

Breaking New Ground

The Braman Comprehensive Cancer Center ushers in a new era of cancer care.



From left to right: Dr. Steven Hochwald, Director, Braman Comprehensive Cancer Center, Gino R. Santorio, President and CEO of Mount Sinai, Senator Marco Rubio, Senator Rick Scott, Debbie Braman Wechsler, Irma Braman, Miami Beach Mayor Dan Gelber, and Barry Skolnick, Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

Local philanthropists and community advocates, Irma and Norman Braman, have long helped shape Miami's legacy. Their fingerprints are seen in every facet of the fabric of our community through expanded arts and culture programming, education and, of course, health care. Today, after a 20-year journey, the Irma and Norman Braman Comprehensive Cancer Center reaches another milestone. It stands as a testament to their unyielding commitment to a cause close to the hearts of the couple whose name it bears.

Slated to open in 2025 on Mount Sinai Medical Center's Miami Beach campus, the new state-of-the-art cancer center recently broke ground, beginning the project's next phase. The new building aims to increase access to leading-edge cancer treatments, clinical trials and support services in conjunction with Columbia University in New York.

"Our new cancer center truly represents the embodiment of our mission, which has remained at the heart of what we do for over 70 years now," said Gino R. Santorio, the CEO and president of Mount Sinai Medical Center. "To deliver high-quality health care to our diverse community, enhanced through teaching, research, charity care and financial responsibility."

Originally founded to ensure all individuals could receive comprehensive medical care regardless of race, creed or religion, Mount Sinai Medical Center remains true to that mission today. The medical center, home to an expert team of physicians, innovative treatments, and cutting-edge technology, will again usher in a new era of clinical excellence and patient-centric care to South Florida by building this new cancer center.

"Mount Sinai is committed to continuing to invest in our community's future by ensuring we all have access to expert medical care. Expanding our highly skilled medical staff, supported by our affiliations with Columbia University, delivers unmatched expertise to the South Florida residents right in our own backyard," said Barry Skolnick, the chairman of the Executive Board of Trustees for the medical center. "The Braman Comprehensive Cancer Center will expand much-needed access to cancer resources for South Florida residents."

Since beginning his involvement with Mount Sinai Medical Center in 1976, Norman Braman continues to serve as a pillar for the community.

"I want to thank the Bramans, Norman and Irma for what they do. You know, a lot of people, they had the opportunity to make

money and give a lot back," said Senator Rick Scott. "And the Bramans have done that their entire life, and they're not just going to impact their family members; they're working to protect all of our family members with this donation and this commitment to excellence."

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"As an NCI Community Oncology Research Program, our partnership with Columbia University allows for greater access to biomedical research, clinical trials, education and training," Santorio said. "Patient care will be paramount, with personalized treatment plans informed and reviewed by both organizations, ensuring the most sophisticated evidence-based methods of preventing, diagnosing and treating cancer right here in South Florida."

In addition to expanded clinical trials and access to research and the newest protocols, the Braman Comprehensive Cancer Center will also host an array of services aimed at nurturing both patients and their families through every step of their healing journey. In addition to beautiful views of Biscayne Bay, the building

is designed to support patient well-being through expansive offerings, including nutrition classes, massage, individual and group counseling, a dedicated spa and salon and more. The goal is a patient-centric model where individuals receive coordinated, evidence-based, personalized treatment. The Braman Comprehensive Cancer Center is a true legacy project for the family and stems from the family's long-term commitment to advancing treatment options for the disease. Following the passing of Irma Braman's younger sister, the family made a formative gift to launch the Braman Family Breast Cancer Institute at the University of Miami's Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center and the Linda Fenner 3D Mobile Mammography Center, led by Florida International University.

"The Irma and Norman Braman Comprehensive Cancer Center has been alive in the heart and in the mind of Norman Braman, Irma and their family for a long time," said Senator Marco Rubio. "Every single one of us has been impacted by cancer ourselves personally or in our families. And the Braman family's hope was that one day, if you lived in Miami, if you lived in South Florida, you wouldn't have to go anywhere. That you would be able to stay home and get access to the highest quality care in the world."

That hope is becoming a reality, benefiting the greater Miami community.



Rendering of the Braman Comprehensive Cancer Center, set to be completed in 2025.

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Interior spaces will converge with the beauty of South Florida's natural surroundings creating a calm, bright and healing environment for patients and families.

