THE MISSION
AAMDSIF focuses on bone marrow failure diseases, educating and connecting patients, families and health professionals worldwide. It also promotes and invests in collaborative clinical research to study and find cures for aplastic anemia, MDS and PNH.

THE VISION
We envision the day when bone marrow failure no longer claims lives. Until then, we will continue to make progress by evolving our programs and services to meet the needs of patients who rely on us and health professionals who turn to us as a trusted partner.
BONE MARROW BASICS

Bone marrow is the body's factory for making blood cells. When it fails to produce an adequate supply of healthy platelets or red and white blood cells, the result is bone marrow failure disease. Aplastic anemia, myelodysplastic syndromes (MDS) and paroxysmal nocturnal hemoglobinuria (PNH) are the primary bone marrow failure diseases. Several less common but related diseases also fall into this category.

They are all rare diseases because relatively few people are affected by them. The low incidence rate translates to minimal professional health education on these conditions. The resulting lack of knowledge often leads to delays in diagnosis, and that prevents patients from getting the crucial early treatment they need.
Our signature programs combine 3 core strengths honed over the 30+ years we’ve been serving and caring for patients and families.
We provide a variety of ways to learn about bone marrow failure diseases, including comprehensive educational packets and booklets explaining in lay language the fundamentals of aplastic anemia, MDS and PNH, their treatments, disease management and impact on patients.

www.aamds.org is the key resource for stakeholders – an information-rich user-friendly website for patients, their families and the health professionals who care for them. It’s where they can always find an abundance of reliable information, the latest news and research and inspiring stories written by and about patients.

For health professionals, the Foundation supplies free patient materials for their practice, including counseling guides, fact sheets, survey summaries and teaching tools.
The Online Academy

The Foundation’s premier Online Academy offers two types of education courses, one tailored for the patient and family audience and the other customized for health professionals.

Patients are encouraged to learn as much as they can about their condition, and the Academy provides the opportunity to obtain the knowledge they need from the comfort of home. They can select from live and recorded classes and interactive learning modules. They can also watch interviews with leading medical experts to learn the latest information about their condition.

Health professionals stay current on the science of bone marrow failure, as well as the latest trends in diagnosis and treatment, by participating in our continuing education programs.

Symposia for Health Professionals

- Regional Bone Marrow Failure Disease Symposia are held in partnership with local medical institutions.
- Biennial International Bone Marrow Failure Disease Scientific Symposium encourages the sharing of data and insights by convening global experts who treat these diseases or study their immunology and cell biology.
- Satellite Symposia are held in conjunction with major medical meetings to share new data with large groups.
- Visiting Faculty Series is a continuing education program for community-based professionals.
Patients can only start managing their health care after they fully understand what’s happening to them. Likewise, family members need to be prepared for taking on the key role of caregivers. We give them both the training, tools and support that will become central to their daily lives.

- Personalized support by Information Specialists
- Regional Patient and Family Conferences
- Clinical Trial news – what, where and how to join one
- Peer Support Network staffed by trained patient volunteers
- Community Connections – volunteer-led support and awareness groups
- Electronic newsletters with the latest news, research and patient stories
Engaging Health Professionals

AAMDSIF has a history of working closely with health care professionals to help them better understand and diagnose bone marrow failure diseases. This is accomplished through a strong program of educational webinars and symposia, as well as with financial support of young researchers through a grants program.

Our community includes more than 30,000 health professionals worldwide. We bring together leading scientists, researchers and clinicians in a variety of settings so they can compare their findings and foster new collaborations.

AAMDSIF Research Grants Program

For over 25 years, we have provided financial support for research that contributes to new insights into the causes of bone marrow failure disease and new approaches to its treatment. We offer annual funding to young investigators and clinicians who conduct research that contributes to the knowledge that will, one day, add up to a cure. Our seed funding makes their work possible and also helps develop the next generation of bone marrow failure specialists. To date, we have awarded over $4.36 million to fund 77 research projects, all of which have been supported by individual funds established by members of the AAMDSIF community.
MDS Clinical Research Consortium (MDS CRC)

In 2013, AAMDSIF received a five-year $17M grant that was a planned gift from the Edward P. Evans Foundation designated for the creation of the MDS CRC. The consortium consists of six preeminent academic institutions and is the first scientific collaboration of its kind. Dedicated to accelerating and amplifying research conducted at each of these participating cancer centers, the goal is to improve MDS patients’ treatment and quality of life. With careful monitoring of patient blood cell counts and reactions to drugs, physicians are able to customize care with regularly adjusted precision treatments.
It’s important to understand what we do, but it’s powerful to learn how we impact lives.

Meet Garrett Hamm and his family. Their story epitomizes the arduous struggle faced by families who had nowhere to turn when they needed support.

When the Aplastic Anemia and MDS International Foundation opened its doors 33 years ago, precious little was known about bone marrow failure disease. All that most patients and families could learn on their own was that their life-threatening diagnosis was rare and many health professionals hadn’t even heard of it – as one Texas family quickly found out.

Stephanie and Bill Hamm had five children when they decided in 1977 to make room for one more – an 8-year-old boy they adopted. Garrett was an active, healthy child. But at the age of 16, rapid bruising during his first football scrimmage became an immediate cause for concern. Doctors first thought he had some form of cancer but then discovered that his bone marrow was not producing enough platelets. The diagnosis was aplastic anemia.
Garrett initially responded to treatment and seemed to be in remission. Three years later, he had a relapse that was so severe his body couldn’t make enough oxygen to fuel his 6 ft. 2 in. frame.

Despite monthly transfusions, Garrett developed a second bone marrow failure disease, myelodysplastic syndromes (MDS). After the new drugs he tried in a clinical trial at NIH failed to help, his only remaining option was a bone marrow transplant.

Garrett was one of the first patients in the U.S. to receive a transplant for MDS. While the procedure was considered successful, he died from complications at the age of 28.

More than 19 years have passed since Garrett’s death. The family continues to honor him and celebrate his life. His mother Stephanie Hamm serves on the Foundation’s board and is the National Chair of our March for Marrow walks program. His sister, soccer great Mia Hamm, established a private foundation that raises funds and awareness for families needing bone marrow or cord blood transplants.

There are thousands of stories like Garrett’s.

Their common ground is AAMDSIF, where patients and families immediately learn that they are not alone, and there are steps they can learn to help them take charge of their lives with the support of a caring community.
## Statements of Financial Position
As of December 31, 2015
with Summarized Financial Information for 2014

### Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>CURRENT ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>$1,460,357</td>
<td>$1,207,562</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>3,861,406</td>
<td>3,784,609</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions and grants receivable</td>
<td>442,622</td>
<td>1,974,440</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inventory</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2,648</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid expenses</td>
<td>225,649</td>
<td>112,129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total current assets</td>
<td>5,990,034</td>
<td>7,081,388</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>FIXED ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property and equipment</td>
<td>272,668</td>
<td>267,211</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less: Accumulated depreciation</td>
<td>(235,566)</td>
<td>(176,205)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net fixed assets</td>
<td>37,102</td>
<td>91,006</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>OTHER ASSETS</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Security deposits</td>
<td>10,541</td>
<td>10,541</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charitable Remainder Trust</td>
<td>250,224</td>
<td>236,060</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total other assets</td>
<td>260,765</td>
<td>246,601</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>$6,287,901</td>
<td>$7,418,995</td>
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</table>

### Liabilities and Net Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>CURRENT LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable</td>
<td>$353,575</td>
<td>$352,722</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued expenses</td>
<td>62,353</td>
<td>438,891</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants payable</td>
<td>1,144,187</td>
<td>521,471</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total current liabilities</td>
<td>1,560,115</td>
<td>1,313,084</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NET ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undesignated</td>
<td>129,820</td>
<td>879,137</td>
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<tr>
<td>Board-designated</td>
<td>272,912</td>
<td>67,912</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total unrestricted</td>
<td>402,732</td>
<td>947,049</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporarily restricted</td>
<td>4,325,054</td>
<td>5,158,862</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total net assets</td>
<td>4,727,786</td>
<td>6,105,911</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>$6,287,901</td>
<td>$7,418,995</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
APLASTIC ANEMIA AND MDS INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION, INC.

**Statements of Activities and Change in Net Assets**

For the Year Ended December 31, 2015

with Summarized Financial Information for 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2015 Unrestricted</th>
<th>2015 Temporarily Restricted</th>
<th>2015 Total</th>
<th>2014 Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>REVENUE</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions and grants:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individuals</td>
<td>$471,518</td>
<td>$242,129</td>
<td>$713,647</td>
<td>$741,472</td>
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<tr>
<td>Corporate and other</td>
<td>854,310</td>
<td>334,866</td>
<td>1,189,176</td>
<td>2,280,893</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foundations</td>
<td>514,415</td>
<td>2,777,500</td>
<td>3,291,915</td>
<td>3,290,400</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special events</td>
<td>16,315</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>16,315</td>
<td>48,538</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trust and wills</td>
<td>76,938</td>
<td>15,371</td>
<td>92,309</td>
<td>1,053,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment (loss) income</td>
<td>(53,113)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>23,859</td>
<td>17,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributed materials</td>
<td>28,859</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>28,859</td>
<td>17,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royalty income</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conference and other revenue</td>
<td>33,365</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>33,365</td>
<td>46,029</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net assets released from donor restrictions</strong></td>
<td>4,203,674</td>
<td>(4,203,674)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total revenue</strong></td>
<td>6,141,281</td>
<td>(833,808)</td>
<td>5,307,473</td>
<td>7,759,223</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Services</td>
<td>5,925,293</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>5,925,293</td>
<td>6,638,681</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supporting Services:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General and Administrative</td>
<td>315,423</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>315,423</td>
<td>341,168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>444,882</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>444,882</td>
<td>608,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total supporting services</strong></td>
<td>760,305</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>760,305</td>
<td>949,668</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total expenses</strong></td>
<td>6,685,598</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>6,685,598</td>
<td>7,588,349</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in net assets</td>
<td>(544,317)</td>
<td>(833,808)</td>
<td>(1,378,125)</td>
<td>170,874</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets at beginning of year</td>
<td>947,049</td>
<td>5,158,862</td>
<td>6,105,911</td>
<td>5,935,037</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR</strong></td>
<td>$402,732</td>
<td>$4,325,054</td>
<td>$4,727,786</td>
<td>$6,105,911</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FY15 EXPENSE AUDITED

- Program Services: 11%
- Core Mission Support: 89%

FY15 REVENUE AUDITED

- Individual Donations: 53%
- Foundation Grants: 30%
- Corporate Grants & Donations: 17%
- Miscellaneous & Interest: 0%
AAMDSIF Background

We are the sole nonprofit health organization serving patients and families living with bone marrow failure diseases. We were founded in 1983, when there was scant medical knowledge and even less publicly-available information on these disorders. A Chicago family whose son had been diagnosed with aplastic anemia was appalled by the lack of local or national resources they could turn to for help, so they established one of their own. Today, the Foundation reaches people in 70 countries.

Our goal is to offer patients and families a lifeline of support with an ever-evolving array of comprehensive educational programs and services, so that:

- They can learn as much as possible about their disease and what to expect;
- They can acquire valuable coping skills to improve the quality of daily life and become their own best health care advocate; and
- Benefit from the support of a caring community.

Every year, over 80,000 patients and family members visit our educational website, read our newsletters and updates, attend our conferences and follow our activity on social media.
THE STRENGTH OF PARTNERSHIPS

Meet our Corporate and Foundation Sponsors

Achillion Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
Actinium Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
Alnylam Pharmaceuticals
Acceleron Pharma
Agios Pharmaceuticals
Alexion Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
Amgen Inc.
Baxalta
Celgene Corporation
Edward P. Evans Foundation
Gilead Sciences, Inc.
Incyte Corporation
Mia Hamm Foundation
Herman Goldman Foundation
Novartis
Onconova Therapeutics Inc.
Rare Patient Voice, EveryLife Foundation for Rare Diseases
Seattle Genetics, Inc.
Sysmex America, Inc.
Tetralogic
The Henry and Marilyn Taub Foundation
MD Anderson Cancer Center, University of Texas
4imprint
Meet Our Educational Partners

Alabama State Nurses Assn.
American Academy of Nurse Practitioners
Cancer Treatment Centers of America
Cleveland Clinic Taussig Cancer Institute
Duke Medicine, Duke University
Delete Blood Cancer
Healio.com
Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center, John Hopkins Medical Education Resources, Inc.
H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute
MPN Research Foundation
National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN)
National Organization of Rare Diseases (NORD)
Oncology Nursing Society
Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI)
Primary Care Network
University of California, San Diego, School of Medicine
University of Florida, Continuing Medical Education
University of Illinois, Chicago

Meet MDS Clinical Research Consortium Partners

MD Anderson Cancer Center, University of Texas
Cleveland Clinic Taussig Cancer Institute
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center, John Hopkins
H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute
Weill Medical College of Cornell University

Meet Our Program Partners

The National Institutes of Health, including
The National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute and
The Office of Rare Diseases
From the Foundation’s beginnings, **volunteers have been the backbone of our community outreach programs.**

They lend their expertise through our governing and medical advisory boards and our patient education councils. They spend their days helping to raise funds for research, putting on events for awareness, or hosting bone marrow drives so a match can be found for those in need. Most have a personal connection to one of the bone marrow failure diseases and insist on giving back or paying it forward to show their appreciation for what we do.

These volunteers are indispensable to our success. We recognize them as AAMDSIF Ambassadors, both for the quality of their work and the dedication with which they represent us. We thank them for their time, talent and treasure.
Meet Our Volunteer Board of Directors

Chairman: Kevin Lyons-Tarr
Vice Chairman: Harsha Murthy
Secretary: Stephen King
Treasurer: Tony Sanfilippo
Chief Executive Officer: Kathleen Weis (ex-officio)

Board Members:
Deborah Ziff Cook
Bart Fisher
James Gajewski, M.D.
Stephanie Dillon Hamm
Neil Horikoshi
Melanie Marquez
Judy Paulette
William Shulevitz

Meet our Medical Advisory Board of Volunteer Specialists

Co-Chairman
Richard Stone, MD
Director, Adult Leukemia Program
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
Professor of Medicine
Harvard Medical University

Co-Chairman
Mikkael A. Sekeres, MD, MS
Director, Leukemia Program
Vice Chair for Clinical Research
Professor of Medicine
The Cleveland Clinic Taussig Cancer Institute
Members

Pamela S. Becker, MD, PhD
Associate Professor of Medicine
Division of Hematology
University of Washington School of Medicine

Carlos M. DeCastro, III, MD
Professor of Medicine
Department of Medicine
Division of Hematologic Malignancies and Cellular Therapy
Duke University Medical Center

H. Joachim Deeg, MD
Member, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center
Professor of Medicine, University of Washington

Amy E. DeZern, MD, MHS
Assistant Professor of Oncology and Medicine
Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins

Benjamin L. Ebert, MD, PhD
Associate Physician, Brigham and Women’s Hospital
Associate Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School
Department of Medicine Hematology

Guillermo Garcia-Manero, MD
Chief, Section of MDS
Deputy Chair, Translational Research
Professor, Department of Leukemia
MD Anderson Cancer Center, University of Texas
Meet our Medical Advisory Board of Volunteer Specialists continued

Aristoteles Giagounidis, MD
Head, Clinic for Oncology, Haematology and Palliative Care
Marienhospital Dusseldorf

Steven Gore, MD
Professor of Internal Medicine (Hematology)
Director of Hematologic Malignancies,
Smilow Cancer Center at Yale Medical School

Timothy Graubert, MD
Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School
Director, Hematologic Malignancy Program
Massachusetts General Hospital

Alan List, MD
President and CEO
H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute

Jaroslaw P. Maciejewski, MD, PhD
Chairman and Professor of Medicine
Department of Translational Hematology and Oncology Research
The Cleveland Clinic Taussig Cancer Institute

David Margolis, MD
Program Director, Blood and Marrow Transplant
Children's Hospital of Wisconsin
Medical College of Wisconsin

Prof. Judith Marsh
Consultant Haematologist
Department of Haematological Medicine
Kings College Hospital
Stephen D. Nimer, MD  
*Director, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center*  
*Professor of Medicine, Biochemistry, and Molecular Biology*  
*University of Miami*  

Olatoyosi Odenike, MD  
*Associate Professor of Medicine Section of Hematology/Oncology*  
*University of Chicago*  

Ronald Paquette, MD  
*Division of Hematology*  
*UCLA Medical Center*  

Gail J. Roboz, MD  
*Director, Leukemia Program*  
*Associate Professor of Medicine*  
*Weill Medical College of Cornell University*  
*New York Presbyterian Hospital*  

Valeria Santini, MD  
*Associate Professor of Hematology*  
*Department of Hematology*  
*University of Florence Medical School*  

B. Douglas Smith, MD  
*Professor of Oncology*  
*Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins*  

Neal Young, MD  
*Chief, Hematology Branch*  
*Director, Trans-NIH Center for Human Immunology, Autoimmunity, and Inflammation*  
*National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute*  
*National Institutes of Health*
Meet Our Volunteer Patient Education Council

Chairman: David Steensma, MD, FACP
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

Members:
Karen Bosse
Joanna Casale, RD, CSO
Kenneth Cooke, MD
Cory Cutler, MD
Amy DeZern, MD
Amanda Foisy
Norma Good
Eric Hodges
Catherine MacClean
Lynda Payne
Olga Nunez Rios, RN, BSN
Isabel Schuermeyer, MD
Cathy Schmelter, RD
Raoul Tibes, MD, PhD
Danielle Townsley, MD
Barbara Weinstein, RN, BSN

Meet Our National Corps of Active Volunteers

Tina Affinito
Brian and Rebekah Anderson
Jean Bagel
Abbie Barker
Laurie Beverage
Edin Biskey
Hollie Blain
Jenny Blanco
Mariah Bowen
Cindy and Jessica Breneman
Renee Brown
Theresa Cahalan
Ginger and Steve Caron
Elizabeth Carr
Stephanie Cash
Anthony Cervone
Tina Chatterton
Amanda Cohen
Marlena Connor
Ellen Conybear
Shell and Bill Craig
Ron Crowder
Ruth and Neil Cuadra
Margaret Dascalu
Amy DeLay
Christine DePresco
Megan Dilger
Mary Donahue
Ron Duncan
Ashley Duplayee
Heidi Etchegoyen
Monica Fairchild
Cheryl Fantetti
Kim Fernandes
Tammy Gerber
Paula Gilbeck
Phil Glass
Patty Godfrey
Jeanne Goff
Cassi Gray
Heather Green
Peter Guindi
Sharon Gust
Eva Hall
Stephanie and Bill Hamm
Gig Hollabough
Meet Our National Corps of Active Volunteers continued

Mastt Holtry
Janet Hotop
Grace Huskin
Kacce Hutchison
Rosalyn Jones-Waters
Susan Kass
Channing King
Stephen King
Ashley Komanetsky
Christian LaChance
Shahana Larson
Mary Lehman
Brandi Lewis
Charmaine Lindsay
Kathy Madden
Heather Malsin
Eiler Marcher
Elinor Markey
Lisa Massacani
Janet Masters
Mick McDaniel
Bob McFarlane
Melanie McGuffin
Eileen Sanchez Medina
Sharon Mettler
Joelle Milligan
Felicia Nalapenski
Steve Olson
Lydia Osborn
Rachel Otto
ToniLynn Paccione
Kat Parra
Kelly Pierce
Bob Plasse
Ron and Heather Porter
Gus Quinonez
Rob Ramirez
Susan Rice
Alison and Mario Rivera
Nequisha Rivera
Jay and Jeanne Rotter
Bob Sacks
Debbie Simon
Claire and Peter Sonnentag
Emma Southard
Patty Sprain
Steve Springer
Ashlie St. John
Barbara St. John
Matt St. John
Nate St. John
Mark Stoesz
Douglas, Candace Mia and Carly Stoutenborough
Christi and Patric Stutz
Mary Swift
Beatrice Thompson
Mary Elaine Valenzuela
Susan Vavra
Mike Van Nostrand
Nina Van Nostrand
Margie Ward
Al Weeks
Paul Weissman
Mallory, Courtney and Mary White
Sheila and Lindsay Wilkerson
Lorenzo Williams
Sean Woodward
Brandi, Abbe, Larry and Sherrie Wright
Jesse Yang
Dorothy Zajac
Maggie Zajac-Guindi
Ron, Owen and Julian Zighelboim
Meet Our Research Grant Recipients

Britta Will, PhD
Therapeutic targeting of aberrant stem cells in MDS
*Supported by the Harold Spielberg Research Fund*

Sicheng Wen, MD, PhD
Reversal of aplastic anemia by mesenchymal stem cell-derived extracellular vesicles
*Supported by the Amy Gaynor Research Fund*

Jing Fang, MD, PhD
Mechanisms linking p62/SQSTM1 to the evolution of myelodysplastic syndromes (MDS)
*Supported by the Michael Fernandes Research Fund*

Katherine King, PhD
Mechanisms of HSC suppression in acquired aplastic anemia
*Supported by the Liviya Anderson Research Fund*

Shahram Kordasti, MD, PhD
Comparison of the immune signature in hemolytic paroxysmal nocturnal hemoglobinuria (PNH) with aplastic anemia/PNH and the effect of immunosuppression or C5 blockade on the frequency of CD1d restricted T cells
*Supported by the Research is Hope Fund*

Meet Our Leadership Award Recipients

**Leadership in Science:**
David Steensma, MD,
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
Associate Prof., Harvard Medical School

**Leadership in Philanthropy:**
Lois Gaynor
Established the Amy Gaynor Research Fund

**Leadership in Service:**
John Huber
Former Executive Dir., AAMDSIF

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**Matthew Debono Memorial Scholarship Fund**
Sally and Manuel Debono partnered with AAMDSIF in 2012 to establish The Matthew Debono Memorial Scholarship Fund in memory of their son who passed away from aplastic anemia. The fund has made it possible for 61 students impacted by bone marrow failure disease to attend college through this AAMDSIF administered program. Matthew’s legacy will live on throughout the professional lives of the fund’s recipients thanks to the educational benefits his family provided.
We recognize the following generous individuals who included AAMDSIF in their estates. The Foundation is honored that they chose to extend their commitment to our community of patients and families as a act of compassion and charity.

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WHAT ARE BONE MARROW FAILURE DISEASES?

**aplastic anemia**  
(ay-PLASS-tik uh-NEE-mee-uh)

Aplastic anemia occurs when bone marrow stops producing enough red blood cells, white blood cells or platelets. The marrow makes normal blood cells and platelets but fails to make enough of them.

**myelodysplastic syndromes (MDS)**  
(my-eh-lo-diss-PLASS-tik SIN-dromz)

MDS is a group of disorders in which the bone marrow does not make enough healthy blood cells. All MDS subtypes have at least one blood cell type with a low cell count and some degree of cell abnormality.

**paroxysmal nocturnal hemoglobinuria (PNH)**  
(par-uk-SIZ-muhl nok-TURN-uhl hee-muh-gloe-buh-NYOOR-ee-uh)

PNH is a disease that causes red blood cells to break apart in a process called hemolysis. PNH can appear with aplastic anemia and, in rare cases, appears with MDS.
Learning is hope.

www.aamds.org