This report represents Lymphatic Education & Research Network, Inc.’s responses to Charting Impact, a joint project of BBB Wise Giving Alliance, GuideStar USA Inc, and Independent Sector. Charting Impact uses five simple yet powerful questions to encourage strategic thinking and help organizations share concise information about their plans and progress toward impact.

**Mission:**
The Lymphatic Education & Research Network (LE&RN) is an internationally recognized non-profit organization founded in 1998 to fight lymphatic diseases and lymphedema through education, research and advocacy. With chapters throughout the world, LE&RN seeks to accelerate the prevention, treatment and cure of these diseases while bringing patients and medical professionals together to address the unmet needs surrounding lymphatic diseases, which include lymphedema and lipedema.
1. What are we aiming to accomplish?

Research goals: to foster research leading to treatments and cures of lymphatic disease and lymphedema. Education goals: to create a critical mass of people who know and understand lymphedema and lymphatic disease, its causes, treatments and symptoms. Advocacy goals: to support national policies that provide comprehensive insurance coverage for treatments of lymphatic disease and lymphedema.

2. What are our strategies for making this happen?

Research: we fund two-year research fellowships to inspire cutting edge research by a new generation of scientists; we fund travel awards so young investigators can attend conferences in lymphatics; we have established the world's first chair in lymphatic medicine and biology at Stanford University; we publish the journal "Lymphatic Research & Biology"; we have established the National Patient Registry & Tissue Bank so that researchers have access to information and samples that will lead to advancements in the field. Education: we sponsor International live-stream symposiums featuring the world's leading authorities in the field; we have created a robust website and social media presence that highlights current research, trends, latest news; we provide an opportunity for patients to directly access the world's leading authorities through a web portal that allows them to "Ask the Experts" their questions. Advocacy: we work closely with other organizations and legislators in support of insurance coverage for treatments of lymphatic disease and lymphedema; we work closely with NIH to ensure that lymphatic disease and lymphedema are a top research priority.

3. What are our organization's capabilities for doing this?

LE&RN currently funds research fellowships and has established the LE&RN National Patient Registry & Tissue Bank as a resource to researchers. LE&RN collaborates with Stanford University, having helped establish its University Chair in Lymphatic Research & Medicine. LE&RN's Patient Registry & Tissue Bank is housed at the Feinstein Institute, part of the North Shore LIJ Hospital System in NY. Scientific/Medical Advisory Council of the world's leading lymphatic & lymphedema authorities oversees these programs. Programs are funded through a variety of mechanisms to include bequests, State funding and both corporate and private funding. LE&RN also sponsors an annual National Walk for Lymphedema and Lymphatic Diseases, which raises funds and awareness.

4. How will we know if we're making progress?

Progress is determined by LE&RN's success in the following endeavors: bringing new researchers into the fight against lymphatic disease and lymphedema, funding research, collecting data useful to researchers, creating awareness that makes these diseases a national priority, increasing patient support, and by seeing an increase in the number of certified lymphedema therapists.

5. What have and haven't we accomplished so far?

LE&RN programs and accomplishments include: research fellowships, a patient registry and tissue bank, scholarships for lymphedema therapists, the field's only peer-reviewed journal (Lymphatic Research & Biology), NIH collaboration, free bi-monthly live-stream symposiums, direct access to researchers and medical practitioners ("Ask the Experts"), and a semi-monthly news publication, “Lymphedema & Lymphatic Disease Matters." In addition, LE&RN helped to establish the only Chair in Lymphatic Research & Medicine (Stanford University).