RESEARCH FACTS 2022-2023

Funding research is a cornerstone of the American Heart Association’s (AHA) lifesaving mission -- a pillar upon which the organization was founded and a key to our future. The AHA is the largest nonprofit, non-governmental funding source for cardiovascular and cerebrovascular disease research.

- The AHA has invested over $5.7 billion in research since 1949.
- Current AHA-funded research projects total $479 million and support 1,700 projects.
- In 2022-23, the AHA funded 868 new projects, totaling $178 million.
- Last year 2,234 dedicated peer review volunteers evaluated 3,775 proposals for funding!
- Types of research and percent of funding over the past five years:

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<th>BASIC</th>
<th>CLINICAL</th>
<th>POPULATION</th>
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<td>62.9%</td>
<td>22.4%</td>
<td>14.7%</td>
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- AHA funding to investigators from underrepresented racial and ethnic groups in science has more than doubled over the past five years.
- AHA funding helped launch the careers of many of this country’s most prominent cardiovascular and brain scientists, including 14 Nobel prize winners.

- For every $1 of AHA early career faculty development award investment, awardees receive $7.8 in subsequent funding. (based on award data from 2012-2016)

- Case for Support: AHA early career funding leads to 2X as many grants and 3X as much subsequent funding as those whose proposals the AHA was not able to fund. (based on applicant and awardee data from 2015–2016)

The Need for More Funding is Evident

Each year, investigators from a wide array of disciplines look to the AHA to fund their ideas, but the available dollars simply are not enough to support them all. This means scientific projects were shelved, limiting the next generation of investigators, and deferring the knowledge that would have resulted from these studies.

In FY 2022–23, the AHA received 1,996 applications requesting $535 million that we could not fund.

More AHA research award information:  
AHA Interactive Research Information Tool

General research information:  
https://professional.heart.org/research

Contact: promo@heart.org