The financial burden of medical school weighs on the minds of potential students across the nation. Last year, 72 percent of The Warren Alpert Medical School’s students received some sort of financial aid, and the average loan per student was over $44,000. This is why scholarship aid is a crucial aspect of the BrownTogether campaign.

Financial aid helps to level an incredibly difficult playing field by providing a world-class education to students who are eager to weave the ethos of Brown into the communities they will serve as physicians. The Brown community has generously supported these future physicians by establishing several new scholarships, and we are grateful for their foresight. They know that the world needs physicians to look at the health of others with compassion, creativity, and purpose. And they know Brown will help the students do just that.

Parental Pride Leads to Support

Carmen Rodriguez ’83, P’14 MD’21, P’17 has always kept Brown close to her heart. She has been an active volunteer for more than 30 years, serving as a Corporation trustee, a member of the Brown Alumni Association Board of Governors, and a representative on various leadership councils.

She was delighted that her sons Stefan ’14 MD’21 and Christian ’17 both chose to attend Brown for their undergraduate careers. And when Stefan decided on The Warren Alpert Medical School, she was doubly thrilled to find it provided the same flexibility, support, and sense of community that Brown’s undergraduate college did.

“I didn’t know what to expect at first,” she says. “But it was soon clear that the ethos of Brown permeates into the Medical School. It’s remarkable.”

Stefan’s time at the Medical School has given Carmen and her husband, Carlos, a deep appreciation for Brown’s biomedical research enterprise, medical student service in the community, and the challenges aspiring physicians face throughout their training. As longtime donors to undergraduate financial aid, they jumped at the chance to support medical students through an endowed scholarship.

“The beauty of scholarships is that they don’t just change the trajectory of the recipient, but also the trajectory of the next generation,” Carmen says. She hopes that the Rodriguez Family Medical Scholarship will provide the resources needed for students from all backgrounds to consider pursuing medicine.

“Donors are the difference between a medical student graduating with a sense of purpose and a bit of anxiety,” says Katherine Parrott, Brown’s director of advancement for the BrownTogether campaign. “We encourage students to apply for any Brown scholarship they are eligible for, without hesitation.”

PROGRESS TO GOAL

$193M

Goal: $300M