

ANNUAL  
REPORT

2023



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amfAR, The Foundation  
for AIDS Research

**amfAR**



*“amfAR has played an incredible role in driving the HIV research agenda forward, particularly in HIV cure.”*

– amfAR grantee Prof. Sharon Lewin, MD, PhD

amfAR grantee Ya-Chi Ho, MD, PhD (right)



# OUR MISSION

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

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# From the Co-Chairs

Dear Friend of amfAR,

It is with great pride that we share with you this summary of amfAR's activities and considerable achievements of 2023.

Our continued progress toward curing HIV and ending the global HIV epidemic is owed to the collective efforts and extraordinary dedication of our researchers, advocates, staff, Board of Trustees, partner organizations, and, of course, the generous donors around the world who make our work possible. We are profoundly grateful to you for your confidence and your investment in amfAR.



Ours is a global effort aimed at controlling a global epidemic that claimed 630,000 lives in 2023. We awarded grants to research teams in the U.S., Europe, and Australia. We supported research, education, training, advocacy, and community initiatives across Asia and the Pacific through our TREAT Asia program. And our Public Policy Office worked diligently to bolster support for evidence-based HIV programs in the U.S. and around the world.

The painstaking review that governs our research grant program has always ensured that amfAR's precious funds are disbursed only to the most talented scientists with the most promising ideas. This high standard was underscored in 2023 with the award of a Nobel Prize to veteran HIV researcher and amfAR grantee Dr. Drew Weissman and collaborator Dr. Katalin Karikó for their work on mRNA, which proved instrumental in the development of COVID vaccines.

Together, with your help, we are forging ahead. As we write this, seven people have been cured of HIV. And in 2023, fewer people acquired HIV than at any point since the mid-1990s. But with 40 million people living with the virus and in need of a cure, much work lies ahead. We hope you'll stay the course with us—the finish line draws closer every day.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'T. Ryan Greenawalt'.

**T. Ryan Greenawalt**  
Co-Chair of the Board of Trustees

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Kevin McClatchy'.

**Kevin McClatchy**  
Co-Chair of the Board of Trustees



*“In September, for the first time ever, three individuals cured of HIV stood together in the same room [center, Marc Franke, Adam Castillejo, and Paul Edmonds]. Seeing them united shoulder-to-shoulder and hearing their stories of achieving cure was inspiring. We need a cure because the impact on someone who had previously lived with HIV, yet is now HIV-free, is simply life-altering. We can achieve this for everyone living with HIV.*

***The time to cure HIV is now.”***

– amfAR grantee Dr. Jonah Sacha, pictured above with Dr. Lishomwa Ndhlovu, chair of amfAR’s Scientific Advisory Committee (far left)

# Research ▶

HIV is as wily as it is deadly. Its subversion of the human immune system, its rapid rate of mutation, its ability to lie dormant in long-lasting reservoirs, and its complex array of defenses, make it one of the most challenging viral foes of our time. While the development of powerful drugs that can keep HIV at bay is a remarkable success story, a cure continues to elude even the best scientific minds. With roughly 10 million people still lacking access to these lifesaving drugs, amfAR's unrelenting pursuit of a cure remains as urgent and as vitally important as ever.



amfAR grantee and 2023 Nobel Prize winner Dr. Drew Weissman



Biomedical research benefits from collaboration and cross-pollination. This is readily apparent in the work of veteran HIV researcher and amfAR grantee **Dr. Drew Weissman** of the University of Pennsylvania, who has long been investigating messenger RNA (mRNA) as an anti-HIV therapeutic agent. When COVID-19 hit, his work led him in another research direction—developing a vaccine for SARS-CoV-2.

Along with collaborator Dr. Katalin Karikó, Dr. Weissman developed a workaround to the long-known limitations of mRNA—it’s fragile and, when delivered to cells, it induces a dangerous and potentially lethal immune response—by wrapping the mRNA in specialized lipid shells, known as

nanoparticles or “fat bubbles.” Doing so protects mRNA from being rapidly dissolved in tissue and facilitates its entry into immune cells, a strategy that proved instrumental in the development of effective vaccines for COVID-19. For this groundbreaking work, the researchers were awarded the **2023 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine**.

Currently, as a principal investigator on a multi-year amfAR-funded research project aimed at developing and testing a complex gene therapy approach to curing HIV (see Combination Strategy below), Dr. Weissman is using mRNA technology to target the HIV reservoir, the main barrier to a cure.

**In 2023, amfAR SUPPORTED  
31 RESEARCH TEAMS  
INVOLVING 120 SCIENTISTS**



# ADVANCING HIV CURE STRATEGIES

Throughout 2023, amfAR supported 31 research teams involving 120 scientists pursuing a range of approaches to curing HIV.

## amfAR Cure Trial Shows Proof of Concept

At the 30<sup>th</sup> annual Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections (CROI), researchers at the [amfAR Institute for HIV Cure Research](#) at the University of California, San Francisco, (UCSF) shared the news that their combination immunotherapy approach to curing HIV shows promise. The ongoing trial, which has enrolled 10 participants (nine cisgender men, one transgender woman) whose HIV was well controlled by antiretroviral therapy (ART), is testing a combination of agents in an effort to induce post-treatment control in people living with HIV. Post-treatment control would allow people living with HIV to safely discontinue ART and thus avoid its associated costs, toxicities, and side effects.

The majority of participants in the Phase 1/2 single-arm study, which received additional support from Gilead Sciences, showed evidence of virologic control after ART was stopped. While almost all showed signs that the virus persisted, seven of the 10 did not rebound in the usual way, where a rapid burst of uncontrolled viral growth would be expected.

This study established proof of concept that combination immunotherapy may induce post-treatment control by altering facets of the virus or the immune response to it as part of a cure intervention.

## Investigating Allogeneic Immunity

Stem cell transplantation using donor cells, typically with a CCR5 delta32 mutation, is currently the only approach proven to eradicate the HIV reservoir and thereby effect a cure in people living with HIV. But the mutation is rare and this high-risk procedure is not scalable. As researchers study the individual mechanisms by which the transplant cure method works, one open issue is the extent to which CCR5-deficient donor stem cells are required to drive a transplant-related HIV cure, as

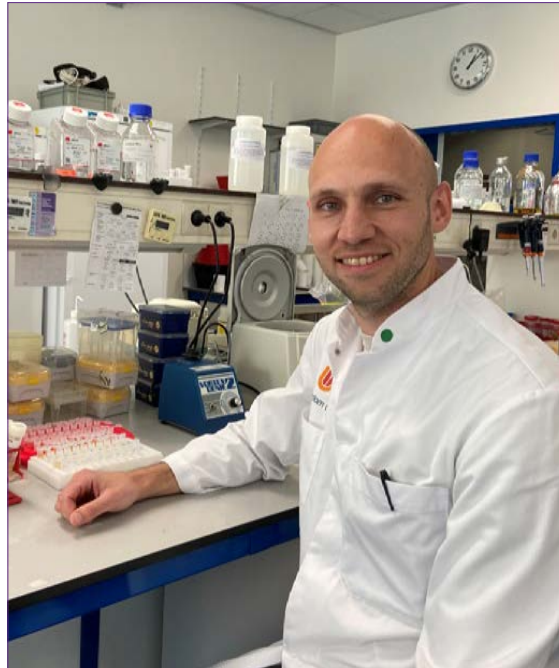
opposed to so-called “allogeneic immunity” driven by the donor T cells regardless of their CCR5 status.

In a study led by amfAR grantee [Dr. Jonah Sacha](#) of Oregon Health & Science University, four monkeys were infected with SIV, the simian equivalent of HIV, treated with ART until viral suppression, and then underwent a stem cell transplant. Some 2–2.5 years later, ART was stopped and levels of active and latent virus in blood and tissues were examined. All four animals had a 1,000-fold reduction of the viral reservoir in blood, lymph nodes, and intestines. The one animal that achieved a complete reconstitution with donor cells has no detectable virus and appears to have been cured.

The researchers suggest that allogeneic immunity can indeed eliminate HIV reservoirs and that harnessing such immunity outside of transplantation may develop new approaches to curing HIV that could be more broadly effective.

## Combining CAR T Cell Strategies to Achieve an HIV Cure

CAR T cells are T cells that have been genetically reprogrammed to recognize and attack disease cells.



Mathilde Krim Fellow Dr. Steven de Taeye



While CAR T cell therapy has become a critical part of the arsenal against many blood-associated cancers, efforts to apply it to control or eradicate HIV have been disappointing. However, genetic engineering advances in CAR design have renewed interest in this strategy as part of an HIV cure.

A key obstacle to effective anti-HIV CAR therapy is the limited persistence of such engineered cells in patients. Unlike the situation in blood cancers, in which a high tumor burden can activate and ensure persistence of CAR T cells, people living with HIV have low levels of HIV on their infected cell surfaces, and HIV reservoir cells have none.

amfAR grantee **Dr. Martin Tolstrup** and colleagues from Aarhus University, Denmark, reviewed methods used in their and other labs to enhance the expansion and persistence of anti-HIV CAR T cells. These processes include genetic modification of CAR and the use of different starting materials—e.g., naïve and stem cell memory T cells, rather than the unselected bulk populations of T cells typical of CAR cancer treatments.

Other promising adjuncts to CAR treatments include “lymphodepletion,” using standard anti-cancer medications; inducing latently infected cells to produce virus through the use of latency reversing agents; and HIV vaccination protocols. The authors, who published their findings in

*Frontiers in Immunology*, conclude that anti-HIV CAR T cell trials will likely need to combine approaches to be successful.

## SUPPORTING CUTTING-EDGE RESEARCH

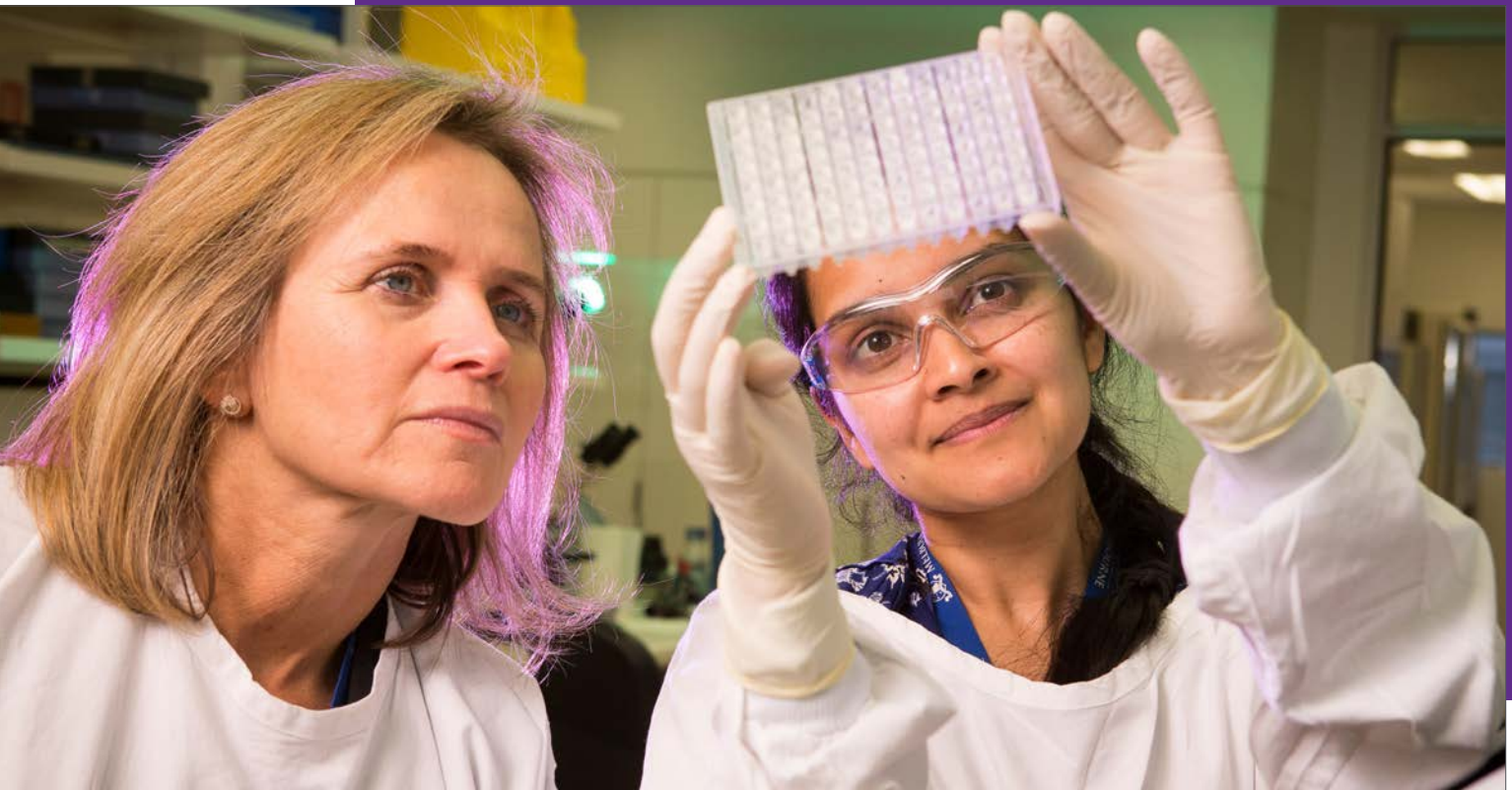
amfAR awards three types of grants: Target grants support research into HIV cure interventions aimed at eliminating infected cells or provirus; ARCHE (amfAR Research Consortium on HIV Eradication) grants support collaborative research initiatives aimed at curing HIV; and Mathilde Krim Fellowships in Basic Biomedical Research enable exceptional junior investigators to transition to careers as independent HIV researchers.

### ARCHE Grants

#### COMBINATION STRATEGY

A leading gene therapy researcher and a past president of the European Society of Gene and Cell Therapy, **Hildegard Büning, PhD**, of Hannover Medical School in Germany, is co-principal investigator of an amfAR-funded consortium of gene therapy scientists working to develop a complex, three-pronged attack on the HIV reservoir. Recent Nobel Prize winner Dr. Drew

amfAR grantee Prof. Sharon Lewin (left), with researcher Surekha Tennakoon. Photo: The Doherty Institute



Weissman is also a principal investigator on the study.

The strategy involves antibodies capable of neutralizing a broad range of HIV subtypes (bNAbs), CAR stem cells, and molecular scissors targeting the virus. With a grant of \$1.3 million, Dr. Büning and her collaborators are testing the strategy in an animal study and will determine the efficacy of each intervention, alone and in combination.

## Target Grants

### GENE THERAPY

**Sharon Lewin, MD, PhD**, of the University of Melbourne, was awarded \$480,000 for a study using mRNA encased in a lipid nanoparticle delivery system. This mRNA vehicle will transport a gene-editing tool to HIV-infected reservoir cells in order to reactivate them, making them a target for eradication. No intervention has so far proven powerful enough to force HIV-infected cells to start replicating in a way that makes them vulnerable to cell death. Dr. Lewin is using a form of the CRISPR-Cas gene-editing system modified to bind to the viral DNA and directly force the virus to start replicating.

**Hans-Peter Kiem, MD, PhD**, of the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center, in Seattle, Washington, was awarded \$480,000 to develop a “portable gene therapy treatment” within a patient’s body as part of an HIV cure intervention that does not rely on a stem cell transplant. Dr. Kiem is testing engineered virus-like particles that can deliver gene-editing enzymes directly to the blood, liver, brain, etc., in an animal model in an attempt to disrupt the CCR5 receptor in blood-forming stem cells and make them resistant to HIV infection.

### CART CELLS

Though successful in some cancer treatments, genetically engineered CART cells have not been effective against HIV for several reasons: CART cells are themselves vulnerable to HIV infection, and, even when they remain uninfected, they cannot achieve broad enough coverage or persist long enough to be effective. **Martin Tolstrup, PhD**, of Aarhus University in Denmark, is using his grant of \$477,000 to attempt to overcome these obstacles using CRISPR gene-editing technology and other strategies.

With a grant of \$120,000, **Dr. Daniel Claiborne** of The Wistar Institute in Philadelphia is also attempting to optimize a CART cell approach for use against HIV by first engineering a panel of CARs targeting non-traditional portions of the HIV envelope and then testing them in a mouse model.

**Dr. Anna Hearps** of the Burnet Institute in Melbourne, Australia, was awarded \$106,088 to develop a means of killing HIV-infected macrophage cells. Macrophages are long-lived cells that are highly resistant to killing by the immune system even when infected. Dr. Hearps plans to discover which anti-HIV antibodies best recognize HIV-infected macrophages. She will also identify the most lethal subset of natural killer (NK) cells, which will be recruited by the antibodies to kill the macrophages and will form part of an immunotherapy to cure HIV.

*“A cure would not only save lives and reduce health complications, but also help eliminate the stigma surrounding HIV.”*

– amfAR Mathilde Krim Fellow,  
Leila Giron, PhD

**Dr. Luis Montaner** of the Wistar Institute was awarded \$372,662 to build on recent advances in cancer research to generate genetically modified NK cells that are optimally designed to kill HIV-infected cells. He is engineering the NK cells to bind to antibodies that effectively seek out HIV-infected cells and modifying the antibodies to become more effective at inducing death of infected cells.

**Dr. Pamela Skinner** of the University of Minnesota is also enlisting engineered NK cells to target the HIV reservoir. While cytotoxic T cells and NK cells are some of the most effective killers of the immune system, they are ineffective against the HIV reservoir in part because they do not easily access the regions of the lymph node where a major reservoir persists. With a \$480,000 grant, Dr. Skinner is engineering CART and CAR NK cells





amfAR grantee Dr. Pamela Skinner

to zero in on the lymph nodes to enhance their chances of success. She is also modifying them to overcome the exhaustion to which immune cells are prone and to resist becoming HIV-infected cells themselves.

### Mathilde Krim Fellowships

Steven de Taeye, PhD, of the University of Amsterdam in the Netherlands, received a 2023 Mathilde Krim Fellowship to support a two-year study using antibody conjugates as a potential cure for HIV. Currently used in the treatment of certain cancers, antibody conjugates bind interventions to antibodies as a means of delivering them to specific cells. In this study, Dr. de Taeye is testing several different approaches. The first is a toxin that can be delivered to T cells displaying specific surface signals. Another is an agent to stimulate the internal defenses of HIV-infected cells, leading to a cascade of events that results in destruction by the immune system.

Named in honor of amfAR's late founding chairman Dr. Mathilde Krim, the Fellowship has been awarded since 2008 to provide crucial funding for young researchers who often have the most innovative and daring ideas, but for whom securing financial support can be difficult. Dr. de Taeye, the 59<sup>th</sup> Mathilde Krim Fellow, is being mentored by Drs. Rogier Sanders and Marit van Gils, two former Krim fellows, illustrating the effectiveness of this program.

In addition, two Fellows—Aleksandar Antanasijevic, PhD, of the École Polytechnique

Fédérale de Lausanne in Switzerland, and Jeannette Tenthorey, PhD, of the University of California, San Francisco—each received a Phase II award of \$50,000.

## SHARING KNOWLEDGE

### Conferences and Think Tanks

In February 2023, findings from 12 amfAR-funded research projects were presented at the 30<sup>th</sup> annual Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections.

Also in February, Mark Franke, formerly known as the Düsseldorf patient, was confirmed by researchers working under the purview of amfAR's ICISTEM consortium to be cured of HIV via stem cell transplant with donor cells with a CCR5 delta32 mutation. At the International AIDS Conference on HIV Science in July, Dr. Asier Sáez-Cirión, of the Pasteur Institute in Paris and a member of ICISTEM announced another new possible case of cure (the Geneva patient) using a similar strategy—but this time using donor cells without the mutation. Researchers are still monitoring the patient to determine whether he is indeed cured.

In April, amfAR convened a two-day think tank with 13 scientists at its public policy office in Washington, D.C., hosting representatives from academia and the NIH, as well as researchers from Denmark and London. Participants

discussed the role of anti-HIV antibodies in the optimization of HIV cure strategies, focusing on the role of broadly neutralizing antibodies in eradicating HIV reservoirs.

## Published Research

amfAR is a leading voice in the scientific conversation pertaining to HIV, as evidenced by the many amfAR-funded research studies published in peer-reviewed journals. In FY2023, 30 scientific publications resulted from amfAR-funded research. Highlights include:

### A Step Toward Eliminating Reservoir Cells?

HIV reservoirs, the primary impediment to a cure for HIV, predominantly involve CD4 memory T cells. But some subtypes of those reservoir cells that could be targeted in a cure strategy may represent much greater obstacles than others because they are both enriched for latent HIV and better able to resist reactivation. A collaborative research effort sought to define how to identify such cells in a first step toward reversing latency and eliminating HIV reservoirs.

It was known that certain proteins that inhibit the ability to activate a T cell, the “immune checkpoint proteins,” concurrently block the ability to convert that cell from a latent to an active state of HIV growth, which is typically necessary for the cells to become targets for elimination. More characterization of latently infected cells was needed. The authors collected large amounts of CD4+ T cells from 21 people with HIV on ART and obtained lymph node biopsies from eight of them. Those cells in blood and tissue containing two immune proteins, PD1 and CTLA4, proved to contain more latent virus than their counterparts lacking those proteins. The researchers went on to identify specific genes linked to PD1 and CTLA4 that appeared responsible for maintaining that latent state.

Authors of this paper, published in *Cell Reports Medicine*, included amfAR grantees Dr. Steven G. Deeks of UCSF; Drs. Sharon Lewin, Vanessa Evans, and Paul U. Cameron of the University of Melbourne; and Drs. Nicolas Chomont and Remi Fromentin of the University of Montreal.

## Solving the Puzzle of Post-Treatment Control

Published in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America*, amfAR grantees Xu Yu, MD, of the Ragon Institute of MGH, MIT and Harvard, and Jonathan Li, MD, of Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston, and their colleagues investigated why a rare group of individuals, known as post-treatment controllers (PTCs), can suppress HIV rebound to very low levels for prolonged periods after ART withdrawal.

Researchers identified 22 PTCs from eight studies of supervised ART withdrawal, along with 37 post-treatment non-controllers (NCs) who experienced rapid viral rebound after stopping ART. PTCs demonstrated a unique immunologic profile. They had lower levels of CD4 and CD8 T cell activation, lower CD4 cell exhaustion, and more robust natural killer cell function and CD4 T cell responses to certain HIV proteins. These processes were linked to a stable reservoir of latently infected cells. Surprisingly, PTCs had lower levels of inflammation, in marked contrast to “elite controllers” who suppress HIV despite never having received ART, which is associated with increased inflammation.

*“One thing that we are learning more and more is to never underestimate the power of the immune system.”*

– amfAR grantee Mathias Lichterfeld, MD, PhD

In another study involving the 22 PTCs mentioned above and published in *Frontiers in Immunology*, Dr. Yu, along with Dr. Mathias Lichterfeld of the Ragon Institute and Brigham and Women’s Hospital, identified anti-HIV differences in the PTCs’ circulating myeloid dendritic cells (mDC) and then explored possible processes behind the mDC super-response in “high” responders, identifying two specific pathway systems by which HIV DNA and RNA were recognized inside cells.

# Public Policy

amfAR is an acknowledged leader in the accumulation and analysis of critical data that are made available to advocates, policymakers, researchers, and other key stakeholders to help guide global health funding, policies, and strategies. amfAR is also an influential proponent of expanded access to HIV treatment and care, harm reduction aimed at reducing the transmission of HIV and other bloodborne infections, and civil rights protections for all people living with or vulnerable to HIV.

## ENDING THE HIV EPIDEMIC IN THE U.S.

The amfAR policy team worked closely with members of the Biden administration, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Institutes of Health (NIH), and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to promote and bolster an evidenced-based response to the U.S. HIV epidemic.

In early 2023, the governor of Tennessee suddenly announced that his state would reject federal HIV prevention funding in favor of a revised and highly unscientific prevention strategy that shifted the focus away from the most vulnerable populations. In a vigorous response, amfAR produced an infographic illustrating how the new focus would miss those at greatest risk of infection and could saddle the state with as much as \$255 million in additional HIV treatment costs each year. amfAR policy staff distributed the infographic to Congressional offices and public health and advocacy groups, met with stakeholders from Tennessee and the CDC Division of HIV Prevention, and gave interviews to the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, PBS, NPR, and NBC News.

The policy team also initiated an analysis of the number of undiagnosed HIV infections in the United States, and the human and economic costs if other states were to follow in the footsteps of Tennessee and reject federal HIV prevention funding. Partnering with Funders Concerned About AIDS, amfAR also produced a timely infographic, *Ending HIV: Zero Out the Epidemic Not the Budget*, to provide reasons why proposed cuts to federal HIV funding in a FY24 appropriations bill introduced to the House of Representatives would be detrimental.

### Learning from Mpox

The public policy office advised the White House global mpox coordinator on ongoing and future responses to the mpox (formerly known as monkeypox) outbreak. The policy office also funded PrEP4All, a nonprofit focused on prevention accessibility, to evaluate the national mpox response, and co-sponsored a meeting with Georgetown Law School that assessed the domestic response. In May 2023, amfAR partnered with the O'Neill Institute at Georgetown Law to co-author *Community Partnerships Make Public Health More Effective: Learning from the 2022 Mpox Outbreak Response*, as a follow-up to a



amfAR Deputy Director of Public Policy, Brian Honermann (left), and Greg Millett, VP and Director of Public Policy (right), meet with Ambassador John Nkengasong, U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator.



previous series of issue briefs on the epidemic. On July 18, 2023, amfAR and Columbia University’s NYC Pandemic Response Institute convened more than 60 multisectoral stakeholders for the National Conference to Advance Equity in Mpox Diagnostics. The aim was to prioritize policy actions and strategies to improve diagnostics development going forward and the conference findings were subsequently published in a special report. amfAR also funded mpox-focused studies at Harvard and Columbia.

## ENSURING GLOBAL HEALTH ACCESS

amfAR maintains an active role in global advocacy and policy initiatives, and policy staff participate in PEPFAR Country Operational Plan meetings (see



below), the Global Fund partnership forum, and the UN High-Level Meetings on HIV/AIDS. amfAR engages in advocacy with House and Senate appropriations committees to secure strong global HIV budgets and to closely track and respond to evolving global health policies. Additionally, amfAR plays a key role as a technical assistance provider for in-country community-led monitoring efforts in four countries. In this role, amfAR engages with local activists and data collection teams to ensure high-quality data are produced for HIV service quality monitoring and advocacy initiatives.

### Preserving PEPFAR

The U.S President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, or PEPFAR, was launched by President George W. Bush to provide HIV treatment and prevention services to the hardest hit regions of the world. PEPFAR is the largest commitment by any country to address a single disease in history and is credited with saving more than 25 million lives and preventing millions of infections.

Approaching the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of PEPFAR and to mark the day the program’s legislation was proposed in the U.S. House of Representatives in 2003, amfAR’s public policy team met with Ambassador John Nkengasong, U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator and head of PEPFAR, to discuss his vision, the future of the program, and amfAR’s continued partnership.

Although the updated PEPFAR strategy showed great potential for continuing the program’s stellar record of accomplishment, proposed changes under review on Capitol Hill that could derail its progress prompted amfAR to author a series of reports titled “Structured for Success.” Distributed to key offices on Capitol Hill in early 2023, the three reports outline what has made PEPFAR work so well thus far and, for the good of global public health, why its anchor points shouldn’t be disrupted.

Throughout 2023, as it became clear that PEPFAR might not be reauthorized, amfAR’s public policy staff held high-level meetings on Capitol Hill and established a small working group with HIV coalition partners to strengthen advocacy with policymakers.





Graphic created by Cohort, a Ukrainian trans advocacy group profiled in amfAR's report, *Increasing Trans Inclusion in HIV/AIDS National Strategic Planning*

## EMPOWERMENT THROUGH DATA

amfAR is at the forefront of data collection and analysis for advocacy purposes, fortifying public health responses with accurate information. In FY2023, for example, amfAR advised both the CDC and Johns Hopkins University on modernizing COVID-19 data collection. And, during a week of in-person capacity building in Lesotho, the public policy office led data trainings to represent the needs of adolescent girls and young women in advocacy efforts.

In addition, amfAR maintains a suite of free interactive databases that are invaluable resources for individuals and organizations working to secure and monitor HIV-related funding and tailor programs to meet the needs of clients.

- **PEPFAR Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting ([mer.amfar.org](https://mer.amfar.org)):** Launched in December 2018, this database enables policymakers, public health officials, advocates, and other stakeholders to access a wide range of programmatic PEPFAR data and includes downloadable PDFs, maps, data visualizations, and district-level data.
- **PEPFAR Country/Regional Operational Plans ([copsdata.amfar.org](https://copsdata.amfar.org)):** A complement to the MER Database, this one highlights

planned funding by program area, country, and organization for each year that has been publicly released. The database is designed to help PEPFAR in its efforts to increase data transparency and general participation in the planning process. Advocates from around the world rely on these resources to easily access PEPFAR data and prepare for advocacy initiatives.

- **Key Populations and Key Population Investment Fund (KPIF) Data Project ([kpdata.amfar.org](https://kpdata.amfar.org)):** Launched in 2021, the Data Project brings together available data on Key Populations demographics, epidemiology, funding, and programming from UNAIDS, PEPFAR, and the Global Fund. This resource shows how funding has evolved over time, and, where possible, identifies who at PEPFAR is responsible for implementing KP programming.
- **Ending the HIV Epidemic in the U.S. ([ehe.amfar.org](https://ehe.amfar.org)):** In 2019, President Trump announced a plan to end HIV transmissions in the U.S. by 2030. To help policymakers, public health officials, advocates, and other stakeholders understand the opportunities and challenges across EHE jurisdictions, this database includes demographic, policy, and service provider information, and epidemiological indicators.
- **Opioid & Health Indicators Database ([opioid.amfar.org](https://opioid.amfar.org)):** This free web platform is 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.

## SHARING KNOWLEDGE, AMPLIFYING EXPERTISE

In December 2022, amfAR and Global Action for Trans Equality (GATE) released a new report, *Increasing Trans Inclusion in HIV/AIDS National Strategic Planning: Learnings from Community Advocacy in Five Countries*, based on a yearlong project that aimed to increase trans inclusion in National Strategic Plans for HIV/AIDS by building





Outside an Eastern Cape clinic, a Ritshidze monitor interviews public healthcare users about service delivery. Photo by Rian Horn/Courtesy Ritshidze

the capacity of five trans-led community organizations to engage in NSP-focused advocacy and shape trans-specific programming.

In 2023, amfAR staff published three articles in academic journals with far-reaching policy implications.

- Published in *The Lancet HIV* in March, Greg Millett, MPH, amfAR vice president and director of public policy, co-authored “Associations between punitive policies and legal barriers to consensual same-sexual acts among gay men in sub-Saharan Africa,” which pooled data from ten country-specific, cross-sectional studies conducted in 25 sites across the region.
- In its June 2023 issue, the *Journal of the International AIDS Society* published a “Viewpoint” that warns the U.S. government’s proposed reconfiguration of global health functions will negatively impact PEPFAR. Written by Millett, Emily Bass, an independent

scholar, and Brian Honermann, amfAR deputy director of public policy, the commentary outlines the ways in which tampering with PEPFAR will not only waste time and money, but also upend progress on AIDS and hamper our response to other pandemics.

- In the December issue of the *Journal of the International AIDS Society*, Millett co-authored “There is no ending AIDS by 2030 without improving human rights,” which illuminates the ways in which neglecting human rights can worsen HIV-related health outcomes.

amfAR participated in the 2023 International AIDS Conference on HIV Science in Brisbane, Australia. Members of the public policy team authored five abstracts, covering topics such as PEPFAR’s recency surveillance strategy, quality of care for key populations, and community-led monitoring in South Africa, among others.

# HIV INFECTIONS ARE INCREASING IN 28 COUNTRIES WORLDWIDE

# TREAT Asia

The Asia-Pacific region is a patchwork quilt of progress and failure on HIV. At the lower end of the scale, antiretroviral coverage in eight countries is below 50%. People living with and at risk for HIV in the region are also challenged by co-infections such as hepatitis, tuberculosis, mental health issues, and drug use. As it has done since 2001, amfAR's TREAT Asia program—a network of clinics, hospitals, and research institutions working with civil society—brings researchers, health professionals, and advocates together to improve standards of care and expand access to treatment across the region.

# 43% OF CHILDREN LIVING WITH HIV LACK ACCESS TO LIVESAVING TREATMENT



For over 20 years, amfAR's TREAT Asia program (Therapeutics Research, Education, and AIDS Training in Asia) has been working with partners across the Asia-Pacific region to expand access to treatment for HIV and related conditions such as hepatitis C (HCV), and improve standards of care. The TREAT Asia Network encompasses 21 adult and 21 pediatric sites in 12 countries throughout the region, which collaborate on a variety of projects. TREAT Asia scientists produced 25 publications in peer-reviewed medical journals in 2023.

## EXPANDING ACCESS TO TREATMENT, IMPROVING HEALTHCARE DELIVERY

In 2023, TREAT Asia worked to improve health outcomes of people living with and at risk for HIV and related conditions. Much of TREAT Asia's research is undertaken within the framework of the International epidemiology Databases to Evaluate AIDS (IeDEA), a global collaboration established by the U.S. National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. TREAT Asia manages the Asia-Pacific section of IeDEA.

### TREAT Asia and Network Partner Research

TREAT Asia and its network partners conduct studies on a wide range of important HIV-related health issues. This year they included research on long-term treatment outcomes of adolescents and young adults living with HIV, pregnancy outcomes among women living with HIV, lung impairment in HIV and TB, mental health screening and linkage to care, viral hepatitis, serology of SARS-CoV-2 and other viral pathogens, chemsex in young men who have sex with men (MSM), TB preventive therapy, and HPV and anal cancer risk among MSM. Highlights include:

**IeDEA Dolutegravir Resistance Study**, a global study led by the University of Bern, Switzerland, aims to determine patterns and risk factors for virologic failure in adults on dolutegravir (DTG)-based ART, and to investigate correlations between resistance genotypes across HIV-1 subtypes. The study is ongoing in three IeDEA Asia-Pacific network sites in Cambodia (1) and Thailand (2).

**IeDEA Tuberculosis Sentinel Research Network (IeDEA TB-SRN)**: This global study aims to describe clinical and treatment outcomes of pulmonary TB and provide a platform for global TB research among people with and without HIV. Three IeDEA Asia-Pacific sites in Cambodia and Vietnam are participating.

**IeDEA Sentinel Research Network (IeDEA SRN)**: This global study is assessing liver, cardio-metabolic, mental health, and substance use comorbidities among people with HIV over 40 years of age, on ART for more than six months. It is being implemented at two IeDEA Asia-Pacific sites in India and Vietnam.

**The Southeast Asia Transgender Cohort Study (SEATrans)**: This regional prospective cohort study is enrolling 450 transgender participants with and without HIV across four sites in the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam. It aims to 1) track physical and mental health among transgender people; 2) identify biomedical, structural, and psychosocial factors impacting physical and mental health; 3) describe structural barriers to healthcare; and 4) develop guidance on holistic healthcare policies for transgender people.

**Suicidal behavior among Thai adolescents living with HIV (S-BETAH)**: This prospective cohort study aims to determine the prevalence of mental health disorders and suicidal behavior

following positive screening and linkage to mental health services. With the first phase completed, the second phase is assessing the prevalence and incidence of suicidality among this population compared with their HIV-negative age- and sex-matched counterparts. Factors associated with suicidality also will be identified.

**The Mental health and HIV service integration (MHInt) study:** This mixed methods implementation-effectiveness hybrid study led by TREAT Asia in collaboration with Columbia University is being implemented at four participating sites [Bangkok (2), Manila, and Kuala Lumpur], with the aim to develop and assess mental health screening and linkage to care strategies.

Drawing on data from one of TREAT Asia’s observational databases (see below), an ongoing study is investigating trends in hepatitis C virus coinfection and its cascade of care among adults living with HIV in Asia from 2010 to 2020.

## INTEGRATING HIV, MENTAL HEALTH, AND IMPLEMENTATION SCIENCE RESEARCH

In 2019, the U.S. National Institutes of Health awarded a five-year, \$1.4 million grant to TREAT

Asia and Columbia University to establish an innovative platform for integrating HIV, mental health, and implementation science research in the Asia-Pacific region. The objective of the CHIMERA program (Capacity development for HIV and mental health research in Asia) 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 of 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 clinical care for people living with HIV.

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 leDEA Asia-Pacific.

Class 1 and Class 2 Fellows joined the TREAT Asia Annual Network Meeting in Bangkok in October 2022, with six presenting their pilot research projects during the meeting. Six Fellows participated in the Asia-Pacific AIDS & Co-infections Conference (APACC 2023) in Singapore in June, and two Class 1 Fellows presented e-posters at the IAS Conference on HIV Science in Australia in July.



TREAT Asia helped mark the seventh anniversary of one of the study’s participating organizations in Thailand, the Tangerine Clinic, founded by Rena Janamnuaysook of IHRI (second from right). TREAT Asia staff in attendance included (left to right) Director of Research Dr. Jeremy Ross, Boondarika Petersen, Chidchon Chansilpa, Director Dr. Annette Sohn, and Katiphot Kanoknorrasade.



Dr. Annette Sohn, VP and director of amfAR's TREAT Asia program, presented at the International AIDS Society (IAS) Conference on HIV Science. Photo © Max Mason-Hubers / IAS



Forty-six participants from the leDEA Asia-Pacific research program and CHIMERA D43 training program, as well as other partners, attended the leDEA Asia-Pacific Mental Health and Substance Use Research Forum in Bangkok to discuss and plan network mental health and substance use-related research.

## IMPROVING HEALTH THROUGH INFORMATION

### Community-led Monitoring Dashboard

Along with Community Network for Empowerment (CoNE) in Manipur, India, and Peduli Hati in Indonesia, TREAT Asia developed an online dashboard ([www.clm-asia.org](http://www.clm-asia.org)) to expand and enhance community-led monitoring in the implementing organizations' respective country regions. The dashboard, created with the help of amfAR's public policy office, is supported in part by ViiV Healthcare.

### TREAT Asia HIV Observational Database (TAHOD)

TREAT Asia pioneered the region's first adult observational database for HIV/AIDS, which included anonymous data from more than 10,700 patients at 21 clinical sites in 12 countries in its final data transfer in September 2021. TAHOD transitioned to the TAHOD Continuum of Care (TAHOD-CC) cohort in 2022 and continued its data transfers throughout 2023.

The information gathered in the databases has informed the development of more effective research and treatment programs and helped define treatment standards specific to HIV/AIDS in Asia. A report, "HIV treatment outcomes after 10 years on ART in the TREAT Asia Observational Database (TAHOD) and Australian HIV Observational Database (AHOD)," was presented at both APACC and IAS 2023.

### TAHOD Low-Intensity Transfer

Launched in 2014, TAHOD Low-Intensity Transfer (TAHOD-LITE) contained data from over 51,000 HIV-positive patients across 11 TREAT Asia network sites in its final data transfer in 2021. Analysis continued through FY2023. As an extension of TAHOD, TAHOD-LITE aims to increase the scope of adult data collection by gathering a subset of core variables from the entire cohort of people living with HIV who have sought care at selected TAHOD sites.

### TREAT Asia Pediatric HIV Observational Database

The TREAT Asia Pediatric HIV Observational Database (TApHOD) is a regional pediatric HIV study set up by TREAT Asia in 2006. It was modeled after the adult database and includes data from more than 7,500 children and adolescents at 21 clinical sites in Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, and Vietnam.

### Responding to COVID-19

TREAT Asia continued to collate data about adults and children impacted by COVID-19. COVID-19

data on nearly 600 cases were transferred to TAHOD by eight participating sites in late 2021. An analysis on COVID-19 clinical presentations and outcomes among PLHIV is being conducted. For the pediatric database, TApHOD, 11 sites are participating in COVID-19 data collection: Cambodia (1), India (2), Indonesia (3), Malaysia (1), Thailand (1) and Vietnam (3). To date, data on 454 pediatric COVID-19 cases were transferred to the Kirby Institute at the University of New South Wales, and a concept sheet to analyze the data has been developed.

Launched in 2021, TREAT Asia's COVID website—[www.covid19asiainfo.org](http://www.covid19asiainfo.org)—continued to be an important source of information on COVID vaccines and therapeutics relevant to the Asia-Pacific region.



(L-R) Giten Khwairakpam of amfAR's TREAT Asia program with CoNE (Community Network for Empowerment) President Nalinikanta Rajkumar and CoNE team member Jimmy Arambam during a recently concluded meeting on community-led monitoring

## IAS Conference on HIV Science and Other Conferences

International conferences provide TREAT Asia researchers an important opportunity to disseminate findings, learn from other research teams, and form new collaborations. TREAT Asia had a strong presence at IAS 2023. Dr. Sohn gave multiple presentations, including one at the 15<sup>th</sup> International Workshop on HIV & Pediatrics, which preceded the main conference. Dr. Jeremy Ross, TREAT Asia's director of research, and numerous TREAT Asia partner investigators and affiliates also presented at the conference.

TREAT Asia also participated in the HIV Glasgow 2022 conference in October; the 25<sup>th</sup> Bangkok International Symposium on HIV Medicine in January 2023; the Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections (CROI) 2023 and the Global leDEA Meeting, both in Seattle, Washington, in February; the 25<sup>th</sup> International Workshop on HIV and Hepatitis Observational Databases in Athens in March; APACC 2023, and its preconference, HIV Cascade of Care: Closing the Gap, in Singapore in June; the Fogarty International Center HIV Research Training Network Hybrid Meeting in July; and the 9<sup>th</sup> WHO Global Validation Advisory Committee Meeting for elimination of mother-to-child transmission of HIV, syphilis, and hepatitis B virus in Geneva, Switzerland, in August.

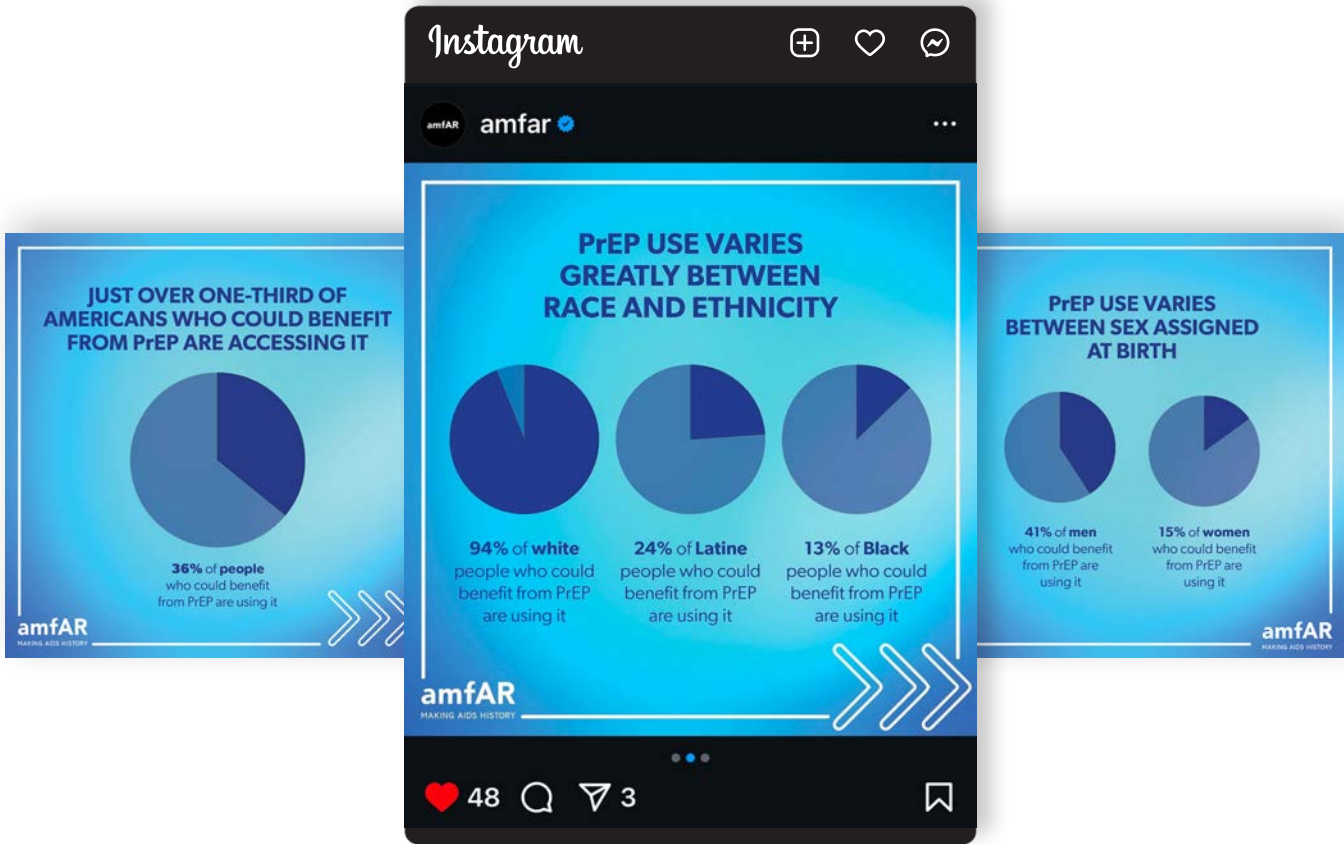
## Publications

Along with lay-language articles on HIV/AIDS research, policy, and community issues facing the Asia-Pacific region, TREAT Asia published an issue brief titled *Hepatitis B: A Hidden Public Health Emergency in the Asia-Pacific*; a policy brief calling for expanded access to pediatric dolutegravir; an information brief about community-led monitoring proposals for the Global Fund; and a commentary in *Lancet Gastroenterology and Hepatology* on hepatitis B and PrEP for HIV prevention. TREAT Asia also co-authored *HIV Care Continuum & Beyond: A New Era for Asia*, which assessed to what extent local initiatives have strengthened the care continuum and detailed how community engagement has played a vital role in developing and delivering person-centered interventions.

# Public Information

The scourge of HIV/AIDS has been with us now for 43 years. Keeping it in the public consciousness as an issue that continues to warrant attention, action, and financial support in the face of countless competing causes and crises is no easy task. Misconceptions and misinformation about HIV abound to this day and must be confronted and corrected. Stigma and discrimination against people living with the virus persist in the U.S. and around the world. So the job of getting the facts out about HIV is as critically important as ever, and it's a daily challenge for amfAR's Public Information team.





amfAR translates and 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 and treatment, and, ultimately, a cure for HIV.

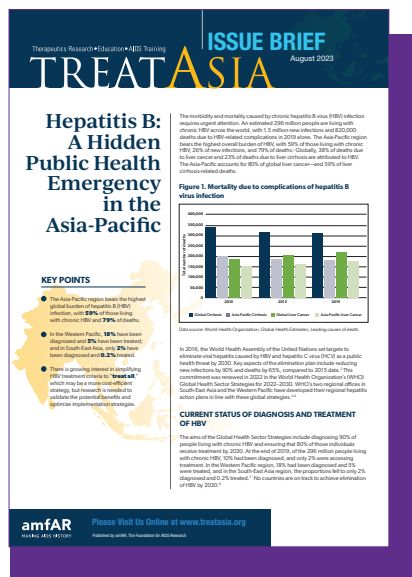
## EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

amfAR produces periodicals in both print and digital formats, including its newsletter, *Innovations*, published twice a year and distributed to about 18,000 people. The spring 2023 issue featured an exclusive interview with leading Australian AIDS researcher and amfAR grantee, Professor Sharon Lewin. A monthly e-mail newsletter, *Insights*, is distributed to 20,000 recipients.

The Foundation’s website—[www.amfar.org](http://www.amfar.org)—features news, interviews, and original articles

covering HIV research, policy, the global epidemic, and amfAR programs and activities. The website attracts an average of 30,000 visitors per month.

amfAR 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 and TREAT Asia staff to produce a wide range of issue briefs, facts sheets, infographics, and special reports.

## 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. Posts in FY2023 covered topics such as treatment access, HIV criminalization (including Uganda’s Anti-Homosexuality Act), cuts in HIV funding, the importance of HIV testing, women’s health, and the accomplishments of PEPFAR on the global health program’s twentieth anniversary. The Foundation has expanded its social platforms to include TikTok, targeting the new generation of advocates. amfAR regularly updates its social channels with the latest research breakthroughs and policy news, as well as detailed coverage from its world-renowned fundraising galas.

amfAR has over 85,000 followers on Facebook, more than 42,000 X (formerly Twitter) followers, over 120,500 TikTok followers, and 194,000 followers on Instagram. Across all of our social platforms, net growth was over 18,000 new followers and total impressions increased 43%.

During amfAR’s Venice gala, the foundation’s Instagram posts garnered over 1.3 million impressions through a combination of photo and video content. amfAR strategically placed several



programmatic messages in its feeds throughout the evening to capitalize on the heightened traffic our channels received.

## MEDIA OUTREACH

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 *NBC News*, *NPR*, *Associated Press*, *Reuters*, *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *PBS NewsHour*, *Vanity Fair*, *People*, *Variety*, *CR Fashion Book*, *The Lancet*, *Journal of the International AIDS Society*, *POZ*, *AIDSMAP*, *TheBody*, *The Guardian*, *The Observer*, *Women’s Wear Daily*, *Us Weekly*, *The Hollywood*

# amfAR HAS MORE THAN



**194,000** followers



**85,000** followers



**120,500** followers



**42,000** followers

Reporter, Page Six, Insider, Wired, ET, Access Hollywood, Town & Country, Deadline, Pharmacy Times, Vogue, Vogue Business, ArtNet, Elle, Haute Living, BuzzFeed, W, Dallas Morning News, Miami Living, Palm Beach Daily News, Palm Beach Society, The Tennessean, Florida Weekly, Cosmopolitan, Quest, Artspace, Gay City News, Euronews, Harper's Bazaar France, Paris Match, Vogue Hong Kong, L'Officiel Austria, and L'Officiel Italia.

amfAR garnered approximately 21,400 mentions across media in FY2023.

## MULTIMODAL AWARENESS-RAISING

amfAR frequently spotlights AIDS awareness not only across different platforms but across different media in order to reach diverse audiences.

For World AIDS Day 2022, amfAR's public information department produced a video featuring the organization's CEO and program heads, offering insights into progress made in the HIV/AIDS epidemic, domestic and foreign HIV policy, and current HIV research.

amfAR partnered with PROSPECT 100 to sponsor an NFT art/design competition to raise funds for the organization's research and advocacy programs. Judges included Kendall Jenner, Jeff Koons, Kate Moss, J Balvin, Alton Mason, and Baz Luhrmann.

Along with marking National HIV/AIDS Awareness Days throughout the year, amfAR helped honor the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Denver Principles, a founding document that has become a blueprint of empowerment for people living with HIV/AIDS, with a widely distributed press release and social media posts.

In June 2023, the public information team organized several pre-Pride events in New York and Los Angeles and participated in New York City's Heritage of Pride March by sponsoring a float that celebrated pride and unity.

## 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 from 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.

Celebrity supporters included Angela Bassett, Kate Beckinsale, Orlando Bloom, Matteo Bocelli, Kelly Clarkson, Robert De Niro, Leonardo DiCaprio, Ava DuVernay, Jay Ellis, Luke Evans, Emily Hampshire, Ed Harris, Ethan Hawke, Tommy Hilfiger, Cheyenne Jackson, Scarlett Johansson, Earvin "Magic" Johnson, Milla Jovovich, Heidi Klum, Gladys Knight, Jane Krakowski, Adam Lambert, Julian Lennon, Leona Lewis, Eva Longoria, Jane Lynch, Tobey Maguire, James Marsden, Catherine O'Hara, Rita Ora, Keke Palmer, Tyler Perry, Queen Latifah, Rita Ora, Sheryl Lee Ralph, Bebe Rexha, Coco Rocha, Michelle Rodriguez, Carine Roitfeld, Jeremy Scott, Troye Sivan, Alexander Skarsgård, Kenan Thompson, Bella Thorne, Ellen von Unwerth, Taika Waititi, Jesse Williams, Rebel Wilson, and Jeffrey Wright.



Queen Latifah, host of amfAR Gala Cannes 2023.  
Photo by Getty Images

**GRANTS,  
FELLOWSHIPS,  
AWARDS**

## 2023 RESEARCH GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

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All projects below were awarded funding during the period October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023.

### amfAR RESEARCH CONSORTIUM ON HIV ERADICATION (ARCHE)

Preclinical in vivo non-human primate study of combined treatment strategies  
Hildegard Büning, PhD  
Hannover Medical School  
Hanover, Germany  
\$1,305,288

### TARGET GRANTS

A targeted approach to eliminate HIV-infected macrophages  
Anna Hearps, PhD  
Macfarlane Burnet Institute for Medical Research and Public Health  
Melbourne, Australia  
\$106,088

Lipid nanoparticle-based delivery of HIV-reactivating RNAs to eradicate the latent reservoir  
Sharon Lewin, MD, PhD  
University of Melbourne  
Melbourne, Australia  
\$480,000

Genetically-engineered NK with CD64 and pre-loaded with G2-sialidase-bNAbs as HIV eradication strategy  
Luis Montaner, PhD  
The Wistar Institute  
Philadelphia, PA  
\$372,662

Engineered follicle-targeting T and NK cells to eliminate HIV virus-producing cells for the durable remission of HIV  
Pamela Skinner, PhD  
University of Minnesota  
Minneapolis, MN  
\$480,000

Generation of immune-escape resistant HIV-specific CART cells with enhanced killing potential  
Daniel Claiborne, PhD  
The Wistar Institute  
Philadelphia, PA  
\$120,000

eVLP-mediated in vivo gene therapy for HIV  
Hans-Peter Kiem, MD, FACP  
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center  
Seattle, WA  
\$480,000

Developing HIV-resistant CCR5-deleted tunable anti-HIV chimeric antigen receptor T cells  
Martin Tolstrup, PhD  
Aarhus University  
Aarhus, Denmark  
\$477,553

### MATHILDE KRIM FELLOWSHIPS IN BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH

Antibody conjugates for HIV-1 cure  
Steven de Taeye, PhD  
University of Amsterdam  
Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
\$150,000

Development of novel immuno-focusing strategies for HIV Env immunogens (phase 2)  
Aleksandar Antanasijevic, PhD  
École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne  
Lausanne, Switzerland  
\$50,000

Defining the complete mutational landscape of HIV capsid to elucidate its interfaces with human cell-intrinsic immunity (phase 2)  
Jeannette Tenthorey, PhD  
University of California, San Francisco  
San Francisco, CA  
\$50,000

### RESEARCH AWARD

Kenneth H. Mayer Fellowship at Fenway Health  
Fenway Community Health Center, Inc.  
Boston, MA  
\$50,000

## 2023 TREAT ASIA GRANTS AND AWARDS

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All projects below were awarded funding during the period October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023.

<sup>1</sup>Supported by U.S. National Institutes of Health federal award number U01AI069907, 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 Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, the National Institute on Drug Abuse, the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, the National Cancer Institute, the National Institute of Mental Health, and the Fogarty International Center.

<sup>2</sup>Supported by U.S. National Institutes of Health federal award number D43TW011302, funded by the Fogarty International Center and the National Institute of Mental Health.

<sup>3</sup>Supported with funds provided by ViiV Healthcare.

### AUSTRALIA

University of New South Wales  
Sydney  
IeDEA Asia-Pacific Research Collaboration:  
Data Management and Analysis Center  
Matthew G. Law, PhD  
Kathy Petoumenos, PhD  
\$572,468

### AUSTRALIAN HIV OBSERVATIONAL DATABASE (AHOD) SITES

Sexual Health and HIV Service In Metro North  
Brisbane  
Angela Smith  
\$8,775

Cairns and Hinterland Hospital and Health Service (CHHHS)  
Cairns  
Darren Russell, MD  
\$6,150

Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service  
Caloundra  
David Sowden, MBBS  
\$9,650

RPA Sexual Health, Sydney Local Health District  
Camperdown  
David Templeton, PhD  
\$9,425

Melbourne Sexual Health Centre  
Carlton  
Richard Teague, MBBS (Monash Uni), FRACGP, FRChSHM  
\$6,450

Monash Medical Centre  
Clayton  
Ian Woolley, MBBS, FRACP  
\$11,500

Lismore Sexual Health and AIDS Services (SHAIDS), Northern NSW Local Health District  
Lismore  
Leanne Burton  
\$6,600

Victorian HIV Service, Department of Infectious Diseases, The Alfred Hospital  
Melbourne  
Jennifer Hoy, MBBS  
\$11,100

Prahran Market Clinic Pty Lt  
Prahran  
Norman Roth, MBBS, FChSHM  
\$9,575

### Gold Coast Hospital and Health Service

Southport  
Caroline Thng, MBBS, MRCP  
\$7,500

### East Sydney Doctors

Sydney  
David Baker, MB, ChB, Dip Med (Sexual Health),  
DCH  
\$8,125

### Holdsworth House Medical Practice

Sydney  
Mark Bloch, MD  
\$10,300

### St. Vincent's Hospital Sydney Limited

Sydney  
Andrew Carr, MD  
\$10,300

### Taylor Square Private Clinic

Sydney  
Mark John O'Reilly  
\$4,000

### Centre for Disease Control, Northern Territory Department of Health

Tiwi  
Manoji Gunathilake, MBBS, MD, FACHSHM,  
AFRACMA  
\$400

### Western Sydney Local Health District

Westmead  
Rohan Bopage, MBBS, FRACP, MMed STD/HIV,  
FACHSHM  
\$5,650

## CAMBODIA

### National Center for HIV/AIDS, Dermatology and STD

Phnom Penh  
Vohith Khol, MD, MSc  
The TAHOD Continuum of Care (TAHOD-CC)  
Study  
\$20,000<sup>1</sup>

TREAT Asia Pediatric HIV Observational Database  
(TApHOD)  
\$25,000<sup>1</sup>

leDEA Tuberculosis Sentinel Research Network  
(TB-SRN)  
\$77,167<sup>1</sup>

Vichea Ouk, MD, MPH  
CHIMERA Implementation Science  
Pilot Research Project  
\$8,000<sup>2</sup>

## CHINA

### Queen Elizabeth Hospital

Hong Kong  
Man Po Lee, MBBS  
The TAHOD Continuum of Care (TAHOD-CC)  
Study  
\$20,000<sup>1</sup>

## INDIA

### The Voluntary Health Services, VHS Infectious Diseases Medical Centre

Chennai  
Nagalingeswaran Kumarasamy, MD, MBBS, PhD  
The TREAT Asia Observational Database  
(TAHOD) Study  
\$26,000<sup>1</sup>

TREAT Asia Pediatric HIV Observational  
Database (TApHOD)  
\$4,000<sup>1</sup>

### Community Network for Empowerment (CoNE)

Imphal West  
Rajkumar Nalinikanta  
Community-led monitoring (CLM) to ensure  
quality diagnosis and treatment for people  
living with HIV and hepatitis C  
\$12,610<sup>3</sup>

### BJ Medical College & Sassoon General Hospitals

Pune  
Rohidas T Borse, MD, MBBS  
The TREAT Asia HIV Observational Database  
(TAHOD)  
\$17,500<sup>1</sup>

Behavioral Economic Approaches for  
Tuberculosis Preventive Therapy in  
Asia Pacific leDEA (BEAT TB ASIA)  
\$17,205<sup>1</sup>

Lung Morbidity Cohort Study  
\$77,964<sup>1</sup>

Aarti Kinikar, MD, DCH; DNB; MRCP-Pediatrics UK  
TREAT Asia Pediatric HIV Observational  
Database (TApHOD)  
\$8,500<sup>1</sup>

### Institute of Infectious Diseases

Pune  
Sanjay Pujari, MD, AAHIVS, MBBS  
The TREAT Asia HIV Observational  
Database (TAHOD)  
\$24,000<sup>1</sup>

## INDONESIA

### Hasan Sadikin General Hospital

Bandung  
Anggraini Alam, MD  
TREAT Asia Pediatric HIV Observational  
Database (TApHOD)  
\$8,500<sup>1</sup>

### Faculty of Medicine, Udayana University - Prof. Dr. I G.N.G. Ngoerah Hospital

Denpasar  
I Ketut Agus Somia, SpPD, KPTI, MD, PhD  
The TAHOD Continuum of Care (TAHOD-CC)  
Study  
\$17,500<sup>1</sup>

Prevalence and risk factors of cervical dysplasia  
and HPV infection in women living with HIV in  
Bali, Indonesia  
\$42,675<sup>1</sup>

Ketut Dewi Kumara Wati, MD, PhD  
TREAT Asia Pediatric HIV Observational  
Database (TApHOD)  
\$8,500<sup>1</sup>

### Cipto Mangunkusumo General Hospital Jakarta

Dina Muktiarti Hudaya, SpA(K)  
TREAT Asia Pediatric HIV Observational  
Database (TApHOD)  
\$8,500<sup>1</sup>

Evy Yuniastuti, MD, PhD  
The TAHOD Continuum of Care (TAHOD-CC)  
Study  
\$17,500<sup>1</sup>

Behavioral Economic Approaches for  
Tuberculosis Preventive Therapy in Asia  
Pacific leDEA (BEAT TB ASIA)  
\$18,576<sup>1</sup>

### Yayasan Peduli Hati Bangsa

Pagedangan  
Claudius Novchovick Mone Iye  
Community-led monitoring (CLM) to ensure  
quality diagnosis and treatment for people living  
with HIV and hepatitis C  
\$12,000<sup>3</sup>

## JAPAN

### National Center for Global Health and Medicine

Tokyo  
Junko Tanuma, MD, PhD  
The TAHOD Continuum of Care (TAHOD-CC)  
Study  
\$15,000<sup>1</sup>

## KOREA

### University-Industry Foundation, Yonsei University Health System

Seoul  
Jun Yong Choi, MD, PhD  
The TAHOD Continuum of Care (TAHOD-CC)  
Study  
\$17,500<sup>1</sup>

## MALAYSIA

### Universiti Malaya

Kuala Lumpur  
Raja Iskandar Shah Raja Azwa, MBChB, MRCP,  
DipGUM, DSRH, DIP HIV, CCT  
Implementation of a pharmacy-based HIV  
pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) model to  
increase PrEP uptake in Malaysia  
\$52,100<sup>1</sup>

Reena Rajasuriar, PhD  
The Mental Health and HIV Service Integration  
in Asia (MHInt) study  
\$24,026<sup>1</sup> (2022-2023); \$42,651<sup>1</sup> (2023-2024)

### Universiti Malaya Medical Centre

Kuala Lumpur  
Kejal Hasmukharay, MD  
CHIMERA Implementation Science  
Pilot Research Project  
\$8,000<sup>2</sup>

Anjanna Kukreja, MD  
CHIMERA Implementation Science  
Pilot Research Project  
\$8,000<sup>2</sup>

Raja Iskandar Shah Raja Azwa, MBChB, MRCP, DipGUM, DSRH, DIP HIV, CCT  
The TAHOD Continuum of Care (TAHOD-CC) Study  
\$17,500<sup>1</sup>

**Sungai Buloh Hospital**  
Sungai Buloh  
Yasmin Mohamed Gani, MD  
The TAHOD Continuum of Care (TAHOD-CC) Study  
\$15,000<sup>1</sup>

## PHILIPPINES

**LoveYourself (VINN Advocacy for the LGBT-MSM), Inc.**  
Bagubayan Taguig  
Ronivin Garcia Pagtakhan, MD, PhD  
South-East Asia Transgender Cohort Study (SEATrans)  
\$38,639<sup>1</sup>

**Research Institute for Tropical Medicine**  
Muntinlupa City  
Aripa Alonto, RSW  
CHIMERA Implementation Science Pilot Research Project  
\$8,000<sup>2</sup>

Rossana Ditangco, MD  
The TAHOD Continuum of Care (TAHOD-CC) Study  
\$15,000<sup>1</sup>

Adolescent and Young Adult network of leDEA (AYANI) Study Site  
\$20,926<sup>1</sup>

The Mental Health and HIV Service Integration in Asia (MHInt) study  
\$17,106<sup>1</sup> (2022-2023); \$36,034<sup>1</sup>(2023-2024)

Karmia Pakingan, RPsy  
CHIMERA Implementation Science Pilot Research Project  
\$8,000<sup>2</sup>

## SINGAPORE

**Tan Tock Seng Hospital**  
Singapore  
Oon Tek Ng, MBBS, MRCP, MMed, MPH  
The TAHOD Continuum of Care (TAHOD-CC) Study  
\$12,000<sup>1</sup>

## TAIWAN

**Taipei Veterans General Hospital**  
Taipei City  
Hsin-Pai Chen, MD, PhD  
The TAHOD Continuum of Care (TAHOD-CC) Study  
\$15,000<sup>1</sup>

## THAILAND

**Chulalongkorn University**  
Bangkok  
Thanyawee Puthanakit, MD  
Adolescent and Young Adult network of leDEA (AYANI) Study Site  
\$25,329<sup>1</sup>

Stigma around healthcare Transitions: Perspectives of Youth living with Perinatally acquired HIV  
\$4,824<sup>3</sup>

**HIV-NAT / Thai Red Cross AIDS Research Centre**  
Bangkok  
Anchalee Avihingsanon, MD, PhD  
The TAHOD Continuum of Care (TAHOD-CC) Study  
\$17,500<sup>1</sup>

leDEA Tuberculosis Sentinel Research Network (TB-SRN)  
\$70,903<sup>1</sup>

Inflammatory markers with frailty, cognitive performance and comorbidities among older adults living with HIV in a Thai aging cohort  
\$53,036<sup>1</sup>

The Mental Health and HIV Service Integration in Asia (MHInt) study  
\$33,454<sup>1</sup>

Kiat Ruxrungtham, MD, MSc  
Thailand National Health Registries Study  
\$19,000<sup>1</sup>

**Institute of HIV Research and Innovation Foundation (IHRI)**  
Bangkok  
Akarin Hiransuthikul, MD  
CHIMERA Implementation Science Pilot Research Project  
\$8,000<sup>2</sup>

Rena Janamnuaysook,  
Impact of Cannabis Decriminalization on Cannabis Use and HIV Risk among Young Adults in Thailand  
\$50,232<sup>1</sup>

Nittaya Phanuphak, MD, PhD  
Anal HSIL screening algorithm optimization study  
\$52,917<sup>1</sup>

Chemsex in young MSM: Comprehensive assessment in a Longitudinal study on Young MSM Attracting to chemsex (CYLMAX)  
\$56,182<sup>1</sup>

South-East Asia Transgender Cohort Study (SEATrans)  
\$59,615<sup>1</sup>

Study to develop Trans-tailored services for transgender individuals in Relation to chemsex (T-REX)  
\$42,525<sup>1</sup>

The Mental Health and HIV Service Integration in Asia (MHInt) study  
\$29,506<sup>1</sup>

**Rainbow Sky Association of Thailand**  
Bangkok  
Noi Somporn Saiwaew, PhD  
Impact of Cannabis Decriminalization on Cannabis Use and HIV Risk among Young Adults in Thailand  
\$9,768<sup>1</sup>

South-East Asia Transgender Cohort Study (SEATrans)  
\$35,798<sup>1</sup>

**Ramathibodi Hospital, Mahidol University**  
Bangkok  
Sasisopin Kiartiburanakul, MD, MHS  
The TAHOD Continuum of Care (TAHOD-CC) Study  
\$17,500<sup>1</sup>

**Chiang Mai University Research Institute for Health Sciences**  
Chiang Mai  
Linda Aurrpibul, MD  
Biomarkers of cardiovascular disease in youth with perinatally acquired HIV  
\$27,662<sup>3</sup>

Stigma and Modified Delphi Method Sub-Studies of Thai PAPAAYA  
\$12,695<sup>3</sup>

CHIMERA Implementation Science Pilot Research Project  
\$8,000<sup>2</sup>

Romanee Chaiwarith, MD, MHS  
The TAHOD Continuum of Care (TAHOD-CC) Study  
\$15,000<sup>1</sup>

Tavitiya Sudjaritruk, MD, ScM, PhD  
Adolescent and Young Adult network of leDEA (AYANI) Study Site  
\$22,085<sup>1</sup>

Suicidal Behavior Among Thai adolescents living with HIV (S-BETAH) study  
\$56,283<sup>1</sup>

**Chiangrai Prachanukroh Hospital**  
Chiang Rai  
Suwimon Khusuwan, MD  
The TAHOD Continuum of Care (TAHOD-CC) Study  
\$20,000<sup>1</sup>

leDEA Tuberculosis Sentinel Research Network (TB-SRN)  
\$40,858<sup>1</sup>

Pradthana Ounchanum, MD  
Suicidal Behavior Among Thai adolescents living with HIV (S-BETAH) study  
\$13,199<sup>1</sup>

Srinagarind Hospital, Khon Kaen University  
Khon Kaen  
Pope Kosalaraksa, MD  
Suicidal Behavior Among Thai adolescents living  
with HIV (S-BETAH) study  
\$17,788<sup>1</sup>

## USA

Johns Hopkins University  
Baltimore, MD  
Amita Gupta, MD, MHA  
leDEA Asia-Pacific: JHU/BJGMC cohort and  
substudies  
\$163,400<sup>1</sup>

Research Foundation for Mental Hygiene, Inc.  
Menands, NY  
Claude Ann Mellins, PhD  
Technical support to the Suicidal behavior among  
Thai adolescent living with HIV (S-BETAH) study  
\$20,025<sup>1</sup>

Columbia University  
New York, NY  
Milton Wainberg, MD  
The Mental Health and HIV Service Integration in  
Asia (MHInt) study  
\$19,000<sup>1</sup>

Capacity development for HIV and mental health  
research in Asia (CHIMERA)  
\$27,389<sup>2</sup>

## VIETNAM

Bach Mai Hospital  
Hanoi  
Do Duy Cuong, MD, PhD  
The TAHOD Continuum of Care (TAHOD-CC)  
Study  
\$17,500<sup>1</sup>

National Hospital for Tropical Diseases  
Hanoi  
Thach Ngoc Pham, MD, PhD  
leDEA Sentinel Research Network  
(SRN)-Asia-Pacific  
\$71,449<sup>1</sup>

National Hospital of Pediatrics  
Hanoi  
Nguyen Van Lam, MD, MSc, PhD  
TREAT Asia Pediatric HIV Observational Database  
(TApHOD)  
\$20,000<sup>1</sup>

Children's Hospital 1  
Ho Chi Minh City  
Du Tuan Quy, MD  
TREAT Asia Pediatric HIV Observational  
Database (TApHOD)  
\$20,000<sup>1</sup>

Children's Hospital 2  
Ho Chi Minh City  
Qui Dinh Nguyen, MD  
TREAT Asia Pediatric HIV Observational  
Database (TApHOD)  
\$15,000<sup>1</sup>

Glink Vietnam Social Enterprise Company Limited  
Ho Chi Minh City  
Thanh Le Minh,  
South-East Asia Transgender Cohort  
Study (SEATrans)  
\$23,709<sup>1</sup>

## 2023 PUBLIC POLICY GRANTS AND AWARDS

The projects listed below were awarded  
funding during the period October 1,  
2022 through September 30, 2023.

Serological survey to assess the prevalence of  
MPOX infection among MSM, TGW and non-  
binary persons in NYC  
Project Director: Andrea Low, MD, PhD  
Columbia University  
New York, NY  
\$35,000

Rapid Epidemiologic Study of Prevalence,  
Networks, and Demographics of Monkeypox  
Infection (RESPND-MI)  
Project Director: Keletso Makofane, PhD  
PrEP4All, Inc.  
Brooklyn, NY  
\$13,000

Advancing Global HIV and Policy Data for  
Transgender and Nonbinary Populations  
Project Director: Don Operario, PhD  
Emory University  
Atlanta, GA  
\$40,000

Multi-sectoral Mpox diagnostic tests and solutions  
delivery workshop  
Project Director: Mitch Stripling, MPA  
Columbia University  
New York, NY  
\$40,000

National PrEP Program  
Project Director: Christian Urrutia  
PrEP4All, Inc.  
Brooklyn, NY  
\$10,000

## 2023 COMMUNITY OUTREACH AWARD

Andrea Bocelli Foundation  
Charities Aid Foundation of America  
(CAF America)  
Alexandria, VA  
\$408,520; \$429,400



# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

# STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

For the year ended  
**September 30, 2023**

## Public Support and Revenue

Public support	\$ 3,413,457
Special events	13,470,491
Planned giving	1,329,814
Government funding	9,975,231
Investment income and other revenue	3,057,543
<b>Total public support and revenue</b>	<b>\$ 31,246,536</b>

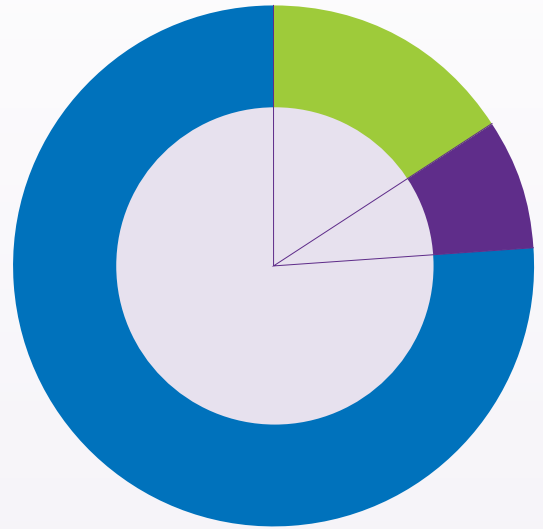
## Expenses

Research	\$ 13,605,855
TREAT Asia	5,074,670
Public Policy	2,276,417
Public Information	3,820,815
<b>Total program services</b>	<b>\$ 24,777,757</b>

Fundraising	6,634,204
Management and general	2,559,302
<b>Total supporting services</b>	<b>\$ 9,193,506</b>

<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$ 33,971,263</b>
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Change in net assets	(2,724,727)
Net assets, beginning of year	35,094,352
<b>Net assets, end of year</b>	<b>\$ 32,369,625</b>



## EXPENSES



PROGRAM  
**\$24,777,757**

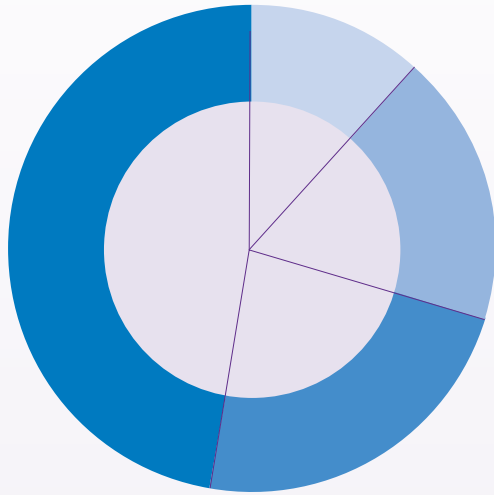


FUNDRAISING  
**\$6,634,204**



MANAGEMENT AND GENERAL  
**\$2,559,302**

**\$33,971,263**  
TOTAL EXPENSES



## PROGRAM EXPENSES



**\$13,605,855**

RESEARCH



**\$5,074,670**

TREAT ASIA



**\$2,276,417**

PUBLIC POLICY



**\$3,820,815**

PUBLIC  
INFORMATION

**\$24,777,757**

TOTAL PROGRAM EXPENSES

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

### Assets

Cash and investments	\$ 34,987,785
Pledges and receivables, net	7,333,234
Prepaid expenses and other assets	2,403,793
Furniture, equipment, and leasehold improvements, net	2,278,757
Right of use asset, net—operating leases	3,715,594
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 50,719,163</b>

### Liabilities

Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 6,278,878
Line of credit	1,311,267
Grants and fellowships payable, net	669,464
Deferred support and refundable advances	5,040,944
Other long-term liabilities	409,026
Lease liabilities—operating leases	4,639,959
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 18,349,538</b>

### Net assets

Net assets beginning of year	\$ 35,094,352
Change in net assets	(2,724,727)
<b>Net assets end of year</b>	<b>\$ 32,369,625</b>

<b>Total liabilities and net assets</b>	<b>\$ 50,719,163</b>
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# BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Fiscal Year 2023

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**Carl W. Dieffenbach, PhD**  
Director, Division of AIDS (DAIDS)  
National Institute of Allergy and Infectious  
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**Daniel C. Douek, MD, PhD**  
Chief, Genome Analysis Core  
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National Institute of Allergy and Infectious  
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*Emerging Infectious Diseases*  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

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University

**Homayoon Farzadegan, PhD**  
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**Sarah Fidler, BSc, MBBS, FRCP, PhD\***  
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Imperial College London

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Massachusetts General Hospital

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Epidemiology and Public Health  
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Yale School of Medicine

**Christina Gavegnano, PhD\***  
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Department of Pathology and Laboratory  
Medicine  
School of Medicine  
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**Howard E. Gendelman, MD**  
Margaret R. Larson Professor of Internal Medicine  
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Chair, Department of Pharmacology and  
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University of Nebraska Medical Center

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Professor and Director  
Oregon National Primate Research Center  
Oregon Health & Science University

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Associate Professor of Medicine  
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International Medicine  
University of Minnesota

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University of California, Los Angeles

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Columbia University

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Microbiology PhD Program of Biological  
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Yale School of Medicine

**Thomas J. Hope, PhD**  
Professor, Department of Cell and Molecular  
Biology, McCormick School of Engineering  
and Obstetrics and Gynecology  
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Northwestern University

**Shiu-Lok Hu, PhD**  
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Department of Pharmaceutics  
School of Pharmacy  
University of Washington

**Nuria Izquierdo-Useros, PhD\***  
Principal Investigator  
Pathogens, Immunity, Signalization and Applied  
Therapies  
IrsiCaixa, Institut de Recerca de la Sida

**Richard Jefferys**  
Basic Science, Vaccines, and Cure Project  
Director  
Treatment Action Group

**R. Brad Jones, PhD\***  
Associate Professor  
Division of Infectious Diseases  
Department of Microbiology and Immunology  
Weill Cornell Medicine

**Jonathan Karn, PhD\***  
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Department of Molecular Biology  
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**Mary F. Kearney, PhD\***  
Deputy Director, HIV Dynamics  
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Head, Translational Research Section  
Center for Cancer Research  
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**Vineet N. KewalRamani, PhD**  
Head, Model Development Section  
Center for Cancer Research  
National Cancer Institute  
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**Scott Kitchen, PhD**  
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**Richard S. Kornbluth, MD, PhD**  
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Section  
National Institute of Allergy and Infectious  
Diseases  
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Infectious Diseases and of Microbial Pathogenesis  
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New York University Grossman  
School of Medicine

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of Medicine

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Immunology and Infectious Diseases  
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University of Minnesota

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Vaccine and Infectious Disease Division  
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Mount Sinai St. Luke's and Roosevelt Hospitals

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