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A Message from the Foundation for the Callier Center

For over 40 years, Paula Dennard has played a significant role in advancing the Callier Center's highly regarded standards of excellence. Her unwavering commitment to service, to healing and to passion for programs and services that make a difference in today's world are an inspiration to all who know her.

Mrs. Dennard's words reveal her remarkable character and also something special about Callier, "Most of us can hear words. But unless you're open and loving, you can't interpret what those words really mean – you must hear not just with the ear but with the heart. And that's one of the things I really like about Callier. Not only do they provide technology and services that help people hear, they do it with a true spirit of caring. Once you walk in, you realize the nurturing and the love there. You can feel it when you see the interaction with patients and students, the high standards evident in every program, and the quality of services in action."

Leading by example, Mrs. Dennard's philanthropic generosity through her family's Rupe Foundation has helped make possible such vital projects as the Advanced Hearing Research Center at Callier, the Dennard Fund for program excellence, the Callier Richardson satellite facility and, most recently, the public awareness initiative of the Callier Foundation. Mrs. Dennard also makes frequent contributions to the Callier Center in honor of friends and family members for special occasions, holidays, or memorials.

A visible landmark on the UTD/Callier Center campus is the beautiful sculpture entitled "Joy of Sound" by Annie Crawford Davis. Mrs. Dennard commissioned the sculpture in 1992 as a gift from The Rupe Foundation to commemorate the establishment of the Nelle C. Johnston Chair in Communication Disorders.

Mrs. Dennard was first nominated to the Foundation for Callier Center board after she served as the 1967 Crystal Charity Ball (CCB) Datebook Chair under Lead Chair Margaret Jonsson Rogers (daughter of UT Dallas founder Erik Jonsson). Callier was selected as a CCB beneficiary that year and, again, on four subsequent occasions

with support totaling over \$2 million to date from the Crystal Charity Ball.

Paula's father, D. Gordon Rupe, was among the Dallas civic leaders who established the Pilot School for the Deaf during the 1940's. Continuing his legacy of community service, Mrs. Dennard was a guiding force during a transitional era when the Pilot School merged with other organizations in 1968 to become the Callier Center for Communication Disorders.

Another major milestone occurred in 1975 when Mrs. Dennard was among the visionary Foundation for Callier Center board members who made the decision to transfer the Callier Center to The University of Texas System. This significant gift included the Callier building at

1966 Inwood Road, the 5 acre Callier campus on which the building is located, and additional financial assets including the Lena Callier Trust. This was a pivotal gift during the critical early years of The University of Texas at Dallas.

During Mrs. Dennard's term as President of the Foundation for the Callier Center in the early 1990's, the Callier Center was again on the

national forefront with the emergence of a remarkable new device - the cochlear implant. Since then, cochlear implants have provided the miracle of sound to countless children and adults with hearing loss around the world. Callier's dedicated professionals and research scientists continue to break new ground in this vital area.

Today, Paula Dennard remains a stalwart supporter who is actively involved as a Trustee Emeritus of the Foundation for the Callier Center. Thank you, Mrs. Dennard, for being such a wonderful friend of the UTD/Callier Center throughout the years. You inspire us every day to seek even greater levels of excellence!

We welcome the opportunity to visit personally with anyone interested in our board's philanthropic endeavors on behalf of UTD/Callier Center. Call 214-905-3149 to learn how you can help with a tax-deductible contribution.



Paula Dennard with the sculpture entitled "Joy of Sound" at the Callier Center