

SOLVING THE CRUEL MYSTERY *of lupus*

RESEARCH

ADVOCACY

EDUCATION

SUPPORT

AWARENESS

investing in RESEARCH

- **Funded 13 research grants** supporting studies of potential new treatment pathways, cognitive impairment, lupus and pregnancy, and additional research to address the greatest needs for people with lupus.
- Over **900 new participants took action to move lupus research forward** by joining **Research Accelerated by You (RAY®)**, our data platform where people with lupus and caregivers can share information about their lupus experience to help researchers accelerate the development of new treatments and improve disease outcomes.
- LFA Point® issued **5,595 certificates to lupus clinical trialists** on assessment instruments used in clinical trials to accelerate the development of new treatments.
- Published a scientific paper from our **Lupus AIM (Addressing Health Inequities in Minorities)** program on racial health disparities and proposed solutions.
- Launched four new innovative grants under the Michael Jon Barlin Pediatric Lupus Research Program **addressing the most urgent challenges in childhood lupus**.

ADVOCACY in action

- Generated **\$22 million in federal funding** for lupus research and education programs, the most ever in a single year, as well as an additional **\$47.5 billion for the National Institutes of Health**, the largest public funder of lupus research in the world.
- Thirty-five members of congress signed as co-sponsors on **legislation improving access to care** that the LFA advocated for.
- Nearly **200 advocates attended 179 meetings on Capitol Hill** during the LFA National Lupus Advocacy Summit, including **Heartland Ambassador Curtisha Anderson from Kansas** (pictured).



EDUCATION & support

- Our staff **trained 57 Community Health Workers** to help them broaden their knowledge of lupus, identify symptoms, and encourage self management.
- Added a **companion app to our self-management program, Strategies to Embrace Living with Lupus Fearlessly (SELF)**. The app is now available in the Apple and Google stores.
- Our **Summer Jam Girls Retreat** was held at Mark Twain Lake Jellystone Park. This weekend retreat is for girls 12-19 with lupus and provides an opportunity to meet others their age who share their health struggles. The weekend included a water park, art activities, and of course a bonfire and s'mores.



- Our **Lupus Patient Navigator** began work this year with lupus patients at the **Washington University Lupus Clinic** and the Heartland Chapter to identify and address the nonmedical factors that influence health outcomes (the social determinants of health). This includes researching and connecting patients to local community resources and providing direct assistance through our **Patient Assistance Fund** for those in immediate financial need.
- Updated our website to include a comprehensive guide of **community resources** and a new lupus **physician directory for those seeking a rheumatologist**.
- We held our **first in-person Lupus Empowerment Conference** since 2019 this past August. The half-day program included topics on lupus nephritis, healthy cooking, new lupus treatments, managing stress, and health journaling with our guests receiving their own health journal.



increasing AWARENESS

- Our **18 Lupus Ambassadors** and staff attended 10 Health or Community Fairs with attendance of over 1,100 people. They shared information about lupus to help raise awareness of the signs and symptoms. **Lupus Ambassador Patrica Dees, our 2023 Volunteer of the Year**, was asked to share her story at the kick-off for Ameren's United Way Campaign.



- The Heartland Chapter's social media platforms continue to provide a way to educate people about lupus and where to go if they suspect a lupus diagnosis. During May **Lupus Awareness Month and World Lupus Day**, hundreds of people liked and shared our information and graphics to help raise awareness of lupus.
- We relaunched **LFA's Be Fierce. Take Control™** campaign to raise awareness of lupus in young women of color.

DONATE & get involved

We rely on **community support to make our programs available to as many people as possible**. All gifts are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law, and are essential to our ability to meet the needs of people living with lupus in our community.

- Donate by mail, phone, or securely online.
- Join our Circle of Heroes with a gift of \$500 or more.
- Donate monthly or quarterly or a memorial gift.
- Leave a lasting legacy by including us in your will or trust.
- Become a corporate sponsor.
- Apply to become a Lupus Ambassador.
- Walk and fundraise for the Walk to End Lupus Now.

Follow Us

- LFAheartland
- LFAheartland
- Lupusfaheartland
- Lupusfoundationheartland



Learn more at lupus.org/heartland

FUNDRAISING events

We were excited to once again gather in-person for the **2023 Walk to End Lupus Now** events in St. Louis at Creve Coeur Park and in Kansas City at Shawnee Mission Park. Hundreds of walkers attended and raised **over \$80,000 to end lupus**.



The Purple Ball was held at 612 North on the St. Louis Landing in 2023. We welcomed nearly 200 guests to the in-person event and hundreds more participated in our online auction. **The Purple Ball was a huge success, raising over \$85,000.**



generous SPONSORS

We continue to be **grateful for the generous support** of our event and program sponsors, corporate donors, foundations, and pharmaceutical companies



financial HIGHLIGHTS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

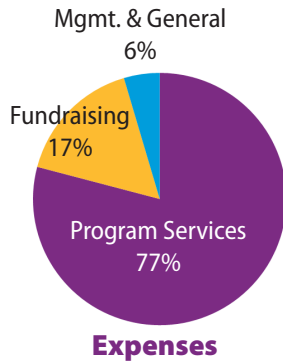
September 30, 2023

ASSETS	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$204,252
Accounts Receivable/Promise to Give	\$ 31,427
Inventory	\$ 4,627
Prepaid Expenses	\$ 26,213
Certificates of Deposit	\$189,574
Property and Equipment	\$ 5,449
Right of Use Asset (ROU)	\$ 37,576
Other Assets	\$ 800
Total Assets	\$499,902
LIABILITIES	
Accounts Payable	\$ 16,026
Accrued Payroll	\$ 4,635
Current ROU lease	\$ 13,796
ROU Asset Less Current	\$ 23,764
Other Accrued Expenses	\$ 26,461
Total Liabilities	\$ 84,682
NET ASSETS	
Unrestricted	\$372,554
Temporarily Restricted	\$ 42,666
Total Net Assets	\$415,220
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	\$499,902

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

September 30, 2023

REVENUE	
Federated Campaigns	\$ 60,306
Fundraising Events	\$164,925
All Other Contributions	\$166,047
Investment Income	\$ 4,132
Other Revenue	\$ 5,639
Total Revenue	\$401,049
EXPENSES	
Program Services	\$365,092
Management & General	\$ 21,839
Fundraising	\$ 82,979
Total Expenses	\$469,910
REVENUE LESS EXPENSE	-\$ 68,861



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2022-2023

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Major donors from October 1, 2022 - September 30, 2023

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The Heartland Chapter main office is located in St. Louis, Missouri. Our chapter territory includes Missouri, Kansas, and southern and central Illinois.

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