



# GABRIELLE'S ANGEL FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES AWARDS TOTALING \$2.1 MILLION

Scientists Receive Critical Funding for Research Investigating Blood Cancers

**NEW YORK (March 30, 2017)** – Gabrielle's Angel Foundation for Cancer Research, one of the largest sources of non-governmental funding for cancer research in the nation, announces new grants totaling \$2.1 million. These awards will fund cutting-edge scientific projects whose bold ideas will explore methods of prevention, detection and treatment of blood cancers.

Grant recipients were selected after a rigorous peer review by the Foundation's distinguished Medical Advisory Board, helmed by Stephen D. Nimer, MD, director of the Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center in Miami, Florida. Seven junior investigators from the nation's leading research institutions have been awarded three-year grants of \$225,000. Recipients of the 2017 Medical Research Awards include (in alphabetical order):

- Grant A. Challen, PhD – Washington University in St. Louis School of Medicine
- Aude Chapuis, MD – Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center
- Saar Gill, MD, PhD – University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine
- Birgit Knechel, MD, PhD – Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
- Elena Ladas, PhD, RD – Columbia University
- Christopher Oakes, PhD – The Ohio State University
- Arun P. Wiita, MD, PhD – University of California, San Francisco

Dr. Arun Wiita of UCSF was awarded the prestigious Janet D. Rowley Medical Research Award in memory of renowned cancer research pioneer, Dr. Janet D. Rowley of the University of Chicago who served as a member of the Foundation's Medical Advisory Board from 1998 until her death in 2013. The Foundation also announced support for eight one-year grants; the Director's Innovation Fund at the Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center in Miami, FL; one ASBMT New Investigator Award to Hanna Knaus, MD of Johns Hopkins University; three music therapy programs; and assorted symposia and medical conferences.

Gabrielle's Angel Foundation remains committed to funding the highest caliber young investigators at an early stage in their careers, providing support that allows them to explore their most creative ideas at a time when conventional funding sources are increasingly more difficult to obtain.

"We have fostered an entire generation of cancer researchers and fueled their scientific breakthroughs," said Dr. Nimer. "The future of cancer research has never been brighter and we are helping lead the way."

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## **About Gabrielle's Angel Foundation for Cancer Research**

Gabrielle's Angel Foundation for Cancer Research funds the best and brightest scientific investigators whose research focuses on finding less toxic treatments for patients with leukemia, lymphoma, and related cancers.

Since 1996, the Foundation has funded grants totaling nearly \$30 million dollars in global giving. On average, 85 cents of every dollar raised directly funds research making it one of the largest non-governmental sources of grant support to blood cancer research in the nation.

For more than two decades, Gabrielle's Angel Foundation has championed the young scientists whose work is transforming cancer treatments and care. We honor Gabrielle's memory by funding the most cutting-edge and creative ideas in cancer research with an eye toward getting treatments from the bench, to the bedside, to a cure.

For more information, contact Christa Justus, Director of Grants; Chief Content Officer: [christa@gabriellesangels.org](mailto:christa@gabriellesangels.org) • 646-861-2033

Gabrielle's Angel Foundation for Cancer Research  
420 Lexington Avenue, Suite 226 New York, NY 10170

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