



Howard and Helen

HOUSE FAMILY Foundation

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In 1942, Howard P. House, MD, a graduate of USC School of Medicine, established his medical practice in Los Angeles, specializing in otology. Today it is known as the House Clinic. In 1946, with seed money from two grateful patients, Dr. House founded a private, non-profit hearing research and education center, which became the House Ear Institute.

In his later years, my father, Howard P. House, MD, expressed a desire to establish a foundation that would continue to support the House Ear Institute and other worthwhile institutions. He planned carefully and when he passed away, his retirement account was transferred to the Howard and Helen House Family Foundation. His last request was that \$1 million be donated to the Institute's endowment to help secure its future and continue its pioneering research. His two loves, research and education, have continued and grown since his passing at age 95 in 2003.

The genesis of this love was the opportunities he had as a young physician in the 1930s. When he finished his residency in 1937, his father suggested that he visit some of the giants in the medical field of ear, nose and throat (ENT). He jumped at this opportunity and challenge. For six months he visited medical centers in the U.S., including Kansas City, Chicago, Boston and New York. In New York, Howard met and observed Julius Lempert, MD, performing a new operation, the fenestration, to restore hearing in patients with hearing loss due to otosclerosis. This was a life-changing experience for him.

Following this six-month tour of the U.S., Howard, with his wife Helen, headed for Europe, where they visited medical centers of excellence in London, Stockholm and Paris. This culminated in a six-month sojourn in Vienna, Austria. In Vienna, Howard studied, dissected, and perfected the fenestration operation. Returning to Los Angeles, he began his medical career, specializing in eye, ear, nose and throat. Within a few years he opened his own practice, focusing solely on the ear and hearing problems.

It was his experience being welcomed by the professors and leaders of his specialty throughout the world that led him to become an ambassador of sorts, encouraging and welcoming other physicians to visit his medical practice to learn. As a result, one of the missions of the House Ear Institute became educating physicians from around the world. To date more than 30,000 physicians and students have been welcomed to the Institute and House Clinic.

Along with other Foundation board members, I am pleased to continue my father's love of teaching and research with this gift to the House Ear Institute. His passion and love of medicine surrounds our work daily. He would be proud to know that his work continues... *so all may hear.*

John W. House, MD
President, House Family Foundation