

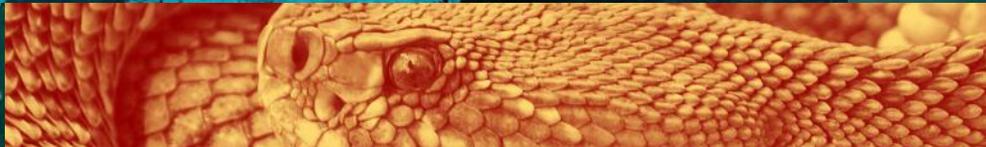


MTF

Medical Toxicology
Foundation

ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT

2021



YOUR GIFTS AT WORK



“ I have since had the pleasure of serving as Chair of the ACMT Diversity, Equity and Inclusion workgroup. We are working to advertise the diverse practice opportunities in medical toxicology, and increase the diversity of our members [...] and hope to build pipelines to encourage underrepresented individuals to pursue medical toxicology. We should strive to be at least as diverse as the primary specialties we recruit from and the patient population that we serve. ”

- Peter Akpunonu, MD,
Recipient of a 2014 MTF DEI Travel Award

[Read More](#)

“ The MTF grant was my first funded grant that really allowed me to learn about the research process and gain mentorship with faculty from my fellowship program. In the vein of my current work that develops different types of technologies around substance use disorder, the MTF grant gave me experience to allow me to start to apply for, and receive, NIH funding. ”

- Peter Chai, MD, MMS, FACMT,
Recipient of a 2016 Medical Toxicology Foundation
Innovative Research and Teaching Award



[Read More](#)

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About the Medical Toxicology Foundation

The Medical Toxicology Foundation (MTF), is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization established by ACMT in 2009. The MTF provides multiple opportunities to further education and training in medical toxicology through travel awards to ACMT's Annual Scientific Meeting, research grants, a fellowship rotation in industry program, and collaborations with other medical associations.

Founded in 1993, the American College of Medical Toxicology (ACMT) is a professional, nonprofit member association, and the primary organization that serves Medical Toxicologists. Membership is comprised of physicians board certified in medical toxicology, and others with recognized expertise in the specialty.

About the American College of Medical Toxicology

About Medical Toxicology

Medical Toxicology is a field of medicine dedicated to the evaluation and treatment of poisoned patients. This includes adverse health effects of medications, occupational and environmental toxins, and biological agents. Medical Toxicology is an officially recognized subspecialty by the American Board of Medical Specialties.

A close-up photograph of a microscope's objective lenses, showing labels like 'N PLAN 100' and 'N PLAN 2.5x/0.1'. The image is dimly lit with a blue tint.

RESEARCH

Foundation-supported research, including collaborative funding projects, has led to many advancements in medical toxicology and publications in national and international research journals.

Each year the MTF provides multiple opportunities for medical toxicologists to further their education and training through travel awards to ACMT's Annual Scientific Meeting, a fellowship rotation in industry program, and other opportunities.

A photograph of a laptop computer with a green glow, likely from a screen or lighting. The keyboard is visible.

EDUCATION

Adverse drug reactions, exposure to environmental, chemical, plant and animal toxins, and occupational hazards are just some of the reasons patients benefit from the specialized care of medical toxicologists. Patient access to this unique medical specialty saves lives every day.

A photograph of a medical professional in a white lab coat and gloves, working with medical equipment. The scene is lit with a warm, orange glow.

PATIENT CARE



RECONNECTING

**Erica L. Liebelt, MD, FACMT
President, Board of Directors,
Medical Toxicology Foundation**

The world has opened up again despite our ongoing challenges with the pandemic, war, and the impact of climate change over the last year, causing ongoing disconnections and disruptions in our lives. However, over the last year, I have witnessed “Reconnecting” in my professional, community, and personal spaces as well as globally—people connecting to other people, their colleagues, their “old friends”, their past principles which may have become dormant and many times, themselves.

Connecting with others gives us a sense of inclusion, interaction, comfort, safety, and community. The American College of Medical Toxicology is a modality for connecting a wide diversity of healthcare providers committed to providing the highest quality of expertise care to those patients in need. There is a greater need for medical toxicologists and the clinical expertise we provide given the escalation of mental health and substance use disorders and their impact over the last two years.

How do we sustain and advance this care? This is the unchanged and compelling mission of the Medical Toxicology Foundation: to improve patient’s lives through the support of education, training, and research that advances the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of patients adversely affected by drugs, chemicals, and natural toxins. This is a powerful and impactful mission that we have seen come alive in the last eleven years with your ongoing contributions.

It is my hope that every ACMT member considers giving a gift to the MTF to Reconnect to our mission and help medical toxicology to persevere and move forward. This gift can be to our Annual Campaign and/or making a pledge to our Year 2 Future Fund Campaign. No other organization can help meet the demand for pursuing excellence in patient care while advancing education and research that will transform the healthcare of our patients. This Reconnecting will also provide joy and fulfillment, which is something all of us need every day.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Erica Liebelt". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

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MD, FACMT**

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Board Member



**Paul Wax,
MD, FACMT**

Board Member Ex-Officio

MISSION, VISION & VALUES

Vision Statement

To be the leading sponsor of toxicology research and education for improved patient care.

Mission Statement

To advance research and education in the prevention and treatment of patients adversely impacted by drugs, chemicals, and natural toxins.

The Value of Medical Toxicology

The field of medical toxicology connects specialty knowledge obtained through research and practice to people exposed to harmful chemicals, environmental hazards, and natural toxins and/or to those dealing with drug abuse or addiction issues. Although they play diverse roles and serve in many different sectors, medical toxicologists often specialize in emergency medicine, pediatrics and/or occupational medicine.

The Value of the Medical Toxicology Foundation

Donors, private foundations, and corporations contribute to the MTF via an annual fund, major gifts, grants, and other channels to fund research, education, and practice programs/initiatives. Contributions made to the MTF are tax-deductible as allowed by prevailing laws.

2021 Grant and Award Recipients



Innovative Research, Teaching, & Practice Grant

Powell Graham, MD

University of Massachusetts Medical School

Project: “CannFall: Evaluating Blood Biomarkers of Cannabis Use After Geriatric Falls”

Award Amount: \$10,000



Medical Toxicology Foundation (MTF) / Society of Academic Emergency Medicine Foundation (SAEMF) Toxicology Research Grant

Cynthia Santos, MD

Rutgers New Jersey Medical School

Project: “Genotypes Associated with Dosing and Relapse in Patients with Opioid Use Disorder Receiving Buprenorphine.”

Award Amount: \$10,000

2021 Michael P. Spadafora Travel Awardees

Axel Adams, MD
Emergency Medicine Resident,
The University of Washington,
School of Medicine

Alexander Lazar, MD
Emergency Medicine Resident,
University of Connecticut

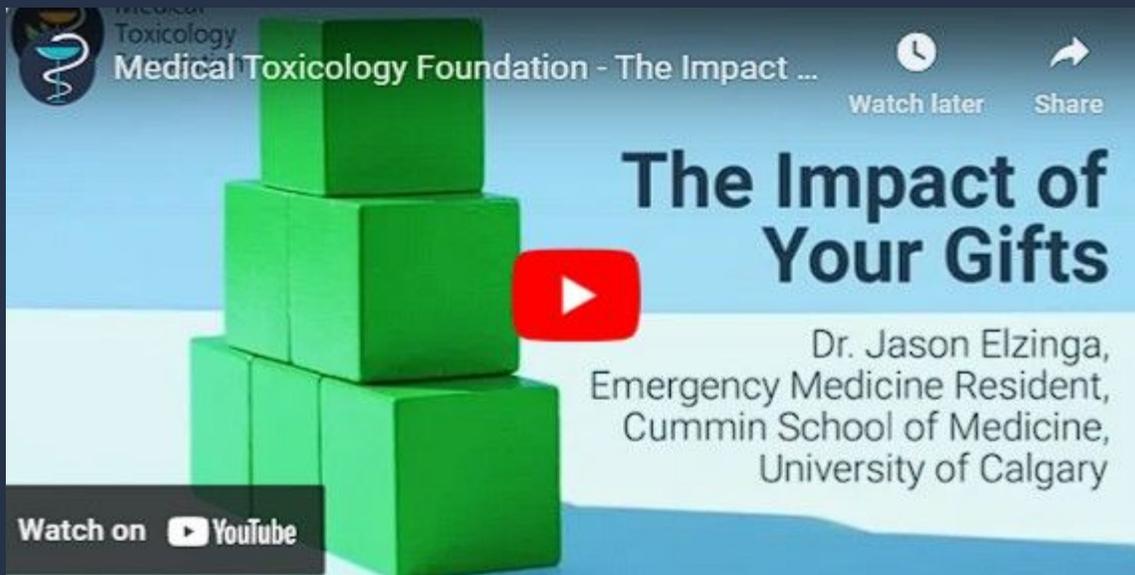
Samy Chettat, MD
Emergency Medicine Resident,
Oregon Health and Science
University

Mark Simon, MD
Emergency Medicine Resident,
Denver Health Medical Center and
University of Colorado Hospital

Jason Elzinga, MD
Emergency Medicine Resident,
Cummin School of Medicine at the
University of Calgary

Scott Wakeham, MD
Emergency Medicine Resident,
Cummin School of Medicine at the
University of Calgary

YOUR GIFTS AT WORK



Thank You, Donors!



“ *Your gifts to the Medical Toxicology Foundation are really appreciated by residents like myself as it allows us to further explore the field of toxicology early in our residency and spark further interest in pursuing toxicology as a career.* **”**

**-Jason Elzinga, MD
Emergency Medicine Resident, Cummin School of
Medicine at the University of Calgary,
recipient of a 2021 Spadafora Travel Award**

New Program

Medical Toxicology in Industry Fellows Rotation



[Learn More](#)

The focus of this program is to create opportunities for fellows to experience another facet of medical toxicology during their fellowship and introduce them to the possibility of a career in industry. The goal is to teach the principles of product development from the R&D pipeline, through the regulatory process, to launch and post-market stewardship. The rotation addresses the gap in understanding the role of industry and the regulatory oversight of bringing important technology from the academic arena to the public sphere.

The first cohort's rotation ran from January through April of 2022.

Meet the First Cohort



Ari Filip, MD

Washington University
School of Medicine
St. Louis, MI



Powell Graham, MD

University of Massachusetts
Chan Medical School
Worcester, MA



Sasha Kaiser, MD

Rocky Mountain Poison
and Drug Safety
Denver, CO



Shahnaz Sonya Rashid, MD

Toxikon Consortium
Chicago, IL

Medical Toxicology in Industry Webinar Series

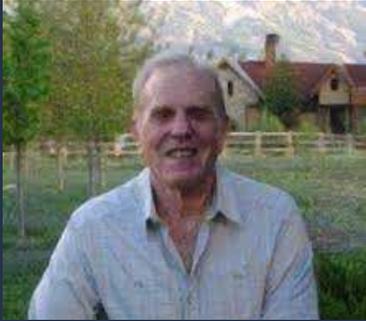
A related webinar series sponsored by Bayer features medical toxicologists working in various capacities in industry including representatives from Johnson & Johnson, Bayer and the Food & Drug Administration (FDA.) In this video the cohort discussed their experience in the program.



[Watch Series](#)

New Program

Dr. Charles E. Becker Medal for Outstanding Achievement as a Medical Toxicology Fellow



Charles E. Becker, MD

[Learn More](#)

In 2021, the Medical Toxicology Foundation was approached by Dr. Charles Becker and Family with an idea to recognize outstanding fellows within the College. Dr. Becker sought to create a named award to be administered by the MTF.

The Becker Family seeded this endeavor with a generous contribution of \$50,000 and The Charles E. Becker Medal for Outstanding Achievement as a Medical Toxicology Fellow. Dr. Becker was a pioneering leader in establishing the specialty of medical toxicology.

This award aims to recognize an outstanding fellow who embodies the humanitarian spirit of Dr. Becker and whose professional goals include a desire to make a significant contribution to advance the field of medical toxicology. It is expected that the first recipient will be honored at the 2023 ACMT Annual Scientific Meeting.

New Program

MTF Corporate Advisory Council



[Learn More](#)

Through the leadership of pioneering members, Johnson & Johnson Consumer, Inc. and Bayer Crop Science, the Medical Toxicology Foundation established a unique partnership to connect medical toxicology leaders with industry. The Corporate Advisory Council (CAC) serves as a forum to facilitate transparent discussions between industry, other stakeholders, and medical toxicology leadership. The Council provides a framework for sharing information, developing dialogue, and networking. The goal of this new initiative is to support the mission of the Medical Toxicology Foundation (MTF) and build successful partnerships to support research and education in medical toxicology for improved patient care.

IMPACT STORY



Peter Akpunonu, MD

2014 MTF DEI Medical Travel Award Recipient

Award Purpose: Travel to attend ACMT Annual Scientific Meeting

Award Amount: \$1,500

Dr. Akpunonu is an Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine at the University of Kentucky Albert B. Chandler Hospital. He serves as the medical director for their toxicology service, medical director for their undersea and hyperbaric medicine service, and the site director for the radiation injury treatment network. He is also the medical director of the Kentucky Poison Control Center. He is currently Chair of ACMT's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion working group.

Q: You were the recipient of the 2014 MTF Travel Award, which funded your ability to attend ACMT's Annual Scientific Meeting. What would you say was the most valuable takeaway from attending the conference?

A: What was a big takeaway for me was how diverse the professional opportunities are in toxicology. Prior to going to the meeting, I assumed the only options were to work at a poison center or do in hospital consultations. At that meeting, I learned that there were outpatient opportunities, addiction, industry consultation, and medicolegal consultation just to name a few. I also learned that toxicologists are excited for future toxicologists. Dr Michael Kosnett gave me some very kind words and made me feel quite welcome to the world of toxicology after receiving my award.

Q: How have you stayed involved with the College since then?

A: I have been active in the scientific assemblies presenting research and interesting cases. I have also involved my residents and students in these presentations. The 2019 MTF Michael Shannon award winner was one of my residents. I have since had the pleasure of serving as Chair of the ACMT Diversity, Equity and Inclusion workgroup. We are working to advertise the diverse practice opportunities in medical toxicology, and increase the diversity of our members.

Q: When we last caught up with you in 2018, you spoke then of a project to “improve minority engagement and overall engagement in medical toxicology”. Could you share any updates?

A: With the help of the ACMT Executive Board we were able to add gender, race and ethnicity identifiers to our membership directory. With this information we are looking to help to tailor our recruitment approach and hope to build pipelines to encourage underrepresented individuals to pursue medical toxicology. We should strive to be at least as diverse as the primary specialties we recruit from and the patient population that we serve. This is important work and as such it takes time. We are off to a strong start. I encourage anyone that wants to assist to reach out.

The MTF has raised nearly \$780K in donations since its founding in 2009.



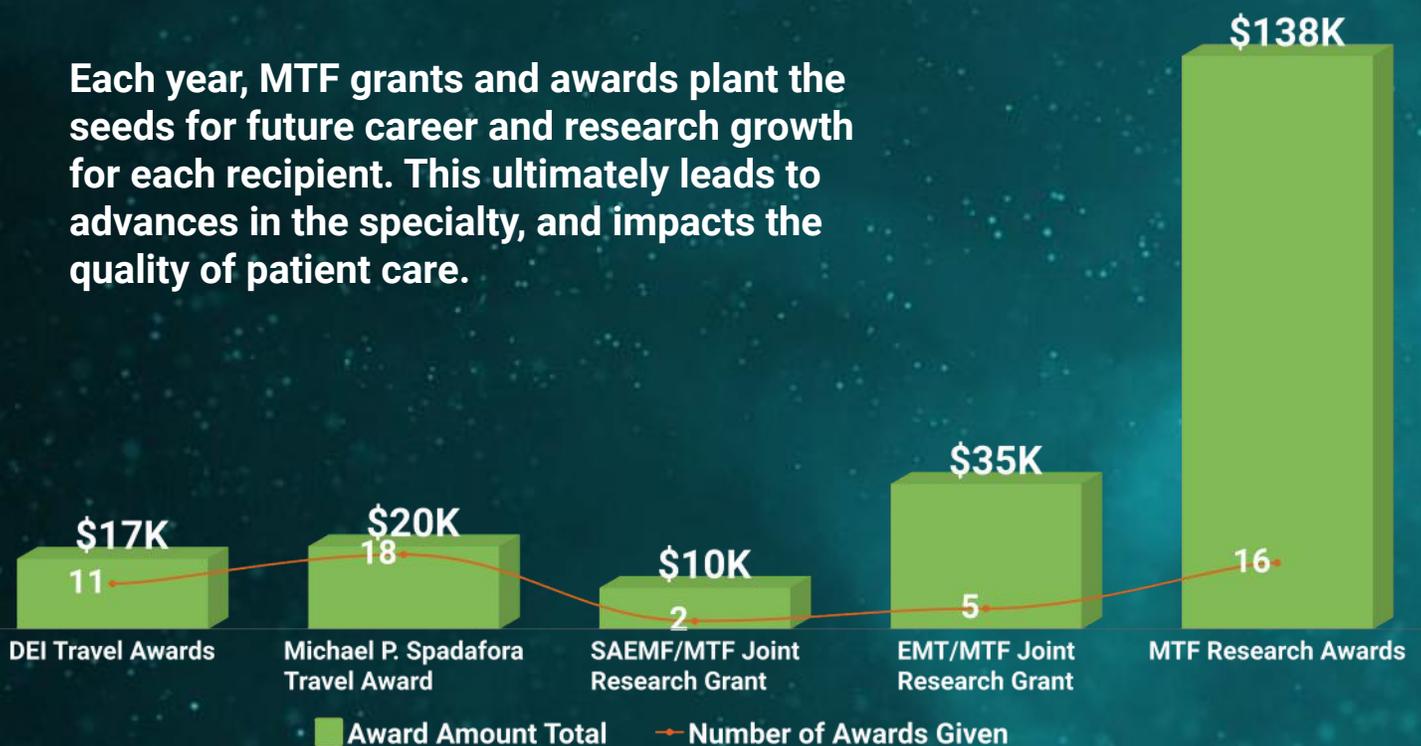
[Give Now](#)

Consider making a tax-deductible gift to the MTF to support our mission to advance medical toxicology research and education to improve patient care.

Since its founding in 2009, the Medical Toxicology Foundation has been able to provide nearly \$140K in research grant funding thanks to the generosity of our donors and development of strategic collaborative institutional partnerships.

Learn How You Can Contribute

Each year, MTF grants and awards plant the seeds for future career and research growth for each recipient. This ultimately leads to advances in the specialty, and impacts the quality of patient care.



IMPACT STORY



Peter Chai, MD, FACMT

2016 Medical Toxicology Foundation Innovative Research and Teaching Award Recipient

Grant Project: *Protocol: Naloxone Distribution Patterns in Patients with a History of Heroin Abuse*

Award Amount: \$10,000

Dr. Chai is an emergency medicine physician and medical toxicologist within the division of medical toxicology in the emergency department at Brigham and Women's Hospital and a faculty member for the Harvard Combined medical toxicology fellowship at the MA-RI poison control center. He is also jointly appointed within the Department of Psychosocial Oncology at Dana Farber Cancer Institute, the Koch Institute for Integrated Cancer Research at MIT and the Fenway Institute. His federally and industry funded research lab explores the application of individual level and population technologies to detect changes and develop behavioral interventions surrounding chronic diseases with a focus on substance use disorder.

Q: You were selected to receive the MTF Innovative Research and Teaching Grant in 2016. What impact do you think this grant made in your research endeavors? Were you awarded other grants to continue this work?

A: The MTF grant was my first funded grant that really allowed me to learn about the research process and gain mentorship with faculty from my fellowship program. In the vein of my current work that develops different types of technologies around substance use disorder, the MTF grant gave me experience to allow me to start to apply for NIH funding.

Q: Can you tell us about something new and exciting that you are working on in the lab?

A: We recently were awarded an Avenir Award from NIDA which allows for "high risk/high reward" substance use and HIV related research. We are investigating the use of ingestible sensors to measure HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis adherence as a platform to deliver adherence skills in a predictive pattern before adherence occurs among individuals with substance use disorder. We also recently got a funded grant from NIAAA that will allow us to implement and study the use of ketamine infusions to increase retention in care for individuals in the ED seeking treatment for alcohol use disorder.

Q: You have also been very active within the College serving on the Research Committee, collaborating on the ANTIDOTE Institute and more. Can you share a little about why you chose to get involved?

A: I was lucky to receive mentorship and advice from many members of ACMT throughout my fellowship and now as a junior faculty member. I wanted to get involved to give back to ACMT and help develop the ACMT base of research.



MTF Future Fund

Building for the Future; Saving Lives Today

Since the inception of the Medical Toxicology Foundation in 2009, we have worked tirelessly to build an organization that can support the medical toxicology community in relevant research and education efforts. We have developed a strong and loyal base of committed annual donors, a committed board of directors and many great corporate partners.

In the next step toward creating long term sustainability for the work of the MTF, the Future Fund was established in 2021. This fund provides a mechanism for donors to make a lasting impact and investment to grow the field of medical toxicology.

Over the course of the next five years, the MTF will embark on an ambitious plan to grow this important reserve fund so that the interest generated from the Future Fund will be utilized to support ongoing research and education commitments.

Thank you, Donors!

In the inaugural year of the campaign, we reached our target goal of \$50,000. We would like to thank all who have given, and especially recognize our top five Future Fund donors of 2021:

**Carol Angle, MD, FACMT
Erica Liebelt, MD, FACMT
Marsha Ford, MD, FACMT
Ed Kuffner, MD
Bryan Judge, MD, FACMT**

Give Now

Why I Give to the Medical Toxicology Future Fund



“ *I decided to make a ten-year pledge to the Medical Toxicology Future Fund because I felt like it is the right thing to do. By supporting the Foundation, it allows others an opportunity to move the field of medical toxicology forward and advance the care of our patients. I have every bit of confidence that the MTF will accomplish this.*

”

-Bryan Judge, MD, FACMT

Give Now

Ways to Give

Give Online Now

Mail a Check

Checks can be mailed to:
Medical Toxicology Foundation
10645 N. Tatum Blvd. Suite 200-111
Phoenix, AZ 85028

Make a Gift to Support a Specific Program

Interested in education on opioid abuse? Make a gift to the Ward & Ryan Donovan Memorial Fund. These funds support a visiting lectureship annually at the ACMT Annual Scientific Meeting to provide education on opioid and other drug abuse.

To learn more about other MTF programs or if you have an idea for a new MTF initiative, contact Singa Yu, MTF Development Manager, at foundation@acmt.net.

Make a tribute in honor/in memory of a loved one

Make a gift in honor or in memory of a loved one and support toxicology education and research. We will process your gift with an acknowledgment and your honoree will also receive a letter letting them know that you have made a gift. (Gift amounts are not disclosed.)

Support the Medical Toxicology Future Fund

Contributions to the endowment ensure the sustainability of the Foundation and provides funding to support research and education well into the future.

Ways to Give

Gifts of Stock

gifts of appreciated stock or mutual funds can provide great tax benefits. Talk to your broker or tax advisor.

Matching Gifts

Does your employer have a matching gift program? Many do! Check with your human resources or payroll department about the process. The IMPACT of your gift is doubled at no additional cost to you.

Workplace Giving

does your company conduct a workplace giving drive? If they do, consider designating the Medical Toxicology Foundation for your employee-directed contributions. Contact your Human Resources or Payroll Department today and make that designation

Planned Gifts

Planned gifts can be as simple as a bequest in your estate plan, a beneficiary designation for a life insurance policy, or as complicated as a charitable remainder trust. Talk to your financial team – accountant, lawyer and financial planner to determine the best option for you!

Donor-Advised Funds (DAF)

The MTF is able to accept gifts from your donor-advised fund. Just notify the fund that you would like to designate a gift to the Medical Toxicology Foundation and they will take it from there.

Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD)

These gifts are from your IRA and are most beneficial for those who must take a required minimum distribution (RMD). Notify your IRA holder to make that distribution to the Medical Toxicology Foundation and it becomes a tax-free distribution and tax-deductible contribution.

Questions?

For more information or if you have questions about how to make a gift utilizing one of the above methods, please contact Singa Yu, MTF Development Manager, at foundation@acmt.net.

President's Circle - Benefactors \$5,000+

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Bayer Crop Science	Louise Kao, MD, FACMT
Charles E. Becker, MD, FACMT	Ed Kuffner, MD
Marsha Ford, MD, FACMT	Erica Liebelt, MD, FACMT
Johnson & Johnson Consumer Inc.	Lewis and Laura Nelson

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	Joseph Yanta, MD, FACMT

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Michelle Hieger, DO	Kevin Maskell, MD	

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Suzanne Doyon, MD, FACMT	JoAnn Laes, MD		

Thank You, Donors!

Donors are essential to the success of the Medical Toxicology Foundation and we are grateful to the following individuals for their generous support.

[Give Now](#)