



2022 ANNUAL REPORT

The American Hearing Research Foundation (AHRF) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to funding research on hearing loss and balance disorders related to the inner ear. The year 2022 marks the 66th year in which AHRF has supported research that examines how we hear, why we lose hearing, and how it might be restored. Since its founding in 1956, AHRF has been awarding grants to beginning investigators so they can test ideas and collect data to secure larger funding.

AHRF's other focus is to educate the public about hearing and balance disorders, through its website and bi-annual newsletter. The website contains numerous articles on hearing and balance disorders as well as links to outside resources, and updates on the progress of our funded research projects.

2022 HIGHLIGHTS

Each year AHRF funds five to 10 research projects. In 2021, 10 grants were awarded, for a total funding of \$317,909. AHRF awarded the Birtman Grant (\$74,811) for exceptional scientific investigation, plus five Discovery Grants (previously named "Regular Grants") of \$41,898 to \$50,000. Four otolaryngology residents received \$1,000 Bernard & Lottie Drazin Resident Grants. AHRF offers the resident grant program to encourage individuals who might pursue a career in hearing and balance research.

Recipients will explore diverse topics, including the cellular mechanics related to noise-induced hearing loss, whether cochlear implants could work better with magnetic instead of electrical stimulation, how the cancer treatment cisplatin affects the signaling pathway involved in hearing, and how to identify the best electrode placement for cochlear implant users. Researchers and study topics are listed on the next page.

This year marks a change in leadership for the Foundation. Richard G. Muench stepped down from the role of Board Chairman after serving 27 years in this role. AHRF welcomes Mark Muench as the new Board Chair. Richard Muench will continue to serve as a Board Director.

In planning for 2023, AHRF has decided to honor Richard Muench by naming a future funding award the Richard G. Muench Chairman Grant. Specifics for this award will be determined later in 2022. AHRF grant awards for two specific areas of interest – sudden hearing loss causes and Meniere's disease, have been folded into the Discovery Grant. Successful proposals for these topics now can be funded at the same high level as all other topics. These two areas of study will continue to receive special consideration in the review process.

2022 GRANT RECIPIENTS		
Researcher	University	Study Title
Jasleen Singh, PhD	Northwestern University	<i>Georgia Birtman Grant: The Influence of Patient Psychosocial Behaviors on Hearing Aid Use and Outcomes in an Over-the-Counter Delivery Model</i>
Ryan A. Bartholomew, MD	Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary	<i>Discovery Grant: Magnetic stimulation of the cochlear nerve: Foundation for a next-generation cochlear implant</i>
Nesrine Benkafadar, PharmD, PhD	Stanford University	<i>Discovery Grant: Key triggers of hair cell regeneration</i>
Ignacio Garcia Gomez, PhD, Jaime Garcia-Añoveros, PhD	Northwestern University	<i>Discovery Grant: Differential hair cell death susceptibility to age and noise</i>
Xin Luo, PhD	Arizona State University	<i>Discovery Grant: Neural Health and Pitch Perception with Cochlear Implants</i>
Xiaodong Tan, PhD	Northwestern University	<i>Discovery Grant: Ototoxic Effects of Bound and Unbound Cisplatin</i>
David Lee, MD	Washington University in St. Louis	<i>Resident Grant: Optical Coherence Tomography of Inner Ear Structures: Using Novel Imaging Technology to Investigate Meniere's Disease and Sudden Sensorineural Hearing Loss</i>
Emma E. Martin, MD	University of Illinois at Chicago	<i>Resident Grant: Contributions of vocal tract length to cochlear implant users' perception of vocal pitch</i>
Christine Mei, MD	University of Miami	<i>Resident Grant: Hearing Preservation Effects of Therapeutic Hypothermia in a 'Double-Insult' Model of Cochlear Implantation in Noise-Exposed Cochleae</i>
Amit Walia, MD	Washington University in St. Louis	<i>Resident Grant: Using electrocochleography to build a prediction model for speech-perception performance in noise after cochlear implantation</i>

FUNDING SOURCES

The American Hearing Research Foundation funds its activities through these sources: voluntary donations from individuals, employee giving programs, returns on investments, and the merchant donor programs Amazon Smile and iGive. In addition, the Foundation partners with **run because**, a grassroots nonprofit initiative dedicated to raising awareness and funding for Meniere's disease research.

Voluntary individual donations are from the public and are solicited through our newsletter, Facebook postings, emails for #GivingTuesday, and an end-of-year appeal mailing.

Contributions are used for the AHRF mission to fund research and to educate the public about hearing and balance disorders. These monies cover the cost of research grants, plus costs associated with AHRF's website and newsletters. Contributions also support administrative functions essential to operate the Foundation, including the cost of technology, audit, and database management; and fundraising activities needed to support our work.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS, RESEARCH COMMITTEE, AND STAFF

Effective 5/17/2022

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AMERICAN HEARING RESEARCH FOUNDATION			
CONDENSED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES		2021	2020
OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Revenues and Other Support			
	Contributions	\$190,881	\$132,338
	Interest and dividends	\$211,295	\$211,644
	Other income	\$0	\$0
	Net assets released from restrictions	\$0	\$0
	Total Support	\$402,176	\$343,982
Expenses			
	Program services	\$375,622	\$336,857
	Supporting services		
	Management & general	\$56,447	\$51,554
	Fundraising	\$11,147	\$8,223
	Total Expenses	\$443,216	\$396,634
	Change in net assets from operations	-\$41,040	-\$52,652
NONOPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Investment return, net			
	Realized gains (losses)	\$3,865	\$28,718
	Unrealized gains (losses)	\$2,311,774	\$1,464,848
	Total Investment return, net	\$2,315,639	\$1,493,566
	Total nonoperating activities	\$2,315,639	\$1,493,566
	Change in net assets	\$2,274,599	\$1,440,914
	Net Assets, beginning of year	\$11,867,551	\$10,426,637
	Net Assets, end of year	14,142,150	\$11,867,551
CONDENSED STMT OF FINANCIAL POSITION			
		As of	As of
		12/31/2021	12/31/2020
Assets			
	Current Assets		
	Cash and cash equivalents	\$263,260	\$220,151
	Investments, at fair market value	\$14,164,775	\$11,931,832
	Accrued interest on investments	\$13,176	\$15,109
	Prepaid expenses and other assets	\$9,042	\$8,195
	Fixed Assets	\$9,806	\$14,708
	Total Assets	14,460,059	\$12,189,995
Liabilities and Net Assets			
	Current Liabilities		
	Accounts payable	\$0	\$0
	Grants payable	\$317,909	\$322,444
	Total Current Liabilities	\$317,909	\$322,444

	Total Liabilities	\$317,909	\$322,444
	Net Assets		
	Without donor restrictions	\$13,938,216	\$11,780,996
	With donor restrictions	\$203,934	\$86,555
	Total Net Assets	\$14,142,150	\$11,867,551
	Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$14,460,059	\$12,189,995