



**Arthritis
Foundation®**

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

MOMENTUM



CONTENTS

Letter From the CEO and Chair	2
Leading With Research	3
A Bold Agenda	4
Funding a Better Future	5
Advocacy in Action	6
Breaking Down Barriers	7
Celebrating Achievements	8
Creating Community Connections	9
Together We Change Lives	10
Empowering Kids and Families	11
Connecting for the Cause	12
2023 Donors.....	16
2023 Leadership	19
Financial Highlights	20



MATT MOONEY

STEVEN TAYLOR

LETTER FROM THE CEO AND CHAIR

One thing that those who live with arthritis want to do is move without pain. That is why it's fitting that "Momentum" is the theme of our 2023 report as we celebrate the incredible progress we've made together in advancing the mission of the Arthritis Foundation.

The Arthritis Foundation continues to be the driving force to ensure that those with arthritis are seeing an improved quality of life and moving freely.

Within these pages, you'll learn about how our momentum has not slowed...

- The strides we've taken in the scientific community
- The literal steps taken by hundreds of thousands through our Walk to Cure Arthritis and Jingle Bell Run fundraising events
- Our increased efforts in expanding the rheumatologist workforce

Most importantly, you'll learn about the critical work that results from empowering arthritis patients to use their voices through advocacy and to build and support their communities through connection.

All of this is only made possible through your unyielding support. Together, we're changing the lives of those living with arthritis. Let's continue this momentum we're building together.

With gratitude,

MATT MOONEY
CHAIR, NATIONAL BOARD
OF DIRECTORS

STEVEN TAYLOR
PRESIDENT & CEO



**LEADING
WITH RESEARCH**

LEADING WITH RESEARCH

A BOLD AGENDA

This was a banner year for our scientific efforts. In October, [we launched the largest science initiative in our rich history](#), the PIKASO clinical trial. The first-ever clinical trial directed and sponsored by the Arthritis Foundation, PIKASO addresses patients at high risk for post-traumatic osteoarthritis (PTOA) after major injury to the knee and is supported by a network of nine top US institutions to recruit patients and monitor their progress.

We also served as the [leading private funder of the National Institutes of Health](#) (NIH)-backed clinical trial known as The Osteoarthritis Prevention Study (TOPS). This randomized trial evaluates the efficacy of dietary weight loss and exercise to prevent knee OA in women age 50 and above with obesity.



STORY OF YES

DR. JASON KIM

“We have the top scientists in the U.S. on the team...we have to finish the job.”
Dr. Kim is a key driver behind behind PIKASO, the Arthritis Foundation’s first-ever sponsorship of a clinical trial.

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT DR. KIM AND THIS GROUNDBREAKING TRIAL. ►





\$1+ million

awarded to three new projects aimed at optimizing RA treatment

\$1.3 million

invested in Workforce Development Awards

LEADING WITH RESEARCH

FUNDING A BETTER FUTURE

In rheumatoid arthritis (RA) research, we awarded \$1.05 million to three new projects aimed at optimizing RA treatment as part of our RA Research Program launched in 2022. These projects include developing synovium-on-a-chip technology to predict patient responses, identifying biomarkers of RA development and predicting serious side effects from steroid treatments.

By investing nearly \$1.3 million in Workforce Development Awards, including new Fellowship and Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) awards, **we increased the number of rheumatologists in the health care workforce**, including those committed to providing care to under-served populations.



STORY OF YES

DR. MICHAEL PARKS

“More diversity among physicians is critical to ensuring all patients receive equitable care.” Dr. Michael Parks’ research focuses on identifying and overcoming racial and socioeconomic barriers to health care.

READ ABOUT DR. PARKS’ RESEARCH AND HIS PASSION TO KNOCK DOWN BARRIERS FOR HIS PATIENTS. ►



**ADVOCACY
IN ACTION**



ADVOCACY IN ACTION

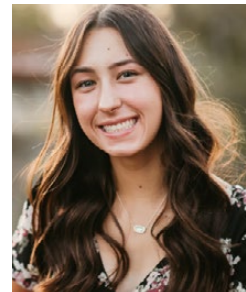
BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS

After four years of virtual advocacy due to the pandemic, the Arthritis Foundation's **2023 Advocacy Summit** was an exciting gathering of new and familiar faces.

This year brought significant legislative successes, with 14 states passing 22 new pieces of legislation on key issues. We achieved these goals by bringing together stakeholders with multiple perspectives.

We celebrated noteworthy achievements such as:

- **Relaunch of the Junior Ambassador program**
- Passage of **17 state laws supporting arthritis patients**
- Introduction of a congressional resolution **recognizing the Arthritis Foundation's 75 years of progress**



STORY OF YES

MACY COAD

“I felt empowered by how, simply by sharing my arthritis experience, I was able to inspire my legislators to support our asks.” Macy Coad was in second grade when she first attended the Advocacy Summit.

READ MORE ABOUT MACY'S STORY AS A JUNIOR AMBASSADOR. ►

CELEBRATING ACHIEVEMENTS

The 2023 Advocacy Summit culminated in 134 meetings where 87 Advocates from 31 states met with U.S. legislators to urge bipartisan support for two pivotal health care bills: the Safe Step Act and the HELP Copays Act.

If enacted, **Safe Step** would reform step therapy practices by ensuring that employer health plans offer medically responsible and timely step therapy exceptions, addressing the delays in care that can lead to severe health outcomes.

The HELP Copays Act aims to count copay assistance toward patients' deductibles, making medications more affordable and accessible. These legislative efforts are crucial for improving the health care landscape for arthritis patients.

The Advocacy Summit leveraged the power of personal storytelling in advocacy, helping lawmakers understand the daily challenges faced by those with arthritis. Participants celebrated their achievements, including new state laws with far-reaching positive impact.

The Summit culminated in

137
Meetings

87
Advocates

31
States



STORY OF YES

TESSA WILSON

“Receiving that bill really shook my foundation.” Tessa Wilson’s arthritis journey cost her in many ways, and the financial impact hit hard.

READ HOW TESSA DEALS WITH THE HIGH COSTS OF ARTHRITIS. ►



CREATING COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS



TOGETHER WE CHANGE LIVES

Connection is central to our mission. Throughout the year, our programs provide meaningful ways to help people living with arthritis. In 2023, we made great strides to enhance education, including a 20% increase in patient **webinar** registrations, reaching over 18,000 people. We held 35 in-person **Living Well** events, helping 85% of participants learn pain management techniques. **Our expansion of Live Yes! Connect Groups, by 38%, welcomed 2,633 new members** who got to share their challenges and find possible solutions. Additionally, our **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) initiatives**, to engage diverse communities and military members, further extended our reach, underscoring the importance of accessible, comprehensive arthritis resources.

“Being heard is a very important part of support for those with arthritis, and Connect Groups are a great avenue for this to happen.”

—Sherry in Florida



CREATING COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

EMPOWERING KIDS AND FAMILIES

A sense of connection is especially important for children and young adults navigating the challenges of their diagnosis. Whether it's a new diagnosis or an existing one, arthritis can be an isolating, overwhelming experience. The Juvenile Arthritis Family Summit, JA Family Days and JA Camps provide fun and fellowship in a welcoming environment, where families can connect, share experiences and access crucial resources. In 2023, the positive impact of these events was loud and clear: **The number of families and kids registering for JA programs increased by 54%**, with 68% of attendees receiving travel assistance and 95% of families reporting that their child felt more connected after attending one or more of these events.

54%

increase in registration

95%

of families reported their child felt more connected after attending



STORY OF YES

COHEN & HIS FAMILY

Cohen's family moved to New Mexico to help manage the 9-year-old's arthritis. The journey wasn't easy. "To see your child in physical and emotional pain, and not being able to do anything about it, is one of the most difficult things I've ever had to go through."

READ ABOUT COHEN'S JOURNEY AND HOW HIS FAMILY FOUND SUPPORT. ►





**CONNECTING
FOR THE CAUSE**

CONNECTING FOR THE CAUSE

FUNDING OUR MISSION

The more support we get, the more our voices are heard. And the more lives we improve, while bringing us closer to finding a cure. Events like **Walk to Cure Arthritis** and **Jingle Bell Run** saw substantial increases in participation and funds raised, with over \$13.3 million raised from 160 events.

57 Jingle Bell Run events

55 Walk to Cure Arthritis events

39 Marquee events

17 additional special events and other fundraisers

**\$13.3
million**
in gross revenue
from over 160 events

**\$6.85
million**
generated by corporate
partnerships





STORY OF YES

IAN HOCHSTETLER

“At the time I got diagnosed ... it seemed like that on top of the arthritis diagnosis, I kept thinking, “Why me? Why was I picked?” Ian recalls. Now, he says, “This is why I was picked, because I want to be able to help other people.”

READ ABOUT IAN'S GETTING SUPPORT AND GIVING BACK ►

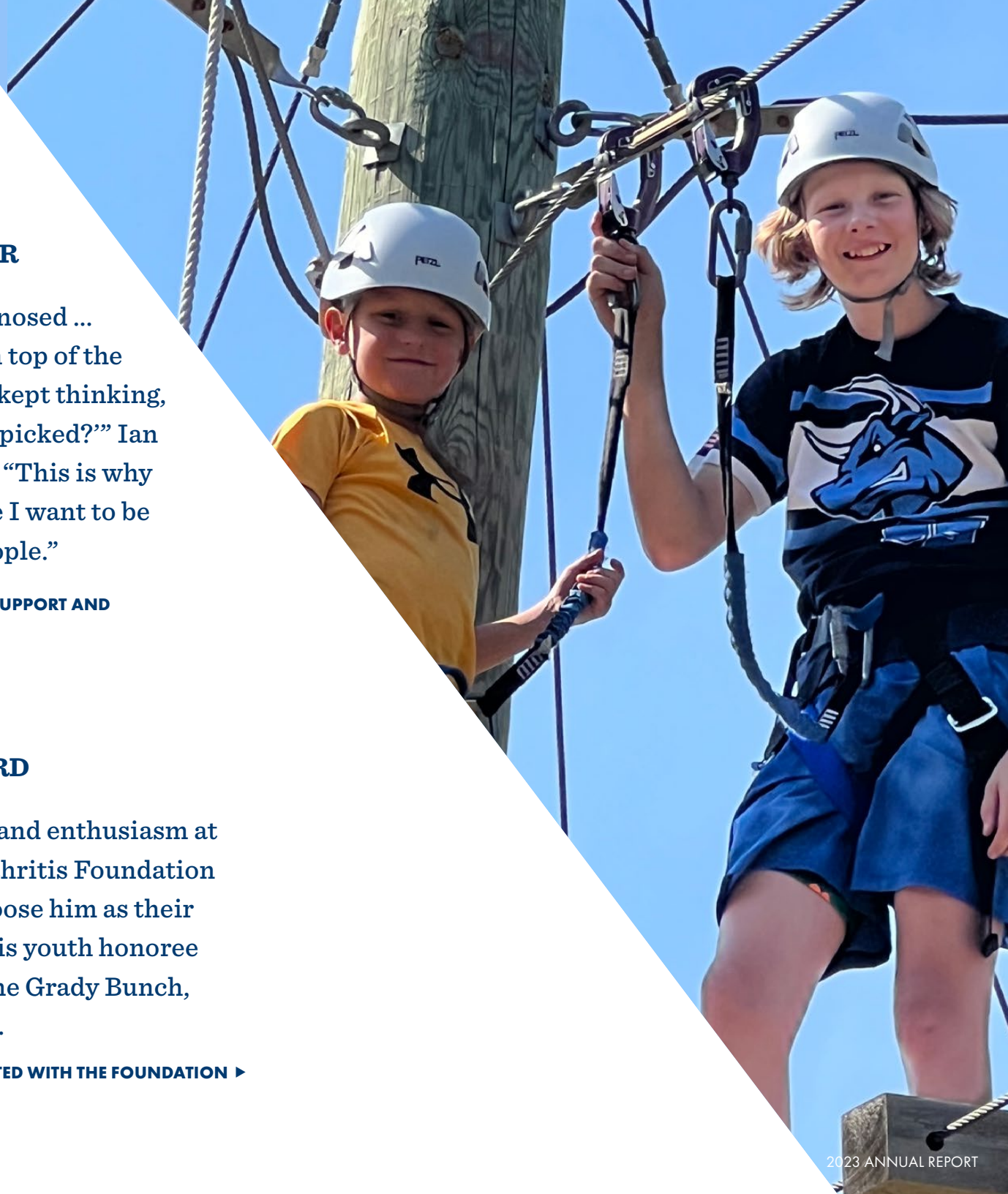


STORY OF YES

GRADY WHITEFORD

It was Grady's spirit and enthusiasm at camp that led the Arthritis Foundation Colorado team to choose him as their Walk to Cure Arthritis youth honoree in 2023. His team, The Grady Bunch, raised over \$100,000.

LEARN HOW GRADY CONNECTED WITH THE FOUNDATION ►





STORY OF YES

JENN MCGINNIS

“I didn’t think I could do this ride for myself.” Jenn McGinnis signed up for the Arthritis Foundation’s California Coast Classic as a personal challenge. Her 525-mile ride turned into an ongoing mission for kids with JA.

DISCOVER HOW OVER 100 KIDS WITH ARTHRITIS POWERED JENN TO THE FINISH LINE. ►

2023 DONORS

Together, in partnership with our generous 2023 donors, we worked hard to improve even more people's lives. Thank you for helping change the future of arthritis today.

CORPORATE PARTNERS

Pioneer

\$1,000,000 - \$1,499,999

Alpha Omicron Pi Foundation & Fraternity
Horizon Therapeutics

Pacesetter

\$500,000 - \$999,999

AbbVie
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Century Society

\$100,000 - \$299,999

American Orthopaedic Foot & Ankle Society
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Margaret Rawls Stancil Endowment at
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TRC
Tulsa Bone & Joint Associates
Unique Landscapes & Custom Pools
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Frances Wood Wilson Foundation Inc.
The Wish Tree Fund
Paul & Eleanore G. Ziegelmaier
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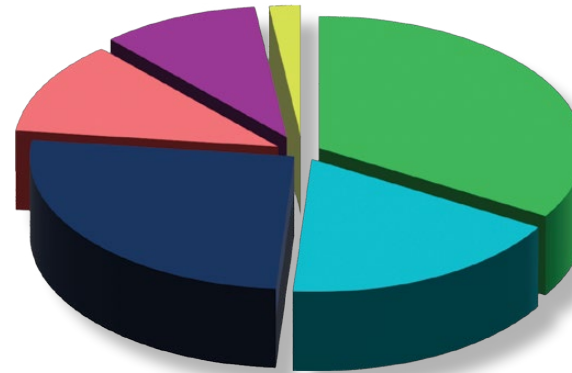
Regional Vice President, West Region

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

In 2023, the Arthritis Foundation invested \$31.8 million in research and public health education.

EXPENSES: \$62 M

Public Health Education	20.9 M
Patient & Community Services	10.9 M
Research	16 M
Fundraising	7 M
Management & General	6.1 M
Professional Education & Training	1.1 M



Net Assets End-of-Year: \$195 M

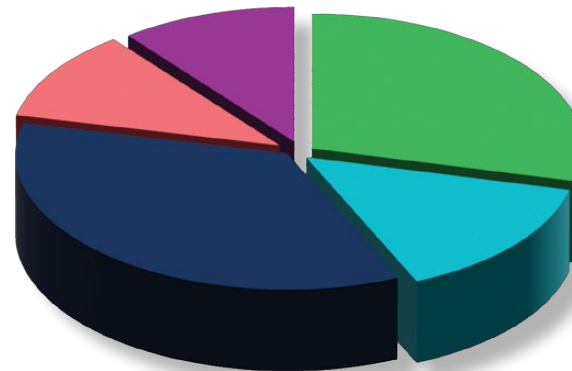
Complete audited financial statements are available online at [arthritis.org/financials](https://www.arthritis.org/financials).

REVENUE & PUBLIC SUPPORT: \$59.6 M

Contributions*	19.3 M
Special Events (net)	9.6 M
Bequests	23.5 M
Government Grants & Other Income	7.2 M

Subtotal Donor & Other Income: \$66.5 M

Investments & Other Non-Operating Income	6.9 M
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*Includes \$5 M in pharmaceutical, biotechnology and medical device corporate support, representing 8% of total organization revenue.

2023 ANNUAL REPORT LINKS INDEX (IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE)

PIKASO Clinical Trial

arthritis.org/ptoa

TOPS Clinical Trial

arthritis.org/tops

Story – Dr. Jason Kim

arthritis.org/jasonkim

Funding RA Research

arthritis.org/ra-grants

Story – Dr. Michael Parks

arthritis.org/michaelparks

Advocacy Summit

arthritis.org/advocacysummit

Story – Macy Coad

arthritis.org/macycoad

Safe Step Act

arthritis.org/safe-step

HELP Copays Act

arthritis.org/help-copays

Story – Tessa Wilson

arthritis.org/tessawilson

Webinars

arthritis.org/webinars

Living Well Events

arthritis.org/livingwell

Live Yes! Connect Groups

arthritis.org/connect

DEI Initiatives

arthritis.org/dei-news

JA programs

arthritis.org/ja

Story – Cohen & his family

arthritis.org/cohen-ja

Walk to Cure Arthritis

arthritis.org/wtca

Jingle Bell Run

arthritis.org/jbr

Story – Ian Hochstetler

arthritis.org/ian

Story – Grady Whiteford

arthritis.org/grady

Story – Jenn McGinnis

arthritis.org/jennmcginnis

QUICK LINKS

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Arthritis.org/facebook

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LinkedIn:

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X (formerly Twitter):

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