# Join Us in Ending Alzheimer's Ways You Can Help

## **OUR MISSION**

Cure Alzheimer's Fund is a nonprofit organization dedicated to funding research with the highest probability of preventing, slowing or reversing Alzheimer's disease through venture-based philanthropy.

## **Accelerating research**

For many years, Alzheimer's disease research was stifled by a lack of funding. Pharmaceutical companies were too wary of past failures to fund any new drug development. The drug pipeline was coming up dry, and researchers weren't encouraged to think big or bold.

Cure Alzheimer's Fund has helped change that. In 2004, our founders (Henry McCance, Phyllis Rappaport, and Jacqui and Jeff Morby) came together to build a venture-based Alzheimer's research fund designed to dramatically accelerate research, make bold bets and focus exclusively on finding a cure. Robert Greenhill, Matthew Szulik and Sherry Sharp have joined the founders on the Board of Directors, bringing the same commitment to ending Alzheimer's disease.

## 100 percent goes to research

Our founders and board cover all of our operating expenses, so fully 100 percent of all other donations goes directly to research.

Cure Alzheimer's Fund is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with federal tax ID# 52-2396428

## In Memoriam

Many families choose to honor loved ones by making and requesting donations to Cure Alzheimer's Fund in their family member's name.

Visit our website **curealz.org** and visit the In Memory page under the Our Community tab for more information.

## **Events**

Many friends take it upon themselves to coordinate a fund-raising event in their community and donate the proceeds to Cure Alzheimer's Fund.

Visit **curealz.org/donate/other#event** to see some examples and learn how to get more involved.

### Webinars

Be sure to visit our Web page for the details on regular informational webinars discussing current topics in Alzheimer's research.

Look for us on Facebook and Twitter!

Join in the conversation.

facebook.com/curealzheimers

>> twitter.com/curealzheimers

## **Legislative Action**

Let your elected officials know Alzheimer's is important to you. Urge them to increase NIH funding for Alzheimer's research.

Military member, federal or state employee? Look for us on your annual campaign brochure.

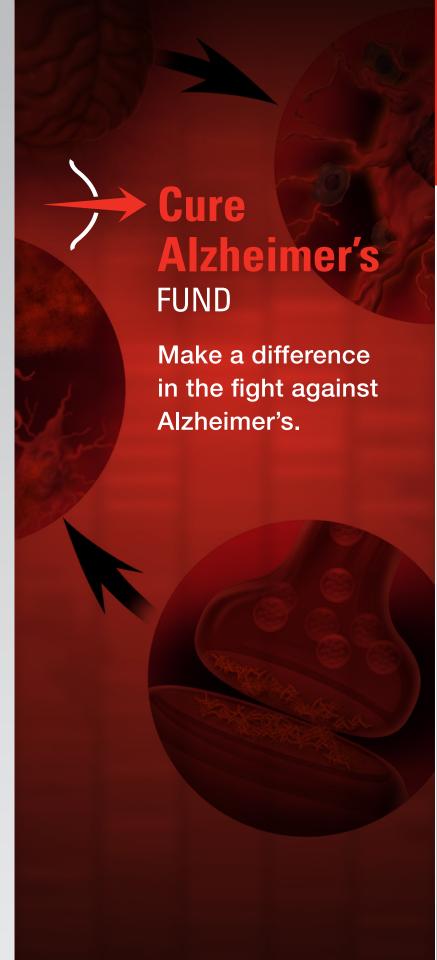


## **Contact Us**

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curealz.org



## Alzheimer's: The Health Crisis of the 21st Century

Alzheimer's is a progressive neurological disease that causes problems with memory, reasoning, behavior and motor skills. Symptoms slowly worsen over time, and the disease is fatal.



There is no cure for Alzheimer's. Existing drugs treat symptoms, but don't slow the disease's progression.



More than 5 million Americans are living with the disease. With our aging population, this number could triple by 2050.



1 in 3 seniors dies with Alzheimer's or another dementia.



Alzheimer's is among the leading causes of death in the United States. It's the only top cause on the rise, and it's the one with the least sophisticated medical response.

## The cost of Alzheimer's

Alzheimer's disease places an incredible emotional and financial burden on the loved ones of those affected. In 2013, 15.5 million unpaid caregivers provided 17.7 billion hours of care to people with dementia. It also places severe financial strain on such government programs as Medicare and Medicaid. If a cure is not found, it is estimated that Alzheimer's alone could bankrupt these programs by 2050.

Despite this burgeoning problem, research into a cure for Alzheimer's has been woefully underfunded. While the United States spends \$200 *billion* on patient care each year, we spend only around \$500 *million* on research.

# Led By the Best Alzheimer's Scientists

Our Research Consortium is an all-star team of scientists working at premier research institutions across the country, regularly conferring with one another on the progress and impediments in their research and constantly sharing their data. The group considers candidate projects carefully to determine their relevance to our Research Roadmap:



Find all genes that contribute to risk for or protection against Alzheimer's disease; prioritize those with the greatest impact Discover what the previously known Alzheimer's genes can teach us about Alzheimer's disease pathology and identify the role of the newly identified genes

Determine which existing drugs or novel chemical compounds most safely and effectively disrupt the Alzheimer's pathology generated by the highest priority genes Facilitate clinical trials of the most effective drugs by partnering with biotech firms or pharmaceutical companies to hasten drug development and approval

### Research Consortium

**Rudolph E. Tanzi,** Ph.D., Chairman, Research Consortium; Harvard Medical School/Massachusetts General Hospital

Sam Gandy, M.D., Ph.D., Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

Charles Glabe, Ph.D., University of California, Irvine

David Michael Holtzman, M.D., Washington University, St. Louis

Richard L. Huganir, Ph.D., The Johns Hopkins University

Virginia M.-Y. Lee, Ph.D., M.B.A., University of Pennsylvania

Roberto Malinow, M.D., Ph.D., University of California, San Diego Willia

Eric E. Schadt, Ph.D., Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

Sangram S. Sisodia, Ph.D., University of Chicago

Robert Vassar, Ph.D., Northwestern University

Steven L. Wagner, Ph.D., University of California, San Diego

Berislav Zlokovic, M.D., Ph.D., University of Southern California

## **Scientific Advisory Board**

**John C. Mazziotta,** M.D., Ph.D., Chairman, Scientific Advisory Board: UCLA

**Dennis Choi,** M.D., Ph.D., Stony Brook University

Caleb Finch, Ph.D., University of Southern California

Paul Greengard, Ph.D., The Rockefeller University

John S. Lazo, Ph.D., University of Virginia

Robert C. Malenka, M.D., Ph.D., Stanford University

William Mobley, M.D., Ph.D., University of California, San Diego

Thomas C. Südhof, M.D., Stanford University

Marc Tessier-Lavigne, Ph.D., The Rockefeller University

## We've Funded More Than \$28 Million in Breakthrough Research

In its first 10 years, Cure Alzheimer's Fund has contributed more than \$28 million to research. Our initiatives have been responsible for several key breakthroughs, including:

- a potential treatment selected by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) for its elite "Blueprint" drug discovery program; and
- ▶ the groundbreaking "Alzheimer's in a Dish" study, which promises to greatly accelerate drug testing and was reported by *The New York Times* as a "giant step forward."

Cure Alzheimer's Fund provides "seed funding" to get promising research off the ground; once begun, the research often garners additional, larger grants from other organizations such as NIH. Our investment in research has resulted in more than \$35 million in NIH grants.

## **Decoding the genetics of Alzheimer's**

One of our major goals has been to identify the full complement of Alzheimer's genes, along with all of the DNA variants and mutations in those genes that increase or decrease risk for the disease. Our Alzheimer's Genome Project™, launched in 2005, succeeded in identifying more than 100 new Alzheimer's candidate genes. This was the first large-scale, family-based study of the human genome specific to Alzheimer's disease, and the first to report novel AD genes with statistical significance.

To learn more about our research, visit curealz.org/research.

## Genes to Therapies<sup>™</sup>: <sup>™</sup>

## Next Step Toward a Cure

I BCKDHB PHF6 VAPB CDKL5 TYR KCNC3 GLUT1 KIF5A KIAA12 NT3 POLG BFSP2 CLN6 SCNN1G DCX OTOF SORL1 CHM SCN9A RNP GRN SPTAN1 MS4A6E PEX12 CNGB1 LGI1 GLRB SLC12A3 G B UBE3A CHRNB3 GCNT2 GUCA1A DBT APP CLCN1 RAI1 SMPD1 ASK PRICKLE1 TGFB1 GCH1 EFEMP1 USH2A RPE65 PTCH1 SNAP CN2A POLR3A GABRA1 ARHGEF9 ROBO3 ERCC6 SLC26A5 DFNB31 PHA1 ROGDI BCKDHA OCMD ACADS CIZ1 COG7 INPP5D NOTCH3 The ultimate goal of Genes to Therapies, our latest major initiative, is the development of effective interventions at several points in the



pathological cascade of Alzheimer's disease.

Of the currently identified Alzheimer's genes and candidate genes, 59 are being screened for mutations/functional variants in the Whole Genome Sequencing project. Of these, we will prioritize approximately 15 genes that fit three important criteria for immediate and thorough investigation: They must have high genetic impact in Alzheimer's pathology; be "druggable"; and affect the most obvious intervention points.

APT EXT2 CHKB MFN2 CASR CPT2 KCNQ2 CL