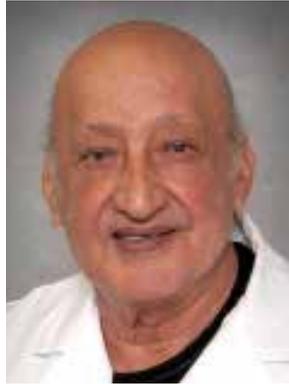


# Triumphs of the TOPS Center

Over the years, TOPS and its members have donated more than \$8.2 million toward research at the TOPS Center for Obesity and Metabolic Research. But that's not all—generations of members have also contributed samples of their DNA so that lab researchers can study the causes of obesity in families. What has all this yielded? See for yourself:



TOPS contributes \$250,000 (\$1.66 million in today's dollars) to begin the Obesity and Metabolic Research Program.



Dr. Kissebah, obesity research pioneer, becomes the new director of the program, following Dr. Kalkhoff's passing.

TOPS establishes the TOPS Research Achievement Award, given yearly to a scientist who has contributed to new concepts or technologies toward understanding and treating obesity.

1966

1967

1982

1991

1994

1995

1995-1996



Dr. Ronald Kalkhoff becomes the program's first medical adviser.



apple-shaped



pear-shaped

The Jan. 25 issue of TIME reports on TOPS lab researcher Dr. Ahmed Kissebah's studies of the "apple-" and "pear-shape" body types, phrases he coined.

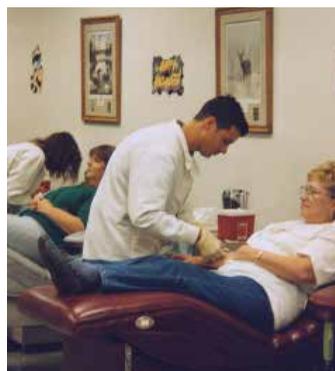


The Medical College of Wisconsin dedicates the TOPS Center for Obesity and Metabolic Research.

70,000 TOPS members turn in questionnaires to help with a new research project, The Medical Risks and Complications of Obesity (MRC-OB), at the center. Of those responding, 500 families are found to be good candidates for the study.



The Medical College of Wisconsin, home of the TOPS Center for Obesity and Metabolic Research.



DNA of the MRC-OB's original participants is studied again to see if these genes have changed over time.

The Women's Cancer and Obesity study is announced. The search for a new director is begun, following Dr. Kissebah's passing.



TOPS and the Medical College of Wisconsin announce the discovery of two new genes that may influence obesity (pictured here: TOPS President Barbara Cady with TOPS Center lab supervisor Jacqueline Marks).

1997-2002

2000

2006

2011

2012

2013

2014



2,200 TOPS members volunteer additional DNA for the MRC-OB gene project via blood draws at family reunions.



The TOPS Center begins another study involving the children of the participants in the original gene project.

The project reports its first success: the discovery that a chromosome associated with all the features of obesity is controlled by an obesity gene.



Dr. Robert Blank (left, bottom) becomes the new director of the TOPS Center, taking over from interim director Dr. Roy Silverstein (right, bottom).