

## 2018 Annual Report

### MISSION

*The Leukemia Research Foundation is dedicated to conquering all blood cancers by funding research into their causes and cures, and enriching the quality of life of those touched by these diseases.*

### 2017-2018 IN REVIEW

The Leukemia Research Foundation (LRF) takes great pride providing significant funding to *New Investigators* engaged in progressive research in pursuit of a cure. Further, the LRF continues to distribute significant support each year in need-based financial assistance to help patients. And the educational and support programs offered earned prominent approval once again.

Fundraising totals for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018 eclipsed **\$2.5 million** marking the second highest total in organization history. Hard work and persistence, which has been our trademark since 1946, continues to be the force that propels us forward.

Highlights for the year include:

- Awarded \$1,167,000 in grants to 12 *New Investigator* researchers.
- Awarded \$250,000 to Loyola University Medical Center to support research and study of an Anti-CD19 Pure Car-T Cell Population for the treatment of patients with refractory acute lymphocytic leukemia and B Cell non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.
- The need-based Patient Financial Assistance Program, and other patient support programs including *Kids' Party, Town Hall Meeting, Treatment Options Conference, and Road to A Cure* provided hundreds of patients with information on emerging treatments on a complimentary basis.

- The second year of the *Multiple Myeloma Rounds*, geared toward the medical community and offering Continuing Medical Education credits (CMEs), was again sponsored by the LRF. Hundreds participated through multiple sessions produced in Chicago, Seattle, Atlanta, New York, and Florida.
- The Affiliate Board of the LRF was created. More than two dozen young professionals are now working to increase awareness of blood cancers and foster the importance of funding research by using enthusiasm and commitment as ambassadors of the LRF.
- Infrastructure improvements were made in the areas of technology informational systems.

Your remarkable dedication ensures that the LRF will continue to pursue the ultimate cures for blood-related cancers - as we have for seven decades. We appreciate and count on your support of our mission and all those we serve. Thank you!!



LRF Board President Larry Mix with Dr. Patrick Stiff and Dr. Michael Nishimura at the Loyola University Medical Center Reception for Pure Car-T Cell Population clinical trial.

### 2018 New Investigator Research Grants

**Daniel Herranz Benito, Ph.D.**  
*Rutgers Cancer Institute*  
Dissecting the role of PKM2 in NOTCH1-induced T-ALL

**Kishore Challagundla, Ph.D.**  
*University of Nebraska Medical Center*  
Exosomal miRNAs and PD-L1 in AML Therapy Resistance

**Shunji Egusa, Ph.D.**  
*The University of North Carolina Charlotte*  
Au nano-linker: Turning standard AML drugs into lineage-targeted therapeutics

**Jin Seon Im, M.D., Ph.D.**  
*The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center*  
Third Party Gene-Modified iNK t cells to Prevent GVHD and Relapse after Transplantation

**Matthew Mei, M.D.**  
*City of Hope National Medical Center*  
Overcoming Resistance to Chemotherapeutic Intervention in Leukemia and Lymphoma

**Esther A. Obeng, M.D., Ph.D.**  
*St. Jude Children's Research Hospital*  
Uncovering how SF3B1 and TET2 mutations cooperate to develop aggressive MDS

**Chintan Parekh, M.D.**  
*Children's Hospital Los Angeles*  
Molecular characterization of minimal residual disease cells in pediatric ALL

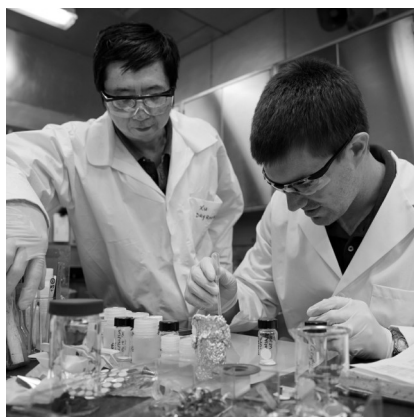
**Paulina Podszwalow-Bartnicka, Ph.D.**  
*Nencki Institution of Experimental Biology Warsaw, Poland*  
Synthetic lethality in leukemia - effect of PARP1 inhibitors in bone marrow niche

**Brittany Knick Ragon, M.D.**  
*Levine Cancer Institute*  
Identification of molecular and genetic determinants of response to hypomethylation agents in AML

**Russel J. H. Ryan, M.D.**  
*University of Michigan*  
Identifying Unique /myc Enhancer Dependencies in B-Lymphoblastic Leukemia

**Cristina Scielzo, Ph.D.**  
*IRCCS, Milan, Italy*  
Decipher the dynamic expression of targetable signalling pathways in CLL tissues by exploiting new 3D models

**Yue Wei, Ph.D.**  
*The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center*  
Characterize the pathological role and therapeutic potential of histone demethylase KDM6B in MDS



## 2017-2018 LRF Executive Officers

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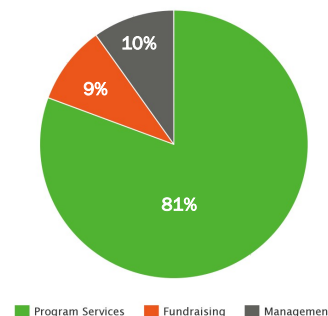
## Revenue and Other Support

	FYE 2018	FYE 2017
Contributions and grants	2,554,974	2,265,402
Other revenue	30	2,183
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,555,004</b>	<b>2,267,585</b>

## Expense Allocation

Program service	2,009,131	1,559,622
research	1,552,051	1,132,889
patient financial assistance	261,424	236,493
patient education	195,656	190,240
Management	245,740	195,927
Fundraising	235,956	225,959
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,490,827</b>	<b>1,981,508</b>

change in net assets	66,700	311,812
net assets (end of year)	2,621,987	2,555,287



## Thank You

The Leukemia Research Foundation is grateful for all of its donors, sponsors and supporters, and acknowledges the generous contributions of these donors of \$5,000 or more.

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\* Indicates in-kind gift  
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