

# Good News

from the University of Rochester Medical Center and UR Medicine

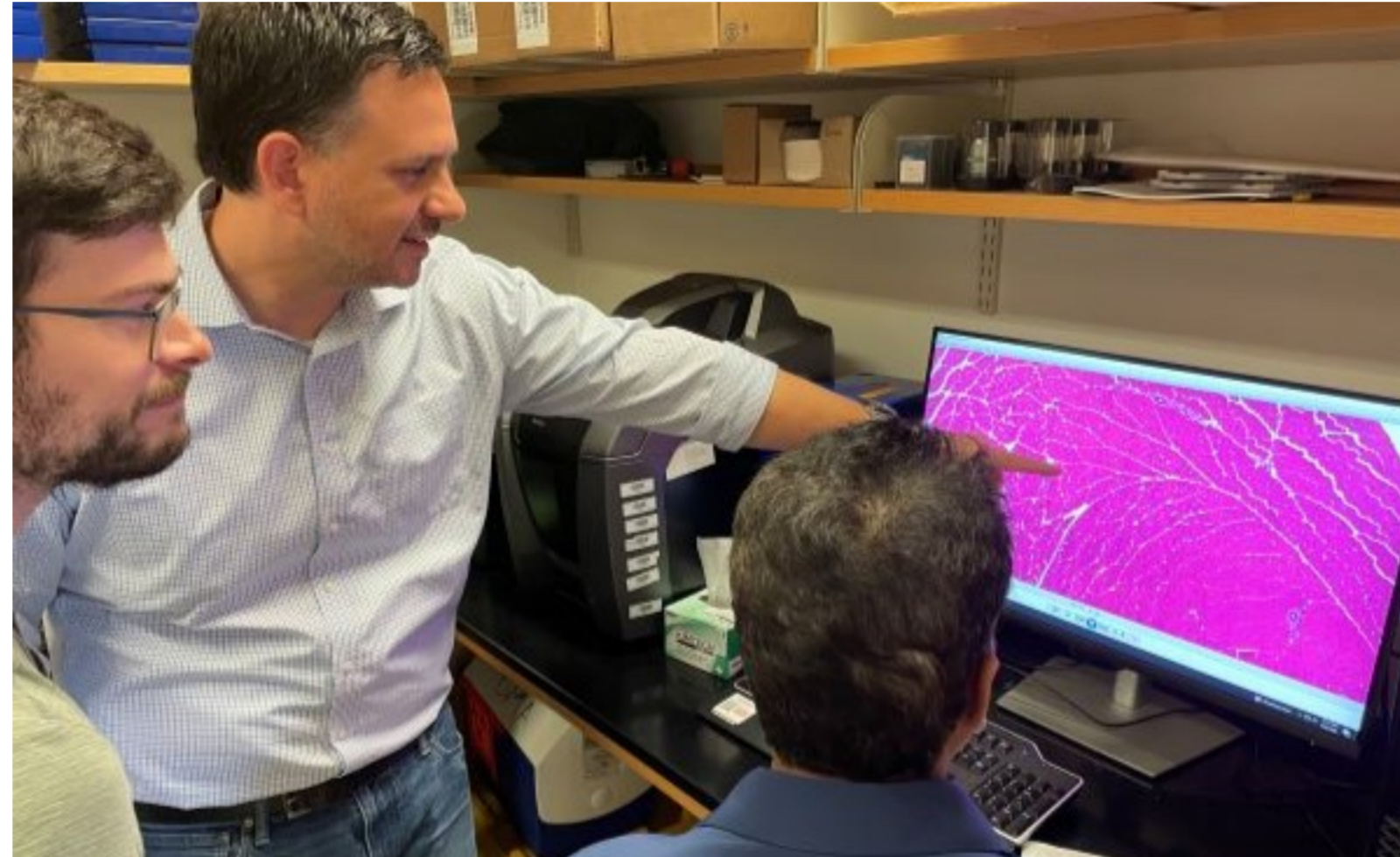
Stories for the health of our community.



## Beckham's story

A simple beach day for the Smith family took an unexpected turn when Sonya and Corey noticed their son, one-year-old Beckham, was bothered by what appeared to be a grain of sand in his eye. They never could have imagined the journey that would follow, guiding them to the comprehensive care team at the Flaum Eye Institute and Strong Memorial Hospital.

[Learn more »](#)



## New discovery enables gene therapy for muscular dystrophies, other disorders

Gene therapy can effectively treat various diseases, but for some debilitating conditions like muscular dystrophies, the genes that are dysfunctional are often extremely large. Scientists at the University of Rochester's Aab Cardiovascular Research Institute have discovered a new technology, dubbed "StitchR," that surmounts this obstacle by delivering two halves of a gene separately.

[Learn more »](#)



## Nathan Smith named associate dean for research mentorship

As a PhD graduate and now principal investigator of a research lab at the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry (SMD), Nathan A. Smith, MS, PhD, understands the importance of mentorship and what it takes to set trainees up for success. This experience will guide his work as the inaugural associate dean for Research Mentorship at SMD.

[Learn more »](#)



## Powered by passion: Bob and Mabelle Pizzutiello's story

Bob Pizzutiello '77, '78 (MS) and Mabelle Pizzutiello '63N, P'89 have found joy and purpose in supporting collaborative programs at the University of Rochester. As a musician for the Eastman Performing Arts Medicine Center, Bob Pizzutiello '77, '78 (MS) plays the Chapman Stick in the lobby of Strong Memorial Hospital. He shares, "As people come into earshot of the music, I observe an astounding transformation."

[Learn more »](#)



## Make your year-end charitable donation by December 31

Behind every discovery, every achievement, every patient healed, and every opportunity are donors whose generosity makes it all possible. Your gift today promises an even brighter 2025.

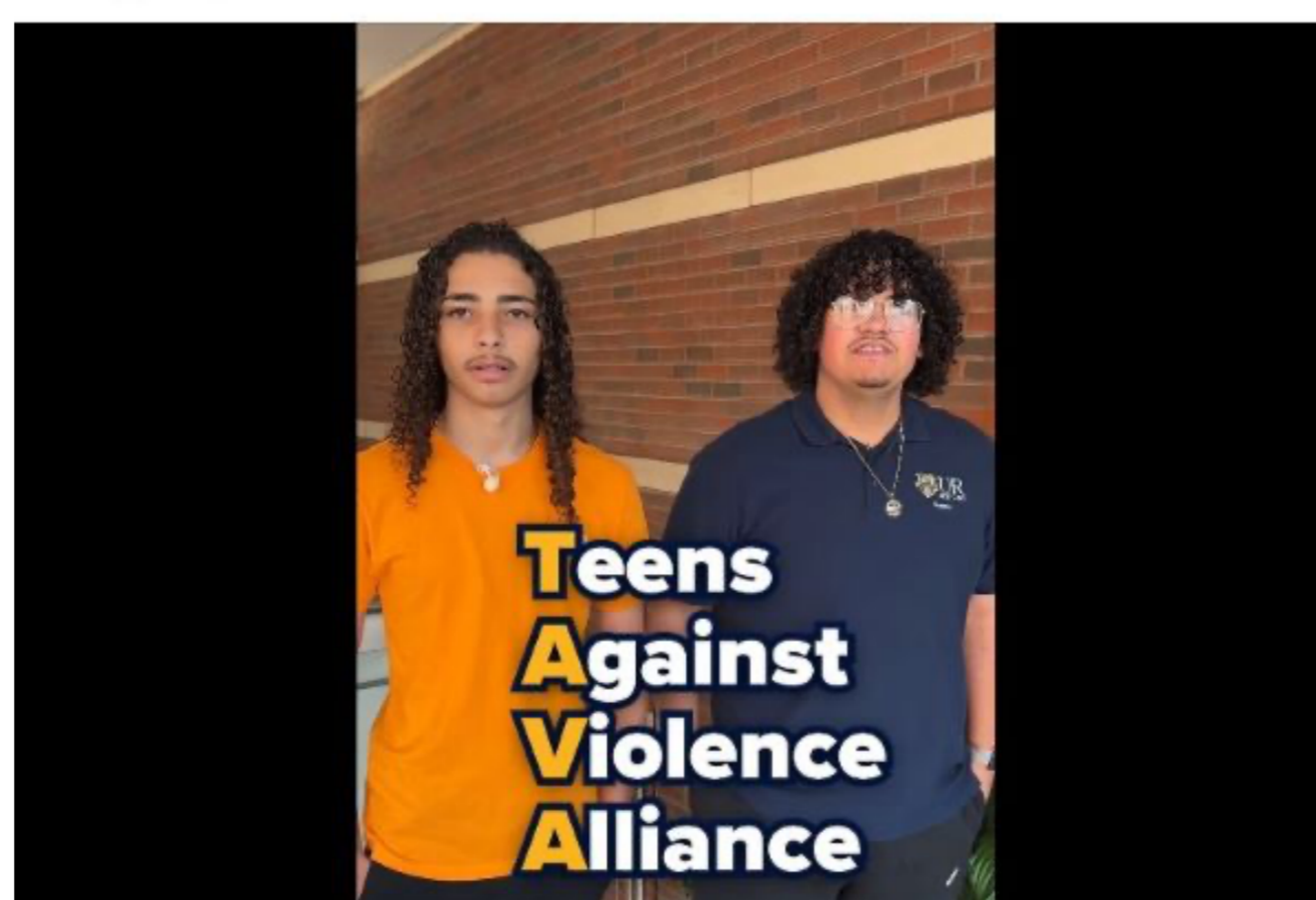
[Make a gift »](#)

## Social media highlight



"Some of my peers think violence is the only way out. But that's just not reality."

Local high school students are taking a stand against violence, proving there's another way forward. This summer, they learned life-saving skills, shadowed URMIC teams, and explored careers in healthcare. Now, six of them are part of the URMIC family, ready to make a difference from within!



Local high school students are [taking a stand against violence](#), proving there's another way forward. This summer, they learned life-saving skills, shadowed URMIC teams, and explored careers in healthcare. Now, six of them are part of the URMIC family, ready to make a difference from within!



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