

Annual Report 2021



**THE REAUMOND
FOUNDATION**

BOB'S ENCORE

2021 in review

2021 was a milestone year for The Reaumont Foundation, as we continue to adapt to the ever-changing world around us. One of our most exciting initiatives to date is the purchase of a new condo, which we are proudly calling "Homes of Hope." This condo is currently being furnished and will be open to patients and their families at the end of next month. Within walking distance to MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas, people undergoing pancreatic cancer treatment will be able to stay in a comfortable and convenient condo, for a minimal cost. Time after time, we hear that lodging and expenses are barriers to seeking top treatment for people faced with this diagnosis. This is our answer to that reality.

We continue to be invigorated by the support, commitment, and creativity from our Associate Board. In February, they hosted Virtual Trivia in February which raised \$7,000. September was the perfect month to hold the annual Dig for Detection Volleyball event, made of 22 teams, 150+ participants teams and raising an additional \$15,000 towards Homes of Hope.

As we celebrate our successes, we are reminded of our realities. The American Cancer Society estimates that in 2022 alone, more than 62,210 Americans would be diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. That's 62,000 too many.

We are excitedly looking to 2022 to continue to reach new milestones with you while raising funds and awareness where it's needed most. Thank you for your remarkable dedication to help those facing pancreatic cancer.

-The Reaumont Foundation

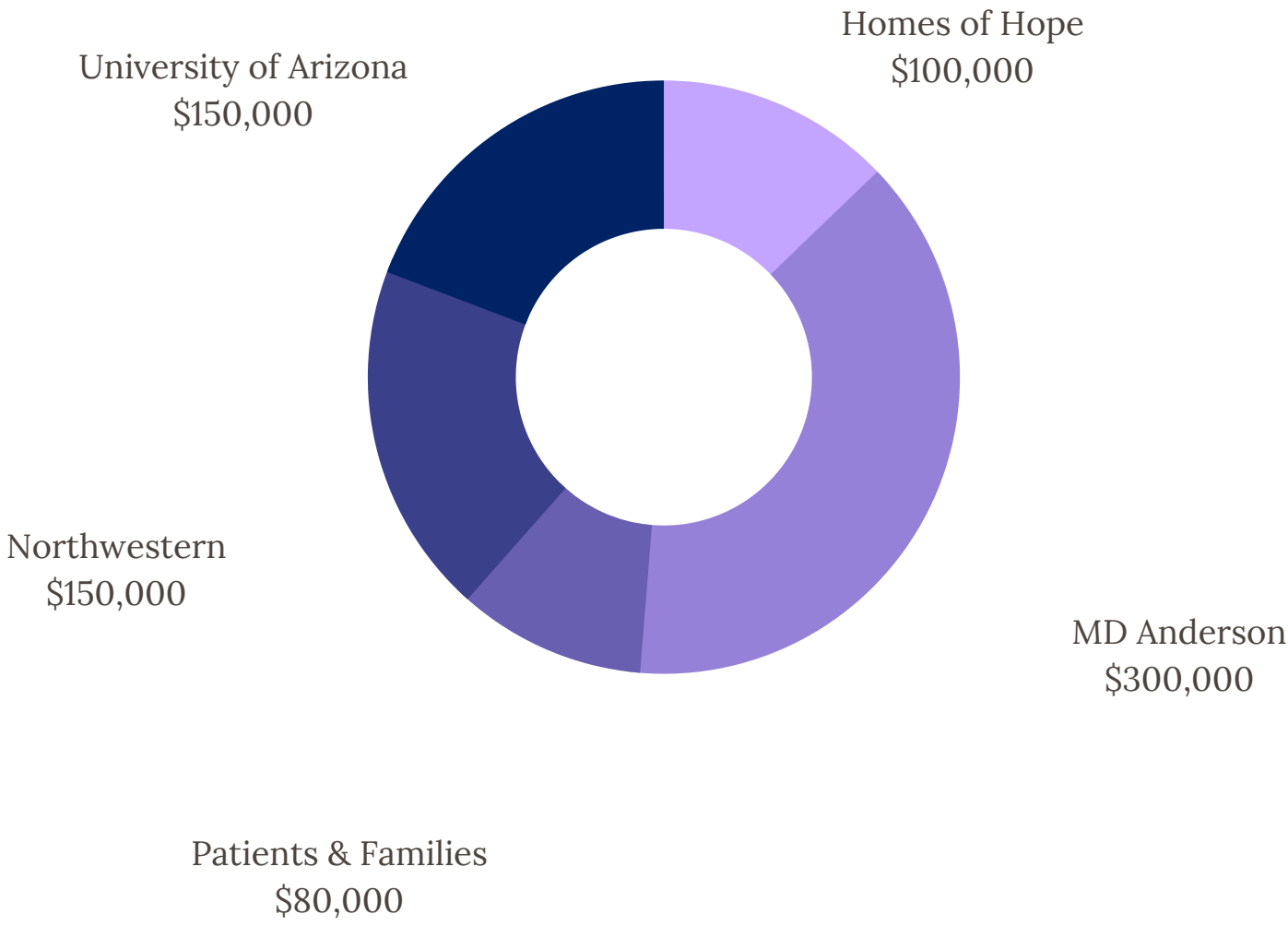
Meet our new Director of Strategy & Innovation, Alyssa Cassata



Alyssa will serve as the key professional leader of The Reaumont Foundation, and will be responsible for managing the Foundation's growing donor base, advancing fundraising goals, developing the Foundation's endowment, and managing its Board of Directors. Alyssa will also provide executive oversight and strategic direction to all Foundation programs and initiatives, in accordance with The Reaumont Foundation's mission and strategic plan.

Previously, Alyssa has held roles at Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago, the Shirley Ryan AbilityLab, and most recently, Feeding America. Alyssa joins The Reaumont Foundation with over 8 years of experience, with focus areas including Corporate Giving, Event Planning, and Board Management. Alyssa is thrilled to utilize her skills to continue to work towards expanding research opportunities, growing support, raising awareness for Pancreatic Cancer.

REFLECTING ON IMPACT: SINCE 2019

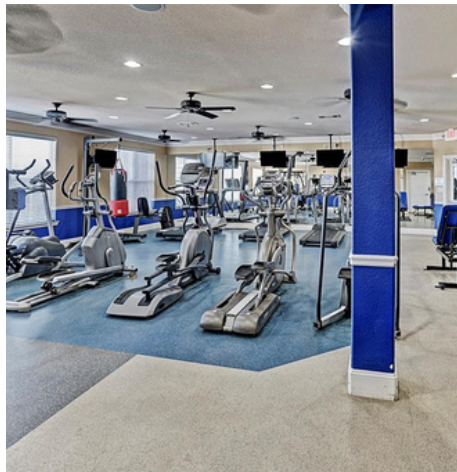
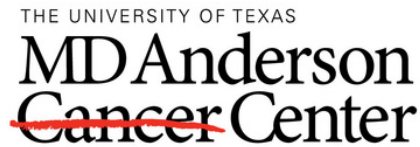


Homes of Hope Update

November marked an exciting milestone as we traveled to Houston, TX to tour and purchase our first home. We toured many different units, but ultimately, we were moved by the condo we selected due to its proximity to MD Anderson. The condo is within walking distance and equipped with many different amenities such as outdoor spaces and a gym. Our goal is to give patients and families staying with us a comforting place to return back to while receiving treatment.

On GivingTuesday, we kicked off a registry to outfit the home with all the necessary items. We are so proud to share we raised almost \$4,000! The funding will go towards items like kitchen necessities and comfortable beds, to name a few. A special thank you to those who participated in donating.

Be sure to follow our progress on social media, including a video tour of the unit launching this Spring.



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Patients & Families assisted in 2021

The Family First Fund aims to remove some of the financial burden and stress that nearly always accompanies a pancreatic cancer diagnosis. This diagnosis is extremely disruptive to a family system, especially in terms of finances, employment, and security.



Where funds have gone

- Rent
- Groceries
- Hospice Care
- Transportation for families
- Accommodation costs during treatment
- Moving fees into hospice facility
- Travel expenses
- Caregivers & childcare

Meet Brian



Brian has never met a challenge he didn't face head on.

As a child raised in a large family on Chicago's South Side, he learned at a young age to advocate for himself. He was diagnosed with HIV in his twenties and he has worked hard to keep himself as healthy as possible. When Brian started to feel stomach pain, he cautiously went to the Emergency Room to ease his nerves. At this point, Brian realized he had to do what he knew how to best—speak up.

It's because of this, with the help of his medical team, Brian was able to find his cancer early on and has been receiving treatment at the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern University.

Like most people who first hear this diagnosis, it turned his world upside down. He quit his job in food services immediately to focus on treatment. This has put a tremendous amount of emotional and financial stress on him and his partner. When asked what he needed help with most, Brian's answer was "to survive." The Reaumont Foundation provided him with financial assistance for his mortgage, groceries, and transportation to treatment.

You can't fight the biggest battle of your life alone. Because of your support, we can help individuals like Brian who are facing pancreatic cancer through our Family First Fund. The Family First Fund aims to remove some of the financial burden and stress that nearly always accompanies a pancreatic cancer diagnosis.

Research Grant Updates

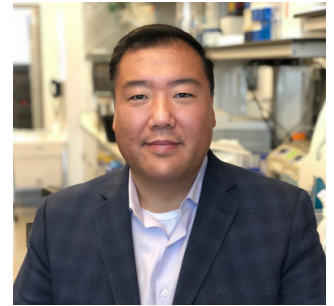
REAUMOND SCHOLAR IN PANCREATIC CANCER RESEARCH MD ANDERSON

Cullen M. Taniguchi, MD, PhD

This program is designed to nurture promising early-career faculty who are advancing innovative pancreatic cancer research. Following a rigorous peer review, Cullen Taniguchi, M.D., Ph.D., an assistant professor of Radiation Oncology, was selected as the inaugural Scholar. Taniguchi's winning research proposal investigates the effects of mitochondrial fusion in suppressing pancreatic cancer. Anirban Maitra (Scientific Director of the Pancreatic Cancer Research Center at MD Anderson and co-leader of the Pancreatic Cancer Moon Shot) serves on The Reaumont Foundation medical advisory board and oversees the Reaumont Scholar Program in Pancreatic Cancer Research.

Dr. Taniguchi received his medical degree from Harvard Medical School where he also received his Ph.D. in cell and developmental biology. He completed his clinical residency at Stanford University. Dr. Taniguchi has received multiple awards and honors, most notably the Sabin Family Fellowship and has been named a McNair, CPRIT, and Rhodes Scholar. Dr. Taniguchi is currently an assistant professor in the radiation oncology department at MD Anderson Cancer Center, specializing in pancreatic, rectal, and anal cancers.

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS
MD Anderson
~~Cancer~~ Center



RESEARCH GRANT OVERVIEW

Update: July 2021

Pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma (PDAC, or pancreatic cancer) is an aggressive cancer that requires a large amount of energy to grow and spread. Much of this energy is generated in a part of the cell called the mitochondria, but it is difficult to block mitochondrial energy production, since normal cells also use the mitochondria to survive.

This project exploits an unusual property of pancreatic cancer cells, because PDAC mitochondria are much smaller than those found in normal cells. We forced the cancer mitochondria to become larger through a process called mitochondrial fusion, and by doing so, stopped the cancer cells from growing. This project tests whether a class of FDA-approved drugs for rheumatoid arthritis can induce mitochondrial fusion and stop its growth without causing toxicity in normal tissues. Furthermore, we are combining these drugs (leflunomide and teriflunomide) with standard-of-care chemotherapy, such as gemcitabine, to learn if we can enhance and improve the effects of our current treatments. Ultimately, these data could be used to justify Phase I clinical trials in a short amount of time, since no new FDA approvals would be needed.

In the last six months, we performed a series of specialized experiments called “metabolomics,” where we studied the ways pancreatic cancer cells process nutrients. We found that mitochondrial fusion removes antioxidants from pancreatic tumors, which makes them more susceptible to killing with other agents, such as chemotherapy and radiation therapy.

We also found that standard-of-care chemotherapy more effectively kills pancreatic cancer when paired with leflunomide. Moreover, we recently demonstrated that leflunomide also activates a powerful cell death process called “ferroptosis” only in cancer cells. Thus, we are very excited that our continued work has led to new and innovative avenues for therapy.

Research Grant Updates

UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA CANCER CENTER

Rachna Shroff, MD | Aaron J. Scott, MD
| Yana Zavros, PhD

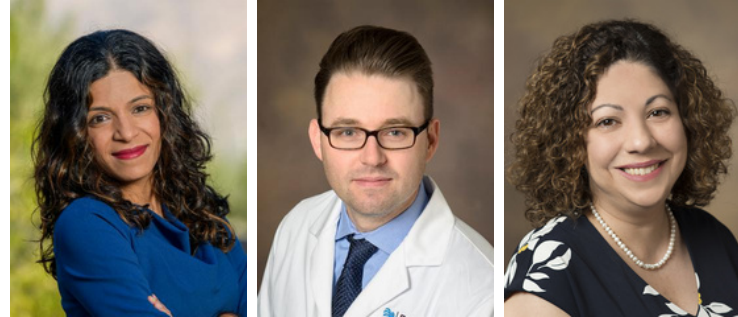


THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
Cancer Center

Rachna T. Shroff, MD, MS, joined the faculty of the University of Arizona College of Medicine - Tucson in 2018 as an associate professor in the Department of Medicine, Division of Hematology and Oncology, and chief of the Section of GI Medical Oncology at the UA Cancer Center.

A graduate of the University of Arizona College of Medicine - Tucson, Dr. Scott completed his residency in internal medicine and fellowship in hematology/oncology at the University of Colorado - Denver before joining the faculty in the UA Division of Hematology and Oncology and the UA Cancer Center in 2016.

Dr. Zavros is a professor and associate research head in the Department of Cellular and Molecular Medicine, director of the center's Tissue Acquisition Cellular and Molecular Analysis Shared Resource and a member in the center's Cancer Biology Program.



RESEARCH GRANT OVERVIEW

Update: Impact on Pancreatic Cancer Research

Immunotherapies work by helping a patient's immune system fight cancer cells. While immunotherapies have transformed treatment for many cancers, historically, they have not worked well for pancreatic cancer. Pancreatic cancer has ways to evade and put the breaks on the immune system, causing immunosuppression.

Rachna T Shroff, MD, MS, Medical Director, Clinical Trials Office Chief, Section of GI Medical Oncology Director, Arizona Clinical Trials Network Clinical and Translational Oncology Program; and Dr. Yana Zavros, Shared Resource Director, Tissue Acquisition Cellular, and Molecular Analysis, Cancer Biology Program collaborated on a study to understand how pancreatic tumors suppress the immune system. Dr. Zavros developed pancreatic cancer organoids – mini 3D models that are started from tumor samples of patients being treated at the Cancer Center and then grown in a petri dish. They studied the drug combination of cabozantinib and atezolizumab that has been used in other cancers but has not been tested in pancreatic cancer.

This study, published late last year, found that this dynamic drug duo, combining a drug that blocks this immunosuppression with immunotherapy, stopped pancreatic tumor growth in the model. It was your generous funding resources that allowed us to complete this critical preclinical work and organoid program development.

We are in the midst of exciting progress as we move from translation of basic findings from the lab to a clinical trial of a potential way to make immunotherapy effective in pancreatic cancer. Emboldened by the research findings, Dr. Shroff reached out to the drug makers, who agreed to fund the clinical trial, and she designed a study that will test the drug combination in patients with refractory, metastatic pancreatic cancer— in other words, patients who have typically already tried everything else and unfortunately have not found success.

We are happy to report that this trial, looking at a combination of targeted therapy and immunotherapy in metastatic pancreatic cancer patients, has just opened. The biospecimen collection will now begin for the correlative science.

Research Grant Updates

ROBERT H. LURIE COMPREHENSIVE CANCER CARE OF NORTHWESTERN

Mazhar Aldi, PhD |

Hidayatullah G. Munshi, MD

Mazhar Adli, PhD is an Associate Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology. His laboratory is focused on understanding the key drivers of cancer and identifying novel therapeutic drug combinations to prevent cancer development and chemotherapy resistance. To achieve these goals, his lab is using and developing genomic and epigenomic mapping, editing and imaging approach to understand genome regulation in normal and malignant settings. The lab integrates experimental approaches with large-scale computational data analysis to verify our experimental observations and come up with new testable hypotheses.

Hidayatullah G Munshi, MD is a Professor of Medicine, Hematology Oncology Division at the Feinberg School of Medicine. Dr. Munshi received his MD at Harvard University, residency at University of Washington Medical Center, and fellowship at the University of Michigan and Northwestern.



RESEARCH GRANT OVERVIEW

Update: Schlafen-5

Pancreatic cancer remains a major health problem. This cancer has a very high morbidity and fatality rate and does not respond well to the existing chemotherapy treatments. It is particularly disappointing that pancreatic cancer is one of a handful of cancers where immunotherapy has also failed thus far. The reason for the resistance of pancreatic cells remain unknown.

Our research team has been working for many years in the interferon field. Interferons are key components of the immune system that fight infections and cancer. The interferons are important for the immunosurveillance of the human body against malignant cells. In other words, they are playing a very important role in the first line of defense against cancer.

We have recently uncovered a unique mechanism by which cancer cells may be blocking the immune response to interferons. We have found a novel protein called Schlafen 5 is induced by interferons, but instead of mediating its anti-cancer effects, it blocks them. This “rogue” protein appears to play an important role in pancreatic cancer as we have shown in a recent publication (Fischietti et al., *Oncogene* 2021). We believe that a better understanding of how this protein works may help develop new drugs against pancreatic cancer. We are planning pilot studies to identify ways to kill pancreatic cancer cells based on this concept.

Associate Board



Thank you to our 2021 Board Members

Nick Brennan
 Nicole Clark
 Rudy Dell
 Samantha Fleps
 Matt Freeman
 Mitch Grant
 Hannah Hardison
 Conor Keady
 Sammi Kuderna
 Kelsey Rowley
 Matt McParland
 Marissa Mehalek
 Dave Mulac
 Kathleen O'Malley
 Jake Squillaci
 Max Timmins

The annual Dig for Detection Volleyball event was held in September and was our most successful year yet with over 150 participants and 22 teams!



Thank you to our Sponsors!



In the Community

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"We're trying to think about solving a hard problem differently"

says Reaumont, who wears blazers lined with the foundation's logo. "It is what I wake up and think about every day."

PAUL REAUMOND
Vice Chairman, CBRE
President, The Reaumont Foundation



40 Under Forty

Congratulations to our very own Paul Reaumont for being inducted into the 2021 class of 40 under Forty!

Employees Give Back

A special thanks to Emma Ashton, Emily Gilbert and Apex Systems for fundraising efforts raising over \$1,200 for The Reaumont Foundation!



ILLINOIS PHILANTHROPY PRESENTS

Apex HOT ONES

Calling all spicy lovers! Who's ready to compete against their coworkers to be the Queen or King of spice?

Not into spice? No worries! You can join as a spectator & bet on your coworkers! \$5 to watch your coworkers try to conquer the heat!

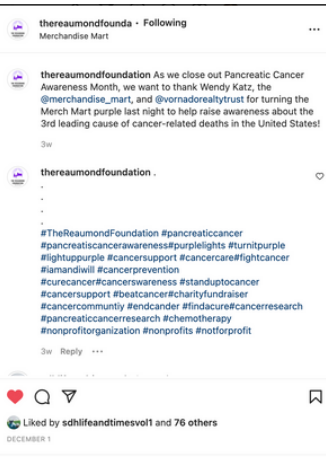
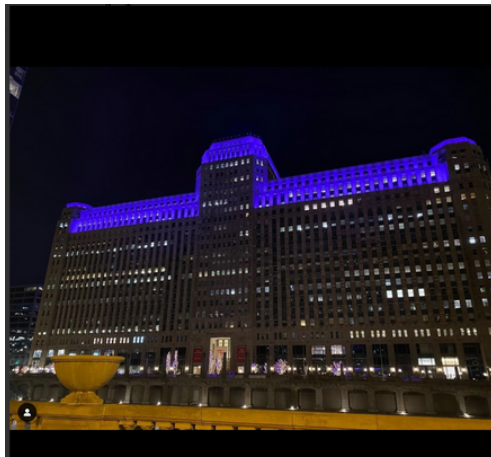
When:
Friday, November 5th, 2:00 - 3:00pm

Where:
Zoom

Price to Participate:
Under 10k - \$10, Above 10k - \$20

Supporting:
The Reaumont Foundation & Pancreatic Cancer Awareness

Venmo: @apexsystems-chicago



STRONG LEADERSHIP

"The Reaumont Foundation is committed to being transformational in this fight against pancreatic cancer and I am beyond grateful to them for their support of our work. I was honored to know and care for Bob Reaumont and remain devoted to unlocking the immune resistance of this disease as I know this was personally important to him. Our team is thankful for this beautiful partnership and we look forward to our continued collaboration in this fight."

– Dr. Rachna Shroff

The Merchandise Mart goes Purple

With the help of Wendy Katz and Vornado Realty Trust, the Merch Mart purple turned purple to help raise awareness about the 3rd leading cause of cancer-related deaths in the United States!

Thank You Donors!

Jamal Afridi
Hannah Alley
Jillian Altholz
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Amanda Augustine
BEAR Construction Company
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