The Rheumatology Research Foundation is a charitable 501(c)3 organization dedicated to advancing research and training to improve the health of people with rheumatic disease.

As we approach the 35th Anniversary of the Rheumatology Research Foundation, we celebrate the expansion of our funding programs and push forward toward the successful completion of our largest fundraising initiative to date. This momentum continues to accelerate the course of rheumatology research and training to improve the health of people with rheumatic disease.

The Foundation is dedicated to fiscal responsibility and transparency. None of this would be possible without the support of the rheumatologists, health professionals, patients, families, and corporate institutions who donated to the Foundation this year. This continued support is vital to our mission.

The 2019 Annual Report is based on activities during Fiscal Year 2019 (July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019)
01. AWARDS 3
02. PROJECT OUTCOMES 10
03. CAREER OUTCOMES 12
04. SUPPORTERS 14
05. FINANCIALS 17
COMMITTED TO FUND $9,481,750
163 AWARDS GRANTED

- Career Development and Innovative Research Awards: 26
- Fellowship Training Awards: 24
- Clinician Scholar Educator Awards: 3
- Pediatric Visiting Professorships: 4
- Annual Meeting Awards: 42
- Preceptorships: 64
Awardees are using their funding to investigate the following diseases:

+ Arthritis
+ Fundamental mechanisms of disease
+ Gout
+ Juvenile idiopathic arthritis
+ Osteoarthritis
+ Psoriatic arthritis
+ Rheumatoid arthritis
+ Sjögren’s
+ Spondyloarthritis
+ Systemic lupus erythematosus
+ Systemic sclerosis
Studies could reduce the impact rheumatic diseases have on the:

+ Brain  + Spine  + Knees
+ Eyes  + Lungs  + Skin
+ Mouth  + Heart  + Joints
+ Shoulders  + Hips  + Cardiovascular system

Research investigates factors that might cause or worsen rheumatic diseases, including:

+ Cell characteristics  + Genetics  + Obesity
+ Chemical exposure  + Gut microbiota  + Prior injuries
+ Diet  + Immune dysfunction  + Smoking
+ Epigenetics  + Joint features
61 institutions in 28 states received awards from the foundation.
42 Annual Meeting Awards and Scholarships exposed medical and graduate students and residents to rheumatology, encouraging them to choose rheumatology as their specialty.

Annual Meeting Scholarships provide funding to attend the ACR/ARP Annual Scientific Meeting to students and residents in states underserved by rheumatology.

+ Delaware
+ Iowa
+ Kansas
+ Kentucky
+ Louisiana
+ Maine
+ Mississippi
+ Nevada
+ New Hampshire
+ Oregon
+ Rhode Island
+ South Carolina
Recipients shared the following research outcomes as a result of Foundation funding:

Based on 25 final reports

**02. PROJECT OUTCOMES**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>10</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>3</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Defined new pathways</td>
<td>New animal models</td>
<td>Novel gene signatures</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New drug targets</td>
<td>Improved diagnostic tests</td>
<td>Novel educational products developed</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>New cell lines developed</td>
<td>New epidemiologic findings</td>
<td>New collaborative networks</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New patient databanks</td>
<td>New insights into clinical associations</td>
<td></td>
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</table>
There are 54 peer reviewed publications either published or in-process to be published regarding Foundation funded projects.
Recipients have presented their foundation funded work 96 times.

84% of recipients have gone on to receive additional funding for their projects, while many others are in the process of applying for additional funding.

48% of recipients received a promotion during their award period.

This includes institutional awards, NIH awards, DoD awards and awards from other private foundations.
The generosity of our supporters is integral to our mission. Without the invaluable contributions of the rheumatology community, family members and friends, and the Corporate Roundtable, we could not spearhead the effort to end rheumatic disease.

Thank you to the donors whose support was vital to Foundation programming:

36 Organizations

311 Patients, family members and friends

609 Rheumatology community
Thank you to the members of the Corporate Roundtable:

LEADERSHIP

abbvie  AMGEN

PINNACLE

AMERICAN COLLEGE
of Rheumatology
Empowering Rheumatology Professionals

PRINCIPAL

Boehringer Ingelheim  Genentech  A Member of the Roche Group  Gilead  gsk  GlaxoSmithKline

Lilly  Novartis Pharmaceuticals  Pfizer  ucb

PARTNER

Janssen  Mallinckrodt Pharmaceuticals  Regeneron  sanofi GENZYME

EXECUTIVE

Bristol-Myers Squibb
MARY WHEATLEY, IOM, CAE
Executive Director

ADMINISTRATION AND GOVERNANCE

HEATHER FORD
Specialist

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DAMIAN SMALLS
Director

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Coordinator

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SHELLEY MALCOLM
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BONNY SENKBEIL, MS
Director

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Specialist

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AMY B. MILLER
Director

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KAY BUTTS-PRUETT
Development Officer, Eastern Region

PAULA ISLEY, CFRE
Development Officer, Western Region

BEN WALKUSKI
Director, Annual Giving

ANDREA SHARPER
Senior Specialist

RUBEN CORDOBA
Coordinator

LAURA JOHNSTON
Coordinator

FINANCE

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University of Minnesota

VIKAS MAJITHIA, MD
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University of Mississippi Medical Center

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Orthopedics and Rheumatology of the N. Shore

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Member-at-Large
Arthritis & Rheumatology Consultants, P.A.

BETH JONAS, MD
ACR Training Representative
University of North Carolina Chapel Hill

ANNE-MARIE MALFAIT, MD, PHD
ACR Research Representative
Rush University Medical Center

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Member-at-Large

STEVE RUSSELL, MBA
Member-at-Large

JEFF STARK, MD
Representative of the Corporate Roundtable
UCB

DANIEL WHITE, PT, SCD, MSC
Representative of the Association of Rheumatology Professionals
University of Delaware

ELLEN GRAVALLESE, MD
President, American College of Rheumatology
Brigham & Women’s Hospital

DAVID KARP, MD, PHD
President-Elect, American College of Rheumatology
UT Southwestern Medical Center

JANET POOLE, PHD, OTR/L, FAOTA
President, Association of Rheumatology Professionals
University of New Mexico

MARY WHEATLEY, IOM, CAE
Executive Director

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

04. SUPPORTERS
Rheumatology research and training is at the forefront of everything we do. Our high level of fiscal responsibility ranks us among the top charities in the nation and allows us to focus on what is the most important: the health of people living with rheumatic disease.