As we look back on 2021, we are inspired by and grateful for our community of supporters. Our relentless pursuit to find a cure continues, and your support has been vital.

Despite challenges from the COVID-19 pandemic, the Leukemia Research Foundation made unprecedented progress on our mission this past year, achieving several organization milestones. Thanks to our supporters, we:

» Funded the largest number of research grants in our history
» Expanded our patient support services to every state and several different countries
» Earned the highest rating from Charity Navigator, the world's largest and most respected nonprofit evaluator

This annual report outlines the above accomplishments and more. As we continue forging ahead with many exciting initiatives under development, we want to pause and give thanks for all that you do. We can't do this important work without you, and we are beyond grateful to have your support.

We hope you'll review this report to learn more about all the incredible things you're helping make possible.

Thank you!

Blake Brandwein  Kevin Radelet
Board President  Executive Director
$2.6M raised from our community of supporters

23% of revenue raised by our volunteer chapter groups

$1.4M in research grants awarded to 14 blood cancer researchers around the world for the 2021-2022 funding cycle (largest number of research grants we’ve ever funded in a one-year period)

$151K disbursed in need-based financial assistance to patients

800 registrants for patient education programs (double the registrants from 2020)

Notable progress in service to our mission was uninterrupted and enhanced during the worldwide COVID pandemic

Dramatic improvements to our website, social media channels, and other communications platforms

Earned Charity Navigator’s highest rating reserved for the most exceptional nonprofits that exhibit superior financial health, transparency, and accountability.
Funded researchers

In 2021, we awarded $100K grants to 14 researchers around the world. Their projects, all focused on a blood cancer, represent a diverse set of topic areas, including:

» Developing new targeted therapies
» Improving outcomes of stem cell and immunotherapies
» Preventing relapse after treatment
» Uncovering the mechanisms, genetics, and epigenetics that drive cancer cell growth
» Overcoming racial disparities in treatments to improve survival outcomes

Disease focus

- **63%** Acute leukemias
- **13%** Chronic leukemias
- **13%** Multiple myeloma
- **6%** Lymphomas
- **6%** Myelodysplastic syndromes

**Acute leukemias** (especially in adults) have a significantly lower survival rate than all other blood cancers. More research into these diseases is necessary to improve survival rates.

Emanuele Azzoni, PhD  
University of Milan-Bicocca

George Burslem, PhD  
University of Pennsylvania

Matt Christopher, MD, PhD  
Washington University

Leslie Crews, PhD  
University of California, San Diego

Ernesto Diaz-Flores, PhD  
University of California, San Francisco

Cihangir Duy, MS, PhD  
The Research Institute of Fox Chase Cancer Center

Ann-Kathrin Eisfeld, MD  
The Ohio State University

Pietro Genovese, PhD  
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

Md Kamrul Hasan, PhD  
University of California, San Diego

Sangmoo Jeong, PhD  
Johns Hopkins University

Huacheng Luo, PhD  
Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine

Mithun Shah, MD, PhD  
Mayo Clinic

Alexander Valvezan, PhD  
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

Zhiqian Wang, PhD  
Mayo Clinic

Learn more about researchers.
Research breakthroughs

In the last 75 years, we have funded more than 600 researchers worldwide. Below are a few of the breakthroughs these researchers made in 2021. View our Research Impact Report for more.

**Avocados may offer a better leukemia treatment**
Paul Spagnuolo, PhD, from the University of Guelph, identifies a compound in avocados that inhibits an enzyme responsible for cancer cell growth. Read more.

**Clinical trial shows promise for new lymphoma therapy**
Jaeychuck Choi, MD, PhD, from Northwestern University, has identified a new targeted therapy for cutaneous T-cell lymphoma that is showing promising results in clinical trials. Read more.

**A new potential targeted therapy for acute leukemia**
Daniel Herranz Benito, PhD, from Rutgers Cancer Institute, has identified a new targeted therapy for T-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia that interrupts cancer growth in a lab setting. Read more.

**Researcher confirms nutrient’s role in childhood leukemia**
Iannis Aifantis, PhD, from NYU Langone Health, has confirmed diets low in valine slow progression of T-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia cancer cells. Read more.

“The Leukemia Research Foundation grant was not just a, but THE most critical support factor that allowed our lab to identify a new enzyme to target for therapy in acute myeloid leukemia patients. With the grant, we were able to do all necessary experiments in a timely fashion, which wouldn't have been the case without funding.”

- M. Andrés Blanco, PhD, University of Pennsylvania
Patient + Family Support

Education
In 2021, we shifted our two annual conferences, New + Emerging Treatments and Town Hall Meeting, to virtual and added new webinars on various blood cancer-related topics. As a result, we reached a record number of participants and expanded our geographic footprint.

83% of attendees rated the program content as very good or excellent

Support services

Peer support
We added a new, free, one-on-one peer support program, and grew membership of our complimentary online support community.

4K members of our online support community (+12% from 2020)

Financial assistance
Need-based grants of up to $1.5K were disbursed to 100 patients to help cover medical and other treatment-related expenses.

100% of recipients felt the grant was extremely helpful to them and their family

“\[I was diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia just before my 34th birthday. The last eight months have been the most difficult of my life. With high insurance costs on top of everyday expenses, the medical bills depleted my savings very quickly. I am so thankful that the Leukemia Research Foundation is there for me and other warriors fighting — this is a hard enough battle without the stress of money.\]

-Scott, acute myeloid leukemia patient
Financials

Our Foundation is driven by efficiency, results, and long-term stability, as exhibited by our financials below. Our FY2021 net assets are $3,074,307.

Revenue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individuals</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>$2,000,675</td>
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<tr>
<td>Corporations / foundations</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>$757,448</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>$154,099</td>
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</table>

Total revenue in FY2021: $2,562,072

Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Management</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>$225,709</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>$245,812</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research + patient support programs</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>$2,000,675</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total expenses in FY2021: $2,472,196

Board of Directors

- **Blake Brandwein**
  - President
  - Pharmacy specialist, U.S. Hospital Products

- **Gerald Brin, CPA**
  - Treasurer
  - Weltman Bernfield, LLC (retired)

- **Patty Mix**
  - Secretary
  - Vice president, Joey’s Angels Chapter

- **Harvey Brin**
  - President, Harkin Cable Company

- **Marcia Brin**
  - President, Davidson-Brin Chapter

- **John Burke**
  - Private wealth management, Goldman Sachs

- **Rong Chen**
  - Quantitative services director, Bank of America Merrill Lynch

- **Robert S. Grabemann**
  - Partner, Daspin & Aument, LLP

- **Todd Holmes**
  - President, Liquidus Media

- **Frank Martinez**
  - Director of multi-family investments, Keller Williams

- **Larry Mix**
  - Vice president, F.H. Paschen

- **Gregg Rossier**
  - President, GWR Global Partners

- **Randi Schlossberg Schullo**
  - President, Alden Management

- **Steve Wilensky**
  - Attorney at law

- **Kevin Radelet**
  - Ex-officio