There are many stories that capture what took place in 2017 at the Hydrocephalus Association (HA). Perhaps the most compelling one is how a small organization founded in 1983 by concerned parents grew to become a research powerhouse. We launched our research initiative in 2009 to fund innovative, high-impact research to prevent hydrocephalus, identify additional treatment options, and ultimately cure this complex condition. Since then, we’ve become the leading private funder of hydrocephalus research, committing over $7 million to that effort. In 2017, we made a $1.8 million investment in research by awarding 8 new grants to scientists who are doing promising work and by expanding our network of scientists. But that’s just the tip of the iceberg.

- We supported two early-stage drug therapies and published six papers featuring HA-supported research.
- HA-funded researcher, Dr. Shenandoah Robinson, from Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, and Dr. Lauren Jantzie, from the University of New Mexico School of Medicine, were awarded funding through the Department of Defense Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program (CDMRP) to study acquired hydrocephalus in the mature brain, with a particular focus on post-traumatic hydrocephalus. Dr. Robinson began focusing more of her research on hydrocephalus in 2016 after receiving an Innovator Award from the Hydrocephalus Association. Without the initial grant funding they received from us, these scientists would not have set their focus on hydrocephalus or competed for the DoD grant.

“None of this would have been possible without our generous donors and volunteers. Thank you for inspiring us and thank you for believing in us. As we look ahead, I am confident that we can change the future of hydrocephalus but it will take support from everyone who cares about this condition.”

— Diana Gray, President & CEO
• We provided 7,300 support touches via our toll-free hotline, email and online communications channels and we grew our Community Networks by 20 percent.

• We reached more than 4,100 people through six educational webinars.

• We hosted six Hydrocephalus Education Days in Washington, D.C.; St. Petersburg, FL; Phoenix, AZ; New York, NY; Miami, FL; and Houston, TX, which provided education, support and networking opportunities to the hydrocephalus community.

• We engaged more than 16,000 people through the #NOMOREBS (No More Brain Surgeries) campaign, which highlighted the shocking number of brain surgeries hydrocephalus patients endure.

• Thanks to our volunteers, 17,000 people participated in a WALK to End Hydrocephalus in their community, raising nearly $2 million for our research, education and support efforts.

• We launched our Roadmap to a Cure campaign, a bold effort to invest $20 million by 2020 to accelerate hydrocephalus research, expand patient support services and raise public awareness.

• Our 2017 Vision Dinner brought us closer to our goal of raising $3 million for research focused on Post Hemorrhagic Hydrocephalus (PHH). The event brought together philanthropists, scientists, patient advocates, and doctors for an inspirational program highlighting HA’s research.

Visit our Digital 2017 Annual Report to learn more about what took place in 2017. annualreport.hydroassoc.org

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