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**TCRF HONOREES**—At the Tower Cancer Research Foundation's Tower of Hope gala earlier this month were (from left): honorees Jan and Shelley Rosen, Board Chair Nancy Mishkin, honoree Dr. Robert Figlin, Sally Magaram (gala chair) and honorees Meryl and Russell Kern (See story right).

## TCRF Gala Honors Philanthropists Meryl & Russell Kern, Shelley & Jan Rosen, and Dr. Robert Figlin

Meryl and Russel Kern, Dr. Robert Figlin and Shelley and Jan Rosen were honored for their ongoing commitment to raising awareness about cancer, and their dedication to ending the disease at the Tower Cancer Research Foundation's (TCRF) Tower of Hope gala earlier this month at The Beverly Hilton.

More than 700 attended the event which raised nearly \$1.2 million to support Tower's cancer research and patient support efforts.

The evening saw \$800,000 in research grants awarded, including a \$500,000 Senior Investigator Grant to explore a new immunotherapy-based therapeutic model for lung cancer.

Career Development Grants were also awarded to support young investigators exploring research that attempts to better understand how each cancer tumor is different, so that in the future, oncologists will be able to pick the right drugs for each unique patient and tumor, and how to make immunotherapy more relevant for sarcoma patients.

Tower's seed money re-

search investment strategy has been so successful that it has led to \$35 million in additional funding from other foundations and cancer centers for these investigators. This initial funding allows these young, aspiring scientists to move forward with their clinical research, often allowing them to develop their hypotheses and create a foundation from which to pursue further research funding.

Tower's patient support division, Magnolia House, is an integrative survivorship wellness center offering programs and workshops, that address end-stage disease challenges, classes for cancer caregivers, cooking classes to develop a nutritional approach to cancer survival, and individually tailored experiences such as a one-on-one fitness training with a cancer-trained therapist.

Also at the dinner, Nancy Mishkin, TCRF board chair introduced Tower Incoming Board Chair Donna Rosen, who will assume the post next year.

Emcee for the evening was Rabbi Edward Feinstein, senior rabbi of Valley Beth Shalom in Encino.

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