



The
Greenwall
Foundation

2025

Annual Report

MAKING BIOETHICS INTEGRAL TO DECISIONS
IN HEALTH CARE, POLICY, AND RESEARCH



The
Greenwall
Foundation

Making bioethics
integral to decisions
in health care,
policy, and research.



MODERATED BY
Matthew Hesper
Senior Fellow,
Medicine, DOD

The
Greenwall
Foundation



Contents

- 2 A Letter from our President & CEO**
- 3 About Us**
- 4 Faculty Scholars Program in Bioethics**
- 5 Making a Difference in
Real-world Bioethics Dilemmas**
- 6 Bridging Bioethics Research &
Policymaking**
- 7 Responding to a Shifting Landscape**
- 8 Grant Spotlight: Improving Responsible
Use of AI Chatbots in Health Care**
- 10 News & Publications**
- 12 More 2025 Highlights**
- 13 A REFUTATION**
- 14 William C. Stubing Memorial Lecture**
- 15 Bernard Lo, MD Award in Bioethics**
- 16 Foundation Leadership**
- 17 Financial Information**

A LETTER FROM

Our President & CEO



In many ways, 2025 was not the year we anticipated at The Greenwall Foundation—and I'm certain we weren't alone in that experience. The health and science landscape shifted in ways that no one could have predicted. Research funding cuts, policy changes, and overwhelming uncertainty created new challenges for our community.

We met the moment, guided by clarity of purpose and a continued commitment to our mission. I am proud of how the Foundation thoughtfully and deliberately responded to the evolving needs of our grantees and the larger bioethics field.

We were action-oriented, while listening first. We engaged with grantees to better understand what they were experiencing and what kinds of support would be most meaningful in the current climate. We also connected with our peers in the philanthropic community to share ideas, build collective knowledge, and explore opportunities for partnership and collaboration. These conversations directly informed our approach and actions.

One clear need was continuity. We offered gap funding to members of our Faculty Scholars community who were directly impacted by the changing landscape, to enable their sustained contributions to bioethics. These investments were critical for individual Scholars and Alums to fill immediate needs.

We also recognized the heightened importance of evidence-based policymaking, public understanding, and informed individual decision-making and made three key grants in these areas. First, we provided support to *STAT* to further investigative journalism focused on bioethics amid the rapidly evolving policy environment. Second, we awarded a grant to support the Vaccine Integrity Project's work conducting comprehensive reviews of scientific evidence to guide vaccine recommendations. Finally, we made a grant to support *Your Local Epidemiologist's* translation of complex public health evidence into trusted, accessible guidance for diverse

“A strong and inclusive bioethics with real-world impact depends on continued investment, meaningful collaboration, and a willingness to adapt without sacrificing core values.”

audiences across the U.S. so they can make informed decisions for themselves, their families, and their communities.

The Foundation met immediate challenges while continuing to advance our core programs and initiatives unabated. We welcomed three new Faculty Scholars, awarded eight Making a Difference grants, funded three Bridging Bioethics Research & Policymaking projects, celebrated excellence in the field through the Bernard Lo, MD Award in Bioethics, hosted a critical and timely William C. Stubing Memorial Lecture, and more.

As we look ahead, we do so with the benefit of the lessons learned in 2025. A strong and inclusive bioethics with real-world impact depends on continued investment, meaningful collaboration, and a willingness to adapt without sacrificing core values. I am deeply grateful to our grantees, partners, Board, and staff for their shared commitment to this work and the future of bioethics.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michelle A. Groman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Michelle Groman, JD

PRESIDENT & CEO



About Us

The Greenwall Foundation seeks to make bioethics integral to decisions in health care, policy, and research. We are a nationally recognized private foundation with assets of about \$100 million, awarding approximately \$3 to \$4 million annually.

Mission

Our mission is to expand bioethics knowledge to improve clinical, biomedical, and public health decision-making, policy, and practice.

Strategic Priorities

Shaping and supporting a broad, inclusive bioethics. The Foundation supports a “wide umbrella” of bioethics work, embracing diversity along several axes. We continue to adopt a broad view of the disciplines that constitute bioethics scholarship and what constitutes a bioethics topic. By inviting and welcoming into bioethics those who have otherwise been excluded or might not self-identify with the field, we can broaden its impact and reach.

Increasing bioethics’ impact on policymaking. It is critical for bioethics to be at the table when public policy decisions are being made. The Foundation funds critical research that informs policy and takes steps to get actionable research in the hands of policymakers. We highlight policy areas where bioethics can make a difference and serve as an essential resource of bioethics expertise for policymakers and other stakeholders.

Building a Broad and Inclusive Bioethics

Bioethics affects us all, so it should reflect us all. At The Greenwall Foundation, we are committed to building a broad and inclusive bioethics that welcomes everyone, elevates many perspectives, asks a wide range of questions, and learns from diverse voices. The values of diversity, equity, and inclusion guide the grants we fund, the work we do, the investments we make, and the organizational culture we grow.

2025 GRANTS

Faculty Scholars Program in Bioethics

The Greenwall Faculty Scholars Program is a career development award that enables early-career faculty members to carry out innovative bioethics research. It supports research that goes beyond current work in bioethics to help resolve pressing ethical issues in clinical, biomedical, and public health decision-making, policy, and practice, and creates a community that enhances future bioethics research by Scholars and Alums.

Each year, the Foundation selects approximately three Faculty Scholars. Since 2002, the Foundation has supported over 70 Scholars from more than 40 institutions.

In 2025, the Foundation selected the Faculty Scholars Program Class of 2028:



Doni Bloomfield, JD

Fordham Law School

Confronting the Bioethical and Public Health Challenges of Generative AI



Katherine Peeler, MD

Boston Children's Hospital

Designing a Bioethical Framework to Optimize Care for Immigrants in U.S. Government Custody



Anna Wexler, PhD

University of Pennsylvania

Research Ethics in the Development of Implanted Brain-Computer Interfaces for Communication

2025 GRANTS

Making a Difference in Real-world Bioethics Dilemmas

The Making a Difference program supports research to help resolve important emerging or unanswered bioethics problems in clinical, biomedical, or public health decision-making, policy, or practice. Grants are awarded twice yearly. Since 2013, the Foundation has funded more than 120 Making a Difference grants supporting bioethics research on a wide array of issues including aid-in-dying, deception in medical contexts, discrimination in health care, and responses to the opioid epidemic, among others.

In 2025, the Foundation awarded eight Making a Difference grants:

Reducing Bias and Fostering Respect for Patients as Persons: The Promise of Humanizing Medical Records

Mary Catherine Beach, MD

Johns Hopkins University | \$269,483 | 24 months

Expanding Equitable Research Participation: Development of Practice Guidelines for Prison and Jail Health Research Policies

Justin Berk, MD

Rhode Island Hospital | \$236,904 | 24 months

Challenging Fear of Anaphylaxis: An Ethical Framework for Implementing Oral Food Challenges in Allergy Clinical Practice

Jill Fisher, PhD

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
\$232,514 | 24 months

Identifying Equity Priorities for Xenotransplantation Human Clinical Trials

Laura Kimberly, PhD

New York University Grossman School of Medicine
\$262,211 | 24 months

Maximizing Justice, Beneficence, & Nonmaleficence in Narratives of Mental Health Disparities

Matthew Lebowitz, PhD

Columbia University | \$267,525 | 24 months

The Future of Bioethics

Sandra Soo-jin Lee, PhD

Columbia University | \$284,647 | 24 months

Should Patients Participate in Organ Transplant Selection Committee Meetings?

Aditya Pawar, MD

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
\$275,000 | 24 months

User Fees and the Food and Drug Administration: Deliberation, Transparency, and Public Trust

Jason Schwartz, PhD

Yale University | \$226,459 | 24 months

2025 GRANTS

Bridging Bioethics Research & Policymaking

The Bridging Bioethics Research & Policymaking initiative supports bioethics researchers, policymakers, and others to take the next step beyond bioethics research and bridge the divide between research results and policymaking.

In 2025, the Foundation awarded three Bridging Bioethics Research & Policymaking grants:

Supporting Ethical Overdose Prediction for State and Local Public Health Authorities

Bennett Allen, PhD | New York University Grossman School of Medicine | \$49,656 | 12 months

Empowering Independent Patient Advocacy to Drive Meaningful Health Policy Reform

Alexander Naum, JD | Generation Patient | \$46,268 | 12 months

Strengthening Bioethics in the Medicaid Benefit for Children at End of Life

Meaghann Weaver, MD, PhD | St. Jude Children's Research Hospital | \$50,000 | 12 months

IMPACT SNAPSHOT

With a 2023 Bridging Bioethics Research & Policymaking grant, *Strengthening Genetic Privacy Law Through Bioethics*, Anya Prince, JD (University of Iowa), and Natalie Ram, JD (University of Maryland), partnered with data visualization experts to educate policymakers, journalists, and others about the importance of research-informed best practices for protecting genetic privacy. They collated data and developed interactive online maps to visualize the variety of state regulations guiding health insurers' and law enforcement's access to genetic information, launching the [project's website](#) in July 2025. In response to a request citing this work, the Uniform Law Commission recently established a study committee aimed at creating a model law on genetic privacy and discrimination.

Genetic Privacy in the U.S.: Insurance and Law Enforcement Use

Overview

Genetic information is powerful. It can reveal insights into identity, predispositions to disease, family members, and ancestry. It is therefore not surprising that people care deeply about the privacy of their genetic information. United States federal law is fairly quiet on this front. Federal regulation gives privacy protections for genetic test results within clinical care and research. However, many individuals undergo genetic testing outside these contexts, such as through direct-to-consumer genetic testing companies. Federal law does little to regulate privacy in this space. Individuals are also worried about how genetic test results, no matter where they were conducted, might be used against them to discriminate. At the federal level, the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (GINA) prohibits health insurers and employers from discriminating against individuals on the basis of genetic information, but the law does not cover other entities.

Two of the gaps in federal law most often cited relate to use of genetic information by health insurers and law enforcement.

Regulation of Insurance

How states govern life, long-term care, and disability cover access and use of genetic information

Regulation of Law Enforcement

How states regulate law enforcement access to and use of genetic information

Protective Features for Regulating Insurers

A comparison of protective features in regulations across selected states

Protective Features for Regulating Law Enforcement

A comparison of protective features in regulations across selected states

2025 GRANTS

Responding to a Shifting Landscape

Additional Foundation grants in 2025 reflected the urgency of the moment and our long-standing commitment to strengthening bioethics and making it integral to decisions in health care, policy, and research. Alongside continued investment in current and future bioethics scholars, we recognized the heightened need to advance the development and dissemination of reliable evidence and information to guide ethical policy- and decision-making.

To help document ongoing changes to research funding and regulatory structures, as well as their impact, we made a grant to the Boston Foundation to provide funding for *STAT*'s award-winning newsroom to cover bioethics in these evolving times.

Through a grant to the Social Good Fund, we are supporting *Your Local Epidemiologist*'s work to communicate timely, evidence-based public health content delivered by trusted messengers—meeting people where they are so they are better equipped to distinguish fact from misinformation and make informed decisions.

We instituted a **Gap Funding Initiative** to enable sustainable, continued contributions to bioethics from Faculty Scholars and Alums who were negatively impacted by recent changes to the federal research funding landscape.

With a grant to Emory University, we continued our support of the **Cross-Institutional Undergraduate Sponsorship Program (CUSP)**, which provides financial aid, mentorship, and networking opportunities for undergraduate bioethics students.

We made a grant to the University of Minnesota Foundation to support the **Vaccine Integrity Project**, a nationally coordinated effort dedicated to providing trusted, science-based information for informed vaccine choices, for example, by providing decision-makers with an evidence base for immunization recommendations and clinical consideration.

GRANT SPOTLIGHT

Improving Responsible Use of AI Chatbots in Health Care



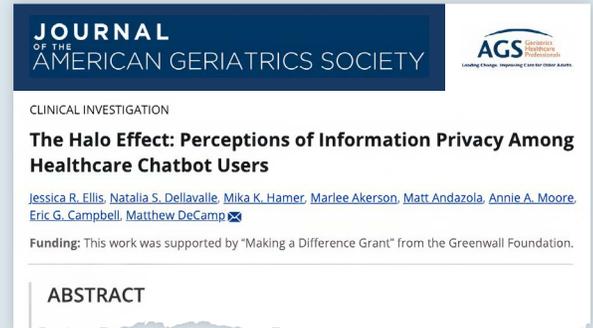
At a time when artificial intelligence (AI) chatbots are considered poised to transform health care, Making a Difference grantee Matthew DeCamp, MD, PhD (University of Colorado Denver Anschutz Medical Campus) is seeking to understand how patients interact with chatbots and what developers and

policymakers ought to do to maintain patient privacy, trust, and fairness when using them.

With their Fall 2021 grant, *The Chatbot Is In: Ethics and Conversational AI in Health Care*, the research team surveyed patients who had interacted with Livi—the chatbot used by the team’s affiliated health system, UHealth—to learn about their experiences. They followed the survey with in-depth interviews with developers and a subset of patients to explore how they interacted with and understood Livi in their normal healthcare settings.

The timeliness of this project, concurrent with advances in AI such as ChatGPT and other conversational bots, led to real-world impact. The team collaborated directly with UHealth to integrate findings in ways that aim to improve Livi in the clinical setting. These include efforts to increase transparency through additional disclosures and explicit notice when information from chatbot interactions is shared with the patient’s clinical team.

This project produced a steady stream of publications sharing its results, including reports in *JAMA Network Open* and the *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society* highlighting the need for health systems to disclose that chatbots are being used and are computers—not humans—based on data that demonstrated patients didn’t understand they were conversing with a computer. They also found that patients of different age groups had varying levels of trust and privacy concerns. A 2025 *Digital Health* publication shared results showing patients’ perceptions about digital literacy, access, and isolation, and another in the *Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association* shed light on nuance in patient preferences for the types of tasks chatbots may help with, such as administrative tasks or discussion of sensitive health questions. The research team plans to use the results of this project to support its application for a larger, multi-site grant to further study patient-facing chatbots.





News & Publications

Our Faculty Scholars and grantees published more than 300 academic papers and were featured in over 200 news publications last year.



The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

PERSPECTIVE

Progress Lost — The Unraveling of Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act

Author: Jonathan Oberlander, Ph.D. [Author Info & Affiliations](#)

Published July 30, 2025 | N Engl J Med 2025;393:628-629 | DOI: 10.1056/NEJMp2507100

Copyright © 2025

Jonathan Oberlander, PhD
Greenwall Faculty Scholar Alum
The New England Journal of Medicine



Abstract

Raymond De Vries, PhD
Making a Difference Grantee
Qualitative Health Research



Qualitative Health Research

MaryAnn Liebert Impact Factor: 2.4 / 5-Year Impact Factor: 3.8

When Evidence Fails to Change Practice: Examining the Persistence of Continuous Fetal Monitoring

[Raymond G. De Vries](#)  [Lisa Kane Low](#), [...], and [Maryn Lewallen](#)  [View all authors and affiliations](#)

Abstract

Using scientific evidence to guide medical practice seems self-evident but, in certain specialties, it has proven difficult to realize. Use of continuous electronic fetal monitoring (cEFM) during labor is a case in



JAMA

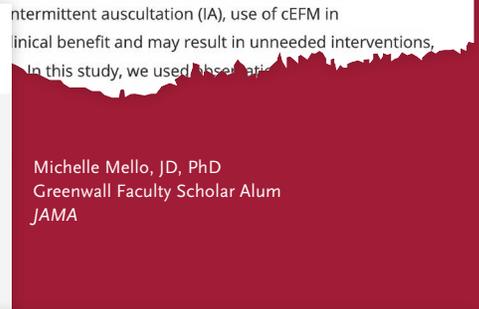
Perspective | AI in Medicine

Ethical Obligations to Inform Patients About Use of AI Tools

Michelle M. Mello, JD, PhD, MPhil^{1,2}; Danton Char, MD, MAS³; Sonnet H. Xu²

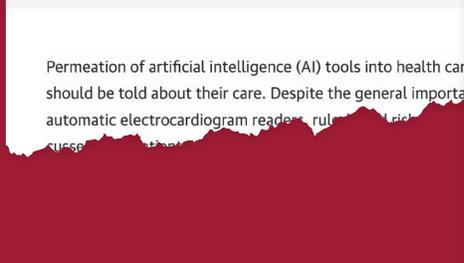
[Author Affiliations](#) | [Article Information](#)

RELATED ARTICLES | MEDIA | FIGURES



intermittent auscultation (IA), use of cEFM in clinical benefit and may result in unneeded interventions, In this study, we used these strategies

Michelle Mello, JD, PhD
Greenwall Faculty Scholar Alum
JAMA



Permeation of artificial intelligence (AI) tools into health care should be told about their care. Despite the general importance of automatic electrocardiogram readers, rule-based clinical decision support systems, and other AI tools, these tools are often used without patient awareness or consent.



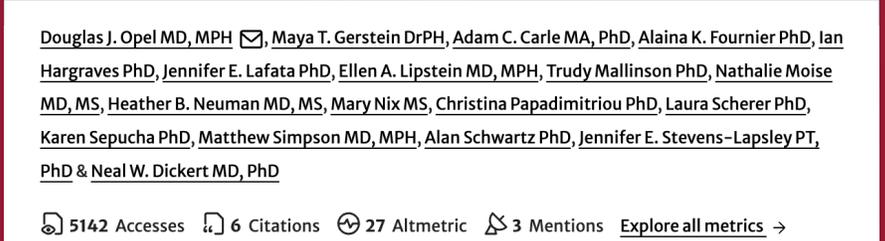
Home > [Journal of General Internal Medicine](#) > Article

Saving Shared Decision-Making

Perspective | Published: 14 February 2025
Volume 40, pages 1844–1847, (2025) [Cite this article](#)



Douglas John Opel, MD, and Neal Dickert, MD, PhD
Greenwall Faculty Scholar Alums
Journal of General Internal Medicine



[Douglas J. Opel MD, MPH](#) , [Maya T. Gerstein DrPH](#), [Adam C. Carle MA, PhD](#), [Alaina K. Fournier PhD, Ian Hargraves PhD](#), [Jennifer E. Lafata PhD](#), [Ellen A. Lipstein MD, MPH](#), [Trudy Mallinson PhD](#), [Nathalie Moise MD, MS](#), [Heather B. Neuman MD, MS](#), [Mary Nix MS](#), [Christina Papadimitriou PhD](#), [Laura Scherer PhD](#), [Karen Sepucha PhD](#), [Matthew Simpson MD, MPH](#), [Alan Schwartz PhD](#), [Jennifer E. Stevens-Lapsley PT, PhD](#) & [Neal W. Dickert MD, PhD](#)

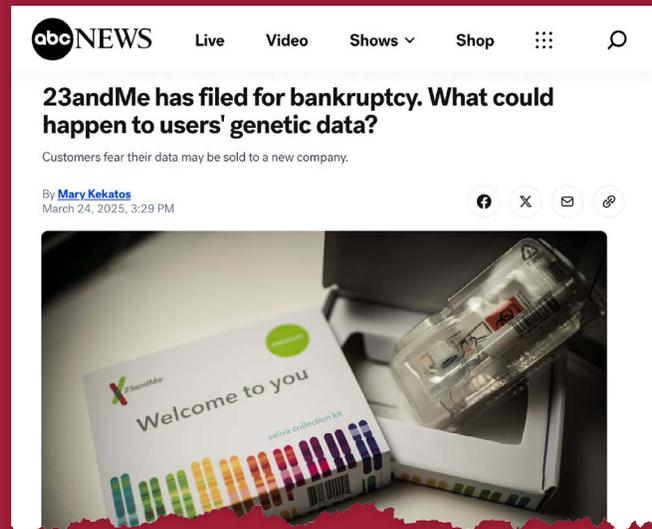
 5142 Accesses  6 Citations  27 Altmetric  3 Mentions [Explore all metrics](#) →



“23andMe does business with you as a consumer, not as a patient[.] You don’t get those overall federal health privacy protections that we give, for example, to the data you share with your doctor.”

- I. GLENN COHEN, JD

Greenwall Faculty Scholars Program
Committee Member and Alum



“It was helpful to have a group of experts offering informal guidance on challenging ethical topics that are facing [institutional review boards].”

- HOLLY FERNANDEZ LYNCH, JD

Greenwall Faculty Scholar Alum

“There’s still time for an ‘Aha’ moment....[M]aintaining resources to treat Americans with active addiction is needed to sustain the drop in overdose deaths.”

- BRENDAN SALONER, PHD

Greenwall Faculty Scholar



More 2025 Highlights

In August, we hosted a webinar, *A Bioethics Conversation: Autism Care and Research*. The event brought together three panelists with professional and personal perspectives on autism—Faculty Scholar Alums Joel Michael Reynolds, PhD, and Brent M. Kious, MD, PhD, and autistic researcher and advocate Zuzana Kazan—to consider the role bioethics can play in shaping autism research, clinical practice, and policy.



In October, we celebrated five years of *Greenwall News*, the Foundation's monthly newsletter chronicling how bioethics evolves, responds, and leads. Since its inception, there have been over 60 editions of *Greenwall News*, sharing more than 240 peer-reviewed publications and more than 200 media stories featuring Greenwall voices.



In addition, the National Academy of Medicine (NAM) named Govind Persad, JD, PhD—an Associate Professor at the University of Colorado Boulder School of Law—as the **2025 NAM Greenwall Fellow in Bioethics**. The Fellowship was established in 2015 to enable early-career bioethics scholars to participate actively in the work of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine and to further their careers as future bioethics leaders.



A REFUTATION

In February, Theater of War Productions staged two Greenwall-commissioned dramatic readings of *A REFUTATION*—a series of conflicting historical accounts of Philadelphia’s 1793 yellow fever epidemic—in Washington, D.C. Additional performances in Philadelphia followed later in the year.

Exploring themes of misinformation and racial inequities in health care, the texts were performed by acclaimed actors and followed by guided audience discussions on America’s current healthcare system and personal experiences with it.

A REFUTATION marked the capstone celebration of the Foundation’s 75th anniversary, drawing from the Foundation’s past commitment to arts funding and looking toward the future, bringing bioethics to new audiences.





William C. Stubing Memorial Lecture

The William C. Stubing Memorial Lecture (Stubing Lecture) is an annual public event designed to reach a broad audience, demonstrating how ethics intersects with people's everyday lives.

This year's Stubing Lecture, *Navigating a Crisis of Trust: Ethical Policy and Practice in Uncertain Times*, was presented on November 13 in New York City.

The event featured a candid and wide-ranging conversation between Robert Califf, MD, former Commissioner of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, and Matthew Herper, an award-winning journalist and Senior Writer covering medicine at STAT. Together, they discussed how we can understand the nation's crisis of trust in medicine, science, and public health and explored how bioethics can help chart a way forward.

“[W]hat do we do to gain trust? My answer is act trustworthy. But that means you have to confront these issues that are obvious that we're not confronting.”

— ROBERT CALIFF, MD



Bernard Lo, MD Award in Bioethics

Ruth R. Faden, PhD

The Bernard Lo, MD Award in Bioethics (Lo Award) is a \$25,000 prize given annually to recognize significant contributions to bioethics.

Ruth R. Faden, PhD, received the 2025 Lo Award. The award recognized Prof. Faden for excellence in bioethics mentorship.

Prof. Faden has had a profound impact on the bioethics field. A professor of biomedical ethics, she founded the Berman Institute of Bioethics at Johns Hopkins University more than 25 years ago, creating a home for countless students, trainees, and scholars.

Prof. Faden has nurtured an entire ecosystem of bioethics professionals and guided them into a wide range of careers in the field. She has empowered her mentees to make meaningful contributions and continue her legacy of thoughtful, generous mentorship.



GF The Greenwall Foundation

Ruth R. Faden, PhD
Founder, Johns Hopkins Berman Institute of Bioethics

FOUNDATION LEADERSHIP

Board of Directors

Ann Alpers, JD

Chair

Peter Goodwin, MBA

Treasurer

Michelle Groman, JD

President & CEO

Jason Karlawish, MD

Rose Marie Martinez, ScD

Amy Lynn McGuire, JD, PhD

Secretary

Phyllis D. Meadows, PhD, RN

Vice Chair

Joel Motley, JD

(Retired 2025)

Richard L. Salzer, MD

(Retired 2025)

David J. Schofield, Jr., CFA

James A. Tulskey, MD

Keith Wailoo, PhD

Timothy M. Westmoreland, JD

Joel Motley, JD, and Richard L. Salzer, MD, retired from the Foundation's Board of Directors after 12 and 42 years of service, respectively.

As Board Secretary and Chair of the Audit and Risk Management Committee, Mr. Motley brought decades of financial, legal, nonprofit, and corporate experience that drove forward the Foundation's investment strategy. Dr. Salzer, the great nephew of the Foundation's founders Frank and Anna Greenwall, thoughtfully contributed his experience as a practicing physician to every aspect of his roles on the Board. He regularly shared Frank Greenwall's wise guidance, including his commitment to being unique, bold, and courageous.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Audited Statement of Financial Position

Years Ended December 31

	2024	2023
ASSETS		
Investments, at fair value	113,873,698	106,706,560
Other Assets	159,043	275,853
TOTAL ASSETS	114,032,741	106,982,413
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Grants Payable	3,353,960	3,239,159
Other Liabilities	448,026	473,706
Total Liabilities	3,801,986	3,712,865
Unrestricted Net Assets	110,230,755	103,269,548
Total Net Assets	110,230,755	103,269,548
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	114,032,741	106,982,413

Audited Statement of Activities

Years Ended December 31

	2024	2023
REVENUE		
TOTAL REVENUE (LOSS), NET OF RELATED EXPENSES	12,579,497	15,323,505
GRANTS AND EXPENSES		
Grants	4,121,985	3,401,254
Direct Charitable Activity	901,922	709,606
Operations and Governance	594,483	764,636
TOTAL GRANTS AND EXPENSES	5,618,290	4,875,496
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	6,961,207	10,448,009

