

A BREATH *of* HOPE

L U N G F O U N D A T I O N

2020 ANNUAL REPORT



Faces of Lung Cancer

A BREATH OF HOPE LUNG FOUNDATION VISION AND MISSION

DEFEAT LUNG CANCER AND BRING HOPE

A Breath of Hope Lung Foundation improves lung cancer outcomes by funding cutting-edge research, raising awareness through education, and supporting patients and families.

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ABOH BOARD OF DIRECTORS & STAFF BACK COVER

LEADING BY EXAMPLE



Nancy Torrison, Executive Director

Alone we can do so little; together we can do SO much! - Hellen Keller

Whether you donated in 2020, volunteered, delivered groceries to someone living with lung cancer during the pandemic, or attended a virtual support meeting or event, we are deeply grateful for your commitment to our work and our vision of a world free from lung cancer. We have all lost loved ones to this disease. It is personal for you; it is personal for me.

2020 was 2020. Despite the many challenges Covid-19 brought to A Breath of Hope, we stayed the course and continued to impact the lung cancer field. I am most excited about:

- Our 2020 research award focused on stimulating/targeting macrophages to eliminate persistent cancer cells that underlie disease recurrence in EGFR Mutant Lung Cancer;
- A new learning module on our Global Patient Education website (youandlungcancer.com) that focuses on educating ALL lung cancer patients about comprehensive biomarker testing, with a special focus on the African American community; and
- Our emergency grocery program that aimed to ease the financial burden cancer brings to families while keeping survivors out of stores during the peak pandemic months. This was my favorite note from a grocery recipient during that distressing time... "Your grocery delivery made me happy and helped my family at a time when our finances and spirits were down. We will never forget this kindness and the work you do to fight this terrible disease."

As I look back, I simply want to remember the generosity of many good-hearted people who haven't lost sight of the important work we do as a community and an organization. Lung cancer continues to claim too many lives too soon, and we will not give up the battle.

Julie Opheim, Board Chair

"For everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose" is my favorite bible verse and 2020 is a year that brings deeper reflection and meaning to this.

With a pandemic that continues to drive uncertainty in our lives, A Breath of Hope remains committed to and passionate about our founder's mission to be a consistent source of support and encouragement to families, survivors and patients. Through direct services, education, and research, we enable connection, care, and hope.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and acknowledging the undaunted leadership from Nancy Torrison and her staff, thank you for your continued engagement with ABOH. Your time and resources are especially precious today and we are grateful for you!



IMPACTFUL PROGRAMMING

SUPPORT GROUPS

In March of 2020, when the pandemic began threatening our community's safety, ABOH transitioned in-person support group meetings to a virtual format, offering the same quality expert topic presentations that had previously happened in person. Virtual attendance for survivor groups nearly doubled once we offered the monthly meetings virtually and attendance remains high today, nearly four times the national average for support group meetings.

"The ABOH community is friendly and welcoming. I'm glad I attended their meetings. I also love the format of these meetings and always learn something new." - Mary

A BREATH OF HOPE PATIENT RIDES PROGRAM

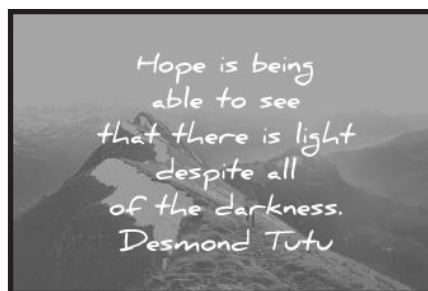
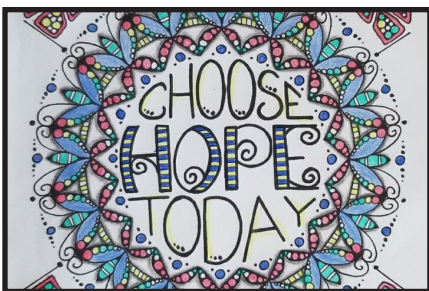
In March of 2020, ABOH made the difficult decision to furlough the Patient Rides Program, but not before giving more than 100 rides to Twin Cities lung cancer patients. Due to safety concerns for both patients and volunteers, the program remained closed until 2021.

"The ABOH volunteer driver program has been a valuable service for me since my lung cancer diagnosis. As a non-driver, I need rides to and from the hospital for radiation treatment a few times a week. I always feel comfortable with the drivers who are reliable, friendly, and well trained. Thank you ABOH for helping me during this challenging time." - Jerry

A BREATH OF HOPE, EATS, & JOY CAMPAIGN - OUR COVID RESPONSE

The A Breath of Hope, Eats, & Joy Campaign was created early in 2020 to address the many challenges our lung cancer community faced during the difficult early days of the pandemic. We delivered tens of thousands of dollars of free groceries, serving more than 50 survivors and more than 200 family members. The groceries and flowers, chosen by the family and delivered by our faithful volunteers, were delivered to the patient's doorstep at no cost to the patient.

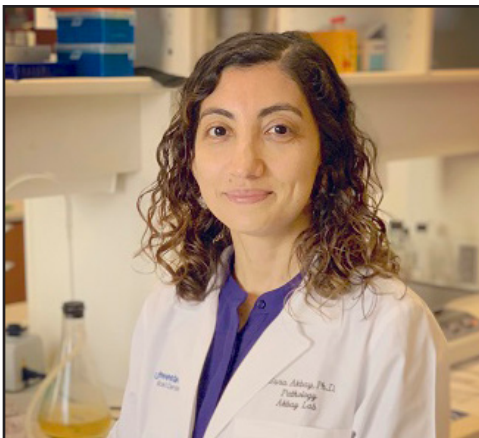
"It was so wonderful to receive the groceries. What a lift for my spirits and my budget. Thanks so much!" - Desneige



ABOH FUNDED RESEARCH

2020 was a big research year for A Breath of Hope Lung Foundation. Early in the year, we named our **Katherine Bensen Hope Award Winner** - Dr. Esra Akbay of the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, and we released a second RFP for the **Peg Fisher-Jullie Fight for Life Award** during the fall of 2020. The winner of that award was Dr. Kipp Weiskopf from the Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

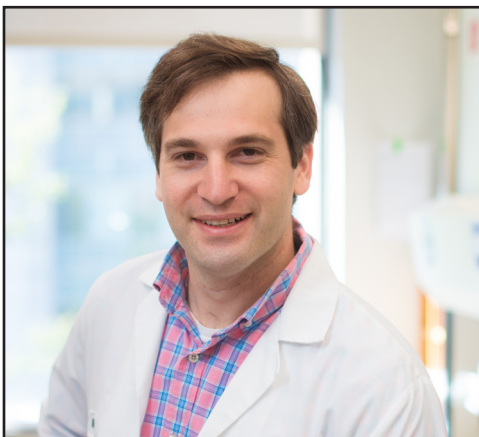
Both \$150,000 awards were defined as translational science. Translational Research takes scientific discoveries made in the laboratory, in the clinic or out in the field and transforms them into new treatments and approaches to medical care that improve the health of patients within five years. This is an underfunded area in the lung cancer field and lack of funding slows progress.



Dr. Esra Akbay
University of Texas Southwestern
Medical Center, Dallas, TX

Dr. Akbay's winning proposal focuses on overcoming resistance to immune checkpoint blockade in lung cancer by targeting Telomerase. Dr. Akbay proposes to target an essential survival mechanism of tumor cells to activate protective anti-tumor immunity and immune memory.

Tumors have features that differentiate them from the normal cells that are recognized by the host immune system under normal conditions. In some people, tumors are able to bypass normal mechanisms, locally suppress immune systems and are able to grow in people with otherwise competent immune system. Recent findings suggest that targeting the mechanisms tumor cells utilized to evade the immune system can be efficacious. Dr. Akbay is making significant progress in genetically inactivating certain components of the innate sensing pathway that communicates sensing of DNA in the improper locations inside the cells to the immune system.



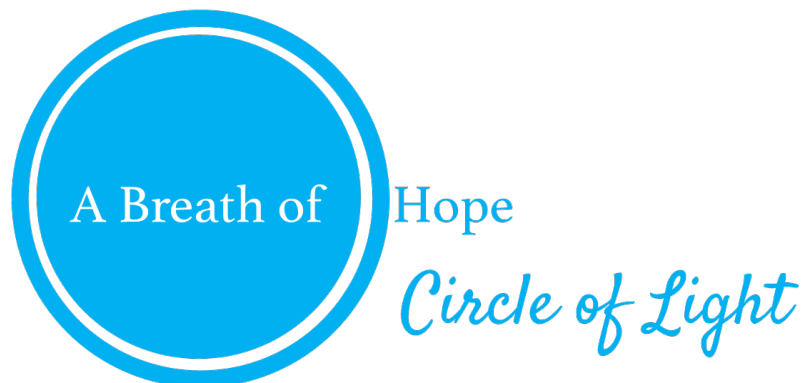
Dr. Kipp Weiskopf
Whitehead Institute for Biomedical
Research, Cambridge, MA

Dr. Weiskopf's winning proposal focuses on the interaction between EGFR mutant lung cancer cells and the immune system. He reports significant progress at the time of the writing of this annual report and is especially excited about new drugs that activate immune cells called T cells to attack cancer. However, the majority of patients do not benefit from these therapies, and there is a critical need to discover safer and more effective ways to use the immune system to fight cancer. This seems to be particularly true for patients with EGFR mutant lung cancer, where immunotherapy has not yet been successful.

Immune cells called macrophages are often the most common immune cell found in tumors, and they can be prompted to attack cancer cells when provided with an appropriate stimulus. Macrophages can attack cancer cells by engulfing and destroying them—a process known as phagocytosis. The main goal of Dr. Weiskopf's study is to identify ways to use macrophages to attack and eliminate EGFR mutant lung cancer.

To read more about these studies, visit abreathofhope.org/research.

ONGOING COMMITMENT



To achieve our mission, A Breath of Hope depends on the generous support of consistent and committed donors. The Circle of Light giving program has been very helpful to us for funding research fellowships, raising awareness in the public domain, and supporting patients and their families. The pledge nature of this annual giving program allows us to plan ahead and project growth each year. Both aspects are important to save lives and create more impact in the world's fight to end lung cancer. We are grateful for the generosity of these individuals. *(In alphabetical order)*

Curt Anderson	Emily & Jason Elswick	Teri & John Kast	Craig & Sharon Rothgeb
Mark & Anne Bacigalupo	Bradford Everling	David & Elizabeth Keen	Lori & Carroll Shipman
Justin & Shanna Ballsrud	Kristi Flann	Jeffrey Kendall	Mark & Sara Solfelt
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Michelle Blanchette	The Hooper Family	Bruce Machmeier	Nancy & Jerry Torrison
Gary & Rosey Brausen	Jonathan & Rita Hovda	Joan Maclin	Margaret Ungerman
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Raymond Byrne	Janet & Mark Huss	Susie & Ross Morrison	Family of Ruth Zibble
Myrna Camp	Erin Ipsen-Borgerse	Jeff Nybeck	Mary & Bill Zimmer
Steve Dale	Phyllis & Bobby Jensen	Julie & John Opheim	
Patrick Dumbauld	Peg Fisher-Jullie &	Manish & Sheetal Patel	
Edward Egan	Jerry Jullie	Lynn & Mitch Prust	

Thank you to our 2020 Corporate Event Sponsors!

AJK Cutters	The Haagenson Team	Lee Health Regional	Minnesota Oncology
AstraZeneca	- RE/MAX Results	Cancer Center	United Financial
Blueprint Medicines	Hennepin Healthcare	M Carlson Painting	Freedom
The CM Group	J.K. Medical	Medtronic	VIDA
Eli Lilly	Consulting Services	Merck Foundation	
Genentech Inc	Karst & von Oiste LLP	Midwest Radiology	

REVENUE & EXPENSES

INCOME

Contributions	496,134
Grant Revenue	216,165
Circle of Light Donations	41,473
Memorials & Honorarium Donations	89,436
In-Kind Donations	6,589
Special Event Revenue (Net of Expenses)	49,937
Event Registration Fees	39,140
Merchandise Sales (Net of Expenses)	3,203
Interest Income	71

TOTAL INCOME

942,152

EXPENSES

Patient Support Expenses	68,874
Research Fellowship	78,771
WRAP Program* (100% Awareness)	66,267
Operating Expenses (75% Program)	69,015
Payroll Expenses (75% Program)	370,889

TOTAL EXPENSES

653,816

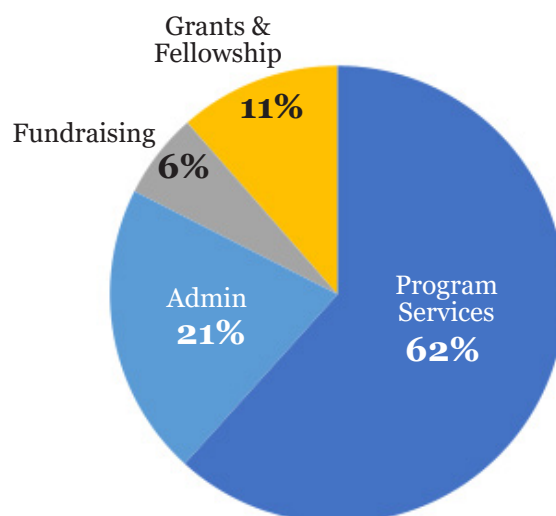
Total Assets 881,172

Total Liabilities 20,409

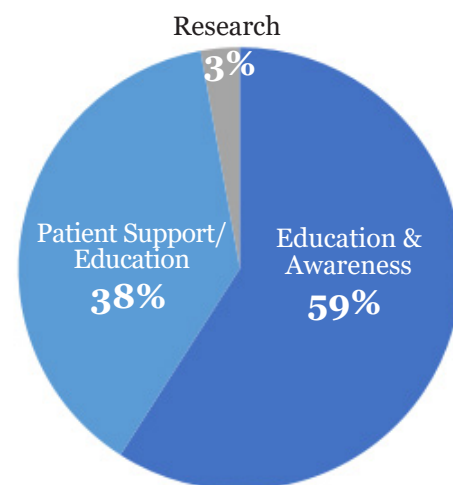
TOTAL NET ASSETS OR FUND BALANCE

288,336

2020 Expenses



2020 Program Service Expenses



*WRAP - White Ribbon Awareness Program:

Awareness events, Animated Patient Program, billboards, media campaigns, public speaking engagements, social media outreach, targeted email campaigns.

A Breath of Hope Lung Foundation (ABOH), a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, works diligently to earn the trust of our donors. ABOH is in excellent standing with the Charities Review Council and has earned a Gold Seal of Transparency from GuideStar. For a full report on our 2020 financial activities, view our 990 on our website at abreathofhope.org, or visit smartgivers.org.

A BREATH OF HOPE BOARD OF DIRECTORS & STAFF

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Nancy Torrison
Ex-Officio

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Nancy Torrison
Executive Director

Nang Her
Accounting & Administration Manager

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