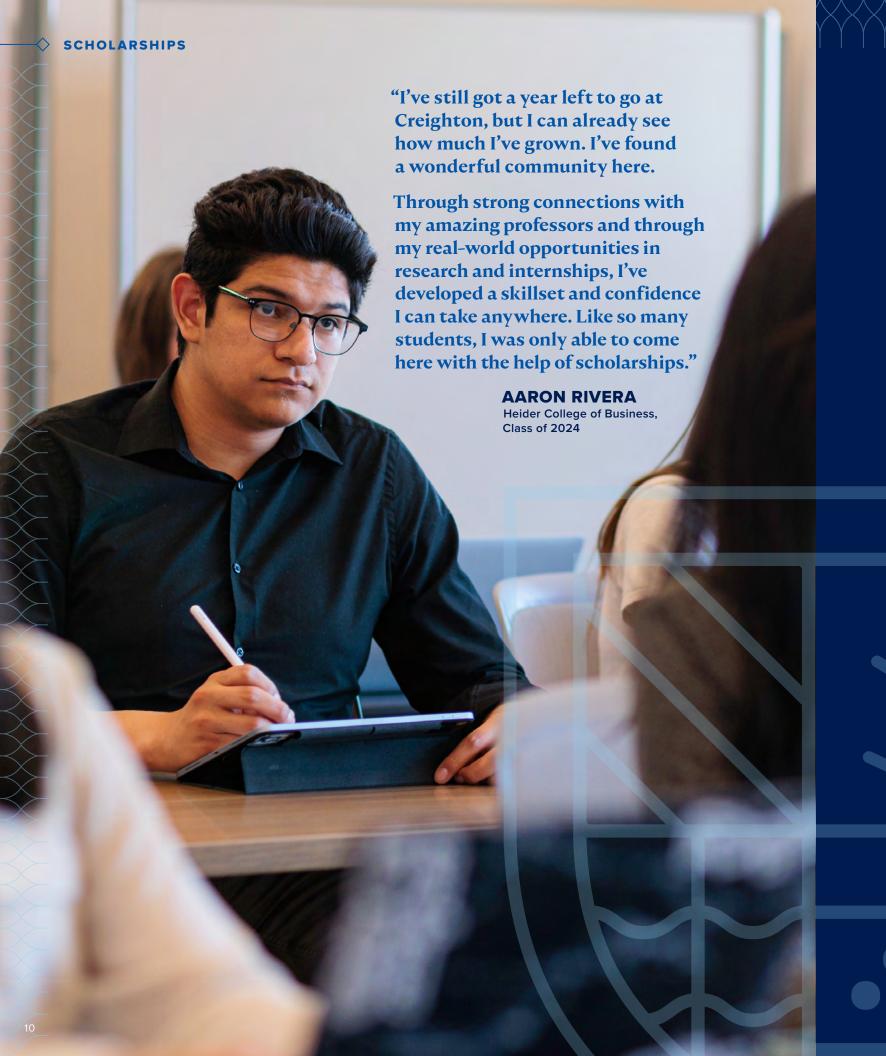
6,523 students have benefited from

have benefited from scholarships during the campaign



\$2.25M raised from 14 gifts

from the Board of Trustees for first generation scholarships





#### **MOLLY CARRIG**

BSCHM'20, School of Medicine, Class of 2026

"One of the main things that sets the school apart is *cura personalis*. You don't just treat the symptom or illness or injury. You treat the *whole* person.

By investing in my education, you're investing in all my current and future patients who will benefit from having a Creighton-trained physician caring for them."



#### **DOMINICK BABICH**

BS'19, PharmD'23, School of Pharmacy and Health Professions

"I'm grateful for an education that has challenged me academically and personally, and I know that this experience was made possible by the contributions of Creighton alumni and friends who came before me.

I recognize my responsibility to those I will serve in the years to come, with the knowledge and experience I've gained at Creighton."



#### **EMILY ALBERTSEN**

School of Dentistry, Class of 2024

"When I graduate in 2024, my Jesuit education will inform every encounter with every patient I serve, and I have you to thank for this.

To those who support this education for students like me and my peers, I hope you know how much you've changed our lives."



#### **MADISON "MADI" BARKER,**

BSW'23, College of Arts and Sciences

"Creighton has become my home these past few years and will always hold a special place in my heart. As a first-generation student, receiving my degree is a monumental moment not only for me but my entire family.

My heart is bursting with gratitude to go and set the world on fire because of the support of this community. Thank you. I wouldn't be the person I am today without you."



Kristin Weston, MSN'21, BSN, RN, was struggling with the question that's plagued all of us at one time or another: "What should I do with my life?"

To find her path, she turned to the Ignatian values of her Jesuit education (which she first encountered as a student at the K-12 Red Cloud Indian School, run by Jesuits in Oglala Lakota County, South Dakota). Kristin prayed. She reflected. She came to the answer: nursing.

Kristin went to Oglala Lakota College and later worked as a high-risk obstetrics nurse in Omaha, where she met and married her husband, Greg Campbell, MD'16. Nursing was everything she wanted it to be, but she still found herself drawn back to Jesuit education. Fortunately, she now lived in a city with a Jesuit university.

Kristin became one of the first students to enter the Creighton University College of Nursing's education track graduate program, created to meet the demand of a nationwide shortage in nursing faculty. For a practicum course, she taught obstetrics and gynecology at her alma mater, Oglala Lakota College.

In 2020, Greg and Kristin moved to Colorado and soon after learned they were going to have a baby. All the while, Kristin was working and finishing her final year at Creighton, during a pandemic. Nonetheless, she managed to wrap up her clinicals, give birth to her son, arrange her post-clinical appointments around nap times and walk at her May 2021 commencement.

"I was only able to do that because God brought a lot of great people into my life," Kristin says. "I received so much love from my professors and classmates. I felt like the whole Creighton community was behind me. That's something that will always stay with me."

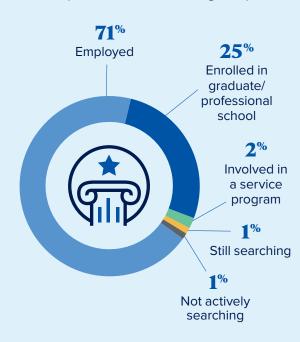
As a mother, a wife, a nurse and (now) an educator — teaching nursing at the University of Northern Colorado — Kristin sees that the right question was never, "What should I do with my life?"

The right question was and always will be, "How can I improve the lives of others?"

#### **CLASS OF 2022 OUTCOMES**

99% Career Outcomes Rate

(Based on a 90% knowledge rate)



#### **COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES**

99% Outcome Rate

52% Employed

43% Enrolled in graduate/professional school

3% Involved in a service program

1% Still searching (Based on a 88%

#### COLLEGE OF NURSING

99% Outcome Rate

95% Employed

3% Enrolled in graduate/professional school

0.5% Involved in a service program

**0.5**% Still searching

(Based on a 86%

#### HEIDER COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

100% Outcome Rate

82% Employed

16% Enrolled in graduate/professional school

1% Involved in a service program

0% Still searching

1% Not actively searching

(Based on a 96%

Source: 2022 First Destination Survey



**SAPPHIRE ANDERSEN,** MS'21, JD'21

"It's rewarding to remain engaged in the School of Law and with my classmates. Together we can continue building a pipeline and legal connections in Omaha for Creighton. Ultimately, we are supporting new generations of attorneys, and that is important to me."

Sapphire, who graduated magna cum laude and with pro bono service distinctions, is an associate attorney at Baird Holm LLP in Omaha.



CLAIRE ROEHRI,

"Creighton broadened my worldview and gave me the confidence to explore and seize opportunities.

In so many ways, joining the Creighton community was pivotal for me, both personally and professionally."

Claire is a former Schlegel Center for Service & Justice trip leader and now works at a nonprofit that connects people experiencing poverty with quality employment.

Source: 2022 First Destination Survey



JORDAN MALCOM,

"Throughout my time at Creighton, I was held to a high standard by my professors, friends and other Creighton community members. This encouraged me to pursue great things by being challenged and pushed to grow beyond my comfort zone. My experiences at Creighton also taught me that a better world is possible, and that it takes hope, dreams and action."

Jordan is a legal assistant at the Immigrant Legal Center & Refugee Empowerment Center in Omaha.



**DIANA ROJAS-CHAVEZ,** 

"Scholarships go beyond one student, and that makes a world of difference. Creighton's program was a perfect fit for my military family and has prepared me for the transition from student to pharmacist. I'm so grateful to be able to manage patients and help veterans who have served our country."

A first-generation student who earned her degree through the pharmacy Distance Pathway Program, Diana is now a pharmacy resident at the department of Veterans Affairs in North Carolina.



#### **CREIGHTON CONTRIBUTES** TO NEBRASKA'S BRAIN GAIN

80% of Creighton students come from outside Nebraska and nearly half of them stay in the state after graduation.



#### **WHERE 2022 GRADUATES LIVE**

Class of 2022 graduates are found in cities across the country and the world.

**States** 

Plus

**Countries** Washington, D.C.

Dominican Republic, England, France, Saipan, Scotland, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Uganda

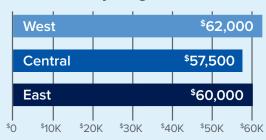




#### **WHERE OUR GRADUATES ARE EARNING**

\$58,200 **Median Salary Overall** 

By Region





KAYMAN NIXON,

"To me, Creighton is the perfect embodiment of Jesuit education. It's changed my life for the better in so many ways. Creighton invites you to join a community for life, a group of people always trying to do the best for one another."

Kayman is a former Creighton Student Union president now working as a corporate event planner in Chicago.



**HUNTER ALLEN,** BSBA'14, MD'22

"Each of us is a piece of a very big jigsaw puzzle. We jut out in certain places. We're indented in others. We have the capacity to give of ourselves and the need to be fulfilled. That's where the Jesuit mission really comes alive at Creighton. It helps you figure out how you fit into a much larger picture and reveals something really humbling and beautiful – that we can only be complete when we live for and with others."

Hunter is now doing his residency in rural family medicine at the Lincoln Medical Education Partnership in Nebraska. He hopes to stay in the state and treat families in the North Platte region.

## **PURSUING ADVANCED DEGREES**

Creighton University undergraduate students leave prepared to go into a variety of graduate and professional programs.

Master's

Includes Medicine, Nursing, Dentistry, Physician's Assistant, Pharmacy, Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy

Health **Professions** 



Other





Nothing ups Creighton's academic game quite like the arrival of another great professor.

Endowed chairs and professorships honor extraordinary faculty members, helping to ensure that Creighton can continue to recruit and retain talented professors.

When he was installed as the inaugural Bhatia Family Endowed Chair in Psychiatry last year, Rajesh Tampi, MD, came to Creighton with more than 20 years of experience in clinical practice, training and research.

#### He says his career stands on four pillars:

- 1. Bringing world-class clinical care to the patient's doorstep.
- 2. Developing the next set of leaders in psychiatry.
- 3. Improving scholarship and research in the field.
- 4. "And last but not least, I want to be a good citizen who improves the lives of his community and helps people have healthier lives."

Tampi also says that justice, equity, diversity and inclusion are themes that run through everything he's done and now continues to do at Creighton.

"Dr. Tampi truly understands the University's mission, and he's dedicated to maintaining this department's status as a national leader," says Robert "Bo" Dunlay, MD'81, dean of the School of Medicine.



BY THE NUMBERS

Our mission-driven approach to teaching, research and programs is at the heart of the Creighton experience. With your support, we are continuing to form more women and men like you — well-rounded, service-minded, ready to lead the way in pursuit of a better world.



7
endowed chairs
funded during the campaign



programs supported

across Omaha and Phoenix campuses



\$237.2M total gifts

to mission-based teaching and programs from 36,739 donors

Before coming to Creighton, Tampi served as the chief of geriatric psychiatry at Cleveland Clinic and the chair of psychiatry at Cleveland Clinic Akron General.

His list of accomplishments is a long one.

To name a few: Tampi was president of the American Association for Geriatric Psychiatry (AAGP). He is the inaugural Historian of the Association for Geriatric Psychiatry and a distinguished fellow of the American Psychiatric Association (APA) and of the AAGP. He has published more than 200 peer-reviewed articles in national and international journals and is an editor of 10 books on psychiatry.

Tampi is a graduate of the University of Kerala Medical College in India.

With the Bhatias' gift, Tampi has found a University, a department, a faculty and a group of students fully aligned with his mission — to improve the lives of others and decrease the rates of depression, anxiety, suicide and substance abuse affecting our communities.

Like Tampi, the donors who established the endowed chair he holds are from India. Professors emeriti Subhash and Shashi Bhatia, both MD, each served as faculty in the School of Medicine's psychiatry department for more than 40 years. The Bhatias say that creating the endowed chair continues their life's work and pays forward the countless acts of kindness Creighton showed them over the years.

Every student he trains, every patient he treats, every breakthrough in research he makes at Creighton, Tampi says, will have been possible because of the Bhatias' gift.

An *investment* in mentors like Tampi today leads to an *outcome* of future leaders tomorrow, to say nothing of the countless patients whose lives they change along the way.

6





### Schlegel Center for Service and Justice Trips Fund

Over 40 years, the Schlegel Center for Service and Justice has offered life-changing experiences to thousands of students and the hundreds of the communities they've served. Gifts to this fund have helped support more than 7,644 Creighton participants go on 966 trips.

The SCSJ awakens hearts and minds to build a more just world, giving students a chance to serve through programs like Local Community Engagement, the Ignatian Family Teach-In for Justice, local Community Orientations and the service trips.



\$544,745 raised



1,492 gifts "I knew the solidarity I felt with the SCSJ was something I wanted to incorporate into the rest of my time at Creighton and into the rest of my life."



**ELIZABETH WUNN, BS'23** 



#### **Consumer Protection Legal Clinic**

Launched with donor support in 2022, the School of Law's newest clinic connects law students with low-income clients in the Omaha area to aid with free legal services and financial relief through Chapter 7 Bankruptcy.

The clinic offers students the chance to gain invaluable experience with real-world cases and clients; it helps some of the most vulnerable members of our community to make a fresh start.

"With continued donor support, we see real potential to expand our services and community impact on an even larger scale," said Christopher Gamm, JD'11, an instructor in the School of Law.



\$377,140 raised



7 gifts



#### **Student Assistance Retention Fund**

Sometimes, unforeseen financial hardships can lead talented students to take a gap semester or make the difficult decision to withdraw. Your gifts to the Student Retention Fund help make it possible for students to remain a part of the Bluejay community and realize their dream of graduating from Creighton.

One student who benefited from the Student Retention Fund says he wouldn't be at Creighton without your support. "It is comforting to know there are people at Creighton who care about me and my path to success in life. I am forever grateful for your assistance and presence at Creighton."



\$125,943 raised



137 gifts



## School of Dentistry Healthy Smiles Program

With the help of donors like you, the School of Dentistry's Healthy Smiles program provides almost 2,500 children every year with preventative dental care, including dental sealants, fluoride varnish and classroom education in approximately 18 low-income elementary schools.

The need is significant. More than half of children experience cavities by the third grade, says Ashley Aubry, RDH, MA, assistant professor, Community and Preventative Dentistry.



\$503,442 raised



85 gifts "Donors make a difference for these children and their families, and they help our students to refine their skills and see what the dental needs are in their communities. Our hope is they take this experience and apply it into their own public health communities."



**ASHLEY AUBRY,** RDH, MA Assistant Professor, School of Dentistry



#### Creighton Cupboard

Gifts to the Creighton Cupboard ensure that no student must choose between food and other basic needs. In 2022 alone, 77 students facing food insecurity made more than 200 total visits to the on-campus food pantry, which opened in 2019.

"Knowing they don't have to worry about where their next meal comes from allows them to concentrate on classes, and this impacts their educational success," said Jacob Tatta, assistant director for Fitness and Wellness Programs.





## **Building Connections**

The 2023–2024 academic year will go down as one of the most constructive in the University's history. Creighton's Omaha campus hasn't seen such a transformation in decades.

A new residence hall opened its doors to freshmen in August. Meanwhile, a new home for the School of Medicine and the Creighton health sciences is training the next generation of healthcare providers. And this spring, Creighton's Jesuits will move into a beautiful new residence.

These three donor-funded buildings mark both a historic period of growth and countless opportunities for our students to grow in mind, body and spirit. Every beam, brick and pane of glass that goes into our campus is made possible by your support.

#### BY THE NUMBERS





\$186.6M total capital donations from 1.189 donors



### CL and Rachel Werner Center for Health Sciences Education

The cutting-edge facility and new home for the School of Medicine was completed in summer 2023. The building features a centralized interdisciplinary simulation center and active group classrooms, bringing medical, nursing, physician assistant, occupational therapy, physical therapy, pharmacy, behavioral health and other students together to train and learn with — and from — each other.

"Leveraging the Center as the hub for our work will catalyze cross-disciplinary solutions to vexing population health challenges. This tremendous facility will be a key resource that supports our continued growth and success."

#### **SCOTT SHIPMAN, MD**

CyncHealth Endowed Chair for Population Health Professor, Department of Clinical Research and Public Health

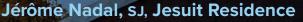


The first residence hall built exclusively for first-year students at Creighton since the 1960s opened its doors to the Class of 2027 this fall. Designed to grow and build community, Graves Hall includes dedicated interfaith spaces and amenities supporting student development, wellness and academics. The adjacent Simpson Family Courtyard includes fire pits, lounge seating, ping pong tables, a bocce ball court and more.

"Graves Hall is a holistic addition to campus that will create more well-rounded students and support students in their transition to college. I have seen potential students get very excited at the prospect of living in Graves Hall."

#### KATE BANDEL, BS'23

School of Pharmacy and Health Professions, Class of 2026



A new residence scheduled to open in 2024 will support an active and accessible Jesuit presence in the daily life of our community and contribute to St. Ignatius' vision for a transformative education grounded in spirituality.

"We want to be able to welcome every student, faculty and staff member to our chapel and gathering spaces. And we will be out there, facing 24th Street, for all of Omaha to see. We are humbled and forever grateful to donors for making this possible. Because of you, our vibrant Jesuit Community will continue to thrive, serve others, and guide students academically, personally, and spiritually."

**REV. NICHOLAS SANTOS, SJ, PHD**Associate Professor, Marketing & Management Rector of Omaha's Jesuit community



# A whole new game

In 2023, we're celebrating 50 years of intercollegiate women's sports. Here's how a group of students and an assistant athletic director got the ball rolling, along with a tribute to the student-athletes, coaches, alumni, fans and donors who continue to build on the success of our women's programs today.

Fifty years of intercollegiate women's sports at Creighton started one fall afternoon with a game of catch on the Deglman/ Swanson quad.

"We were throwing the ball around, and we started talking about getting a team together," says Mary Higgins, BA73 — then a senior, later a Creighton softball coach and hall of famer.

Mary soon led a group of students into the office of Dan Offenburger, assistant athletic director, and pitched him the idea for Creighton's first intercollegiate women's program. Dan (who had four daughters) signed off on the team and agreed to coach. Athletic Director Tom Apke and the Committee on the Status of Women gave their approval, as well, and Creighton's first women's program was born in time for the 1973 season.

One of Mary's proudest moments was putting on the uniform for the first time.

The following semester, Creighton hired two women — Meta Johnson and Eddye McClure — to grow the women's intercollegiate sports program, forming and coaching teams for women's basketball, softball, swimming and volleyball.

"Mary and many others have made huge strides for women at Creighton," says head volleyball coach Kirsten Bernthal Booth. "There's still a long way to go. But they pushed women's sports through and continue to fight for them today."

Every few years, Kirsten likes to bring Mary in to speak with the team about the early days — before the Ruth Scott Training Center, before the Ryan Athletics Center and D.J. Sokol Arena, before scholarships and travel budgets. Those first softball teams didn't have a field. They practiced in the Old Gym, fielding ground balls off a wood floor and rotating home plate around so the shortstop wouldn't bump up against the wall.

From those humble beginnings — and with the faith of countless coaches, student-athletes, alumni, fans and donors — women's athletics at Creighton grew into everything it is today.

"One thing I can't stress enough," Mary Higgins says, "is that Dan Offenburger, those first players, the administrators ... they didn't start women's athletics because it was federally mandated by Title IX. They started it because it was the right thing to do.

That made all the difference."

BY THE NUMBERS



\$98.6M total

athletics donations from 10,078 donors



26 athletic programs and funds

supported by the campaign



#### **LEADERS FOR LIFE**

So many donors who support Creighton Athletics, says volleyball head coach Kirsten Bernthal Booth, "see the bigger picture that they're really supporting our communities. These incredible athletes are incredible students who are going to become incredible leaders, locally and nationally. Our donors see their support of athletics as an investment in our future leaders."

At the 17th annual Leaders for Life Luncheon in May, donors raised more than \$265,000 for female student-athlete scholarships and leadership development. In total, nearly \$1.8 million has been raised since the event was created. Thank you for everything you do to invest in the leaders of tomorrow and the continued legacy of women's athletics at Creighton.

"Our job as coaches and mentors is to give these student-athletes lifelong skills, to help them become independent, selfempowered women who can go out and conquer the world. At Creighton, we give them the opportunities to excel academically and athletically in ways that will stick with them the rest of their lives."



DEBBIE CONRY
WOMEN'S GOLF HEAD COACH

"I didn't have the same athletic ability as Paul Silas, but when I put on that uniform, I felt like I was on the same level," she says. "He was a Creighton athlete. Now I'm a Creighton athlete. That just stirred my soul."

MARY HIGGINS, BA'73 Former Creighton softball coach, hall of famer



