



FISHER CENTER FOR
ALZHEIMER'S
RESEARCH FOUNDATION

**2020 ANNUAL
REPORT**

A large, semi-transparent background image of a human brain in shades of blue and white. Overlaid on the brain are various scientific and mathematical elements: a network of spheres and connecting lines resembling a molecular or neural structure; several mathematical equations such as "x=0 xn", "+45.565", "1+x+y+2a", "45-4a-3", "45+125.425", "12-y+", "1+2a...+a", "+125.425 Km h->0", and "8=mc2"; and binary code patterns.

CAUSES, CARE, CURE

ABOUT

Fisher Center for Alzheimer's Research Foundation

In 1994, philanthropists Zachary Fisher and David Rockefeller partnered to establish the Zachary and Elizabeth M. Fisher Center for Research on Alzheimer's Disease at The Rockefeller University (The Fisher Center Lab) after Fisher's wife Elizabeth was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease. In 1995, Mr. Fisher founded the Zachary and Elizabeth M. Fisher Center for Alzheimer's Research Foundation for the purpose of raising funds to support the Lab. Each year, the Fisher Center Foundation provides millions of dollars for novel Alzheimer's research.

The Lab, formerly under the direction of the late Nobel Laureate Dr. Paul Greengard, is one of the largest and best-equipped scientific facilities for Alzheimer's research in the country. It is currently directed by Dr. Marc Flajolet and his team of internationally-renowned scientists who are working diligently to find the causes and cure for Alzheimer's disease.

Together, we can end Alzheimer's



"I know that an answer will not be found in time to help my beloved Elizabeth, but I want to do what I can to find a cure so that others will not have to suffer through the ravages of this disease as my wife and I have had to."

- Zachary Fisher

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Executive Director Message	3
Mission & Vision	4
Impact	5
Program Work	6
Paul Greengard Professorship	7
Research	8-10
Chair/Treasurer Message	11
Information Program	12-13
Financial Overview	14-15
Our Donors	16
Our Team	17-19
Achievements	20
How To Donate	21



MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

The world is quite different than it was a year ago. But while most of us hunkered down and waited (and some of the world continues to wait) for our new “normal” to arrive, teams of Fisher Center Lab scientists worked through the pandemic to search for a cure for Alzheimer’s disease.

The Fisher Center for Alzheimer’s Research Foundation staff also worked throughout 2020, strategically and diligently raising funds to support awareness and critical research. As you’ll see in our Financial Statements (pg. 14 &15), even a global pandemic could not slow our efforts. The number of Americans with Alzheimer’s disease is growing relentlessly each year, which means that we must be equally relentless in our efforts to find a cure.

It means a great deal to me to lead this Foundation, knowing that our work makes a difference not only in the lives of millions suffering from Alzheimer’s, but also their family and caregivers. Our fundraising efforts support scientists and researchers whose ultimate goal is to find a cure. As you will read in the following pages, great strides are being made towards that goal every single day.

We cannot reach this goal without your support however, and I am incredibly grateful for every dollar donated. Thank you.

Lucretia V. Holden, SHRM-CP



MISSION & VISION

Fisher Center for Alzheimer's Research Foundation

The principal activity of the Fisher Center Foundation is to provide funding to the Fisher Center Lab and faculty research at Rockefeller University. The Lab is dedicated to solving the puzzle of Alzheimer's disease, and is considered by many to be a prototype for Alzheimer's research.

The Fisher Center Foundation curates the findings of scientists' research and provides national comprehensive public education and disease awareness through our Information Program. Our website, ALZinfo.org has a unique Resource Locator that allows visitors to input their zip code to pinpoint doctors, nurses, disease centers, elder attorneys, Medicare information, home health agencies and more. Our scientists answer questions through the "Ask the Experts" feature on our website; our free e-newsletter, *Alzheimer's Research News You Can Use*, is the most reviewed Alzheimer's and dementia newsletter on the internet; and caregivers can join our support group through our online Caregiver's Corner. Our 1-800-ALZINFO phone system assists people who do not have access to the internet.

Our award-winning triannual print publication, *Preserving Your Memory®*, circulates 51,500 copies per issue and has reached 10.7 million people since its inception. The editorial content is reviewed by our scientific team for accuracy and validity as it addresses concerns of readers affected by the disease—whether caregiver or patient—and provides information about Alzheimer's treatment, care options, and how to take the necessary steps to adequately prepare if they, or someone they love, receive(s) an Alzheimer's diagnosis.

Our mission is to understand the causes of Alzheimer's disease, improve the care of people living with it, and find a cure.

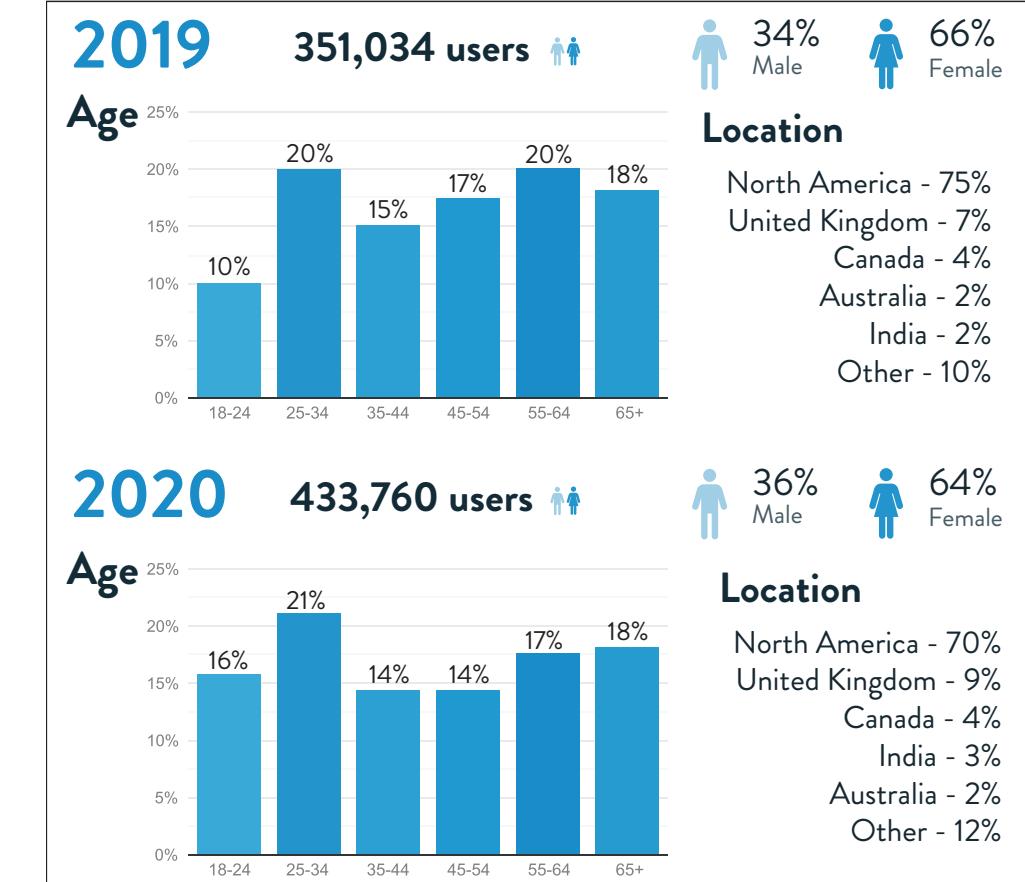
Our vision is working towards a future when Alzheimer's is nothing but a memory.



IMPACT

Our redesigned website is a breath of fresh air! It's modern, easy-to-navigate and dynamic. We also redesigned our custom crowdfunding site with supporters in mind, with tools to share and bring more awareness towards Alzheimer's research. Our Information Program continues to spearhead efforts to increase awareness of, and education about, Alzheimer's disease.

Website Traffic



ORGANIC TRAFFIC

In 2020, our organic traffic (non-paid search traffic) increased by 41% in comparison to the previous year.

Initiatives

We know how important it is to be at the top of Google search engine rankings. That's why we've put a lot of work into building up our Search Engine Results Position. We have spent countless hours working on search engine strategies and more so that we can rank high on Google when people do searches related to Alzheimer's and Dementia. With the redesign of our website, this has helped our constituents find what they need quickly when searching for what matters most to them.





OUR PROGRAM WORK

CAUSES

There are a number of contributing factors to Alzheimer's that the Fisher scientists are actively studying. Historically, the cause of Alzheimer's has been linked almost exclusively to the production of a toxic component that sticks together to form larger formations called amyloid plaques. The field has realized that many other biological processes could also cause Alzheimer's: inflammation in the brain, the loss of synapses, and cell signaling may also be contributing factors to the development of the disease.

CARE

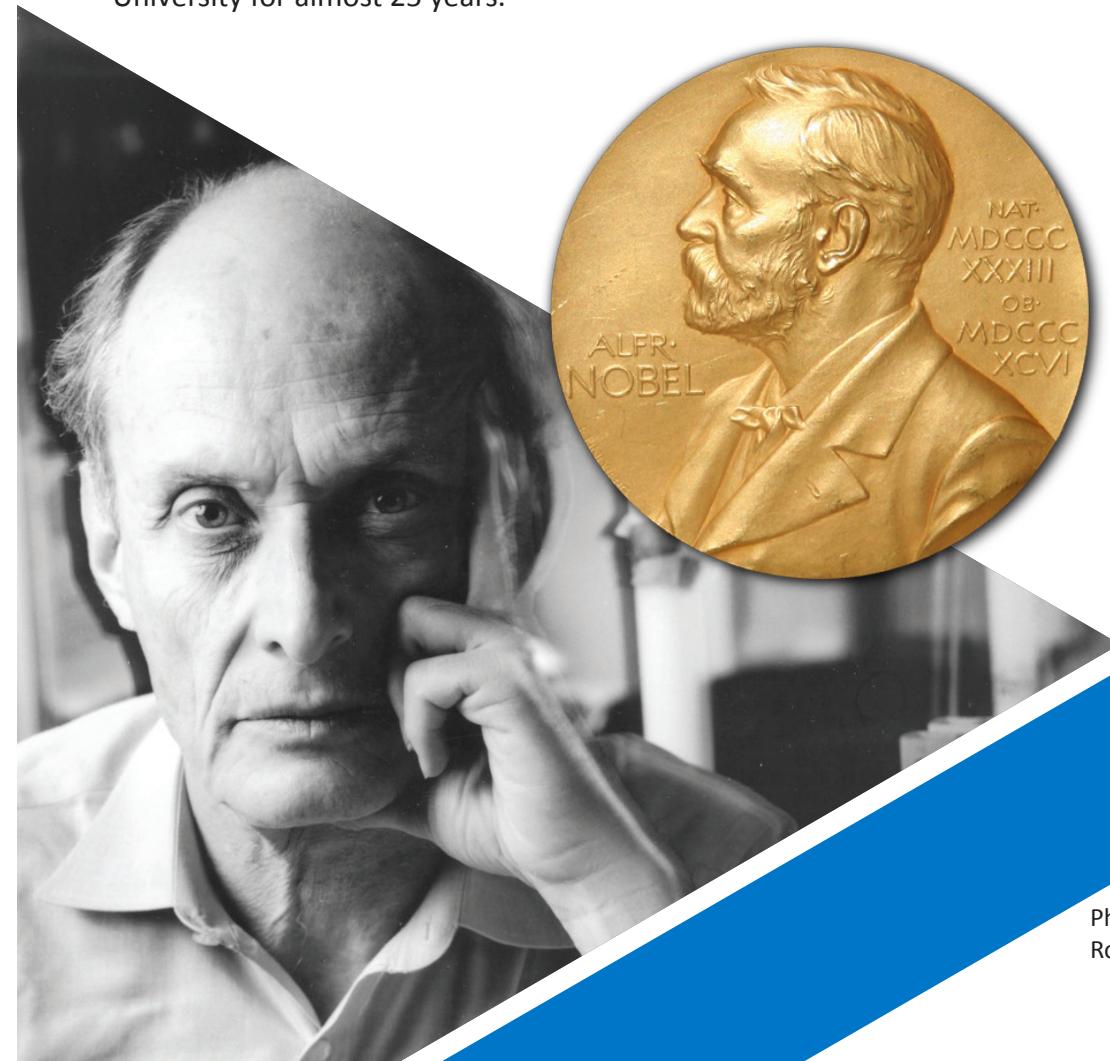
Caregivers and family members face many challenges, both in adjusting to new roles and coping with the profound changes in a loved one. If you're facing this role, knowing what to expect can help you cope better. In turn, you'll be able to do the most good for your loved one. Our Information Program continues to spearhead efforts to increase awareness of, and education about, Alzheimer's disease to help you through this challenging time.

CURE

In the past, the strategy for a possible cure has been largely focused on reducing amyloid plaques, however, a number of novel therapeutic strategies are emerging. Currently, the Fisher Center scientists are prioritizing research on target proteins and neural pathways, based on their possibility of being used as a drug target for the cure. In addition, they're also actively performing drug screening and testing to find effective Alzheimer's drugs.

PAUL GREENGARD PROFESSORSHIP

In 2016, the Fisher Center for Alzheimer's Research Foundation endowed the Paul Greengard Professorship to acknowledge Dr. Greengard's devotion to the best of science. The Fisher Center Foundation committed an endowment of \$5M to sustain the novel Alzheimer's disease research that was led by the late Nobel Laureate Dr. Paul Greengard in the Fisher Center on Alzheimer's Disease Research laboratory at The Rockefeller University for almost 25 years.



"I am deeply honored by the creation of this professorship. I owe the Fisher Center Foundation a debt of gratitude for their wonderful generosity and long-standing support of our work on Alzheimer's disease."

-Dr. Paul Greengard
February 24, 2017

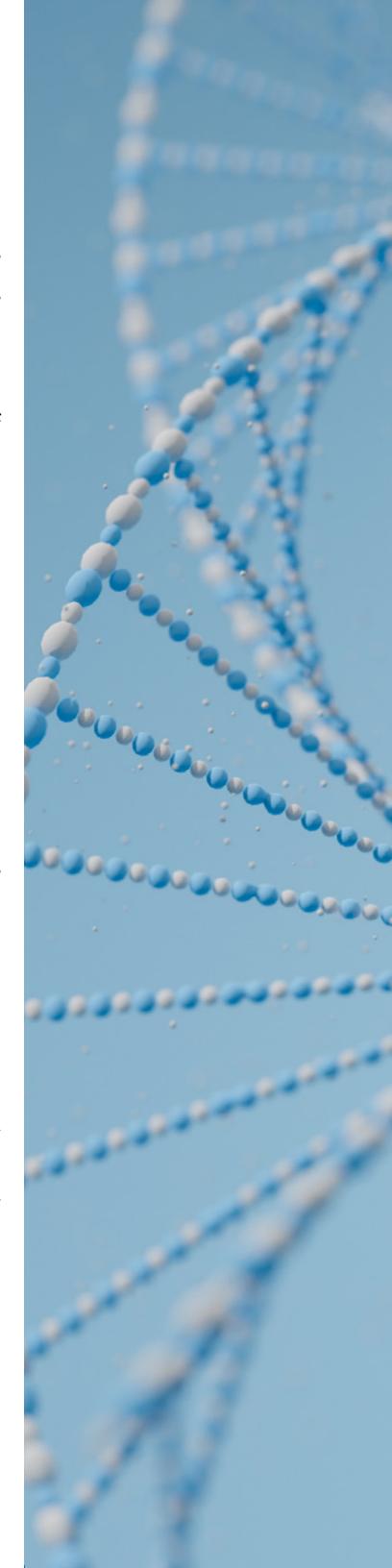
Photo Courtesy of:
Robert Reichert/The Rockefeller University

THE FISHER CENTER LAB AT THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY

A majority of our grant funding goes to the Zachary and Elizabeth M. Fisher Center for Research on Alzheimer's Disease (The Fisher Center Lab) at The Rockefeller University in New York. Funds are used for neurological research into finding the cause of Alzheimer's and potential new pharmacological treatment options. The Lab has been under the interim direction of Dr. Marc Flajolet since the passing of Nobel Laureate Dr. Paul Greengard in 2019. The Fisher Center provides researchers worldwide with a conceptual framework for understanding the disease process, and continues to be at the forefront of one day finding a cure for Alzheimer's disease.

During the calendar year, researchers discovered that specific types of nerve cells (neurons) are more susceptible to the Alzheimer's disease pathology, being affected and disappearing sooner than other (resistant) neurons. Fisher scientists are using a unique set of technologies to better understand underlying causes of this process and help design entirely new therapeutic strategies. New genes are being characterized that they have linked to vulnerability. A second relatively new project is centered on our discovery that a different fragment of app (called c99) is a better marker for neurodegeneration. This study was mostly based on human brain samples which gives it even more value.

In other research, our scientists accelerated the breakdown of the toxic beta-amyloid component by targeting a cellular process called Autophagy, a process responsible for removing debris from the cells, as well as identifying a novel signaling network within neurons that regulates beta-amyloid degradation. Fisher scientists continue developing therapeutic approaches, building a novel platform for drug discovery applications, as they characterize and optimize chemically active molecules, with the end goal of helping to protect people from developing Alzheimer's disease.



THE FISHER ALZHEIMER'S EDUCATION AND RESOURCES PROGRAM AT NYU GROSSMAN SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

The now widely accepted Seven Stages of Alzheimer's Disease, a diagnostic tool created by Dr. Barry Reisberg, improved worldwide understanding of Alzheimer's and assisted in the discovery of new treatments for the disease. For example, the stages of "mild cognitive impairment (MCI)" and "subjective cognitive decline (SCD)" have subsequently become "household words" in our field. During this year, we discovered a new, even earlier stage of Alzheimer's disease, which we termed, "psychometric cognitive decline."

To test this new stage, we recruited 60 healthy persons with no cognitive decline. We followed 47 of these persons over a mean of 6.7 years. We classified persons as decliners if they developed SCD or worse and as non-decliners if they remained free of subjective or objective impairments. At follow-up, we found that there was a very significant difference between the two groups in the decline rate. After controlling for demographic variables and follow-up time, our combinatorial psychometric test score was significantly lower in the future decliners. The results were published as a 30th anniversary research article in dementia and geriatric cognitive disorders in May 2020. These findings provide an opportunity for intervention at an earlier point in the evolution of eventual Alzheimer's disease than has previously been possible.

In 2020, a grant was made to the New York University School of Medicine for The Fisher Alzheimer's Disease Education and Resources program where Drs. Reisberg and Kenowsky examined health outcomes of the comprehensive, individualized, patient-centered Alzheimer's management program. Primary research focused on antidepressant usage and cost.

Also studied was the effect of our comprehensive, individualized person-centered management program (CI-PCM) on antidepressant usage in community-residing, advanced Alzheimer's disease persons. We found that the CI-PCM persons had significant decreases in antidepressant usage and in behavioral symptomatology, as well as a resolution of their depressive symptoms. The group who received usual community care (UCC) received more antidepressant medication and paid 4.2 times more for antidepressants. In addition, UCC persons had a worsening of both behavioral disturbances and depressive symptoms.

BRAIN AND SPINE INSTITUTE (ICM) IMAGINE INSTITUTE - PARIS, FRANCE

A grant was given to The Brain and Spine Imaging Institute to carry out research by Benoit Delatour, Marc Dhenain, Patrice Dubreuil, and Olivier Hermine to investigate whether changing the structure of amyloid proteins (the proteins that can form into plaques, thought to be a major cause of Alzheimer's disease) causes protein aggregates to be decreased. In this hypothesis, Masitinib was tested for its ability to block the formation of these plaques.

Masitinib is a drug-like compound which inhibits a type of signaling protein called a kinase. Kinases are important regulators of cellular communication. Initially, Masitinib has been shown to specifically block the activity of three such kinases: c-Kit, Lyn and Fyn. These are important for a type of cells called mast cells. Signaling of mast cells play a crucial role for the immune system and the brain. Masitinib has also been shown to target another kinase called MCSFR-1 that plays a critical role in microglia modulation. Microglia is a type of cell that has a scavenger function in the brain and is believed to be highly relevant for Alzheimer's. In summary, Masitinib could act on four different targets that involve dysfunctional mechanisms: modulation of microglia, protection of synapses, inhibition of Tau protein, and control of mast cell activity.

In one experiment (the Morris Water Maze test), we use a mouse model of Alzheimer's disease and compare it to normal mice. The test measures the ability of mice to memorize the location of a small submerged platform in a pool of milky water. After several attempts, normal mice quickly memorize the location of the platform, while mice with Alzheimer's are significantly slower. Masitinib significantly improved the cognitive ability of the Alzheimer's mice. Similarly, Masitinib could protect against synaptic loss (the active zones between neurons which are crucial for neuronal communication) by reducing mast cell activity.

In a novel clinical trial, three varying doses of Masitinib were tested on Alzheimer's patients: 3 mg/kg/day, 4.5 mg/kg/day and titration from 4.5 to 6 mg/kg/day. Early on, the study arm involving the lower dose was stopped. The study enrolled 718 patients from 118 sites in 21 countries. The latest results reported correspond to 24 weeks of treatment. Significant effects were observed in the areas of cognitive function, daily activity, as well as some numerical advantages (not statistically significant) of Masitinib on other tests. From those encouraging studies, it is possible to conclude that 4.5 mg/kg/day represents the effective dose for AD.

MESSAGE FROM CHAIR/TREASURER

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

2020 is certainly a year that will go down in history as one of the most challenging our world has ever seen, and while our country is still not completely back to "normal," I do feel hopeful that we are on the other side of this pandemic.

I am proud to report that while much of the world was shut down, our scientists and researchers were hard at work seeking a cure for Alzheimer's disease, in addition to working with global teams to find a cure for COVID-19. In the pages preceding this letter, you'll learn of their efforts to find the causes, and ultimately a cure, for Alzheimer's.

The research we fund through the Fisher Center for Alzheimer's Research Foundation is critical, as Alzheimer's disease currently affects 44 million people and their families worldwide. I see no better way to change the lives of millions than to support the work of our world-renowned scientists.

Finally, I would be remiss not to mention our ninth consecutive Four Star rating by Charity Navigator, and our 2020 Guidestar Gold Seal of Transparency, both indicators of our impeccable stewardship of your financial gifts.

To all our advocates, grantees, and friends, I thank you for your continued support.



Barry R. Sloane



INFORMATION PROGRAM

The Fisher Center for Alzheimer's Research Foundation Information Program provides information, education and awareness via our website, printed resources and social media networks.



WEBSITE

Our award-winning website, ALZinfo.org, has recently benefited from a redesign, making the site easier to navigate and more visually appealing. Whether you (or a loved one) have just been given an Alzheimer's diagnosis, or you've been living with the disease for years, you'll find helpful information and resources on our site.

BOOKLETS

Want to learn about the history of Alzheimer's disease? Are you confused about the seven clinical stages? The Foundation publishes helpful booklets and pamphlets to help you navigate this disease. Please contact us via email (info@ALZinfo.org) to obtain copies, or download them directly from our website.

MAGAZINES

For almost 15 years, our tri-annual magazine, *Preserving Your Memory*®, has featured those battling Alzheimer's and their caregivers. Articles provide up-to-date information on the latest drug and treatment discoveries, bringing hope to many. Please contact us if you are interested in obtaining a subscription (info@ALZinfo.org), or subscribe via our website (ALZinfo.org/pymmag).

E-NEWSLETTER

Twice each month, subscribers are treated to *Alzheimer's Research News You Can Use*, an e-newsletter that highlights the latest Alzheimer's research discoveries, including ways to strengthen cognitive muscles through mental and physical exercise, diet and more. All articles are reviewed by our scientists for accuracy. Subscribe through our website at ALZinfo.org/news/e-newsletter or by contacting us via email at info@ALZinfo.org.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Stay in touch by adding us to your social media platforms:

- On Facebook: facebook.com/ALZResearch
- On Twitter: twitter.com/fishercenter
- On Instagram: instagram.com/alzinfo

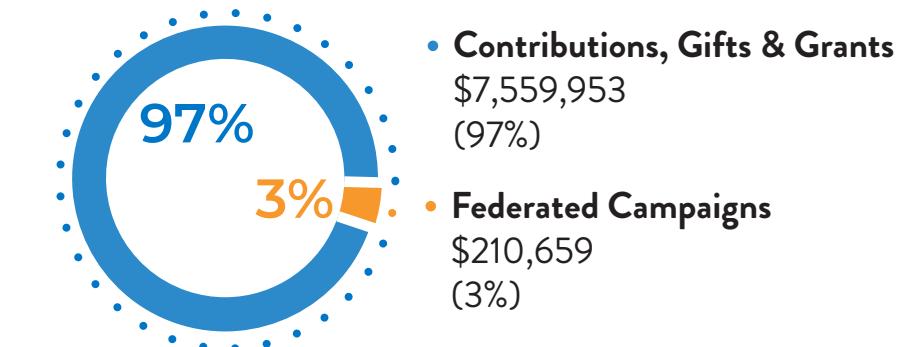
AUDITED FINANCIAL POSITION

Statement of Financial Position
December 31, 2020
(with comparative amounts at December 31, 2019)

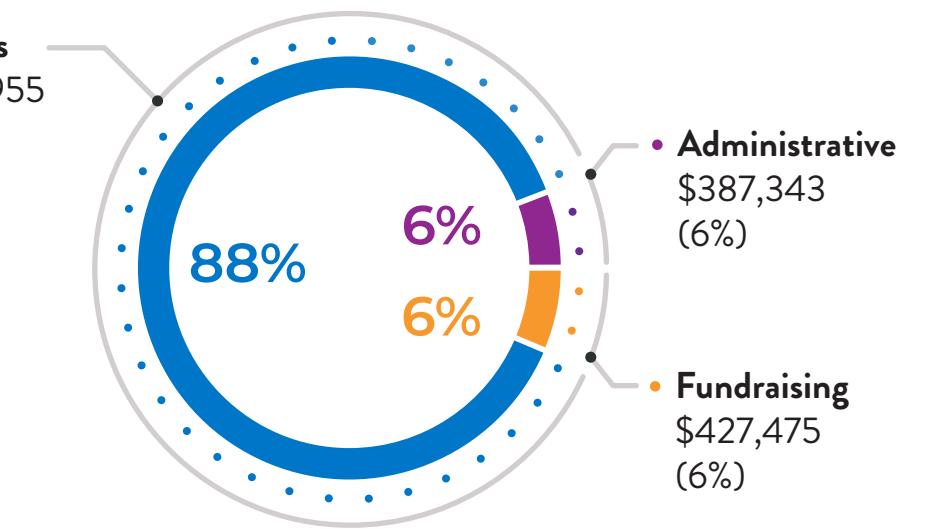
	2020	2019
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 6,476,525	\$ 7,045,712
Pledges receivable from federated campaigns	229,416	304,851
Contributions receivable	443,271	212,583
Investments	27,626,607	23,941,098
Other assets	21,853	14,851
Furniture and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation of \$10,728 and \$9,941 in 2020 and 2019	<u>2,078</u>	<u>2,865</u>
	<u>\$ 34,799,750</u>	<u>\$ 31,521,960</u>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 240,532	\$ 79,748
Grants payable, net of discount	<u>2,204,998</u>	<u>2,810,985</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>2,445,530</u>	<u>2,890,733</u>
Net Assets		
Without donor restrictions	32,129,483	28,326,376
With donor restrictions	<u>224,737</u>	<u>304,851</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>32,354,220</u>	<u>28,631,227</u>
	<u>\$ 34,799,750</u>	<u>\$ 31,521,960</u>

2020 FINANCIAL REPORT

Contributions Breakdown
\$7,770,612
(FYE 12/2020)



Expenses Breakdown
\$6,814,773
(FYE 12/2020)



Programs

The Foundation's primary goal is to fund The Fisher Center, underwriting novel research to find a cure and understand the causes of Alzheimer's disease. Programs include:

- Our website, ALZinfo.org, which hosts a wealth of information about Alzheimer's disease.
- *Preserving Your Memory®*, a tri-annual magazine filled with caregiving tips and the latest news on Alzheimer's research and treatments.
- *Alzheimer's Research News You Can Use*, an e-newsletter that provides information about how to better live with, and care for, someone with Alzheimer's disease.

Fundraising

Fundraising allows us to promote our mission to end Alzheimer's by raising awareness and providing funding for novel Alzheimer's research.

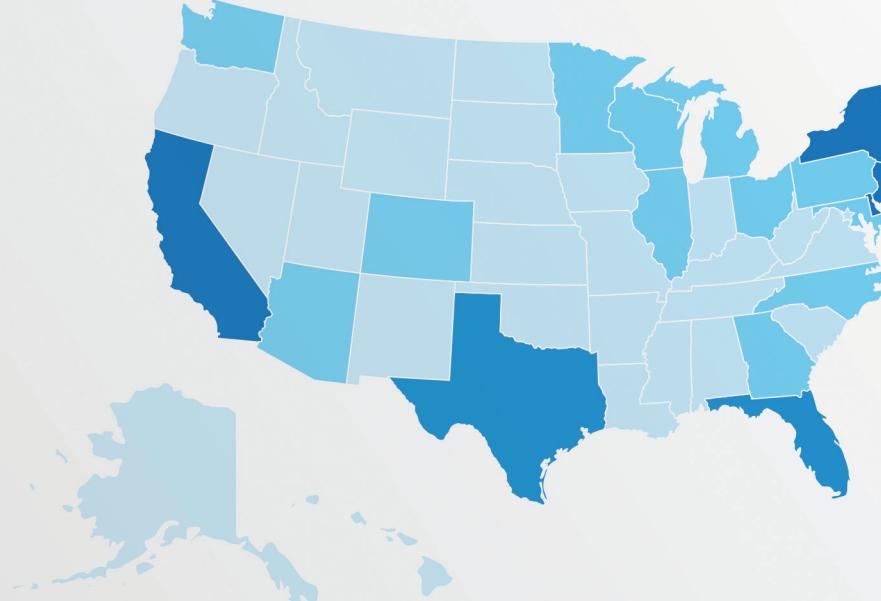
Administrative

Our administrative expenses support:

- A small, talented staff,
- Legal and accounting services,
- Office equipment and supplies.

Thank you

TO OUR DONORS ACROSS THE GLOBE



IN 2020...

Our scientists at The Fisher Center Lab worked on identifying the key protein required for amyloid- β (A β) formation, plaques thought to trigger Alzheimer's development and degradation.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Barry R. Sloane
Chairman & Treasurer

Dr. Manny Alvarez

James L. Nederlander

Martin Edelman
Vice Chairman

Dr. E. Ratcliffe Anderson, Jr.

Richard J. Salem

Howard W. Lutnick
Vice Chairman
David H.W. Turner
Secretary

Gerry Byrne
Hadley M. Fisher
Betsy Gotbaum

Dr. Moshe Shike
Lois Whitman-Hess

FISHER CENTER FOUNDATION STAFF

Lucretia Holden
Executive Director

Christina Hall
Development & Communications Director

Rebecca Libed
Database Specialist & Analyst

Jerry Louis
Web Developer & Graphic Designer



NEUROSCIENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (2020)

The Fisher Center's Scientific Advisory Board is comprised of world-renowned doctors and scientists who provide counsel and act as resources for the Foundation.



Scientific Advisory Board from left to right:

Dr. Marc Flajolet, Dr. Michael W. Young, Dr. Torsten N. Wiesel, Dr. Cornelia Bargmann,
Dr. Nathaniel Heintz, Dr. Hermann Steller, Dr. Sidney Strickland

RESEARCH TEAM



Research Team from left to right:

Dr. Marc Flajolet, Dr. Jerry Chang, Dr. Ana Milosevic, Dr. Revathy Chottekalapanda, Dr. Yotam Sagi,
Dr. Lucian Medrihan, Dr. Yashoda Sunkari, Dr. Vijay Siripuram, Dr. Jose Ledo, Dr. Thu-Lan
Dr. Fei Ma, Dr. William J. Netzer, Dr. Barry Reisberg, Dr. Sunnie Kenowsky, Dr. Benoit Delatour
Dr. Jean-Pierre Roussarie, Dr. Victor Bustos

Researchers not photographed:
Dr. Marc Dhenain, Dr. Patrice Dubreuil, Dr. Olivier Hermine

REMAINING A LEADER IN OUR FIELD

WITH TOP AWARDS AND RATINGS
FOR OUR ACCOUNTABILITY, TRANSPARENCY,
AND HIGH QUALITY
DIGITAL HEALTH RESOURCES

The Fisher Center for Alzheimer's Research Foundation Board
of Trustees, Advisory Committee, and Staff humbly thank
our donors who enable us to invest in scientific research and
information programs for Alzheimer's patients and caregivers.
We remain committed to fiscal prudence to ensure sustainability
and meaningful resources for the Alzheimer's community.



OUR DONORS ARE BRINGING US CLOSER TO A CURE

Here's how:



ONLINE

Donate online by going to alzinfo.org/donate



BY MAIL



FDR Station, PO Box 220
New York, NY 10150



STOCK TRANSFERS

Receiving Bank:
Wells Fargo
Acct Name: Fisher Center
for Alzheimer's Research
Foundation
DTC #: 0141
Acct #: 3733-3729



BY PHONE/EMAIL



1-800-259-4636
1-212-915-1328
info@alzinfo.org

MATCHING GIFTS



Tax ID # 13-3859563



BEQUESTS /
PLANNED GIVING

For more information
please call: 212-915-1322



WORKPLACE
DONATIONS

Inquire with your employer
about workplace giving.



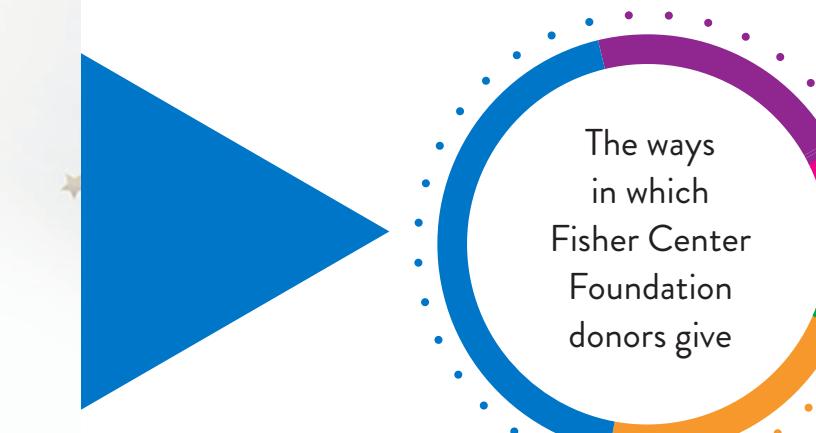
MEMORY WALL

alzinfo.org/memory-wall



FUNDRAISING

alzinfo.org/fundraising



The different ways our donors contribute:

Credit Card	41%
Check	22%
EFT	19%
Workplace Donations	9%
Community Fundraising	9%



FDR Station, PO Box 220
New York, NY 10150

T. 212.915.1328
E. info@alzinfo.org