

2020

ANNUAL REPORT

amfAR, The Foundation for AIDS Research

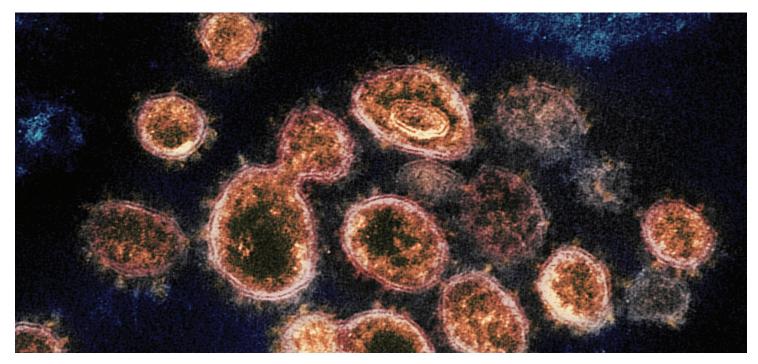
OUR MISSION:

amfAR, The Foundation for AIDS Research, is dedicated to ending the global AIDS epidemic through innovative research.

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PROGRESS IN THE FACE OF A NEW PANDEMIC



SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19

RESEARCH T

amfAR Fund to Fight COVID-19

Temporarily expanding its efforts to include research on the novel coronavirus, in April 2020 amfAR established the **amfAR Fund to Fight COVID-19**, announcing its first COVID grants in July.

- ▶ A common and often deadly consequence of advanced COVID-19 disease is acute kidney injury. Cells in the kidney express the ACE2 protein, which serves as a receptor for the virus and may underlie the kidney damage. Dr. Matthias Kretzler of the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, was awarded \$155,650 to use a clever technique to understand what happens in the kidney of those with COVID-19. By comparing patients receiving anti-inflammatory treatment to those who were not, Dr. Kretzler aimed to develop a tool to predict who would most benefit from this kind of treatment.
- ▶ A second grant of \$192,000 was awarded to Dr. Daniel Kaufmann of the University of Montreal for a study of antibody responses to COVID-19. Dr. Kaufmann was able to tap into the Quebec COVID-19 Biobank, established at the beginning of the pandemic to collect biological samples from patients admitted to the hospital. These banked samples, collected from the time of admission through several months of follow-up, allowed Dr.

Kaufmann and his team to study why some people develop antibodies and others do not, how we can predict whether those antibodies protect against reinfection, and how long the protection lasts.

Countdown to a Cure for AIDS

To accelerate the search for a cure, in 2015 amfAR launched its Countdown to a Cure for AIDS initiative. To date, 87 grants totaling more than \$50 million have been awarded through the Countdown, supporting research conducted by 300 scientists working at more than 100 institutions in 16 countries. Structured to provide sustained support for a range of studies that advance both emerging and established ideas, the Countdown comprises the following components:

▶ The amfAR Institute for HIV Cure Research was established in 2015 with a \$20 million grant over five years to the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF). Researchers at the Institute have been laying the groundwork for a complex clinical study employing a three-pronged approach to eradicating HIV. A therapeutic vaccine is combined with an immune adjuvant—a drug often used to boost the efficacy of vaccines—that has been shown in clinical trials to have additional anti-HIV effects. The third component combines two broadly neutralizing antibodies,

the source of much optimism in the cure field for their ability not only to kill viruses that are produced by infected cells, but also to direct the immune system to kill the very cells producing those viruses. In August 2020, the trial got underway when the first injection was given to the first participant.

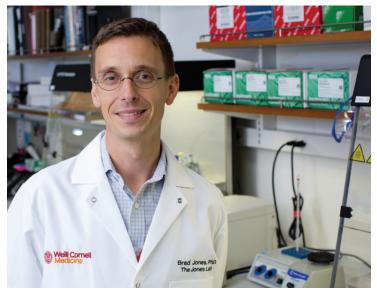
▶ ARCHE, the amfAR Research Consortium on HIV Eradication, supports collaborative teams of scientists in the U.S. and around the world working on a range of HIV cure strategies. For several years, amfAR's ARCHE-GT consortium has been designing and fine-tuning three gene therapy approaches to curing HIV that could be delivered in vivo—directly to the patient.

One approach involves the generation of chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) stem cells that are designed specifically to kill virus-infected cells. A second is to spur liver cells to produce HIV-specific antibodies. The third is to deliver an enzyme that would edit the virus out of infected cells. Each of these three tools is now ready to be tested in combination.

In February 2020, Dr. Hildegard Büning of Hannover Medical School, Germany, was awarded \$1.65 million for a preclinical study to test their effectiveness. This complex gene therapy study will provide vital signposts informing further curative gene therapy studies.

▶ Uniting data scientists with HIV researchers, one-year Magnet Grants of up to \$150,000 are harnessing advances in machine learning algorithms to find patterns in the vast trove of data researchers have amassed over the past decade. Already a critical component of the success of precision medicine, machine learning is able to identify patterns in health and disease that we wouldn't know to look for. In February 2020, amfAR awarded grants totaling about \$600,000 to research teams in the U.S., Australia, and Brazil.

The HIV reservoir may expand when infected T cells grow in number to fight invading pathogens. Identifying how to limit expansion in reservoir cells while maintaining normal expansion



amfAR grantee Dr. Brad Jones

in uninfected T cells would be an important step toward a cure. Magnet grantee Dr. Ya-Chi Ho has collected vast amounts of data on the activity of over 133,000 T cells, including rare reservoir cells, across seven people living with HIV. With the help of bioinformatician Dr. David van Dijk, the team is building machine-learning tools to identify mediators of T cell expansion that affect reservoir cells specifically.

Collaborating with data scientists Drs. Doron Betel and Friederike Dundar, Dr. Brad Jones aims to identify, using public and private datasets, differences between reservoir cells that survived attack by the immune system and those that were susceptible. Then the researchers will analyze cancer datasets to determine whether those protective factors identified in HIV are also present in cancer—a disease that may have FDA-approved drugs to target those factors.

By understanding exactly where HIV inserts itself in our genome, researchers can make inferences about how location may predict latency. Dr. Sharon Lewin, a world-renowned HIV cure researcher, has teamed up with Dr. Daniel Cameron, a former software developer turned academic bioinformatician, to develop a data science mapping pipeline to chart the hard-to-reach areas of our genome. Using over 600GB of cloud computing memory and mining 30 public and private datasets, the researchers aim to gain a more complete understanding of what insertion site means for HIV latency—and ultimately cure.

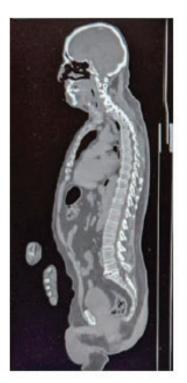
▶ Synergy Grants capitalize on unforeseen possibilities for collaboration and enable us to add new study arms onto existing amfAR grants. In February 2020, amfAR awarded \$50,000 to Dr. Jonathan Li of The Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston. In 2019, amfAR launched Project PTC, the largest study to date aimed at discovering the underpinnings of post-treatment control—viral control in the absence of antiretroviral therapy (ART). Led by Dr. Li, one of the world's leading PTC researchers, the team has been using cutting-edge tools to explore immune control and viral dynamics. The new grant recruited Dr. Michael Seaman, an expert in HIV antibody responses at Harvard Medical School. This additional expertise could help determine whether antibodies help shape the ability of PTCs to control virus once they stop taking ART. Discovering what leads to post-treatment control in these rare individuals could help in designing methods to achieve durable ART-free control in all people living with HIV.

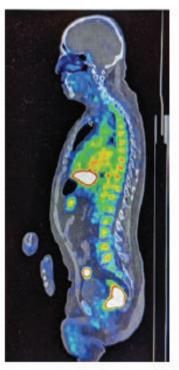
Mathilde Krim Fellowships in Basic Biomedical Research

These fellowships support bright young scientists advancing innovative solutions to HIV/AIDS. In December 2019, amfAR announced two new Krim Fellows: Dr. Maolin Lu of Yale University in New Haven, CT, and Dr. Shaheed Abdulhaqq, of Oregon Health and Science University in Portland, OR. Each fellow is awarded approximately \$150,000 over two years.

COVID-19 Pause

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, in March 2020 amfAR temporarily paused its ongoing HIV research grants with the exception of one









High

grant funded by the FAIR Foundation. The pause ended on July 1, 2020, for a clinical trial at the amfAR Institute for HIV Cure Research in San Francisco, and October 1 for other paused research.

Published Research

Research studies make the greatest impact on the HIV field and on the broader scientific community when they are published in scientific journals. In FY2020, 80 scientific publications resulted from amfAR-funded research. Examples include:

- ▶ Seeing Is Believing: Nuclear Imaging of HIV Persistence In Frontiers in Immunology, Dr. Timothy Henrich of the amfAR Institute for HIV Cure Research and colleagues outlined a cutting-edge technique using the only EXPLORER PET scanner currently operational in the U.S. to visualize the places where HIV resides in host tissue cells. The machine is able to produce images that are approximately 40 times more sensitive than current technology in a fraction of the time. The technology may help researchers identify which tissues are responsible for HIV resurgence following treatment interruption as part of a cure intervention.
- ▶ Attacking Latent HIV with Convertible CAR T Cells, a Highly Adaptable Killing Platform

In the prestigious journal *Cell*, members of the amfAR Institute for HIV Cure Research reported the development of a new type of CAR T cell—one that can keep up with HIV's ever mutating envelope. Convertible CAR T cells can target multiple strains of HIV without the need to manufacture as many different CAR T cells as there are strains. Harnessing the ability of this new platform to selectively kill HIV-infected cells, researchers may be able to develop more effective cure strategies in which latency-reversing agents reactivate latent HIV.

HIV Cure Summit

In November 2019, amfAR held its sixth annual HIV Cure Summit at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF), where the amfAR Institute for HIV Cure Research is based. Leading amfAR-funded cure researchers detailed their progress and discussed the scientific challenges that continue to stand in the way of a cure. Dr. Rachel Rutishauser, for example, outlined the pioneering clinical trial at the Institute that will test a combination approach to curing HIV (see page 1).

Dr. Rowena Johnston, amfAR Vice President and Director of Research, discussed "societies of research," displaying a visualization tool to show how in recent years HIV researchers are collaborating more than ever before. Speaking with Dr. Johnston, Loreen Willenberg, the "San Francisco patient," shared her inspiring personal story, from her HIV diagnosis in 1992 to recognition by her doctors that she was somehow able to maintain undetectable viral levels without ever taking ART, to being an invaluable participant in HIV studies for over a decade.

Discussing post-treatment control of HIV, Drs. Peter Hunt of UCSF and Marcella Flores of amfAR outlined efforts to study the rare individuals—post-treatment controllers—who are able to naturally control their virus after stopping ART. A better understanding of how these individuals are able to do so could help researchers induce post-treatment control in other people living with HIV.

The Summit also featured a range of perspectives from members of the community advisory board for the amfAR Institute and other community leaders.

PUBLIC POLICY \(\bigvieve{\pi}\)

Informed by thorough research and analysis, amfAR is a highly respected advocate of rational and compassionate HIV/AIDS-related public policy. The Foundation is engaged in efforts to secure necessary increases in funding for HIV/AIDS research and global HIV/AIDS programs, expand access to treatment and care for marginalized populations, advocate harm reduction policies aimed at reducing the spread of HIV and hepatitis C (HCV) among people who inject drugs, and protect the civil rights of all people affected by or vulnerable to HIV/AIDS.

Ending the Domestic HIV Epidemic

In 2019, President Trump announced a plan to end HIV transmissions in the U.S. by 2030. *The Ending the HIV Epidemic* (EHE) initiative aims to reduce HIV infections by 75% in five years, and by 90% in ten years. In 2019, amfAR launched a free interactive database (ehe.amfar.org) to help policymakers, public health officials, advocates, and other stakeholders understand the opportunities and challenges across EHE jurisdictions. The EHE database includes demographic, policy, and service provider information, and epidemiological indicators.

In October 2019, amfAR published *Context Matters: Ending the HIV Epidemic Among Latinx*, an infographic showing how lack of access to healthcare, along with the Trump administration's anti-immigrant rhetoric and policies, make it unlikely that the EHE initiative will succeed. A second infographic depicted the stark racial disparities in the epidemiology of HIV and access to care in the U.S.

In February, amfAR Vice President and Director of Public Policy Greg Millett penned an op-ed for *Healio*'s Infectious Disease News that argued for HIV prevention programs tailored to Black Americans. This was followed by a Millett op-ed in *The Hill* on progress and setbacks a year into the EHE initiative.

Since the implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) in 2010, millions of Americans including people living with HIV have benefited from expanded access to healthcare. On the tenth anniversary of the ACA being signed into law, in March 2020, amfAR published a report showing with charts and graphics the progress that has been achieved by the ACA and what could be lost due to Congress and President Trump undermining the policy. In particular, the report showed how the ACA could benefit Trump's effort to end the HIV epidemic through his EHE plan.

The COVID-19 Pandemic

In May 2020, amfAR released study results that were among the first to quantify disparities in impacts of the coronavirus pandemic. The study revealed that disproportionately Black counties—representing about one in five U.S. counties—accounted for 52% and 58% of COVID-19 cases and deaths, respectively. It also countered the narrative that underlying health conditions were responsible for disparate rates of SARS-CoV-2 diagnoses among Black Americans. Instead, social factors such as high rates of uninsured and crowded households in Black counties were responsible for greater rates of

COVID-19. The study generated significant national media attention. Published in *Annals of Epidemiology* in July 2020, it has been cited in more than 100 publications including the *New England Journal of Medicine* and *JAMA*.

Also in July, a study by a multi-institutional team led by researchers at The George Washington University found that factors linked to structural racism put Latino communities nationwide at high risk of COVID-19. amfAR's Greg Millett was senior author on the study. The researchers detailed contributing factors including crowded housing, air pollution and jobs in the meatpacking and poultry industry. The first national analysis of COVID deaths and cases among this group, it confirmed previous reports that Latinos were particularly hard hit by the virus.

In August, an amfAR study showed that disproportionately white counties in the U.S. had consistently lower rates of COVID-19 and HIV. Residential segregation, structural racism, and social determinants of health were noted as key factors driving diagnoses in nonwhite communities. With schools reopening in some states, the amfAR study suggested that comparatively higher COVID-19 diagnoses in non-white counties placed youth and adults in those counties at greater risk for infection.

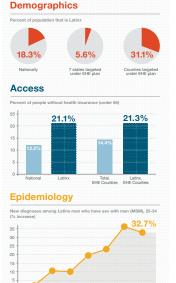
As a companion resource for these studies on disparities, amfAR launched a new data dashboard tracking COVID-19 cases and diagnoses in U.S. counties with a large proportion of racial/ethnic minorities.

Context Matters: Ending the HIV Epidemic Among Latinx

The federal government's Ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE) plan has the goal of reducing new HIV infections by 90% in the next 10 years. This goal will not be met without eliminating disparities in access to services in the Latinx community. The current administration's anti-immigrant thetoric and policies make this unlikely to happen.

Non-citizens and undocumented individuals will be less likely to seek testing, prevention, or treatment services if they fear deportation and arrest, or loss of the opportunity to someday become clitzens. And their families and communities may also be less likely to access services in order to protect themselves and undocumented people in their community.

These policies directly undermine any efforts in the EHE plan to



What's Helping?

X

Ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE) plan

- 90% targeted decrease in HIV infections by 203
- 48 counties, plus Washington, D.C. and San Juan, P.R.
- 7 states

What's Not?

plan to improve access to services among the Latinx community.



Demonization of immigrants and Latinx

Leads to increased stigma, real and feared, preventing groups from accessing services

Fear of arrest and deportation



their families, from accessing services

Public charge rule



including health services



Federal immigration restrictions
Restrictions prevent immigrants who do not have
health insurance from entering legally

One of a series of infographics illustrating priority issues for amfAR's Pubic Policy Office.

Also in August, amfAR published an issue brief on gender-based violence (GBV) in South Africa during the coronavirus pandemic. The analysis found significant barriers to service availability and called for government action and resources to be directed to ensure reliable access to GBV services for the duration of COVID-19 and beyond.

amfAR also published several op-eds early in the pandemic. In February 2020, amfAR Senior Policy and Medical Advisor Dr. Susan Blumenthal penned an op-ed for *The Hill* outlining five ways to prepare for the coronavirus. In March she wrote for *The Advocate* on the essential lessons from the AIDS epidemic that could be applied to the COVID-19 crisis, followed by two op-eds in April: one in *Thrive Global* argued that young people held the key to "flattening the curve," and the other, for CNN, made the case for studying the effects of COVID on women.

HIV and the Opioid Epidemic

amfAR's Opioid & Health Indicators Database (opioid.amfar.org) is a free web platform designed to support lawmakers, communities, and advocates in making informed decisions about the opioid epidemic and its impact on HIV and hepatitis C. It provides local to national statistics using reliable data sources on new HIV and hepatitis C infections, opioid use and overdose death rates, and the availability of services like drug treatment programs and syringe exchange services.

Advocating on the Global Stage

In November 2019, amfAR published an issue brief outlining the impacts of the "global gag rule" for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. Reinstated and expanded by President Trump in 2017 [and subsequently rescinded by the Biden administration], the policy restricted non-U.S.-based or foreign NGOs from receiving American financial aid if they perform, counsel on, or refer for abortion, or advocate for its liberalization outside of limited exceptions. The issue brief concluded that the policy was linked to "disruptions in HIV"

programming—including basic HIV prevention services such as condom distribution, HIV testing, and voluntary medical male circumcision programming to prevent HIV."

amfAR maintains the PEPFAR Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting database (mer.amfar.org). Launched in 2018, the database enables policymakers, public health officials, advocates, and other stakeholders to access a wide range of programmatic data on PEPFAR (the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief) and includes downloadable PDFs, maps, data visualizations, and district-level data. The database complements amfAR's PEPFAR database (copsdata.amfar.org), which highlights planned funding by program area, country and organization for each year that has been publicly released.

In October 2019, amfAR published a 20-page report titled *Data Watch: Data Accessibility from Global Funders of HIV, TB and Malaria Programming*. The report assessed the adequacy of information regarding who is being funded in a given community, what they have been funded to do, and whether they have delivered as contracted.

AIDS 2020

amfAR's Public Policy Office participated in the biennial International AIDS Conference—the premier global meeting for the HIV field—July 6-10. Delegates came together virtually to hear about and discuss the latest HIV research findings and policy issues, and intersections with the coronavirus.

Public Policy Director Greg Millett delivered an opening plenary talk that contextualized 40 years of disparities throughout the HIV pandemic, and joined a live Q&A session with Dr. Linda-Gail Bekker of the Desmond Tutu HIV Centre at the University of Cape Town, former president of the International AIDS Society.

amfAR's Deputy Director of Public Policy Brian Honermann presented at a virtual community workshop that focused on the effective use of data tools to drive impactful change in the HIV response. And Policy Associate Jennifer Sherwood gave a symposium talk on whether current approaches to collecting data capture the full impact of HIV on women.

The conference featured many talks on the intersection of HIV and COVID-19. Greg Millett joined Merck Vice President of Social Innovation Carmen Villar for a "fireside chat" to discuss a paper Millett co-authored assessing the differential impacts of COVID-19 on black communities. Millett also joined Chris Collins of Friends of the Global Fight and others in a session titled *How did they do it? What successful communities can teach all of us about making dramatic progress against HIV epidemics and what this means in the age of COVID.* The session was a one-year follow-up to a report co-authored by amfAR, AVAC and Friends of the Global Fight titled *Translating Progress into Success to End the AIDS Epidemic.*



amfAR VP and Director of Public Policy Greg Millett delivered an opening plenary address at AIDS 2020, the virtual International AIDS Conference.

TREAT ASIA

amfAR's TREAT Asia (Therapeutics Research, Education, and AIDS Training in Asia) program is a network of hospitals, clinics, and research institutions working with civil society to ensure the safe and effective delivery of treatments for HIV and its co-infections to adults and children across the Asia-Pacific through research, education, and advocacy. The TREAT Asia Network encompasses 21 adult and 20 pediatric sites throughout the region, which collaborate on a variety of projects. TREAT Asia scientists produced 33 publications in peer-reviewed medical journals in 2020.

Gathering Critical Information

TREAT Asia pioneered the region's first adult observational database for HIV/ AIDS, which now includes anonymous data from nearly 10,000 patients at 21 clinical sites in 12 countries. The TREAT Asia HIV Observational Database (TAHOD) gathers information to inform the development of more effective research and treatment programs and helps define treatment

standards specific to HIV/AIDS in Asia. The TAHOD-LITE database, an extension of TAHOD, contains data from over 37,000 HIV-positive patients across ten TREAT Asia network sites and aims to increase the scope of adult data collection by gathering a subset of core variables from all HIV-infected patients who have sought care at selected TAHOD sites.

A Global Collaboration

In partnership with the Kirby Institute at the University of New South Wales, TREAT Asia manages the Asia-Pacific section of the International epidemiology Databases to Evaluate AIDS (IeDEA), a global collaboration established by the U.S. National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

Improving Care for Children

The TREAT Asia Pediatric HIV Observational Database is a regional pediatric HIV study set up by TREAT Asia in 2006. It was modeled on the adult database and includes data from more than 7,400 children and adolescents at 17 clinical sites in Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, and Vietnam.

Integrating HIV, Mental Health, and Implementation Science Research

In 2019, the U.S. National Institutes of Health awarded a fiveyear, \$1.4 million grant to TREAT Asia and Columbia University to establish an innovative platform for integrating HIV, mental health,



TREAT Asia's regional network spans more than 50 research institutions and community organizations in 13 countries across the Asia-Pacific region.

and implementation science research in the Asia-Pacific region. The objective of the CHIMERA program (*C*apacity development for *HIV* and *me*ntal health *r*esearch in *A*sia) is to address the dual and interlinked burdens of HIV and mental health. Co-led by Principal Investigators Dr. Annette Sohn, amfAR vice president and director of TREAT Asia, and Dr. Milton Wainberg, professor of clinical psychiatry at Columbia University and the New York State Psychiatric Institute, the program aims to build a team within the Asia-Pacific with the capacity to lead regional HIV-mental health-implementation science research that will inform public health policy and improve the quality of clinical care for people living with HIV.

The program is nested within the IeDEA (see above) Asia-Pacific regional research network that TREAT Asia directs. CHIMERA creates the opportunity to bring together stellar training faculty from academic centers and public health and development agencies within the region and across the world, and builds on existing NIH-funded mental health research being conducted through IeDEA Asia-Pacific.

In February 2020, a workshop for CHIMERA fellows was held in Bangkok, covering implementation science frameworks and study designs, informatics for research and public health, and the responsible conduct of research. Fellows also met with TREAT Asia and faculty to discuss their pilot research proposals.

The COVID-19 Pandemic

In April 2020, TREAT Asia led the submission of a letter to the Regional Directors of World Health Organization (WHO) South-East

Asia and Western-Pacific. Signed by 32 regional and national civil society organizations, the letter called for WHO to play a greater role in ensuring continuity of HIV-related healthcare services during the COVID-19 public health emergency in the Asia-Pacific.

TREAT Asia is collaborating with the Institute of HIV Research and Innovation (IHRI), Thai Red Cross AIDS Research Center (TRC-ARC) laboratory, and the NIH Vaccine Research Center to conduct SARS-CoV-2 serologic assays of Thai adults taking and not taking antiretroviral drugs for pre-exposure prophylaxis and treatment of HIV. In September 2020, more than 1,800 samples were sent to the National Institutes of Health.

Throughout the year, TREAT Asia participated in various meetings held virtually with organizations and community members from countries throughout the Asia-Pacific region to navigate the impacts of COVID-19 on critical HIV and hepatitis services and initiatives.

Helping Adolescents Transition to Adult Care

More than one in four new HIV infections in the Asia-Pacific occur in young people aged 15-24 years. Continuing its commitment to helping adolescents transition to adult care, in 2019 TREAT Asia initiated plans for a study of adolescents and young adults living with HIV. A total of 75 HIV-disclosed adolescents with HIV were enrolled from three participating sites in Thailand and the Philippines for initial and 12-month follow-up assessments. Critical outcomes including viral suppression, treatment adherence, pregnancy, and mortality will be assessed.



AIDS 2020

Asia had a strong presence at the 23rd International AIDS Society Conference (AIDS 2020) held virtually in July. TREAT Asia Director Dr. Annette Sohn moderated a prime session Q&A on pediatric HIV along with Martina Penazzato of the World Health Organization. Dr. Sohn also spoke at a workshop addressing the essential skill for early-career HIV researchers of writing and successfully submitting scientific papers to peer-reviewed journals. Numerous TREAT Asia partner investigators and affiliates also gave poster presentations at the conference.

TREAT Asia also participated in the fifth Asia Pacific AIDS & Co-Infections Conference (APACC), held virtually in October 2020. APACC is a regional-level HIV research conference that provides

opportunities for local clinicians, students, and researchers to submit abstracts for presentation.

The 2019 TREAT Asia Annual Network Meeting was held in October 2019 in Bangkok, Thailand, where adult and pediatric investigators, donors, and program partners gathered to review progress on the network's research agenda, hear about regional HIV-related policy priorities, and plan for future initiatives.

THE GMT INITIATIVE T



The two implementation science studies being supported by amfAR's GMT Initiative came to an end in 2019, bringing the initiative to a close. The three-year projects, in Myanmar and Thailand, were aimed at determining the most effective ways of engaging gay men, other men who have sex with men (MSM), and transgender individuals (collectively, GMT) at risk of infection or already living with HIV. The goal was to help those who were HIVnegative stay uninfected, and help HIV-positive individuals to begin and remain on treatment. A third project, in Peru, ended in 2018.

PUBLIC INFORMATION



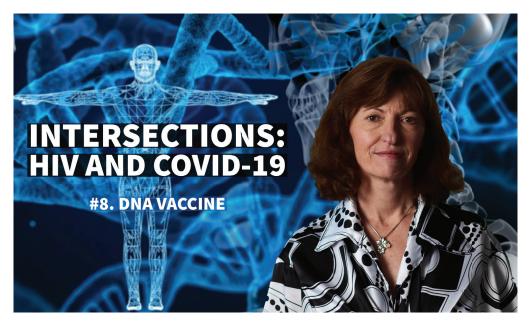
amfAR disseminates information on important HIV-related research, treatment, prevention, and policy issues for diverse audiences to increase awareness and knowledge of the pandemic. amfAR publishes a wide range of educational materials, maintains an informative website, and engages respected public figures, HIV/ AIDS scientists, and policymakers in communicating the need for continued research to develop new methods of prevention, treatment, and, ultimately, a cure for HIV.

The COVID-19 Pandemic

When the COVID-19 crisis emerged in early 2020, amfAR dedicated a section of its website to information on the coronavirus and the intersection of HIV and COVID-19 in particular. The section featured resources for people living with HIV and news of the latest studies as more and more data emerged. Audiovisual content included a video announcement of the launch of the amfAR Fund to Fight COVID-19 and a series of interviews featuring amfAR VP and Director of Research Dr. Rowena Johnston and amfAR grantees who had quickly pivoted to research on COVID-19. These informative interviews covered topics such as testing, vaccine development, experimental treatments, and COVID in children, and garnered tens of thousands of views.

Educational Materials

amfAR's newsletter Innovations is published twice a year and distributed to more than 40,000 people, while a monthly email newsletter reaches approximately 10,000 readers.



As the COVID-19 pandemic evolved, amfAR explored emerging research priorities through a series of video interviews with leading scientists.

The Foundation's websites—www.amfar.org and www. curecountdown.org—feature news, interviews, and original articles covering HIV research, policy, the global epidemic, and amfAR programs and activities. The websites attract a combined average of 46,000 visitors per month. amfAR also creates and distributes reports, press releases, and updates on major HIV/AIDS issues and conducts public service advertising campaigns that have been instrumental in educating policymakers, healthcare professionals, people living with HIV/AIDS, and the public.

amfAR's Public Information team also works closely with the Public Policy Office (see above) to produce a wide range of issue briefs, facts sheets, infographics, and reports.

Epic Voices

amfAR's Epic Voices, an online video series that aims to reenergize the response to HIV among millennial and LGBTQ communities, continued to generate significant engagement in 2020. A ten-episode Instagram IGTV series featuring the videos received more than 7,500 views. The series profiles HIV activists across the country who share their unique journeys, their insights on living with HIV, and the bold steps they have taken in the fight against the epidemic.

Social Media

amfAR has vigorously expanded its presence in the social media arena, reaching large numbers of people, including a younger demographic that is often less educated about HIV and the AIDS epidemic. The Foundation regularly adds educational and fundraising news and information to its Facebook page and Twitter and Instagram feeds. amfAR has over 76,000 likes on Facebook, more than 43,000 Twitter followers, and 159,000 Instagram followers.

Media Outreach

In FY2020, amfAR continued to work closely with the media to raise the profile of HIV/AIDS, both domestically and internationally, and to help ensure the accuracy of HIV-related press coverage. Articles and reports involving amfAR many of which included interviews with staff-were carried in numerous media outlets, including The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, The Washington Post, Fast Company, The Atlantic, Vice, HuffPost, Business Insider, U.S. News & World Report, Vox, Vanity Fair, New York Magazine, People, Gizmodo, The Verge, The Advocate, Politico, The Hill, Reuters, Associated Press, CBS News, BBC News, CNN, NPR, MSNBC, ABC News, and NBC News.

Celebrity Support

amfAR's public awareness efforts are greatly enhanced by the committed support of public figures who lend their voices and donate their time, talents, and resources to help sustain the Foundation's mission. Support of amfAR by prominent public figures began with the late Dame Elizabeth Taylor, amfAR's Founding International Chairman, and others have followed in her footsteps.

amfAR is profoundly grateful for the continuing support of celebrities from all over the world, including Iman, James Corden, Tom Ford, Cheyenne Jackson, Paris Jackson, Heidi Klum, Katy Perry, Julia Roberts, Alan Cumming, Christina Aguilera, Gwyneth Paltrow, Lily Aldridge, Adrien Brody, Andy Cohen, Diplo, Padma Lakshmi, Billy Porter, Zac Posen, Laid Ribeiro, Coco Rocha, Carine Roitfeld, Amber Valletta, Virgil Abloh, Alessandra Ambrosio,



Peter Dundas, Ashley Graham, Winnie Harlow, Miranda Kerr, Karlie Kloss, Karolina Kurkova, Adriana Lima, Jasmine Sanders, Shanina Shaik, Irina Shayk, Joan Smalls, Lara Stone, Jasmine Tookes, and Diane von Fürstenberg.

amfAR honored legendary model and entrepreneur Iman at the 2020 New York Gala for her contributions to the fight against AIDS.

GRANTS / FELLOWSHIPS / AWARDS

2020 RESEARCH GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS

All projects below were awarded funding during the period October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020.

¹Supported with funds provided by the FAIR Foundation

amfAR FUND TO FIGHT COVID-19

Predictors of SARS-CoV-2 antibody responses after severe COVID

Daniel Kaufmann, MD
Université de Montréal, Centre de Recherche du
CHUM
Montreal, Canada
\$209.712

Protecting epithelial cell organ from COVID-19 attack

Matthias Kretzler, MD, PhD The University of Michigan Ann Arbor, MI \$155,650

amfAR RESEARCH CONSORTIUM ON HIV ERADICATION (ARCHE): GENE THERAPY

Preclinical in vivo non-human primate study of combined treatment strategies

Hildegard Büning, PhD Hannover Medical School Hannover, Germany \$1,558,021

IMPACT GRANTS: GAINING INSIGHTS FROM THE CLINIC

Identification of integrative multi-omics signature predictive of HIV replication control without the use of ART

Simone Gonçalves da Fonseca, PhD Fundação de Apoio à Pesquisa (FUNAPE) Goiânia, Brazil \$63,040¹

Deep learning methods to personalize antibody therapeutics for delaying viral rebound after cessation of ART

Hillel Haim, MD, PhD University of Iowa Iowa City, IA \$149,995

The driving force of the clonally expanding HIV-1-infected cells - a single-cell approach

Ya-Chi Ho, MD, PhD Yale University New Haven, CT \$150,000

Integrating Transcriptomic and Proviral Integration Site Data-Sets to Define Mechanisms of 'CTL Resistance' in Reservoir

Brad Jones, PhD Weill Medical College of Cornell University New York, NY \$150,000

A hidden reservoir? An in-depth analysis of HIV integration across the entire human genome

Sharon Lewin, FRACP, PhD University of Melbourne Melbourne, Australia \$149,999

SYNERGY GRANT: GAINING INSIGHTS FROM THE CLINIC

Humoral Immune Response in HIV Rebound Jonathan Li, MD, MMSc The Brigham and Women's Hospital, Inc. Boston, MA \$50.000

MATHILDE KRIM FELLOWSHIPS IN BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH

Harnessing Universal MHC-E-Restricted T cell Receptors for HIV Cure

Shaheed Abdulhaqq, PhD Oregon Health and Science University Portland, OR \$150.000

HIV-1 fusion studied by parallel single molecule FRET and cryo-electron tomography Maolin Lu, PhD Yale University New Haven, CT \$150,000



2020 TREAT ASIA **GRANTS AND AWARDS**

All projects listed below were awarded funding for the period October 1, 2019, through September 30, 2020.

¹Supported by National Institutes of Health federal award number U01Al069907, with funds from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, the National Cancer Institute, the National Institute of Mental Health, the National Institute on Drug Abuse, the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, and the Fogarty International Center

²Supported by National Institutes of Health federal award number D43TW011302, funded by the Fogarty International Center and the National Institute of Mental Health

³Supported with funds provided by Life Ball.

AUSTRALIA

University of New South Wales

Sydney Matthew G. Law, PhD leDEA Asia-Pacific Research Collaboration: Data Management and Analysis Center \$552,520¹

AUSTRALIAN HIV OBSERVATIONAL DATABASE (AHOD) SITES

O'Brien Street Practice

Adelaide William Donohue, MBBS \$1.275

Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service Birtinva

David Sowden, MBBS \$7,5001

Sexual Health and HIV Service In Metro North Brisbane

Diane Rowling, MBBS, MTH, F(PHM), RACP, FACSHM \$7,5001

Cairns Sexual Health Service

Cairns North Darren Russell, MD \$7,500¹

RPA Sexual Health Clinic

Camperdown David Templeton, PhD \$7,4251

Melbourne Sexual Health Centre

Carlton

Richard Teague, MBBS (Monash Uni), FRACGP, FRAChSHM \$5,4751

Monash Health - Clayton

Clayton

lan Woolley, MBBS, FRACP \$7.5001

D.A. Ellis Pty., Ltd.

Coffs Harbour David Ellis, MBBS

Northern Territory of Australia Dept of Health through Top End Health Service

Manoji Gunathilake, MBBS, MD, FAChSHM \$2,100

Nepean Blue Mountains Local Health District, Blue Mountains Sexual Health and HIV Clinic Katoomba

Eva Jackson, MBBS, FAChSHM

Nepean Blue Mountains Local Health District, Nepean Sexual Health Clinic

Kingswood

Eva Jackson, MBBS, FAChSHM \$1,950

Sexual Health and AIDS Services (SHAIDS)

Lismore

David Smith, MBBS, DipVen, FAChSHM, GrapDip BA \$7,500¹

Victorian HIV Service, Infectious Diseases Department, The Alfred Hospital

Melbourne

Jennifer Hoy, MBBS

Northside Clinic (Vic) Pty Ltd

North Fitzrov

Richard Moore, MBBS \$7,5001

Prahran Market Clinic Pty Ltd

Norman Roth, MBBS, FAChSHM \$7.3501

East Sydney Doctors

Sydney David Baker, MB, ChB, Dip Med (Sexual Health), DCH \$7.500¹

Holdsworth House Medical Practice

Sydney Mark Bloch, MD

\$7.5001

St. Vincent's Hospital Sydney Limited

Sydney

Andrew Carr, MD \$7,5001

Sydney Sexual Health Centre, Sydney Hospital

Sydney

Rick Varma, MBBS, MRCP

\$6.3001

Taylor Square Private Clinic

Svdnev

Robert Finlayson, MBBS, (Syd) Di FAChSHM,

DipVen, MB BS

\$6.5251

Clinic 468, HNE Sexual Health, Hunter New England Local Health District

Tamworth NEMSC Nathan Ryder, MD \$1.650

Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District

Warrawong Katherine Brown, MD

CAMBODIA

\$1,725

National Center for HIV/AIDS, Dermatology & STDS / Cambodia National Institute of Public Health

Phnom Penh

Ly Penh Sun, MD, MSc

TAHOD Low Intensity Transfer (TAHOD-LITE) \$9,5001

TREAT Asia HIV Observational Database (TAHOD) \$20,8001

TREAT Asia Pediatric HIV Observational Database (TApHOD) Site \$25,0001

CHINA

Queen Elizabeth Hospital

Hong Kong Man Po Lee, MBBS TAHOD Low Intensity Transfer (TAHOD LITE) \$7,5001

TREAT Asia HIV Observational Database (TAHOD) including NCD Data \$22.8001

INDIA

The Voluntary Health Services

Chennai

Naglingeswaran Kumarasamv, MD, MBBS, PhD TAHOD Low Intensity Transfer (TAHOD-LITE) \$15,000 (funding awarded in 2020 for project years 14 & 15)

TREAT Asia HIV Observational Database (TAHOD) including NCD Data \$22,8001

TREAT Asia Pediatric HIV Observational Database (DOHaAT) \$7,500¹

BJ Medical College & Sassoon General Hospitals

Pune

Aarti Kinikar, MD, DCH, DNB, MRCP-Pediatrics UK TREAT Asia Pediatric HIV Observational Database (TApHOD) \$7.5001

Shashikala Sangle, MD leDEA Sentinel Research Network (SRN)—Asia-Pacific \$113,7651

TREAT Asia HIV Observational Database (TAHOD) including NCD Data \$21,0851

Institute of Infectious Diseases

Pune

Sanjay Pujari, MD, AAHIVS, MBBS TAHOD Low Intensity Transfer (TAHOD-LITE) \$9,500

TREAT Asia HIV Observational Database (TAHOD) including NCD Data \$22,3001

INDONESIA

Sanglah Hospital, Udayana University School of Medicine

Denpasar

Tuti Parwati Merati, MD TAHOD Low Intensity Transfer (TAHOD-LITE) \$8,0001

TREAT Asia HIV Observational Database (TAHOD) including NCD Data \$22.8001

Ketut Dewi Kumara Wati, MD TREAT Asia Pediatric HIV Observational Database (TApHOD) \$7.5001

Cipto Mangunkusumo General Hospital

Jakarta

Nia Kurniati, MD
TREAT Asia Pediatric HIV Observational
Database (TApHOD)
\$7,5001

Evy Yunihastuti, MD, PhD TREAT Asia HIV Observational Database (TAHOD) including NCD Data \$23,000¹

JAPAN

National Center for Global Health and Medicine

Tokyo

Junko Tanuma, MD, PhD TREAT Asia HIV Observational Database (TAHOD) \$16.6401

MALAYSIA

Penang Hospital

Georgetown Revathy Nallusamy, MBBS TREAT Asia Pediatric HIV Observational Database (TApHOD) \$5,3763 (funding awarded in 2020 for project years 14 & 15)

Hospital Raja Perempuan Zainab II

Kota Bharu

Nik Khairulddin Nik Yusoff, MD TREAT Asia Pediatric HIV Observational Database (TApHOD) \$7.5001

Hospital Likas

Kota Kinabalu Fong Siew Moy, MBBS TREAT Asia Pediatric HIV Observational Database (TApHOD) \$7,5001

Pediatric Institute, Hospital Kuala Lumpur

Kuala Lumpur

Thahira Mohamed, MBBS

TREAT Asia Pediatric HIV Observational Database (TApHOD) \$7,5001

University of Malaya

Kuala Lumpur Reena Rajasuriar, PhD Capacity development for HIV and mental health research in Asia (CHIMERA) \$6,048

University of Malaya Medical Center

Kuala Lumpur

Raja Iskandar Shah Raja Azwa, MBBS Substance use, Stigma, Depression and Disability among Adults with HIV in Asia (S2D2) \$2,5141

TREAT Asia HIV Observational Database (TAHOD) including NCD Data \$22,3001

Sungai Buloh Hospital

Sungai Buloh Yasmin Mohamed Gani, MD TREAT Asia HIV Observational Database (TAHOD) including NCD Data \$21,2601

PHILIPPINES

Asian Foundation for Tropical Medicine, Inc.

Muntinlupa City

Rossana Ditangco, MD

Substance use, Stigma, Depression and Disability among Adults with HIV in Asia (S2D2) \$6.500

Research Institute for Tropical Medicine

Muntinlupa City Rossana Ditangco, MD Adolescent and Young Adult network of IeDEA (AYANI) Study Site \$12,7181

TREAT Asia HIV Observational Database (TAHOD) including NCD Data \$22,3001

SINGAPORE

Tan Tock Seng Hospital

Singapore
Oon Tek Ng, MBBS, MRCP, MMed, MPH
TREAT Asia HIV Observational Database (TAHOD)
\$18,2001

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Seoul

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TREAT Asia HIV Observational Database (TAHOD) including NCD Data \$17.6401

TAIWAN

Taipei Veterans General Hospital

Taipei City Yu-Jiun Chan, MD TREAT Asia HIV Observational Database (TAHOD) including NCD Data \$24,8001

THAILAND

Chulalongkorn University

Bangkok

Suvaporn Anugulruengkitt, MD Study on Pregnancy and Birth Outcomes among Youth living with HIV in Asia \$1,5001

Thanyawee Puthanakit, MD Adolescent and Young Adult network of IeDEA (AYANI) Study Site \$17,1461

TREAT Asia Pediatric HIV Observational Database (TApHOD) \$15,0001

HIV-NAT / Thai Red Cross AIDS Research Centre

Bangkok

Anchalee Avihingsanon, MD, PhD Substance use, Stigma, Depression and Disability among Adults with HIV in Asia (S2D2) \$2,5141

TAHOD Low Intensity Transfer (TAHOD-LITE) \$8,0001

TREAT Asia HIV Observational Database (TAHOD) including NCD Data \$24,3001

Institute of HIV Research and Innovation (IHRI)

Bangkok

Nittaya Phanuphak-Pungpapong, MD, PhD Amphetamine-type stimulant use, HIV incidence, and ART adherence among Thai MSM and transgender women \$76,9021

Anal HPV and risk for anal high-grade squamous intraepithelial lesion among Thai MSM with acute HIV infection \$78,2681

Mahidol University by Faculty of Medicine Siriraj Hospital

Bangkok

Kulkanya Chokephaibulkit, MD TREAT Asia Pediatric HIV Observational Database (TApHOD) \$7,5001

Ramathibodi Hospital, Mahidol University

Bangkok

Sasisopin Kiertiburanakul, MD, MHS TAHOD Low Intensity Transfer (TAHOD-LITE) \$10,0001



TREAT Asia HIV Observational Database (TAHOD) including NCD Data \$22,8001

Chiang Mai University - Research Institute for Health Sciences

Chiang Mai Romanee Chaiwarith, MD, MHS TREAT Asia HIV Observational Database (TAHOD) including NCD Data \$23,8001

Tavitiya Sudjaritruk, MD, ScM Adolescent and Young Adult network of leDEA (AYANI) Study Site \$17,1821

Study on Pregnancy and Birth Outcomes among Youth living with HIV in Asia

TREAT Asia Pediatric HIV Observational Database (TApHOD) \$15,0001

Chiangrai Prachanukroh Hospital

Chiang Rai Suwimon Khusuwan, MD TAHOD Low Intensity Transfer (TAHOD-LITE) \$9,5001

TREAT Asia HIV Observational Database (TAHOD) including NCD Data \$23,3001

Pradthana Ounchanum, MD Study on Pregnancy and Birth Outcomes among Youth living with HIV in Asia \$5,4921

TREAT Asia Pediatric HIV Observational Database (TApHOD) \$7,5001

Srinagarind Hospital, Khon Kaen University

Khon Kaen

Pagakrong Lumbiganon, MD Study on Pregnancy and Birth Outcomes among Youth living with HIV in Asia \$1,3941 TREAT Asia Pediatric HIV Observational Database (TApHOD) \$7,5001

Purple Haze Company Limited

Bangkok
Tarandeep Anand
The impact of online interventions on the HIV
prevention (treatment cascade among MSM a

prevention/treatment cascade among MSM and TG Individuals \$30,0001

Little Birds Foundation

Bangkok Usanee Janngeon Quality of life development for adolescents and youth living with HIV \$10,000³

USA

Johns Hopkins University

Baltimore, MD

Vidya Mave, MD, MPH & Amita Gupta, MD, MHA A study to evaluate the markers of lung impairment in HIV-TB coinfected Indian adults \$20,7911

Epidemiology of HIV/AIDS and associated comorbidities in a public antiretroviral treatment (ART) clinic in Pune, India \$411,571¹ (funding awarded in 2020 for project years 14 & 15)

leDEA Sentinel Research Network (SRN) — Asia-Pacific \$23,5711

New Hope for Cambodian Children

Killeen, TX John Tucker

HIV Education: New Hope for Cambodian Children \$20,0243

Columbia University

New York, NY Milton Wainberg, MD Capacity development for HIV and mental health research in Asia (CHIMERA) \$46,250²

VIETNAM

Bach Mai Hospital

Hanoi

Do Duy Cuong, MD, PhD TAHOD Low Intensity Transfer (TAHOD-LITE) \$8.0001

TREAT Asia HIV Observational Database (TAHOD) including NCD Data \$22,3001

National Hospital of Pediatrics

Hanoi

Nguyen Van Lam, MD, MSc Study on Pregnancy and Birth Outcomes among Youth living with HIV in Asia \$1,2301

TREAT Asia Pediatric HIV Observational Database (TApHOD) \$20,0001

National Hospital of Tropical Diseases

Hanc

Pham Ngoc Thach, MD, PhD TAHOD Low Intensity Transfer (TAHOD-LITE) \$8,0001

TREAT Asia HIV Observational Database (TAHOD) including NCD Data \$22,3001

Children's Hospital 1

Ho Chi Minh City

Truong Huu Khanh, MD

TREAT Asia Pediatric HIV Observational Database (TApHOD) \$20,0001

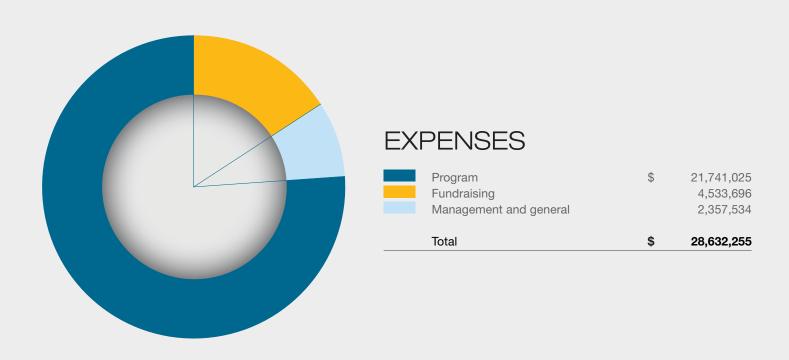
Children's Hospital 2

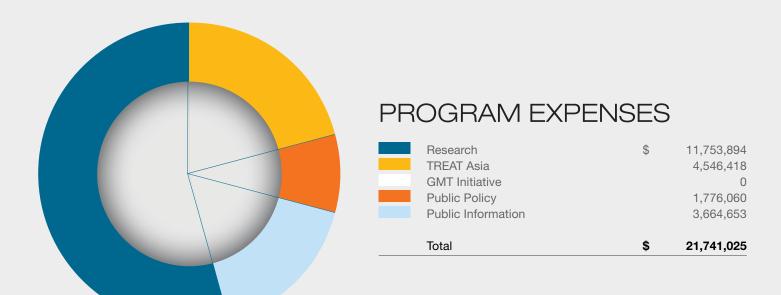
Ho Chi Minh City Do Chau Viet, MD

Study on Pregnancy and Birth Outcomes among Youth living with HIV in Asia \$1,4421

TREAT Asia Pediatric HIV Observational Database (TApHOD) \$20,0001

FINANCIALS





FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

For the year ended September 30, 2020

Net assets, end of year	\$	41,645,894
Net assets, beginning of year		49,484,561
Change in net assets		(7,838,667)
Total expenses	\$	28,632,255
Total supporting services	\$	6,891,230
Management and general		2,357,534
Fundraising		4,533,696
Total program services	\$	21,741,025
Public Information		3,664,653
Public Policy		1,776,060
GMT Initiative		0
TREAT Asia	·	4,546,418
Research	\$	11,753,894
Expenses		
Total public support and revenue	\$	20,793,588
Investment income and other revenue		2,608,564
Government funding		6,657,827
Planned giving		3,066,238
Special events		5,760,796
Public support	\$	2,700,163
Public Support and Revenue		

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 54,739,518
Total net assets	\$ 41,645,894
Total liabilities	\$ 13,093,624
Other long-term liabilities	1,769,736
Deferred support and refundable advances	6,138,184
Grants and fellowships payable, net	1,052,816
CARES Act Paycheck Protection Program loan	1,643,364
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 2,489,524
Liabilities	
Total Assets	\$ 54,739,518
Furniture, equipment, and leasehold improvements, net	2,925,831
Prepaid expenses and other assets	2,859,940
Pledges and receivables, net	4,479,604
Cash and investments	\$ 44,474,143
Assets	

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National Institutes of Health

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Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

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National AIDS Center, Division of Pathogenesis of

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Istituto Superiore di Sanità

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Harvard School of Public Health Director, Cancer Center Biostatistics

Massachusetts General Hospital

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Department of Medicine, Division of Infectious

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Michael Lederman, M.D.

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Tun-Hou Lee, D.Sc.

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Department of Immunology and Infectious
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Michael J. Leibowitz, M.D., Ph.D.

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