

ANNUAL REPORT 2021



THE WORLD'S LEADER IN FIGHTING OVARIAN CANCER



OCRA
ovarian cancer
research alliance



THANK YOU

FROM OUR PRESIDENT & CEO

Dear Friends,

Looking back on 2021, I am reminded of what a challenging year it was amidst the continued pandemic, and yet also one of amazing growth for OCRA as we continued our fight against ovarian cancer. We never wavered from our mission of finding better treatments and a cure for this terrible disease as we helped our community navigate through incredibly challenging times.

Every single day, scientists made new connections and drove progress forward. Patients and survivors dug into deep reserves of strength to be there for one another and lend their voice to this fight. And our supporters continued to champion the cause and raise the funds needed to maintain momentum as we broke new ground in our understanding of ovarian cancer and expanded offerings of support to our community.

Calls to our patient support line nearly doubled in 2021. As a result, we launched several new Staying Connected support groups and increased our available resources by launching an oncology social work student program in partnership with Smith College and Columbia University Schools of Social Work.

OCRA's Survivors Teaching Students program added 32 schools to its roster, expanding our reach to the next generation of healthcare providers. And our two Advocacy Days in 2021 resulted in 500 meetings with congressional offices.

On the research front, OCRA grantees made incredible strides in immunotherapy, targeted treatments, and identifying new biomarkers and mutations. You can read more about their progress, and all our work, in the following pages.

Throughout it all, you stood by our side and kept up a level of support that helped us meet these challenges head on. As we look back on all that we accomplished in 2021, we are grateful to you, our supporters, for your generosity, your tenacity, and your shared commitment to envisioning a world without ovarian cancer.

We are pleased to share these highlights with you, showing the breadth of our work as the world's largest ovarian cancer charity. We invite you to visit our website (ocrahope.org) or follow us on social media (@ocrahope) to stay up to date. On behalf of everyone at OCRA, thank you.

Sincerely,

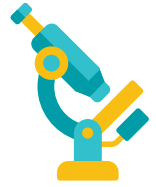
Audra L. Moran
President & CEO, OCRA

2021

BY THE NUMBERS

FUNDED 16
SCIENTISTS

\$4.3M



101

ADVOCATE LEADERS
REPRESENTED
43 STATES



ADVOCATES INFLUENCED A
FEDERAL INVESTMENT OF

\$235M



8 ACTION ALERTS RESULTED IN

11,242



MESSAGES TO CONGRESS

950 TRAINED
VOLUNTEERS
REACHED



9,524

RISING HEALTHCARE
PROFESSIONALS AT
369 SCHOOLS

FIELDIED



1141 PATIENT
SUPPORT CALLS

47% INCREASE FROM YEAR PRIOR

WOMAN TO WOMAN MENTORS ASSISTED

469



PATIENTS AROUND THE U.S.



74,000+

MEMBERS IN OUR
INSPIRE ONLINE COMMUNITY

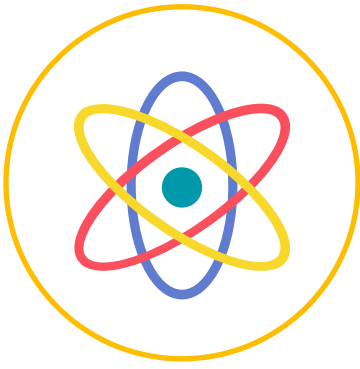
\$120K

IN FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE DISTRIBUTED TO
PATIENTS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY



618

PEOPLE FROM THE U.S. AND AROUND
THE WORLD ATTENDED OUR OVARIAN
CANCER NATIONAL CONFERENCE



RESEARCH

PARTNERING WITH
SCIENTISTS TO ERADICATE
OVARIAN CANCER



RESEARCH



OCRA is the largest non-government funder of ovarian cancer research and has the longest track record of impact. To date, we have invested more than \$110M to jumpstart promising research and hasten desperately needed breakthroughs. Every day, OCRA-funded researchers are finding new ways to treat, prevent and ultimately cure ovarian cancer.

2021 OCRA GRANTEES:

- ⊕ Revealed how certain cells drive immunotherapy resistance, and showed that targeting a signaling pathway in these cells improved tumor response to immunotherapy.
- ⊕ Shed light on the importance of increased genetic testing and counseling, especially in high-risk Black women.
- ⊕ Identified a specific enzyme, which may aid in the development of future ovarian cancer therapies.
- ⊕ Discovered a potential “Achilles’ heel” in ovarian cancer cells, and a new biomarker that may open up more avenues for targeted therapies.
- ⊕ Revealed an effective treatment, even in tumors that have become resistant to PARP inhibitors.
- ⊕ Paved the way for potential new avenues of transcription-based anticancer therapy.
- ⊕ Discovered a vulnerability in cancer cells that harbor ARID1A mutations, which points to potential new pathways of treatment for patients living with ovarian clear cell carcinoma.
- ⊕ Identified potential biomarkers in subgroups of high-grade serous ovarian cancer, which will aid in the development of targeted therapies.



IN 2021 WE FUNDED
16 INVESTIGATORS
... AWARDING ...
\$4.3 MILLION
... IN GRANTS ...

COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT GRANT

Ivan Ahel, PhD

University of Oxford

Exploiting PARP-modulating enzymes in ovarian cancer therapy

Martin Cannon, PhD

University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences

Understanding and targeting myeloid populations in ovarian cancer

LIZ TILBERIS EARLY CAREER AWARD

Sandra Cascio, PhD

Magee-Womens Research Institute

EGFL6 as a new regulator of myeloid cell expansion and function in HGSOC

Liya Ding, PhD

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

Targeting therapeutic resistance to PARP inhibition in ovarian cancer

Arun Kanakkanthara, PhD

Mayo Clinic

Exploiting a metabolic dependency of PARP inhibitor-resistant ovarian cancer

Ichiko Kinjyo, MD, PhD

University of New Mexico HSC

A novel mechanism for the immunomodulatory effects of PARP inhibitors

ANN AND SOL SCHREIBER MENTORED INVESTIGATOR AWARD

Ronja Anugwom, PhD

The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

Determine resistance mechanisms to ATR inhibition in ovarian cancers

Benoît Bragantini, PhD

Mayo Clinic

Probing homologous recombination DNA repair factors in chromatin by cryo-EM

Sridevi Challa, PhD

UT Southwestern Medical Center

Role of ribosomal protein mono(ADP-ribosyl)ation in protein quality control

Sammy Ferri-Borgogno, PhD

The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

Spatially-resolved cellular and transcriptome analyses of ovarian cancer

Anup Singh, PhD

La Jolla Institute for Immunology

Studying the role of BRCA1 in regulating heterochromatin structure and function in ovarian cancer

Bojana Stefanovska, PhD

University of Minnesota Twin Cities

APOBEC3B and DNA repair as synthetic lethal combinations in CCOC

Anne van Harten, PhD

Thomas Jefferson University

Targeted MDM2 degradation as a novel treatment for ovarian cancer

Melanie Weigert, PhD

The University of Chicago

Genome-wide profiling of 5-hydroxymethylcytosine on cell-free DNA

Xueyang Yu, PhD

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Macrophage control of the microenvironment drives HGSOc progression

Wei Zhou, PhD

The Wistar Institute

Targeting the mevalonate pathway in ARID1A-mutated ovarian cancer



ADVOCACY

ENGAGING WITH
POLICYMAKERS TO KEEP
THIS FIGHT A PRIORITY





ADVOCACY

We are *the* voice for the ovarian cancer community, working with legislators to ensure federal ovarian cancer research and education, patient safety, and access to high-quality care are protected on Capitol Hill.



In 2021, the pandemic prevented us from flying advocates from across the country to meet in Washington, D.C. But it didn't stop 443 passionate members of the ovarian cancer community from holding 500 meetings with congressional offices online. Moving to a virtual format allowed us to host two Advocacy Days this year, where we pushed for increased federal funding of research and education programs.



Our Advocate Leaders program grew from 65 members to 101 members representing 43 states and the District of Columbia.

OCRA expanded our Health Equity Task Force and examined issues like telehealth and clinical trial design. And we participated in a congressional briefing on ovarian cancer issues with U.S. Representatives Rosa DeLauro and Madeleine Dean.



In addition, we sent out eight Action Alerts, resulting in 11,242 messages to Congress.

Our targeted legislative campaigns helped lead to a federal government spending of \$235 million on ovarian cancer research and awareness programs.

We also change the way future healthcare professionals recognize ovarian cancer through our Survivors Teaching Students® program.

Because of Covid-19, most of our presentations were virtual. This helped us reach more schools and institutions than we had the previous year. We began to return in person when safety and the health of our volunteers allowed.



We trained 97 new volunteers, bringing our team to 950 individuals committed to sharing their stories of diagnosis and treatment with 9,524 rising medical professionals at 369 schools and institutions around the U.S.

We expanded our reach into additional online schools while growing our team of virtual-only presenters. We revised all program materials, stressing gender-neutral language in order to be inclusive of the entire ovarian cancer community. Our volunteer recruitment campaign resulted in improved diversity across all demographics.





PATIENT SUPPORT

STANDING TOGETHER WITH
EVERY PERSON TOUCHED
BY THE DISEASE





PATIENT SUPPORT



Our programs help people navigate an overwhelming diagnosis, supporting patients and their families when and where they need it the most. Our Woman to Woman peer support program pairs newly diagnosed patients with survivors who provide hope and insight, and our Ovarian Cancer National Conference brings survivors and experts together to share knowledge and build community.

As the pandemic waged on, calls to our patient support line grew in number. We fielded 1141 calls, a 46% increase from the year prior. To meet that need, we launched an oncology social work student program, partnering with Smith College and Columbia University Schools of Social Work.



Furthermore, OCRA expanded its Staying Connected support series, offering three weekly groups and three monthly groups, creating a support community around issues of new diagnosis, recurrence, sexual intimacy, end of life, and one specifically for loved ones. We also launched Express Yourself, a support series that combines themed therapeutic creative activities with facilitated discussion.



Our patient support team also oversaw the growth of OCRA's Inspire Online Community, which comprises more than 74,000 members worldwide.

OCRA gave out 10 financial assistance grants totaling \$120,000 to Woman to Woman sites so that they could provide direct financial aid to patients in need.

We paired 469 gynecologic cancer patients with 351 Woman to Woman mentors, who offered support and friendship in only the way that someone who has been through it can.



We held our conference in September, during Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month and one of our biggest fundraising seasons of the year. More than 600 attendees from eight countries joined with experts in the field to participate in more than two dozen sessions that offered the latest in research, treatment and care. For three days, patients, survivors, loved ones and experts delved into an array of topics and built community, even while participating virtually.



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as of February 2023

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St. Louis, MO*

Jason Wright, MD (2021-present)
Columbia University Medical Center, NY, NY

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as of February 2023

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Jon Zeidman

Chief Development Officer

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

	2021
Total Revenue & Support	\$13,177,438
Expenses	
Program Services	
Research	\$7,126,576
Conference	\$611,340
Education, Support and Advocacy	\$1,688,336
Total Program Services	\$9,426,252
Fundraising	\$1,209,892
Administrative	\$1,009,328
Total Expenses	\$11,645,472
Ending Net Assets	\$19,631,490

