



Annual Report

FY 2023



Hello!

I am pleased to present our 2023 Annual Report, highlighting the progress the Autoimmune Association has made this fiscal year. Together, we are making a real difference in the lives of those with autoimmune diseases.

In this report, you'll find updates on our work in advocacy, awareness, education, and research. We've fought for better access to care at both federal and state levels, raised public awareness, empowered patients through education, and collaborated with experts to push for innovative treatments.

Thank you for your support. Your contributions as donors, sponsors, partners, and volunteers have been crucial to our success. Together, we are creating a brighter future for the autoimmune community.

With gratitude,



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

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Major Accomplishments During Fiscal Year 2023

ADVOCACY

In March, the Autoimmune Association led the first National Coalition of Autoimmune Patient Groups (NCAPG) Legislative Virtual Fly-In. With more than 50 advocates representing 17 states and a variety of disease states, the event made great strides in increasing the visibility of the autoimmune patient community among legislators and staff. The fly-in addressed issues important to the community including support for the newly created NIH Office of Autoimmune Disease Research.

The Autoimmune Association and Let My Doctors Decide (LMDD) continued to raise awareness about unnecessary, costly access barriers that hinder autoimmune patients' access to doctor-prescribed medicines and treatments. The Autoimmune Association, LMDD, and its partners are committed to achieving patient-centered health care coverage to improve wellness, lower costs, and protect the patient-physician relationship. We continue to advocate for meaningful reforms and strongly encourage the adoption of principles that address the barriers that prevent patients and doctors from making treatment decisions.

We launched an autoimmune disease online community on the Inspire platform to allow patients, caregivers, and advocates to engage with others, share experiences, find emotional support, discuss tips for coping with autoimmune disease, and more.

This online autoimmune disease community provides much-needed support and offers a new platform for the Autoimmune Association to connect with the community.

AWARENESS

In March, we celebrated Autoimmune Awareness Month with Autoimmune Expressions, a virtual art gallery showcasing artwork, poetry, essays, and videos created by those living with autoimmune diseases. This campaign not only raised awareness on social media but also provided a platform for self-expression and community support. We participated in Women 4 Wellness, an event aimed at promoting health awareness and healthy behaviors among women of the Flathead Indian Reservation and Lake County, Montana. Additionally, the Autoimmune Association attended and presented at numerous autoimmune, biotech, and policy conferences throughout the year, collaborating with communities to stay updated on developments, share insights, and advocate for improved healthcare policies.

EDUCATION

The second annual Autoimmune Community Summit attracted more than 2,200 registrants and featured 15 sessions led by autoimmune experts including physicians, nurses, policy experts, and patient advocates. Attendees heard about the most pressing topics that impact the autoimmune community, including clinical trials, health equity, access, complementary medicine, nutrition, coping mechanisms, medical and personal relationships, and more. In the post-event survey, 91% of attendees reported an “excellent” or “good” experience, and 95% of attendees noted that they would recommend the event to others. 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 there is a supportive community and that there is great hope for the future of autoimmune treatment.

The Autoimmune Association and partners Immunovant and CISC RP hosted a discussion about the important role clinical research plays in advancing care for people with autoimmune disease. Moderated by an expert in medical research, the webinar provided attendees with the resources and education to make well-informed decisions about the clinical research process.

Throughout the year, we continued to hold roundtable discussions with underserved communities including women of color, males, trans, and non-binary individuals, and those who live in rural areas to help identify disparities in the diagnostic journey.

RESEARCH

As part of our commitment to encouraging research and promoting promising bench science, we awarded travel grants to young investigators to attend the Annual Meeting of the Federation of Clinical Immunology Societies (FOCIS). Additionally, we co-sponsored a course in basic immunology, and underwrote a networking event that featured a juried poster session showcasing breakthroughs in immunological research.

Our Autoimmune Research Roundup newsletter continued to educate more than 11,000 community members about advancements in autoimmune disease research. We’ve shared news articles and educational tools to help people better understand the clinical trial participation process, including information about more than 80 open enrollment research studies and clinical trials.

At the end of 2023, our Autoimmune Research Network (ARNet) patient registry included information submitted by more than 22,000 autoimmune patients. Participation in the ARNet registry benefits the entire autoimmune community by accelerating research and exploring the need for future diagnostic tools. Participation also assists in defining certain social, economic or racial barriers that adversely impact the journey to diagnosis.

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Auditor's Report

The Board of Directors American
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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, 2023, 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, 2023, 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.

March 21, 2024

Gordon Advisors, P.C. 

Financial Statements

For the Year Ended September 30, 2023

	WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS	WITH DONOR RESTRICTIONS	2023 TOTAL
Revenue and Other Support			
Contributions	\$ 867,187	\$ 620,000	\$ 1,487,187
APC Membership Dues	782,500	0	782,500
In-kind goods and services	319,204	0	319,204
Other income	9,606	0	9,606
ERC contribution	118,652	0	118,652
Interest income	9,224	0	9,224
	2,106,373	620,000	2,726,373
New assets released from restrictions	698,646	(698,646)	0
Total Revenue and Other Support	2,805,019	(78,646)	2,726,373
Expenses			
Program Services			
Education	1,130,649	0	1,130,649
Public Awareness	788,642	0	788,642
Research	296,896	0	296,896
Total Program Services	2,216,188	0	2,216,188
Supporting Services			
Management and General	158,732	0	158,732
Fundraising	62,483	0	62,483
Total Supporting Services	221,215	0	221,215
Total Expenses	2,437,402	0	2,437,402
Change in Net Assets	367,617	(78,646)	288,971
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	1,582,340	345,937	1,928,277
Net Assets, End of Year	\$1,949,957	\$267,291	\$2,217,248

Financial Statements

For the Year Ended September 30, 2023

	PROGRAM SERVICES			TOTAL PROGRAM SERVICES	SUPPORTING SERVICES		TOTAL
	Education	Public Awareness	Research		Management and General	Fundraising	
Wages	\$ 433,940	\$ 394,902	\$ 171,628	\$ 1,000,470	\$ 37,740	\$ 24,030	\$ 1,062,240
Professional fees	67,350	57,504	11,792	136,646	40,466	3,631	180,743
Postage and shipping	3,437	2,252	192	5,881	247	769	6,897
Program expenses	95,488	95,488	0	190,976	0	0	190,976
Legal	14,928	6,635	6,635	28,198	26,446	0	54,644
Consulting services	64,789	18,346	10,581	93,716	288	15,833	109,837
Grant writing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Printing and stationery	2,039	1,520	0	3,559	78	415	4,052
Office supplies	1,115	519	191	1,825	834	211	2,870
Operating supplies	4,090	1,449	480	6,019	523	98	6,640
Dues and subscriptions	38,545	28,696	17,099	84,340	4,603	1,517	90,460
Filing fees	1,616	1,616	0	3,232	1,948	1,616	6,796
Planned giving	875	875	0	1,750	875	875	3,500
Rent	25,598	25,598	0	51,196	2,220	1,133	54,549
Equipment maintenance	6,837	4,373	0	11,210	553	553	12,316
Telephone	3,786	4,246	281	8,313	314	195	8,822
Insurance	1,775	1,775	0	3,550	1,775	1,775	7,100
State and national meetings	14,185	28,510	8,482	51,177	1,350	1,321	53,848
Travel	9,374	14,423	6,085	29,882	1,122	1,040	32,044
Depreciation	1,493	1,493	1,493	4,479	1,493	1,493	7,465
Payroll taxes	25,394	37,297	10,316	73,007	3,174	3,174	79,355
Insurance - Health	29,575	29,274	8,798	67,647	3,111	1,443	72,201
Board expenses	0	0	0	0	16,177	0	16,177
Honorariums	12,288	150	1,788	14,226	0	0	14,226
Professional training	2,047	1,526	300	3,874	7,594	50	11,517
Grants	500	0	35,000	35,500	0	0	35,500
Repairs and maintenance	96	61	0	157	9	9	175
Utilities	1,116	1,116	0	2,232	95	48	2,375
Miscellaneous	116	90	91	297	3,383	90	3,770
Retirement plan contributions	11,454	18,130	5,664	35,248	1,471	966	37,685
Website	249,269	3,893	0	253,162	198	198	253,558
Advertising and development	7,534	6,885	0	14,419	645	0	15,064

Total Expenses by Function	\$1,130,649	\$ 788,642	\$296,896	\$2,216,188	\$158,732	\$ 62,483	\$ 2,437,402
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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	\$1,130,649	\$ 788,642	\$296,896	\$2,216,188	\$158,732	\$ 62,483	\$ 2,437,402
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