

Why BCA Is Unique

BREAST CANCER ALLIANCE is one of the most prominent, private non-corporate breast cancer organizations in the United States, funding critical grants in pursuit of its three-pronged mission.

1 BCA focuses on crucial early-stage research.

Breast Cancer Alliance is a premiere private foundation committed to funding early-stage, innovative and impactful research not yet eligible for federal grants. BCA uniquely bridges that gap by providing exceptional researchers with scientific venture capital, propelling life-changing scientific hypotheses from the conceptual stage to reality.



Educating our supporters with leading experts at our medical symposia

2 BCA supports brilliant talent in the field.

Breast Cancer Alliance understands that survival rates and quality of life are dramatically improved when patients are in the care of specially-trained breast surgeons. As a result, BCA uniquely funds breast surgery fellowships at Society of Surgical Oncology-accredited institutions. These highly skilled surgeons go on to work at institutions across the United States. Through its Young Investigator Grants, BCA helps launch the careers of promising new scientists as well.



Meeting with our grantees to learn about the research BCA underwrote

3 BCA eliminates barriers of access to essential breast care.

Breast cancer survival rates are near 90% due to advances in early detection and improved education. BCA funds breast health education programs and covers costs associated with mammograms, biopsies and other breast cancer-related services, lessening the burden for underserved patients.



Funding screening for the underserved

For 2023, Breast Cancer Alliance awarded over \$1.5mm to remarkable grant recipients in four categories:

1. Young Investigator Grants (YIG):

These two-year grants are geared toward scientists at an early stage in their breast cancer research career, providing the necessary seed funding to advance their hypotheses, proof of which is required for larger, long-term grants. To secure federal funding, a researcher must prove a theory works; BCA creates the critical bridge between novel research and the opportunity to generate preliminary results. These one-time grants, which many other foundations disregard, are often the catalyst in launching the careers of these researchers.

Patricia Pereira, PhD, Washington University in St. Louis: *Target breast tumor heterogeneity and combat drug resistance with an antibody clicking strategy.*

Neil Vasan, MD, PhD, Columbia University: *Large-scale functional analysis of PIK3CA variants in breast cancer.*

Hai Wang, PhD, Roswell Park Alliance Foundation: *Re-sensitizing the refractory breast cancer bone metastasis to endocrine therapies. Supported by Jane and Stuart Weitzman in memory of Irma Wallin.*

Roberta Zappazodi, PhD, Weill Medical College of Cornell University: *Tumor-metabolism-driven therapies to overcome triple negative breast cancer immune resistance. Deborah G. Black Memorial Research Grant.*

Continued on reverse side.

2023 Breast Cancer Alliance grant recipients (continued).

2. Exceptional Project Grants (XP):

Similar in impact to the YIG, this one-year award recognizes creative, unique and innovative research from tenured scientists in the field of breast cancer. The funding provides the catalyst for the expansion and exploration of revolutionary new approaches to treating and curing this disease.

Camilla dos Santos, PhD, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory:

Characterization of strategies for immunosuppression of breast cancer development.

Christy Hagan, PhD, University of Kansas Medical Center

Research Institute: *Progesterone promotes breast cancer immune evasion through downregulation of antigen presentation.*

Li Lan, MD, PhD, Massachusetts General Hospital:

Targeting R-loop and mRNA-dependent repair in homologous recombination-proficient breast cancer.

Laurie Littlepage, PhD, University of Notre Dame:

Overcoming endocrine therapy resistance by targeting the response to metabolic stress and immune response.

Jordana Phillips, PhD, and Michael Cassidy, PhD,

Boston Medical Center: *Comparing impact of contrast-enhanced mammography (CEM) to breast MRI on barriers to breast cancer treatment.*

3. Breast Surgery Fellowships:

BCA is the only breast cancer charity to support the education of breast surgical fellows. Since 2006, BCA has provided 53 grants to Society of Surgical Oncology-accredited institutions, enhancing the front lines of treatment for patients across the nation by fostering the specialized training necessary for all aspects of breast surgery. Once fully trained, these talented, young surgeons often move to more remote locations across the United States, bringing their expertise and launching designated breast centers in those regions for the first time.

Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, NY, **Dr. Kate Rose Pawlowski**, *Veronica Beard Fellow*

Mount Sinai Hospital, New York, NY, **Dr. Catherine Chappuis**

Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey, New Brunswick, NJ, **Dr. Tooba Mohammad**, *Rodkin Family Fellow*

4. Education and Outreach Grants (E&O):

These grants, which began in 1996, support programs directly related to outreach and breast cancer case management services, including education, counseling and screening for underserved patients in Connecticut and Westchester County, New York. At times, grants have been extended to other parts of the country as part of collaborative partnerships with other institutions. With the escalating costs and challenges associated with healthcare, BCA's funding to offset fees associated with mammograms and other screening and diagnostic procedures helps to save lives and improve outcomes of patients who could not otherwise afford access to such care.

Cancer Support Team, Purchase, NY

Danbury Hospital/New Milford Hospital, Danbury & New Milford, CT, *Paula L. Barwell Memorial Grant**

Greenwich Hospital, Greenwich, CT, *Supported by the Town of Greenwich**

Griffin Hospital, Derby, CT

Hartford Hospital, Hartford, CT

Hospital of Central Connecticut, New Britain, CT

Middlesex Hospital Cancer Center, Middletown, CT

Norma F. Pfriem Cancer Center, Bridgeport Hospital, Bridgeport, CT, *Mitchell Family Grant*

Norwalk Hospital, Norwalk, CT

Open Door Family Medical Center, Port Chester, NY

Stamford Hospital, Stamford, CT

St. Vincent's Hospital, Bridgeport, CT

White Plains Hospital, White Plains, NY

*Unless otherwise noted, all 2023 Education and Outreach grants have been generously supported by Veronica Beard



BCA has funded 516 impactful grants to date.

We continue to improve the outlook on breast cancer and are proud to have funded so many impactful grants and ground-breaking research. With the uncertainty of federal funding, the need for private philanthropy for the advancement of cures continues to grow.



134
Exceptional
Project Grants



255
Education and
Outreach Grants



74
Young Investigator
Grants



53
Breast Surgery
Fellows