



THE FAMILY INSTITUTE
at Northwestern University

In Honor of E. Franklin Hirsch



The storied history of The Family Institute could include a chapter on Frank Hirsch entitled "Fundraiser Extraordinaire." E. Franklin "Frank" Hirsch served on the Institute's Board from 1985-2000, a period well known for the historic transitions made by the Institute. In our history, Frank Hirsch stands out as one of the Board pioneers who spearheaded the capital campaign to build the Institute's headquarters in Evanston.

In 1989 the Institute severed its relationship with Northwestern Memorial Hospital and established itself as an independent 501(c)(3). This step toward independence was the beginning of an age of transition for The Family Institute as well as its Board. From the late 1980s through the 1990s, the focus of the Board was twofold: raise the capital to build the Institute's own headquarters in Evanston and build a diverse governing body capable of leading the Institute into the future through sound strategic planning.

Frank Hirsch played a key role in both endeavors, but most significantly, under his direction as Chair of the Fundraising Committee, the Institute launched and successfully concluded the capital campaign which raised \$4.7 million dollars. Ground for the new building was broken on Northwestern's Evanston Campus in May 1993. In recognition of his tireless efforts in the capital campaign, the conference room in the newly-built headquarters was named in his honor, The E. Franklin Hirsch Conference Center.

Frank's fundraising skill was equally matched by his skill as an ambassador for the Institute. Throughout his tenure on the Board, Frank promoted The Family Institute's mission to strengthen and heal families. He shared the vision with Bill Pinsof that the Institute was the premiere place to educate the next generation of marriage and family therapists. To that end he supported the transformation of the education program under the direction of Cheryl Rampage, as well as the growing research program.

Upon his retirement from the Board, in recognition of his distinguished contributions to The Family Institute, his fellow directors elected him to Life Trusteeship. 

