2022 has been a wonderful year full of growth and impact from our community. Our organization continues to grow and evolve and that enables us to fulfill our mission by providing more support and education to our community.

Life-changing Impact at Hydrocephalus Conference

A significant highlight of 2022 was the 17th National Conference on Hydrocephalus, HA CONNECT, which took place in Austin, TX in mid-July. This was the first in-person conference in four years and was attended by over 500 people from around the world.

Prior to the start of the conference, we hosted a private roundtable discussion called EMERGE 2022 with nine innovative companies working on better treatments and diagnostics for hydrocephalus. It is so exciting to witness the innovation occurring in hydrocephalus care.

Ten Innovator Awards Granted to Scientists for Their Groundbreaking Research

It was an incredible year for our research program. An unprecedented ten Innovator Awards were granted to scientists for their exciting research due to strategic collaborations between HA, Team Hydro and the Rudi Schulte Research Institute. These collaborations maximize our impact. HA’s total research investment is now $13.8M which has resulted in our funded grantees going on to secure more than $71M in additional funding.

Together We Can Transform Lives

Our national research campaign, Under Pressure is driving the development of non-invasive and/or one-time therapies, improving the screening and diagnosis of hydrocephalus, and improving access to care and quality of life for patients.

We have come a long way since the beginning of our journey to dramatically increase the scope of hydrocephalus research in 2009. We find ourselves at a critical juncture – with many innovative ideas and potential for therapies, devices, and ultimately a cure. We must execute a bold plan now to find the support
needed to keep this life-changing research moving forward and bringing these new ideas to market.

Please join us on this journey and take action today. Contact linda@hydroassoc.org to learn how.

Department of Defense Research Funding

Action was taken by HA to advocate for critical hydrocephalus research through the Peer Reviewed Medical Research Program (PRMRP) in the Department of Defense’s (DoD) Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program (CDMRP). In the 2022 DoD CDMRP/PRMRP cycle, 11 hydrocephalus applications were received. Of these applications, five were funded, which led to an additional $18M in grant awards!

Community Research Priorities

In 2022 we had the results of our Community Research Priorities project published in the Journal of Neurosurgery. This was a massive two-year project with multiple community surveys culminating in a workshop to finalize the top 20 research priorities from our community. These priorities have been condensed into five areas of focus and will inform the research we fund.

FIVE AREAS OF FOCUS

- Develop non-invasive and one-time therapies
- Reduce the burden of current treatments
- Improve quality of life
- Improve the screening and diagnosis of hydrocephalus
- Improve access to care

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