

Local Giving, Global Impact

Global traveler and Cleveland philanthropist Roe Green experienced her first trip abroad when she was 19 years old, a life-changing visit to Asia with her parents that ignited a lasting desire to see the world.

“My father loved to travel, and he instilled that love in me,” she shared. “It was such a gift. Since that first trip, I’ve been to 163 countries and learned a great deal about the world – including the health disparities that exist among nations. My hope is that people around the world will benefit from the extraordinary skill and care of UH physicians and, in turn, UH physicians will continue to learn from their colleagues abroad.”

To that end, Roe has contributed \$14 million to University Hospitals, resulting in the Roe Green Center for Travel Medicine & Global Health.

“Roe is a committed partner in our efforts to enhance health care at home and around the world through a robust, bilateral exchange of information and expertise with our international colleagues,” said UH Physician-in-Chief Robert A. Salata, MD, STERIS Chair of Excellence in Medicine and Master Clinician in Infectious Disease, UH Cleveland Medical Center. “Her giving is designed to advance our global

outreach and education initiatives, one of the central pillars of our program.”

Expanding Worldwide Collaboration

UH physicians have a rich history of working with their international counterparts to study and develop therapies for diseases that threaten the world’s population. Nowhere is this more evident than in the African nation of Uganda.

Nearly 30 years ago, UH established collaborations with Uganda’s Makerere University and Mulago Hospital, as well as the nation’s Joint Clinical Research Centre (JCRC), partnerships that endure today. “Initially, our focus was on HIV, tuberculosis and sexually transmitted diseases, but over time that has shifted significantly,” said Dr. Salata. “Using the infrastructure we established decades ago to research and treat infectious diseases, we are now working to address heart disease, diabetes, hypertension and cancer – chronic diseases that compromise the health of millions every year.”



“ Dr. Salata and his team have made remarkable contributions to medicine and to the world. I feel privileged to help further UH’s position as a destination for complex global health care and travel medicine.” – Roe Green

In 2012, a team of UH Harrington Heart & Vascular Institute physicians helped open Uganda's first cardiac catheterization laboratory in the capital city of Kampala. Two years later, Dr. Salata partnered with the UH Ear, Nose & Throat Institute to establish a surgical program for treating head and neck cancers at the Uganda Cancer Institute, an effort that has since expanded to provide patient care in the clinical setting and training for medical students and residents.

In an effort to learn more about the impact of these collaborative efforts, Roe has twice accompanied UH physicians on their trips to Uganda.

"As with every trip I've taken, I went to Uganda to learn," reflected Roe. "I saw how much the people there need and the difference we can make by supporting physicians like Dr. Salata. He and his team have helped countless individuals in nations around the world."

Today, UH's global health footprint spans 23 countries across six continents. The health system has also established an internal global health council of 15 UH physicians to collaborate with an external advisory council of the nation's top global health experts, all in an effort to expand UH's impact on human health locally and around the world. "We're deeply committed to building our global health program," said Dr. Salata. "Roe's giving is key to this growth, allowing us to sustain and replicate the Ugandan model in more nations."

In addition to supporting the mutual exchange of ideas and research, Roe's support will help UH create new fellowship training programs; facilitate educational outreach through technology and curriculum development; and identify new opportunities for physicians around the world to exchange ideas and expertise. At home, her giving will continue to strengthen UH's nationally-recognized travel medicine and global health programs.



Roe Green and Robert A. Salata, MD, in Uganda

QUICK TIPS FOR OVERSEAS TRAVEL

- **Know the risks.** Do your research and make note of the country's climate, altitude, contagious diseases and any travel advisories.
- **Protect yourself from disease.** A UH travel medicine specialist can advise you on required vaccines for your trip. Be sure to plan ahead – some vaccinations require multiple doses.
- **Carry a traveler's medical kit.** Include items such as bandages and anti-bacterial ointment and over-the-counter medications like pain relievers, anti-diarrheal, antacids and rehydration salts.

GLOBAL LOCATIONS AFFILIATED WITH UH



“Roe’s generosity will help us achieve our shared vision of improving health at home and across the globe.” – Robert A. Salata, MD

Amplifying the Power of Giving

Roe’s gift benefitting global health builds on a series of commitments she’s made to enhance travel medicine at UH. The program, originally established in 1972 as the first travelers’ clinic in the United States, has expanded significantly through her support, and today, ranks among the top five recipients of infectious disease research funding from the National Institutes of Health.

The only physician-led travel center in the State of Ohio, the Roe Green Center for Travel Medicine & Global Health delivers a range of services

such as counseling on requisite vaccinations, prescriptions and medications; disease prevention and education; and high-risk medical planning to ensure safe and healthy travel.

Of equal importance, the center evaluates and treats returning travelers. “Many individuals, particularly those visiting developing nations, experience a health issue while traveling or following their return home,” said Keith B. Armitage, MD, Medical Director, UH Roe Green Center for Travel Medicine. “Our specialists are trained to identify the

cause and provide appropriate and timely treatment so that our patients return to full health.”

“As the rate of international travel increases every year, the world gets smaller,” explained Dr. Salata. “In addition to learning from one another, a key component of our work in global health is to minimize and eradicate the inherent risks associated with travel. Roe’s philanthropy is allowing us to work with physicians around the globe to collectively identify, treat and cure disease and make travel safer for individuals in the U.S. and overseas.” 🍷

- **Guard against the sun and insects.** Pack sunscreen, insect repellents and/or bug netting. Wear light-weight, long sleeved shirts and pants to protect from sunburn and mosquito-borne illnesses.

- **Stay hydrated.** Be prepared to purify your drinking water if bottled or boiled beverages are not available. Remember, ice cubes are also a source for contamination.

- **Mind what you eat.** Avoid raw or uncooked foods, unpasteurized dairy products and street vendor food. Choose fruits with thick skins that you can peel yourself.

The Roe Green Center for Travel Medicine & Global Health is conveniently located at UH Cleveland Medical Center and UH Minoff and Westlake health centers. To schedule an appointment, call 216-868-8585.