

## **De Young Properties Supports The Fight Against Lupus**

It's one of the nation's most prevalent diseases, affecting more Americans than cerebral palsy, multiple sclerosis, sickle-cell anemia, cystic fibrosis or AIDS. It's a leading cause of kidney disease, stroke and premature cardiovascular disease in women. It has no known cause or cure. It's always debilitating, and sometimes fatal. It's lupus, and De Young Properties is doing our part to fight it.

Lupus is an autoimmune disorder than can affect virtually any organ of the body. With lupus, the immune system – which normally protects the body – becomes hyperactive, forming antibodies that attack healthy tissues and organs. The disease is unpredictable and highly individualized, currently affecting 2.8 million Americans. Ninety percent of lupus victims are women, most of whom contract the disease between the ages of 15 and 44.

De Young Properties is supporting one of the nation's top lupus researchers: Bevra Hahn, M.D, a Professor of Medicine, Vice-Chair of the Department of Medicine and Chief of Rheumatology at the David School of Medicine at UCLA. Dr. Hahn studies the disease at the Laboratory for Lupus Research at UCLA.

Dr. Hahn's current research includes investigations in genetics, pathogenesis, atherosclerosis and treatment of lupus. By supporting her research, we at De Young Properties are hopeful that lupus will be better understood – develop better treatments and possibly even cured – in the years ahead.