



autoimmune
association

**Annual
Report**

2022

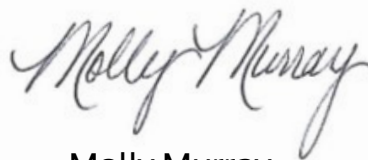


This year we celebrated our one-year anniversary operating as the Autoimmune Association following our rebrand from the American Autoimmune Related Diseases Association (AARDA). With a new logo and a new name that clearly defines our focus, we strengthened our commitment to leading the fight against autoimmune disease.

Throughout 2022, we made significant progress in advocacy, awareness, education, and research. We advanced legislation at the federal and state levels to improve healthcare access and affordability, and we are leading advocacy efforts to garner congressional support for a new Office of Autoimmune Disease Research at the National Institutes of Health. We raised awareness for autoimmune disease throughout the year, with Autoimmune Awareness Month in March driving noteworthy attention. We held roundtables and conducted surveys to better understand health disparities among underrepresented populations, and we enhanced our partnerships with patient advocacy groups, the medical and research communities, and industry organizations for a collaborative approach to fulfilling our mission. As we look to the future, we embarked on the development of a new strategic plan that will inform and shape our focus for the next several years.

All of us at the Autoimmune Association are inspired by the progress we've made on behalf of the autoimmune community. We are committed to building upon these achievements and creating unprecedented change in the fight against autoimmune disease for years to come.

Thank you for joining us on this journey and your support.



Molly Murray
President & CEO



Our Mission

The Autoimmune Association is the world's leading nonprofit organization dedicated to autoimmune awareness, advocacy, education, and research.

Board of Directors

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- President & CEO - Molly Murray
- Chair - Lilly Stairs
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CONTACT

Autoimmune Association

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Major Accomplishments during Fiscal Year 2022

AWARENESS

In March, the Autoimmune Awareness Month campaign encouraged the autoimmune community to share their personal autoimmune stories. More than 50 people shared their unique and inspiring autoimmune stories that the Autoimmune Association shared across social media platforms. Additionally, autoimmune advocates shared their stories via a special Instagram reel campaign set to Imagine Dragons' hit song "Believer." This song is about lead singer Dan Reynolds' journey living with Ankylosing Spondylitis and how the pain he has lived through has made him the person that he is. The campaign garnered over 70,000 views.

Throughout the year, the Autoimmune Association attended and presented at several major autoimmune, biotech, and policy conferences and events. Staff collaborated with the communities to learn about the latest developments, share insights, and advocate for state and federal policies that improve healthcare access and affordability.

ADVOCACY

Let My Doctors Decide (LMDD) expanded its efforts to raise awareness about harmful access barriers and promoted meaningful solutions to ensure that treatment decisions are always made by patients and trusted health care professionals. The strategy focused on humanizing the negative implications of access barriers through highly visual and data-driven narratives via partner engagement, thought leadership, earned media, and social media engagement.

Additionally, the National Coalition of Autoimmune Patient (NCAPG) has significantly grown the past year, adding several organizations that increase representation of autoimmune disease states across the globe. The growth and impact of the NCAPG magnifies the voice of patients living with autoimmune disease and addresses key issues of importance to people living with autoimmune disease and their families.

The Autoimmune Association continued to advocate for patient-first policies at the state and federal levels, particularly regarding access to care and encouraging fair and transparent insurance benefits and coverage.

EDUCATION

The Autoimmune Association obtained a Eugene Washington PCORI Engagement Award to disseminate the Lupus Decision Making tool, designed to empower patients with unbiased information about the various side effects, risks, and benefits of the most common for lupus treatment options. The tool empowers individuals with knowledge to become their own best advocate.

In October 2021, the Autoimmune Association hosted the inaugural Autoimmune Summit, bringing together nearly 2,000 people from across the autoimmune community. The summit featured 23 educational and empowering sessions and over 50 autoimmune experts including physicians, nurses, policy experts and notable patient advocates. Discussions addressed the most pressing topics that impact patients and caregivers living with autoimmune conditions. From tips and tricks for managing multiple specialists to clinical trials, health equity, access, complementary medicine, pregnancy, and beyond. Testimonials from attendees illustrate the meaningful impact the Summit had on their journey as an autoimmune patient with many reporting that the experience left them feeling empowered with new tools for managing their condition, helped them to realize they are not alone in learning to live with autoimmune disease and that there is great hope for the future of autoimmune treatment.

The Autoimmune Association held roundtable discussions with underserved communities including women of color, males, transgender and non-binary individuals, and those who live in rural areas to help identify disparities in the diagnostic journey. Through a series of guided questions that included discussions on patient voices, cultural awareness, shared decision making and personal success, participants shared their unique journeys and the barriers they overcame to achieve a diagnosis, including the biases they encountered while engaging with the medical community. The goal is for the data and insights derived to lead to improvements in patient experience, access to care, and future solutions resulting in positive outcomes.

RESEARCH

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NAEM) released a report recommending that the National Institutes of Health (NIH) create an Office of Autoimmune Disease/Autoimmunity Research. At the request of the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee, the Autoimmune Association worked with the Committee to draft report language that was included in the FY 2023 spending bill, encouraging the NIH to create the Office of Autoimmunity/Autoimmune Disease Research. The Autoimmune Association continues to offer its full support and assistance as the NIH considers its strategy.

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Auditor's Report

**The Board of Directors
American Autoimmune Related
Diseases Association
Clinton Township, Michigan**



OPINION

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of American Autoimmune Related Diseases Association (a nonprofit organization) which comprise the statement of financial position as of September 30, 2022, and the related statements of activities, functional expenses and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements. In our opinion, the accompanying consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of American Autoimmune Related Diseases Association and the related entities as of September 30, 2022 and 2021, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

BASIS FOR OPINION

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of American Autoimmune Related Diseases Association and the related entities and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF MANAGEMENT FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt American Autoimmune Related Diseases Association's ability to continue as a going concern for one year after the date that the financial statements are issued.

Auditor's Report

AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of American Autoimmune Related Diseases Association's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about American Autoimmune Related Diseases Association's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control–related matters that we identified during the audit.

Gordon Advisors, P.C.

April 6, 2023



Financial Statements

For the Year Ended September 30, 2022

	WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS	WITH DONOR RESTRICTIONS	2022 TOTAL
Revenue and Other Support			
Contributions	\$ 689,070	\$ 1,008,374	\$ 1,697,444
APC Membership Dues	705,500	0	705,500
In-kind goods and services	337,135	0	337,135
Other income	4,740	0	4,740
Interest income	1,986	0	1,986
	1,738,431	1,008,374	2,746,805
New assets released from restrictions	1,074,423	(1,074,423)	0
Total Revenue and Other Support	2,812,854	(66,049)	2,746,805
Expenses			
Program Services			
Education	1,202,687	0	1,202,687
Public Awareness	834,990	0	834,990
Research	257,958	0	257,958
Total Program Services	2,295,635	0	2,295,635
Supporting Services			
Management and General	103,407	0	103,407
Fundraising	48,471	0	48,471
Total Supporting Services	151,878	0	151,878
Total Expenses	2,447,513	0	2,447,513
Change in Net Assets	365,341	(66,049)	299,292
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	1,216,999	411,986	1,628,985
Net Assets, End of Year	\$1,582,340	\$345,937	\$1,928,277

Financial Statements

For the Year Ended September 30, 2022

	PROGRAM SERVICES			TOTAL PROGRAM SERVICES	SUPPORTING SERVICES		TOTAL
	Education	Public Awareness	Research		Management and General	Fundraising	
Wages	\$ 372,394	\$ 333,225	\$ 147,150	\$ 852,769	\$ 28,953	\$ 15,622	\$ 897,344
Professional Fees	75,944	49,454	21,226	146,624	16,340	8,250	171,214
Postage and Shipping	1,683	1,589	1	3,273	561	1,352	5,186
Public Relations	220,410	240,410	0	460,820	0	0	460,820
Legal	27,728	12,323	12,323	52,374	12,948	0	65,322
Consulting Services	82,473	18,658	14,392	115,523	6,000	6,850	128,373
Grant Writing	4,805	676	155	5,636	0	0	5,636
Printing and Stationary	2,461	2,359	51	4,871	140	567	5,578
Office Supplies	847	838	0	1,685	71	46	1,802
Operating Supplies	863	6,129	20	7,012	34	20	7,066
Dues and Subscriptions	30,193	31,978	17,376	79,547	2,893	1,401	83,841
Filing Fees	1,197	1,197	0	2,394	1,229	1,197	4,820
Planned Giving	875	875	0	1,750	875	875	3,500
Rent	24,896	24,896	0	49,792	2,119	1,059	52,970
Equipment Maintenance	5,688	3,620	0	9,308	517	517	10,342
Telephone	3,779	3,910	563	8,252	315	225	8,792
Insurance	1,599	1,599	0	3,198	1,599	1,599	6,396
State and Nat'l Meetings	11,987	14,763	5,560	32,310	2,357	1,743	36,410
Travel	3,907	7,159	3,440	14,506	1,689	966	17,161
Depreciation	1,372	1,372	1,372	4,116	1,372	1,372	6,860
Payroll Taxes	25,131	32,311	10,770	68,212	2,154	1,436	71,802
Insurance - Health	24,685	23,968	8,345	56,998	2,763	1,351	61,112
Board Expenses	71	71	0	142	12,529	0	12,671
Honorariums	14,346	1,565	2,396	18,307	90	190	18,587
Professional Training	399	367	300	1,066	1,210	52	2,328
Grants	0	0	5,000	5,000	0	0	5,000
Repairs and Maintenance	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Utilities	1,116	1,116	0	2,232	95	48	2,375
Miscellaneous	108	95	91	294	1,032	85	1,411
Retirement Plan Contributions	7,320	12,808	7,419	27,547	1,278	1,204	30,029
Website	252,335	5,659	8	258,002	432	444	258,878
Advertising and Development	2,075	0	0	2,075	1,812	0	3,887
Total Expenses by Function	\$1,202,687	\$ 834,990	\$257,958	\$2,295,635	\$103,407	\$ 48,471	\$ 2,447,513
Less expenses included with revenues on the statement of activities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total expenses included in the expense section on the statement of activities	\$1,202,687	\$ 834,990	\$257,958	\$2,295,635	\$103,407	\$ 48,471	\$ 2,447,513