



American Veterinary Medical Foundation

REPORT TO THE AVMA HOD – July 2023

The American Veterinary Medical Foundation (AVMF), founded in 1963, is the charitable arm of the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA). The mission of the AVMF is to develop charitable resources to advance the science and practice of veterinary medicine to improve animal and human health.

Through the generosity of donors, the Foundation has been able to help veterinarians help animals through a variety of educational initiatives, veterinary charitable care, disaster relief, and research programs and activities.

EDUCATION:

Scholarships:

By investing in the education of veterinary students, donors play a role in ensuring that future veterinarians have the skills and training necessary to treat our pets, safeguard our food supply, and protect public health.

For the 2022-2023 award cycle, we awarded 314 scholarships for a total of \$555,000.

We are grateful to our partners and donors who have established scholarships:

- Merck Animal Health Veterinary Student Scholarship Program – \$5,000 to 2nd and 3rd-year veterinary students at all accredited schools in the U.S., Canada, and the Caribbean.
- The Zoetis Foundation Veterinary Technician Student Scholarship – will be doubling the amount awarded to \$2,000 per technician.
- Auxiliary to the AVMA Legacy Endowed Scholarship – 35 students were selected based upon their leadership skills and academic standing.

The AVMF is fortunate to have a dedicated pool of approximately 100 volunteers who lend their expertise in veterinary medicine to the review of scholarship applications. We need additional reviewers, so please reach out to Shanita Anderson (sanderson@avma.org) if interested.

VETERINARY CHARITABLE CARE:

REACH – Reaching Every Animal with Charitable Veterinary Health Care

This program is replacing the Veterinary Charitable Care Grant Program. Clinics with funds remaining may submit grants via a new online portal.

REACH Program Details:

- All AVMA members, regardless of how many at a clinic, are eligible for funds and can go online to register (vcare.avmf.org)
- Maximum of \$500 in funding per animal

- Maximum of \$2,000 in funding per year (while funds are available)

As we continue to develop this program, we may ask your thoughts on messaging and to share this program with your clients to help raise funds.

DISASTER RELIEF:

Disaster Relief and Reimbursement Grants

The AVMF provides grants to help veterinarians and the animals they care for during times of disaster. Grants are available to support victims of hurricanes, floods, tornadoes, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, wildfires, and oil spills.

In 2022, we provided \$85,000 in grants and this year have distributed over \$60,000.

Disaster Reimbursement Grants for Veterinary Medical Care

- The AVMF issues disaster reimbursement grants up to \$5,000 to ensure the emergency veterinary medical care of animal victims of disaster.
- The AVMF reimburses for the costs of medical supplies, boarding, and transporting animal victims of disasters to safety.

Disaster Relief Grant for Veterinarians and Veterinary Students

- The AVMF issues disaster relief grants up to \$2,000 to assist veterinarians and veterinary students with necessities due to a disaster.
- The grants would cover items such as clothing, temporary housing, transportation, and meals that were needed immediately following a disaster.

AVMF support for Ukraine Disaster Relief

Total Dollars Raised: \$646,000	500 veterinary clinics received assistance	25,000+ animals were saved from starvation
Total Dollars Awarded: \$520,000	1,000s of wounded animals received veterinary assistance	1,000s of pet owners received food for their pets

The AVMF and Merck Animal Health Foundation provided \$50,000 each to support earthquake relief efforts provided by the Turkish VMA and International Fund for Animal Welfare in Turkey and Syria.

RESEARCH SUPPORT:

The Foundation has partnered with the Veterinary Pharmacology Research Foundation (VPRF) since 2017 to fund research grants with a focus on veterinary pharmacology. This funding supports research projects designed to improve the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of diseases in animals. These areas have historically been underfunded by traditional granting agencies. Two grants were recently chosen for support by the VPRF in partnership with the AVMF:

Dr. Robert Goggs, BVSc, PhD – Cornell University: Research project will focus on the pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of direct oral anticoagulants in dogs.

Dr. Vaasjo, Saint Louis Zoo: Research project will focus on the pharmacokinetics of ganciclovir and valganciclovir in Asian elephants.

We also launched a new Research Fellowship in collaboration with the VPRF in June. The amount of funding available is \$10,000.

We are deeply appreciative of the donors who help make these programs possible.

AVMF LEADERSHIP GUILD

The AVMF Leadership Guild recognizes individuals and other partners who donate \$1,000 or more annually to help the AVMF maintain and expand the scope of its charitable programs.

- We had 300 members last year and, as of May 2023, have 65. *Our goal is to at least reach 300 members again this year.*
- We would like to see 100 new members join the Leadership Guild next year.

WEBSITE and SOCIAL MEDIA

The Foundation launched a new website early this spring. Check out our new look at www.AVMF.org.

- The AVMF Facebook page has approximately 39,000 followers.
- The AVMA has more than 36,000 followers on Instagram.
- You can help increase our awareness by sharing our posts to your own social media platforms.

MEETINGS and CONVENTIONS

The AVMF staff and volunteers participated in the AVMF exhibit booth at the AVMA Veterinary Leadership Conference and AVMA Convention.

OPERATIONS

The Foundation Development Council, formerly the AVMF Board of Advisors (BOA), provides input, advice, and guidance to the AVMF Board of Directors in furtherance of the Foundation's mission, activities, services, and programs.

The Development Council is a standing committee of the AVMF and reports to the AVMF Board of Directors.

The AVMF Development Council is comprised of members of the AVMF Board of Directors, one of which is the director representing the Auxiliary to the AVMA; one voting member nominated by the Student AVMA; and additional at-large, voting members. All the at-large members are AVMA members. All AVMF Development Council members are appointed by the Board of Directors.

The AVMF Development Council meets twice each calendar year, or as necessary to fulfill its duties. Up to two in-person meetings are authorized per year as needed. Virtual meetings take place on a bi-monthly basis.

AVMF Development Council

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