The Department of Psychiatry at the University of Michigan plays a critical role in supporting the psychological wellbeing of seriously ill patients and their families from diagnosis to treatment and beyond. Michelle B. Riba, M.D., professor of psychiatry has been instrumental in assisting patients and their loved ones during the most challenging times. Over the decades, she has made an invaluable difference for numerous patients with cancer, heart disease, and other serious conditions. Her steadfast commitment to helping patients better weather the storm of serious and life-threatening disease has contributed to improved quality of life and often better outcomes, exemplifying how treating patients holistically can yield optimal results.

To pay tribute to Dr. Riba’s career-long dedication and excellence across clinical care, teaching and mentoring, and translational research, we are establishing the Michelle B. Riba, M.D., Endowment Fund in Psychiatry. Our greatest hope and highest priority are that this fund will allow us to ultimately establish the Michelle B. Riba, M.D., Professorship in Psychiatry, solidifying our commitment to the critical work Dr. Riba spearheaded throughout her career. An endowed professorship would provide resources needed to ensure we continue to transform the field of psychiatry with special focus on treating those affected by serious illness.

In the meantime, the fund will help ensure Dr. Riba’s efforts continue through the work and limitless potential of current and future researchers, students, fellows, residents, and early-career faculty. It will encourage engagement in this increasingly important field by offering opportunities for research and clinical work with patients — training and cultivating the next generation of experts. We must ensure that future generations carry the torch as Dr. Riba nears retirement.

We are seeking partners who can help. Will you join us?

Dr. Riba has touched the lives of countless people through her compassionate care, dedicated mentoring, and extraordinary collaboration. Perhaps you have been impacted by Dr. Riba as a patient, family member of a patient, student, trainee, colleague, friend. You now have the opportunity to pay forward your appreciation by ensuring that other dedicated professionals can carry on her meaningful work.