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**MAJOR GIFT FROM THE MAPPLETHORPE FOUNDATION ADVANCES  
HIV RESEARCH INITIATIVES AT BETH ISRAEL MEDICAL CENTER**

*New Clinical Trials Facility, Supported by the Foundation,  
to Serve as Center for Research Activities*

A major gift of \$250,000 from the Robert Mapplethorpe Foundation is leading the way for Beth Israel Medical Center to construct a new facility for clinical trials that will advance the hospital's research endeavors into new drug therapies for those recently infected with HIV and those whose virus strains have been resistant to current, standard therapies.

This latest gift continues a successful partnership between the Mapplethorpe Foundation and Beth Israel which began in 1990. Responding to New York City's escalating demand at the time for long-term facilities for people with AIDS and advanced HIV, the Foundation made a major gift of \$1 million to finance the building of the Robert Mapplethorpe Residential Treatment Facility, a 28-bed long-term care facility adjacent to Beth Israel's main hospital campus in Lower Manhattan. This facility continues to thrive to this day.

Beth Israel's Division of Infectious Diseases, under the leadership of Donna Mildvan, MD, an internationally recognized HIV/AIDS clinical researcher, has made important

contributions to the battle against this deadly disease -- even before it was clearly identified and named. Dr. Mildvan provided some of the earliest descriptions of the disease, including manifestations of what was then referred to as gay bowel syndrome, the syndromes of persistent generalized lymphadenopathy, dementia, wasting, and AIDS itself.

Also among its pioneering efforts, Beth Israel opened the first outpatient clinic on the East Coast in 1982 for the study and care of patients with AIDS. In collaboration with investigators at the Institute Pasteur in France, the clinic provided the first U.S. cases from which the French virus, then known as LAV, the causative agent of AIDS, was isolated. Beth Israel participated in the first antiviral study in 1985 of suramin, sponsored by the National Institutes of Health, participated in the ground-breaking AZT trial in 1986 that led to the licensure of the first treatment for AIDS, and since then has conducted clinical trials on every one of the agents currently licensed to combat HIV infection.

### **What the New Facility Will Encompass**

The new clinical trials facility funded by the \$250,000 gift from the Mapplethorpe Foundation will include a Patient Care Suite consisting of four individual treatment rooms, an infusion suite where new antiviral regimens will be administered and a Medical Research Laboratory for blood work and freezer storage of valuable patient samples.

“We have long admired the work of Dr. Mildvan in advancing the arsenal of treatment options available to people living with HIV,” said Michael W. Stout, President

of the Mapplethorpe Foundation. “The mission of the Foundation has always been to participate, through philanthropic support, in the fight against HIV and the advancement of treatment. Supporting Dr. Mildvan and Beth Israel’s commitment to a state-of-the-art clinical trials facility is in keeping with our mission.”

Dr. Mildvan was equally enthusiastic in her praise for the support extended by Mr. Stout and the Mapplethorpe Foundation. “In order for science to advance, research needs the support and involvement of foundations to fund progressive work,” she said. “Also, in order to invite patients to participate in research studies, they should be provided with a physical environment that is appealing. We feel that the new clinical trials facility will do just that, and we are deeply indebted to Michael Stout and the Mapplethorpe Foundation for championing this most generous gift.”