

2018

ANNUAL REPORT

LIFE WITHOUT BRAIN DISEASE



AMERICAN
BRAIN
FOUNDATION

DRIVEN TO FIND A CURE

Since 1992, the American Brain Foundation has been investing in research to defeat brain diseases and disorders. We are a national foundation for the brain dedicated to the relentless pursuit of early diagnoses, improved treatments, and the discovery of cures for brain diseases and disorders.

We unite donors and researchers to impact the lives of patients and those around them. We invest in research of the whole-brain and all neurologic disorders knowing they are interconnected. This holistic, innovative approach allows us to build bridges between diseases and break new ground in research and application.

Believing in a whole brain approach gives us an edge in understanding and combating brain disease. We understand that when we cure one brain disease, we will cure many.



With special thanks to the American Academy of Neurology, our founder and research partner.

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In the field of scientific investigations, where researchers dedicate years to discover unknown pathways, it is difficult to know the impact on the future. But in the last 50 years, scientific investigations have changed our world from one generation to the next with great leaps in medical applications. Polio is on its way to eradication. Antiretroviral treatments make HIV/AIDS a chronic condition rather than a death sentence. And many cancers, that once had no treatments, are now curable.

The impacts of scientific discoveries are far-reaching. Breakthroughs in one field lead to chains of discoveries in others. Brain diseases are interconnected, and by unlocking funding and building a pipeline of brilliant minds that target whole-brain investigations, we can make what is unthinkable today a cure for tomorrow. The question is, how fast will we get there?

The American Brain Foundation is dedicated to bringing donors and researchers together to find cures for many brain diseases and disorders. In 2018, we collaborated with our primary research partner, the American Academy of Neurology, and 16 national organizations such as the Alzheimer's Association and the ALS Association to fund \$1.8 million in research grants and scholarships. The program supported 22 brain research careers, partnering young researchers with lead investigator mentors. We also launched the world's first neuroscience crowdfunding platform that connects patients and families directly to the research that will shape their future, raising \$128,000 for three projects. And we honored public leaders in the battle against brain disease.

Today we are seeing research breakthroughs in diseases of the brain and nervous system such as the remarkable new treatment for spinal muscular atrophy, which is already being applied in Duchenne muscular dystrophy.

When we cure one, we will cure many.

A special thank you to every one of our supporters and partners who are advancing our mission and making scientific discoveries possible. Together, we will eradicate brain disease and create a new future for the next generation.



Kevin Goodno
Board Chair



Jane Ransom
Executive Director



Funding World-Class Research

The American Brain Foundation promotes and invests in research across the whole spectrum of brain diseases and disorders. We believe that when we cure one of these diseases, we will cure many. In 2018, the American Brain Foundation invested \$1.8 million in 22 emerging research leaders with projects in a broad range of brain diseases.

Clinical Research Training Scholarships

Supports two-year investigations by early- to mid-career clinical researchers

McKnight Clinical Translational Research Scholarship in Cognitive Aging and Age-Related Memory Loss

Brice McConnell, PhD, MD

University of Colorado Denver School of Medicine

Kimberly Albert, PhD

Vanderbilt University Medical Center

Susan S. Spencer Clinical Research Training Scholarship in Epilepsy

Hiroki Nariai, MD

UCLA Medical Center

Clinical Research Training Scholarship in Muscular Dystrophy

Katharine Nicholson, MD

Massachusetts General Hospital, Brigham, Harvard

Clinical Research Training Scholarship in ALS

Peter Creigh, MD

University of Rochester

Clinical Research Training Scholarship in Dementia with Lewy Bodies

Bhavana Patel, MD

University of Florida College of Medicine

Clinical Research Training Scholarship in Tourette Syndrome

Wissam Georges Deeb, MD

University of Florida College of Medicine

Clinical Research Training Scholarship in Neuromuscular Disease

Davut Pehlivan, MD

Baylor College of Medicine, Child Neurology

Lawrence M. Brass, MD Stroke Research Award

Xiaoyan Jiang, PhD

University of Pittsburgh

Clinician-Scientist Development Awards

Supports three-year clinical research investigations working to discover new therapies in specific disease areas

Clinician-Scientist Development Award in Interventional Neurology

Sunil A. Sheth, MD

McGovern Medical School at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston

Clinician-Scientist Development Award in Multiple Sclerosis

Emily Harrington, MD, PhD

Johns Hopkins University

Scholarship and Award Recipients Receiving Second-Year Funding

Supports 2017 scholarship recipients receiving second-year funding in 2018

Clinical Research Training Scholarship in Ataxia

Jill Napierala, PhD

University of Alabama at Birmingham

Clinical Research Training Scholarship in Parkinson's Disease

Michelle Fullard, MD

University of Pennsylvania

Lawrence M. Brass, MD Stroke Research Award

Laura Graham, MPH

University of Alabama at Birmingham

Clinical Research Training Scholarship in Muscular Dystrophy

Johanna Hamel, MD

University of Rochester

Clinician-Scientist Development Award in Myasthenia Gravis

Michael Hehir, MD

University of Vermont

Susan S. Spencer Clinical Research Training Scholarship in Epilepsy

Alice Lam, MD, PhD

Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School

Clinical Research Training Scholarship in Parkinson's Disease

Baijayanta Maiti, MD, PhD

Washington University

Robert Katzman, MD Clinical Research Training Scholarship in Alzheimer's Research

Joel Salinas, MD, MBA, MSc

Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School

Clinician Scientist Development Award in Multiple Sclerosis

Ryan Schubert, MD

University of California, San Francisco

Scholarship and Award Recipients Receiving Third-Year Funding

Supports 2016 scholarship recipients receiving third-year funding in 2018

John F. Kurtzke, MD, FAAN Clinician Scientist Development Award in Multiple Sclerosis

Pavan Bhargava, MBBS, MD

Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine

Clinician Scientist Development Award in Multiple Sclerosis

Joseph Sabatino Jr., MD, PhD

Johns Hopkins Hospital

RESEARCHER PROFILE

Shafali Jeste, MD, FAAN

2008 Clinical Research Training Fellowship Recipient,
American Brain Foundation Board Member



Clinical Research to Stop Autism Before It Starts

Shafali Jeste, MD, FAAN always wanted to be a doctor. With her mother being a child psychiatrist and her father a geriatric psychiatrist, she grew up fascinated by the mind and curious how humans became thinking beings with different personalities.

When Dr. Jeste entered medical school, autism was being diagnosed at higher rates, yet physicians couldn't tell parents why. She formulated questions about how genetic syndromes such as tuberous sclerosis complex (TSC) had strong links to autism. "We could diagnose babies with TSC before birth with ultrasound," says Dr. Jeste. "But we knew nothing about their early brain development and the high risks of developing autism." While at Boston Children's Hospital during her Chief Residency, Dr. Jeste received an American Brain Foundation Clinical Research Training Fellowship, which specifically targets funding and mentoring to early-career researchers. With her \$130,000 grant, Dr. Jeste set out to understand early brain development in babies with TSC and hoped to eventually identify the predictors of autism.

"The award offered me key protected time to learn how to do research, which isn't always something we learn in clinical training." At UCLA, Dr. Jeste followed up this initial investigation with a larger multi-site study that identified an early predictor of autism in the first year of life for babies with TSC. These findings lead to the first multimillion-dollar, multisite clinical trial of autism early interventions in TSC. "Now we are getting to treatment," says Dr. Jeste.

With early backing from the American Brain Foundation, Dr. Jeste was able to solve a brain mystery that will unlock the doors to early interventions and treatments of autism.

OUR PARTNERS

Thanks to our growing list of partners who are fully committed to our vision by making these scholarships and awards possible.

The ALS Association

Alzheimer's Association

American Academy of Neurology

American Epilepsy Society

American Heart Association

Consortium of Multiple Sclerosis Centers

Epilepsy Foundation

International Headache Society

The Mary E. Groff Charitable Trust

McKnight Brain Research Foundation

Muscle Study Group

Muscular Dystrophy Association

Myasthenia Gravis Foundation of America

National Multiple Sclerosis Society

Parkinson's Foundation

**Society of Vascular and
Interventional Neurology**

Tourette Association of America

The American Brain Foundation was founded by the American Academy of Neurology—the world's largest association serving the neurology and neuroscience community with 36,000 members—as the premier foundation that promotes and invests in research across the whole spectrum of brain disease.

The World's First Neuroscience Crowdfunding Platform

CONNECTING PEOPLE TO THE SCIENCE THAT IMPACTS THEIR LIVES

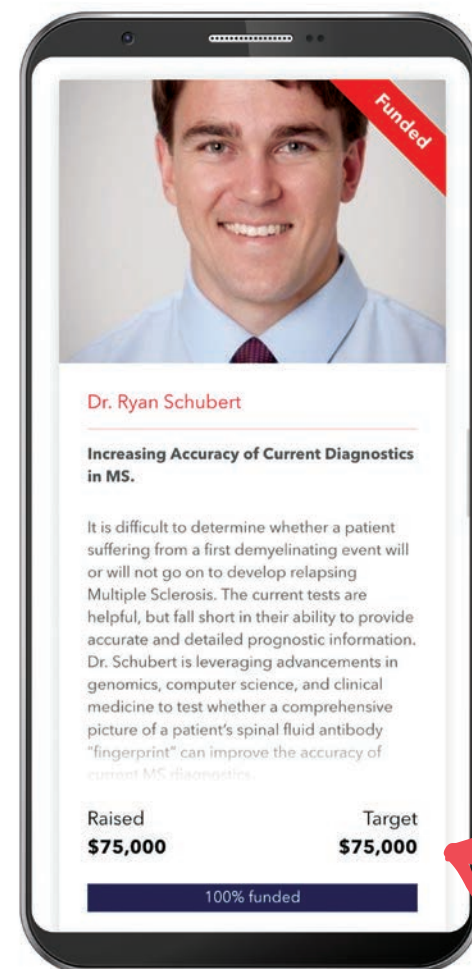
Crowdfunding is a thoroughly American tradition. Together, we support sick or injured neighbors, rebuild communities after disasters, and help those in need. From the early days of passing the donation basket, to the vast power of the Internet, Americans have continually shaped their own destinies.

In 2018, the American Brain Foundation captured this power by launching the world's first neuroscience crowdfunding platform and piloted multichannel campaigns for traumatic brain injury, multiple sclerosis, and stroke projects. Everyday Americans were able to directly contribute funds to research projects that may change the course of their own lives and the lives of those they love.

Crowdfunding makes the work of scientific investigators tangible and meaningful to non-scientists. By digitally opening the doors to laboratories and academia, the public has increased opportunities to have an impact on scientific discoveries.

Thanks to our partnership with the American Academy of Neurology, the research projects appearing on the American Brain Foundation's crowdfunding platform are vetted by the best and brightest minds. Each researcher is equipped with a toolkit that teaches them how to run a crowdfunding campaign and helps them explain the method and impact of their research.

Scientific investigators are welcome to qualify their crowdfunding projects through a two-part, online application process. To apply, visit **AmericanBrainFoundation.org**.



AmericanBrainFoundation.org
crowdfunding platform allows donors to support a specific research project.

FINDING HOPE

Quicken the Pace to Finding Cures

THE GOAL OF CROWDFUNDING

Patti Klein, MD watched multiple sclerosis take more and more of her life away, until finally chronic fatigue put an end to her medical practice. At first, she fought the diagnosis. "But you can't fight it," says Dr. Klein. "You have to make it a part of your life." She now donates and helps fundraise for brain research.

One study with promise is an immunology project by Steffen Jung, PhD at the Weizmann Institute of Science. He and his team are focused on learning how rogue immune cells can be kept from overactivating, ramping up inflammation, and targeting healthy tissues. This innovative approach, which targets the gut, has the potential to cure diseases like multiple sclerosis, Alzheimer's disease, and inflammatory bowel disease. The implications could impact millions of people worldwide.

Donors gave \$80,000 to Dr. Jung's lab at the Weizmann Institute of Science to implement technology called quantitative realtime PCR (QuantStudio 6 Flex) to study genetic changes in immune cell DNA under conditions of inflammation. Findings from the study may also aid drug development efforts to get to better, more effective treatments.

Dr. Klein is both hopeful and impatient for the results. "There is so much work to be done and breakthroughs that need to occur for there to be a light at the end of the dark tunnel." Her hope is to help the American Brain Foundation get to cures. "I believe in the scientific understanding that all brain diseases are related. MS is the leading cause of neurologic disability for young people worldwide. Finding a cure is good thing."



Crowdfunding Grant Awards



Ryan Schubert, MD at University of California San Francisco Medical Center to develop more accurate ways to diagnose, treat, and monitor Multiple Sclerosis.



Steffen Jung, PhD at Weizmann Institute of Science to identify new ways to suppress the overactive immune cells that cause inflammation as a possible way to treat autoimmune diseases of the gut and brain.



Charlene Ong, MD at Brigham and Women's Hospital tested whether an innovative handheld technology that measures pupil changes can improve the diagnosis and treatment of brain swelling.

2018 Scientific Awards

Through the generous philanthropy of families and donors, the American Brain Foundation fully funded the American Academy of Neurology's 2018 scientific awards. These rigorously selected, competitive awards go to the top scientific minds in multiple neurologic subspecialties.

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF NEUROLOGY SCIENTIFIC AWARDS



Potamkin Prize for Research in Pick's, Alzheimer's, and Related Diseases

David A. Bennett, MD, Lead Investigator, Rush Alzheimer's Disease Center

\$100,000 funded by Alan and Robert Potamkin through the American Brain Foundation in remembrance of their mother, Luba Potamkin

The Potamkin Prize is the American Academy of Neurology's highest honor in Alzheimer's research that recognizes premier scientific research in Alzheimer's disease and related dementias. Dr. Bennett's team studies a population of elderly individuals in order to dissect symptoms into distinct disease categories. He received the award not only for his multidisciplinary contributions to genetics and the understanding of dementia, but also for his approach to sharing specimens and research data with scientists worldwide.



Sheila Essey Award: An Award for ALS Research

Timothy M. Miller, MD, PhD, Lead Investigator, Washington University School of Medicine

\$50,000 funded by the Essey Family through the American Brain Foundation

The Sheila Essey Award recognizes an individual who has recently made long-term and significant research impacts in the cause of, prevention of, and cure for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS). Dr. Miller received the award for pioneering antisense oligonucleotide (ASO) therapeutics in ALS. Dr. Miller played a key role in testing ASOs targeting SOD1 in ALS transgenic mice, studying the pharmacodynamics of ASOs in non-human primates, and performing the first-in-man trial of ASOs targeting SOD1 in SOD1-mutant patients. The work has been critical in bringing the whole field of ASO therapeutics forward in human neurogenetic diseases. Dr. Miller also works on SOD1 protein kinetics, natural history of C9orf72-related ALS, and the role of micro-RNAs in ALS.

LIFETIME AND HUMANITARIAN AWARDS

Career achievement awards funded by endowed funds of the American Brain Foundation



Association of Indian Neurologists in America Lifetime Achievement Award

Vinay Chaudhry, MD, MBA, CPE, FRCP, FAAN, Johns Hopkins University

\$1,000 funded by the Association of Indian Neurologists in America Fund of the American Brain Foundation

Dr. Chaudhry is a professor of neurology at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and co-director of EMG laboratory. He is internationally recognized as a clinician, teacher, researcher, and a leader in the field of neuromuscular medicine and electrophysiology. His areas of research include Wallerian degeneration in human nerves, multifocal motor neuropathy, toxic neuropathies, and electrophysiological aspects of neuromuscular diseases.



Mridha Spirit of Neurology Humanitarian Award

Aaron L. Berkowitz, MD, PhD, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School

\$1,000 funded by Mridha Endowment Fund of the American Brain Foundation

Dr. Berkowitz is the Director of the Global Neurology Program and Instructor at Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School. This award recognizes his humanitarian work to develop neurological care and education in rural Haiti.

Additional Scientific Awards *American Academy of Neurology Awards funded by the American Brain Foundation*

Bruce S. Schoenberg International Award
in Neuroepidemiology

Dreifuss-Perry Epilepsy Award

Founders Award

Harold Wolff-John Graham:
An Award for Headache/Facial Pain Research

Irwin Schatz Award for Autonomic Disorders

John Stolk Award in Movement Disorders
for Young Investigators

Neuro-oncology Investigator Award

Neuro-oncology Scientific Award

Norman Geschwind Prize in Behavioral Neurology

Michael S. Pessin Stroke Leadership Prize

Mitchell B. Max Award for Neuropathic Pain

Movement Disorders Research Award

Neuroendocrine Research Award

Sleep Science Award

S. Weir Mitchell Award

Wayne A. Hening Sleep Medicine
Investigator Award

American Academy of Neurology Residents Fund

Thanks to donations from members of the American Academy of Neurology to our Residents Fund, the American Brain Foundation provided \$11,000 to underwrite the expenses of neurology residents to attend the AAN's 2018 Annual Meeting in Los Angeles, California.

COMMITMENT TO CURES

APRIL 25, 2018 | LOS ANGELES



2018 HONOREES



Temple Grandin, PhD 2018 Public Leadership in Neurology Award

Honoring an individual or group outside of the medical profession that has been instrumental in advancing public understanding and awareness of neurologic disease, being an effective advocate for neuroscience research, and making significant contributions to improve patient care

Dr. Grandin received the 2018 award due to her perseverance and determination in the face of her own isolating autism challenges at a time when the condition was still quite unknown. With the enduring support of her mother and an empathic science teacher, Grandin went on to earn Master's and PhD degrees. Her sensitivity and understanding of animal behavior and her gifted view of the world led her to revolutionize the cattle industry and laid the groundwork for a successful career as an author, lecturer, and pioneering advocate for autism spectrum disorder education.



DeMaurice Smith 2018 Commitment to Cures Award

Recognizing an individual for their philanthropy and advocacy for a neurologic disease or condition

DeMaurice Smith received the 2018 award for paving the way for the largest research study of former players in NFL history. During his tenure as Executive Director of the NFL Players Association, he has funded treatment interventions and advanced medical research and education in traumatic brain injury (TBI). He helped standardize health care protocols for NFL players and put independent neurologists and neurosurgeons on the sidelines. While accepting the award, Mr. Smith reaffirmed the NFL Players Association's commitment to reducing concussion and traumatic brain injuries in professional and youth sports.



Richard P. Essey Board Chair's Award

Celebrating an individual for their work to elevate and advance the American Brain Foundation's research mission

Richard P. Essey received this honor in 2018 for establishing and funding the Sheila Essey Award, the highest award in ALS research from the American Academy of Neurology and the ALS Association. Mr. Essey became a dedicated activist within the ALS Association and joined the American Brain Foundation as the first non-neurologist to sit on its board of directors. His beloved wife Sheila battled ALS for 10 years, succumbing to the disease in 2004.

Commitment to Cures is the American Brain Foundation's premier annual event where prestigious members of the public are honored for their contributions to finding cures for brain diseases and disorders through advocacy, public awareness, and fundraising.



2018 Events Supporting Brain Health

Rowland Circle Reception

The Rowland Circle, named for Lewis P. “Bud” Rowland, MD, FAAN, had its inaugural reception in Los Angeles, California in April. Donors who gave \$2,500 or more cumulatively during the year were honored as charter members.

Raising Friends and Awareness

In August, American Brain Foundation board member Dan Gasby and his family held a special event at their home in East Hampton, NY to introduce friends and family to our organization and research mission.

Honoring Past Award Recipients

In April, Robert and Lexie Potamkin hosted a luncheon in honor of the current and past recipients of the Potamkin Prize for Research in Pick’s, Alzheimer’s, and Related Diseases, and in thanks for their ongoing contributions.

Brain Health Fair

The American Brain Foundation participated in the American Academy of Neurology’s annual Brain Health Fair in Los Angeles, CA in April.

Bike Helmet Giveaway

The American Brain Foundation helped distribute 1,000 bike helmets to families in Minneapolis at the American Academy of Neurology’s event in June. The Foundation engaged members of the public in a gigantic Jenga game to visualize the interconnections of brain diseases and disorders.



2018 HIGHLIGHTS

DONOR ENGAGEMENT



47

charter members join the Rowland Circle—our new leadership giving circle



\$375,000
GIFT

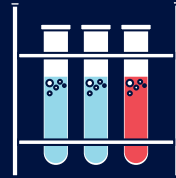
to the Raymond Adams
Endowment for Clinical
Research Training
Scholarships



\$250,000
GIFT

to help establish a new
award in Lewy Body
Dementia diagnostics

RESEARCHERS



28

active research projects



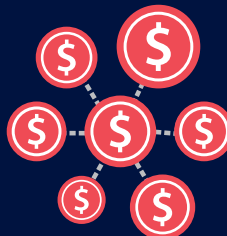
\$2.5 MILLION RAISED
for next generation research awards



78%

of awardees have
gone on to secure
NIH funding

CROWDFUNDING



26

peer-reviewed research projects
representing nine specialties appeared
on our new crowdfunding platform

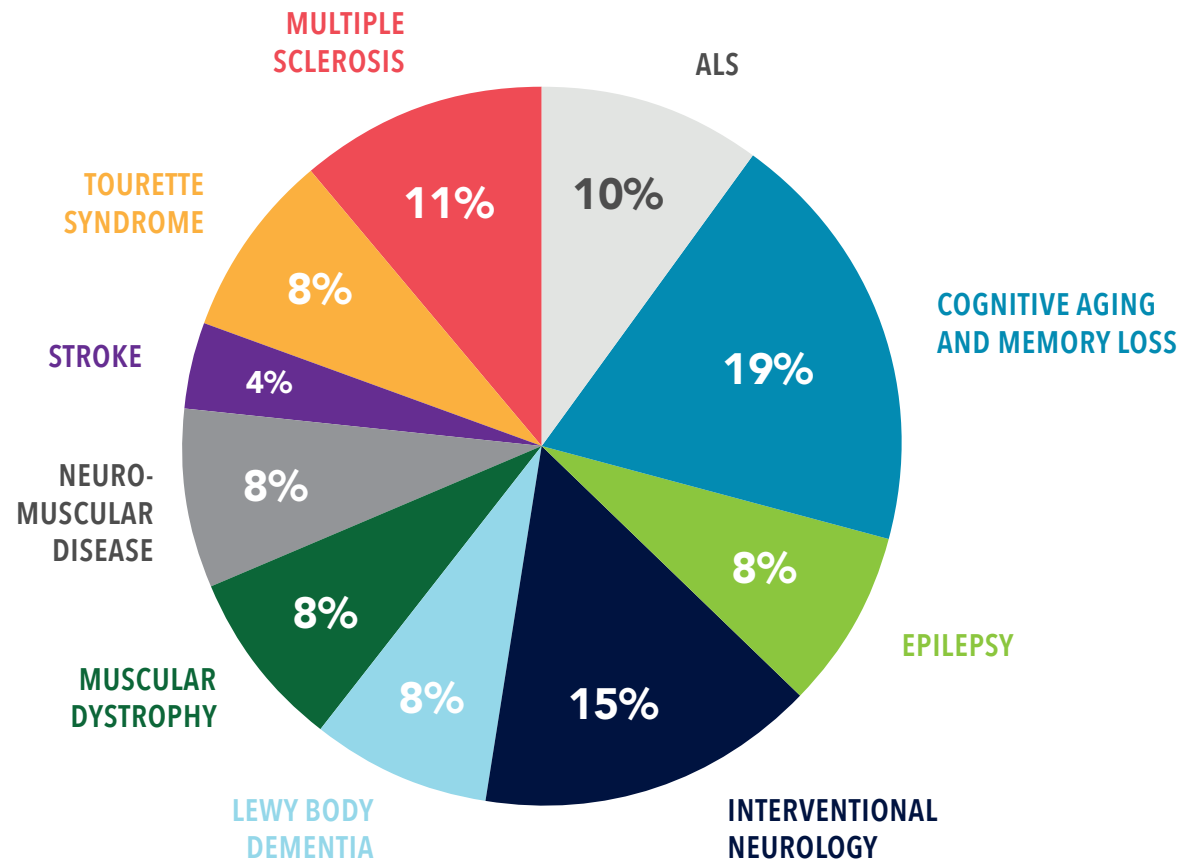


\$128,343
RAISED

for whole-brain
research projects

Financial Information

Grant Expense by Disease:



Functional Expenses:

Fundraising	\$310,024 (8.2%)
Programming	\$2,953,370 (79%)
Operations	\$483,181 (12.8%)

Program Expenses:

Awards	\$207,709
Grants	\$1,789,484
Public Outreach	\$956,177

Endowments and Donor Advised Funds

- Alliance Fund
- Anonymous Fund
- Association of Indian Neurologists in America Lifetime Achievement Award Fund
- Baumel-Eisner Alzheimer's/Dementia Research Fund
- Bruce S. Schoenberg International Award in Neuroepidemiology Fund
- Calvin L. Calhoun, Sr., MD, Diversity Research Fund
- The Carter Virginia Copp Memorial Fund
- Debasish and Chinu Mridha Spirit of Neurology Award Fund
- Dreifuss-Penry Epilepsy Award Fund
- General Research Fund
- George C. Cotzias Lecture Fund
- Harold Wolff-John Graham Award Fund
- Judith Rosenberg Memorial Multiple Sclerosis Research and Patient Care Fund
- Kenneth M. Viste, Jr., MD Patient Advocate of the Year Award Fund
- Michael S. Pessin and Lawrence M. Brass Stroke Research Fund
- Mitchell Max Neuropathic Pain Fund
- Movement Disorders Research Award Fund
- Multiple Sclerosis Fund
- Neuro-Infectious Disease Young Investigators' Research Fund
- Neuro-Oncology Research Award Fund
- Neuro-Oncology Scientific Award Fund
- Norman Geschwind Prize in Behavioral Neurology Fund
- Raymond Adams Fund for Clinical Research
- Sidney Carter Award in Child Neurology Fund
- Sleep Science Award Fund
- Susan S. Spencer Epilepsy Research Fund
- Wayne A. Hening Sleep Medicine Investigator Award Fund

Our audited financial statements are available on our website or by request.

Rowland Circle

The Rowland Circle is named after Lewis P. “Bud” Rowland in memory of his generous support and his vision for the future. Donors who give \$2,500 or more cumulatively in a calendar year to the American Brain Foundation are recognized and honored annually.



**Lewis P. “Bud” Rowland,
MD, FAAN**

Past President instrumental in
starting the Foundation

DONOR SPOTLIGHT



Ann H. Tilton, MD, FAAN

Dr. Ann Tilton vividly recalls a classmate dying from myasthenia gravis when she was young. “I remember her periods of weakness and not understanding why her doctors could not find a way to treat her. From that point forward, I was always interested in the nervous system. Pediatrics was fun, but I was continuously drawn to patients with neurologic disorders. Finding a cure for brain disease is crucial for individuals young and old, and for our society as a whole.”

Dr. Tilton, Vice Chair of the American Academy of Neurology, told us, “I’m very aware of Bud Rowland’s contributions to neurology. Joining the circle is an opportunity for me to support the legacy of one of the leading contributors to our field and to do so in a way that focuses on our future.”

Rowland Circle Members

Angelo M. Alves, MD, PhD, FAAN

Martha and David C. Anderson, MD, FAAN

Stanley H. Appel, MD, FAAN and
Joan W. Appel, PA-C, CCRC

Deganit Armon, PhD and
Carmel Armon, MD, FAAN

Ehren and Angela M. Babb, CAE

Gita and Jitendra K. Baruah, MD

Gabrielle and Christopher Becker

Betsy and Jonathan Blattmachr

Ellen and Terrence L. Cascino, MD, FAAN

Bill and Elaine Cella

Shelly Collins Rucks and Steve Rucks

Edward S. Cooper, MD

Josh and Aline Copp

Eugene Sorets and
Merit Cudkowicz, MD, MSC

William C. Davison, MD, FAAN

Alicia C. and Darryl C. De Vivo, MD, FAAN

David Eagleman, PhD

James Essey

Richard P. Essey

Charlotte and Stanley Fahn, MD, FAAN

Matthew E. Fink, MD, FAAN

Charles C. Flippen II, MD, FAAN

B. Smith and Dan Gasby

Claudia C. Robertson, MD and
J. Clay Goodman, MD, FAAN

Kevin P. and Linda L. Goodno

Raghav Govindarajan, MD, FAAN

Rosalynne and Robert C. Griggs, MD, FAAN

Marsha and Robert A. Gross, MD, PhD, FAAN

Deborah Hall, MD, PhD, FAAN

Linda M. Famiglio, MD and
Jonathan P. Hosey, MD, FAAN

Trish and Karl Jacob

Ralph F. Józefowicz, MD, FAAN

Edgar J. Kenton III, MD, FAAN

Adele and Francis I. Kittredge Jr., MD, FAAN

Barbara S. Koppel, MD, FAAN and
Timothy A. Pedley, MD, PhD, FAAN

John C. Mazziotta, MD, PhD, FAAN

Janis Miyasaki, MD, FAAN

Debasish Mridha, MD

Nancy L. Mueller, MD

Joseph O’Shaughnessy

Kelly and Jason Perlewitz

Alan H. Potamkin

Robert and Lexie Potamkin

Laleh and Chris J. Prusinski, DO, FAHA, FAAN

Jane and John Ransom

John G. Schmidt, MD, FAHA, FAAN and
Lee B. Rose-Schmidt, RN

Adrienne T. and
Roger N. Rosenberg, MD, FAAN

Kathleen and
Jeffrey Rosenfeld, MD, PhD, FAAN

Natalia S. Rost, MD, MPH, FAAN, FAHA

Charles D. and Catherine M. Rydell, CAE

Ralph L. Sacco, MD, MS, FAHA, FAAN

Susan Schneider Williams, BFA

Martin M. Shenkman, CPA, MBA, PFS, AEP, JD
and Patti Klein, MD

Lisa M. Shulman, MD, FAAN

Joan and Joseph I. Sirven, MD, FAAN

A. Gordon Smith, MD, FAAN

Erik K. St. Louis, MD, FAAN

Lawrence Z. Stern, MD, FAAN and
Jacqueline A. Stern

Laurel B. and James C. Stevens, MD, FAAN

Ann H. Tilton, MD, FAAN

Karyn and Benjamin J. Utech

David B. Watson, MD

Sherilynne and A. Douglas Will, MD

Individual Giving

\$100,000+

**Rowland Circle Members*

Anonymous
The Potamkin Family

\$25,000-49,999

**Rowland Circle Members*

Edgar J. Kenton, III, MD, FAAN

\$10,000-24,999

**Rowland Circle Members*

James A. Essey

Richard P. Essey

Trish and Karl Jacob

Sharon L. Klein

Martin M. Shenkman, CPA, MBA,
PFS, AEP, JD and Patti Klein, MD

\$5,000-9,999

**Rowland Circle Members*

Nicola and Angelo M. Alves, MD,
PhD, FAAN

Johnathan and Betsy Blattmachr

Tom Erwin

Kelly and Jason Perlewitz

Hanna and Bret Richheimer

Laurel B. and
James C. Stevens, MD, FAAN

Sherilynne and Douglas Will, MD

\$2,500-4,999

Martha and David C. Anderson,
MD, FAAN

Angela and Jeffrey Babb

Gabrielle and Christopher Becker

David Eagleman, PhD

Charlotte and
Stanley Fahn, MD, FAAN

Matthew E. Fink, MD, FAAN

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Janis Miyasaki, MD, FAAN

Nancy L. Mueller, MD

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FAHA, FAAN

Jane and John Ransom

Adrienne and
Roger N. Rosenberg, MD, FAAN

Natalia S. Rost, MD, MPH, FAAN,
FAHA

Esther E. Rowland

Shelly and Steve Rucks

Charles D. and
Catherine M. Rydell, CAE

Ralph L. Sacco, MD, MS, FAAN, FAHA

John G. Schmidt, MD, FAHA, FAAN
and Lee Rose-Schmidt, RN

Susan Schneider Williams, BFA

Lisa M. Shulman, MD, FAAN

Joan and
Joseph I. Sirven, MD, FAAN

Jacqueline A. and
Lawrence Z. Stern, MD, FAAN

Margaret E. and
Thomas R. Swift, MD, FAAN

Ann H. Tilton, MD, FAAN

\$1,000-2,499

Anonymous

Claire and
Anthony G. Alessi, MD, FAAN

Elaine and James R. Allen, MD
Deganit Armon, PhD and
Carmel Armon, MD, FAAN

Gita and Jitendra K. Baruah, MD
Norine Bell

Cindy Bergethon, MD and
Peter R. Bergethon, MD

Robin L. Brey, MD, FAAN

Brenda and
Louis R. Caplan, MD, FAAN

Teresa and
Gregory D. Cascino, MD, FAAN

Jesse M. Cedarbaum, MD, FAAN

Bill and Elaine Cella

Jerome H. Chin, MD, MPH, PhD,
FAAN

William C. Davison, MD, FAAN

Alicia C. and
Darryl C. De Vivo, MD, FAAN

Peter Okin, MD and
Lisa M. DeAngelis, MD, FAAN

Catherine and Dana Elliott

Alberto J. Espay, MD, MSc, FAAN

John Fanburg

Barbara Forster

Scott E. and Deborah I. Friedman,
MD, FAAN, MPH, FAHS

Kris Fridgen

Dan Gasby and B. Smith

Ricki F. and
Larry B. Goldstein, MD, FAAN, FAHA

Kevin P. and Linda L. Goodno

Madeleine M. Grigg Damberger,
MD

James C. Grotta, MD, FAAN

Laurie Gutmann, MD, FAAN

Deborah Hall, MD, PhD, FAAN

Mark Hallett, MD, FAAN

Margaret E. and
John M. Hannam, MD

Renee Houlehan

Carlayne E. Jackson, MD, FAAN and
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To get to cures, to get
to eradication, doors
must be opened so
the public can have
increased opportunities
to engage in science.



To find cures, more research is needed across the spectrum of brain and nervous system diseases, but the number of physicians choosing research careers is not growing quickly enough.

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one in six people. We're
trying to get to zero.**

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Life After Stroke

Research took “There’s nothing more we can do” to “treatable” in one lifetime

It was an everyday, routine task. Cynthia got up from her work desk to use the restroom when a sharp, flashing headache gripped her. A co-worker noticed Cynthia falling, caught her, and called 911. A Houston-based stroke ambulance called the Mobile Stroke Unit arrived with James Grotta, MD, FAAN, a CAT scan, and other specialty equipment and medicines. Within minutes after stroke onset, Cynthia was treated with CPA and more. One week later, she was back at work—fully functional.

“My daughter tells me the only thing that is different is that I’m feistier than I used to be,” says Cynthia. “The Mobile Stroke Unit took someone they didn’t know and gave them back the rest of their life as a completely whole and functioning individual.”

“When I was in training, neurology was an esoteric specialty with few practical treatments,” says Dr. Grotta. “I focused on stroke as it was the biggest public health problem in neurology, and if treatments could be discovered, it would have a major impact.” He received his education at Dartmouth College and medical training at the Universities of Virginia and Colorado and Massachusetts General Hospital before joining the faculty at University of Texas-Houston where he founded the Stroke Program.

Dr. Grotta devotes his research to discovering, testing, and applying new therapies for acute stroke. He orchestrated a collaborative network between the UT Stroke Team, Memorial Hermann Hospital, Houston Fire Department-Emergency Medical Services, and other regional stroke centers to increase the delivery of appropriate therapy to a large number of acute stroke patients in Houston. He has extended these efforts to rural areas through regional educational programs and, more recently, telemedicine. He now leads the Memorial Hermann Hospital Mobile Stroke Unit Consortium.

Dr. Grotta is a member of the American Brain Foundation’s Board of Directors. “Many people want to use their money for good, and I’ve learned as program director and department chair that there needs to be funds for research and program development beyond existing competitive funding sources like NIH. Non-designated philanthropic funds can provide equipment, infrastructure. Discretionary funds can bring programs to a much higher level of accomplishment.”



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