



# LAY VOLUNTEERS IN SCIENCE

VOLUME 1 / ISSUE 1

## YOUR VOICE IS MAKING A DIFFERENCE



Scientists on the Strategically Focused Research Network on Obesity

### NOW STUDYING

- How the role of time-restricted feeding on obesity and cardiometabolic health, prevents weight gain, promotes weight loss and improves cardiovascular risk factors.
- Braking Inflammation in Obesity & Metabolic Dysfunction
- How women with obesity, metabolic syndrome and gestational diabetes may influence their kids' weight and health long after birth.
- Precision medicine approaches to treating obesity while reducing cardiovascular disease risk.



*"Tell me and I forget, teach me and I remember, involve me and I learn."*

*Benjamin Franklin*

## MISSION ALIGNED RESEARCH

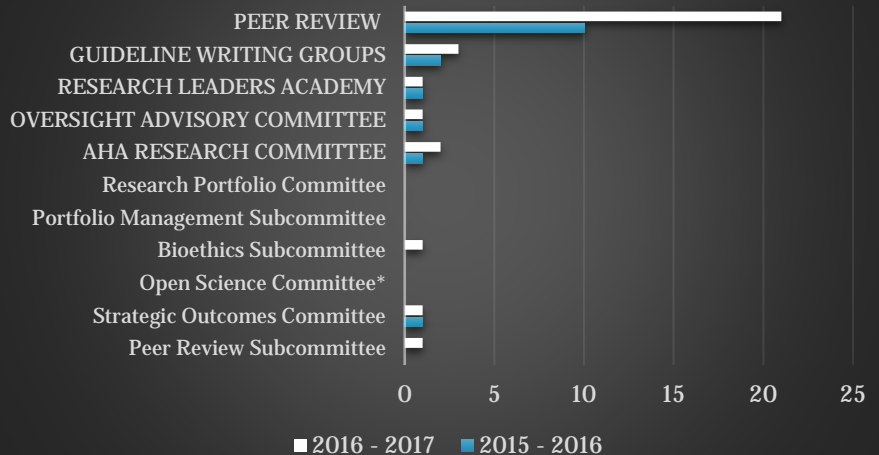
The AHA research program has tremendous impact. The new knowledge and advances that result from our research benefit millions of lives in every corner of the U.S. and around the world. Though we have made strides in tackling the prevention and treatment of cardiovascular diseases and stroke, our work is not done. That is why we are committed to funding cutting-edge science and building careers in science and research impacting every aspect of cardiovascular disease and stroke prevention and cure.

## ADVOCATES IN SCIENCE

AHA Office of Science Operations is committed to involving more voices from the lay community in all areas of business.

Lay representatives actively participate in peer review, guideline writing groups and on program Oversight Advisory Committees. Non-Scientist volunteers are members of the AHA Research Committee, Funding Subcommittee, Bioethics Subcommittee and the Research Leaders Academy.

## LAY REPRESENTATION



# Vetted Lay Stakeholders



Since 2016 the list of volunteers who are vetted to serve on science committees has increased by 63%. Identifying the right candidates who are willing to participate provides a pool of volunteers to draw from for insight and objectivity.



## WHY YOU SERVE

"I was oblivious to the research and grant giving process before participating as a Lay Reviewer, so all information was new to me. I was most impressed that AHA includes lay people in the process - that they value our opinions, want to provide real-world view points for the researchers and grants being awarded, and help bridge the gap between scientists and patients. I enjoyed the entire process! I especially enjoyed meeting the scientists, learning about their specialties during meals and gatherings, and then hearing their expert opinions during the reviewing of awards. It was a little intimidating at first knowing we would serve alongside researchers and scientists that were experts in their fields. They were mostly down to earth, made me feel like part of the team, and seemed to value my input and comments on the cases I reviewed. Very valuable! I could not have imagined in advance what the entire experience would be like, but I was so glad I chose to participate as a lay reviewer and have a much better understanding of AHA's mission, how volunteer stakeholders contribute to that process, and the team-approach to building healthier lives free of cardiovascular disease and stroke with the partnership of AHA, researchers/scientists/, and lay people. I'm excited to participate in another peer review meeting soon." **Cheryl Batzing**

## RECOGNIZING OUR AMAZING VOLUNTEERS FOR 2016-2017

### GO RED FOR WOMEN STRATEGICALLY FOCUSED RESEARCH NETWORK

Larry Sadwin                      Debra Lockwood

### STRATEGICALLY FOCUSED RESEARCH NETWORK- HEART FAILURE

William H. (Bill) Roach Jr.      Shaun Rivers                      Kim Ketter

### STRATEGICALLY FOCUSED RESEARCH NETWORK- OBESITY

William H. (Bill) Roach Jr.      Heather Roell-Oshman      James Young II                      Jennifer Berliner

### STRATEGICALLY FOCUSED RESEARCH NETWORK- CHILDREN'S

William H. (Bill) Roach Jr.      Sally Powers                      James Bischoff

### MERIT AWARDS

Bernie Dennis                      Deborah Krueger Pitts                      Newt Williams

### COLLABORATIVE SCIENCES AWARDS

Bernie Dennis                      Marvis Donalson                      Jang Jaswal                      Cheryl Batzing

## INSTITUTE FOR PRECISION CARDIOVASCULAR MEDICINE

### CATALYST AWARDS

Taj Ahmad Eldridge, PhD

### AHA-BAYER INNOVATION AND DISCOVERY GRANTS

Jang Jaswal

Larry Sadwin (Alternate)



# CALL FOR REVIEWERS



## CALL FOR LAY REVIEWERS

Volunteers with a passion for research are welcome to contact Lay Stakeholder Initiative staff [Elizabeth.Cooper@heart.org](mailto:Elizabeth.Cooper@heart.org) or [Angela.McCarty@heart.org](mailto:Angela.McCarty@heart.org) for more information on how their personal or community advocacy experience with heart disease or stroke, such as survivorship, a family experience, or being a caregiver, can add a voice to research projects.

*The volunteer stakeholder is an individual without formal training as a scientist or health professional but who has a strong interest in advancing the prevention and/or management of heart diseases and stroke.*



## UPCOMING PEER REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETINGS

### STRATEGIC PROGRAMS

[Merit Award](#)

[Collaborative Sciences Award](#)

[Strategically Focused Research Networks](#)

\*Vascular Disease

\*Atrial Fibrillation

### PRECISION MEDICINE

[Uncovering New Patterns and Uncovering New Patterns Fellowship](#)



## UPCOMING EVENTS/RESOURCES

- Look for a new online communication tool for training and interaction with other non-scientists.
- Patient Engagement - [From Passengers to Co-Pilots](#): Patient Roles Expand Patients and Public: From subjects to partners
- Learn more about [AHA Science](#)