# THE GILLIAN RENY STEPPING STRONG CENTER FOR TRAUMA INNOVATION







### TURNING TRAGEDY INTO HOPE

On April 15, 2013, Gillian Reny was standing near the finish line of the Boston Marathon with her family when two bombs went off and a beautiful day turned into heartbreaking tragedy. Gillian was critically injured and rushed to the Brigham, where doctors and nurses worked heroically to save her life and legs—a miraculous outcome.

Forever grateful, the Reny and Epstein families sought a way to give back. In the process they learned that trauma research and care are underfunded and under-recognized. So in 2014, they established The Gillian Reny Stepping Strong Center for Trauma Innovation to fill this void and turn tragedy into hope for other trauma patients like Gillian.

Today, the Stepping Strong Center is a thriving, multidisciplinary research hub with medical directors at the Brigham and Mass General Hospital, and more than 100 talented physician-scientists collaborating to transform trauma research and care. The center is also home to a vibrant community of runners and community members who raise funds and awareness for the cause.



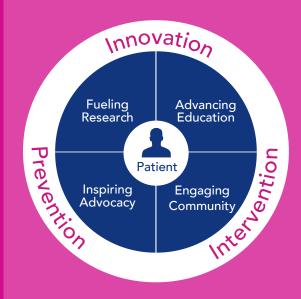
When we began this work, we had no idea if it would resonate with others, but today the Stepping Strong Center is making an impact that is beyond what we could have imagined. Innovator awards have been leveraged into larger federal funding and a small group of family and friends has grown into a global community of physician-scientists, runners, and philanthropists all working together in an enduring Boston Strong spirit of collaboration to transform trauma care."

**AUDREY EPSTEIN RENY, CO-FOUNDER AND ADVISORY BOARD CHAIR** 

## THE GILLIAN RENY STEPPING STRONG CENTER FOR TRAUMA INNOVATION

The mission of The Gillian Reny Stepping Strong Center for Trauma Innovation is to catalyze multidisciplinary collaborations that inspire groundbreaking innovation, effective prevention, and compassionate intervention to transform care for civilians and military heroes who endure traumatic injuries and events.

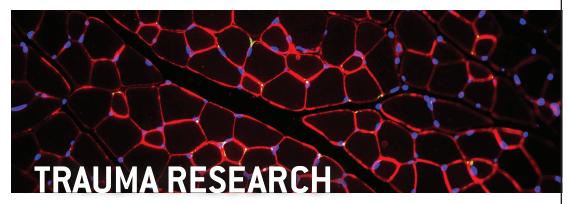




## **WHAT WE DO**

The Gillian Reny Stepping
Strong Center for Trauma
Innovation inspires robust
collaborations and facilitates
programmatic partnerships
across medical disciplines
and institutions while providing
funding to talented physicianscientists—all with a goal of
transforming trauma care
in Boston and beyond.
Our core work focuses on
trauma innovation and injury
prevention and intervention.

#### **PROGRAM AREAS**



The Stepping Strong Innovator Awards program inspires novel research that translates to improved standards of care for civilian and military trauma patients around the world. To date, 26 research teams have received grants totaling \$3.8 million to pursue groundbreaking innovation.





Understanding that the only way to eliminate the burden of injury is to prevent injuries from occurring, the Stepping Strong Injury Prevention Program aims to reduce the number and severity of traumatic injuries through a focus on five priority areas: falls, substance use, interpersonal violence, trauma-related outcomes, and traffic safety.



The Stepping Strong Plastic Surgery Trauma Fellowship is a unique program designed to train the next generation of medical leaders in advanced and innovative techniques for treating acute and complex injury.



"The overarching goal of the Stepping Strong Injury Prevention Program is to change the paradigm of trauma care. By transforming how caregivers and researchers meet the challenges of patients at risk for traumatic injury recovery, we are shifting the role of the hospital as a resource that extends far beyond the walls of inpatient care and into the community."

**ALI SALIM, CO-MEDICAL DIRECTOR** 



From runners and community members who raise critical funds, to Stepping Strong patient navigators who help trauma survivors manage the healing process, to medical leaders empowering lay people to "Stop the Bleed" through tourniquet training sessions, the diverse members of the Stepping Strong family are inspired to come together to turn tragedy into hope for trauma patients.



Trauma is a neglected global epidemic that accounts for nearly 200,000 deaths, 43 million hospital visits, and an economic burden of \$671 billion per year. It is a privilege to collaborate with leaders at the Brigham and beyond to address this deadly public health challenge."

MITCHEL B. HARRIS, MD, CO-MEDICAL DIRECTOR







#### JOIN US!

- Make a gift | Justine Bryar, jbryar1@bwh.harvard.edu
- Start a fundraiser | bwhcommunity@partners.org
- Run on a Stepping Strong team | bwhmarathonteam@partners.org
- Ask a question | steppingstrong@bwh.harvard.edu

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