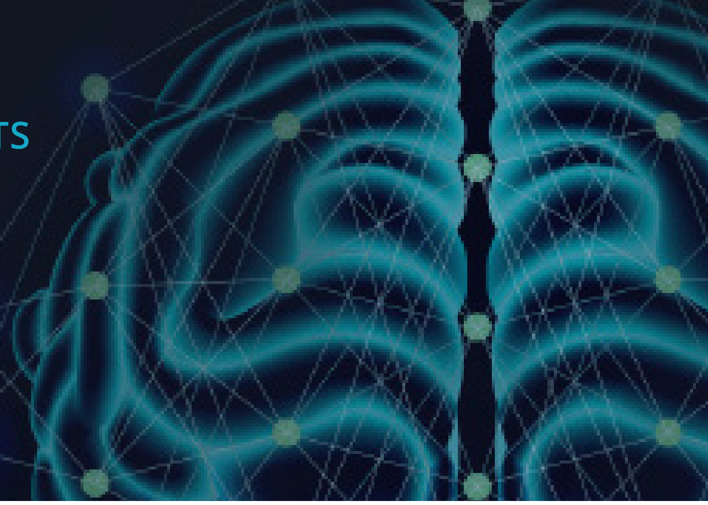
Hydrocephalus
Association

2024 ANNUAL
REPORT HIGHLIGHTS



Driving Discovery. Transforming Lives.

Celebrating a Major Milestone in Hydrocephalus Research Funding

The Hydrocephalus Association (HA) has helped drive more than **$108 million** in hydrocephalus research funding since 2009. In 2024 alone, we saw $20 million in growth of our impact!. HA's **$16 million** in direct grants has leveraged an additional **$92 million** in competitive awards from the NIH, Department of Defense, and other funders—supporting clinical trials and potential drug therapies.

We are especially excited to recognize the continued success of our Innovator Award recipients, many of whom have recently secured substantial multi-million dollar grants. These awards validate the innovative and transformative ideas launched through our program and pave the way for deeper insights into the causes, treatment, and long-term management of hydrocephalus.

Please visit the full Annual Report online to learn more about these impressive scientists.

HA CONNECT 2024: Strengthening Community, Advancing Knowledge

The Hydrocephalus Association's 18th National Conference, **HA CONNECT 2024**, took place July 25–27 in Tampa, Florida, drawing **560 participants**—including people with hydrocephalus, caregivers, clinicians, researchers, and industry partners—for three days of education and community-building.

Highlights included 75+ sessions and 60+ expert speakers; inspirational keynote from former NFL player–turned–neurosurgeon Dr. Myron Rolle; exciting scientific updates; interactive exhibits; Kids Camp; and an onsite clinical trial.

With strong support from lead sponsors **Tampa General Hospital** and **USF Health**, HA CONNECT 2024 successfully strengthened the hydrocephalus community and advanced knowledge for the future.

Be sure to read the conference recap and see our photo gallery on the online report.

> *"Hydrocephalus is part of my story. I've come to see it not as a limitation—but as something that shaped my strengths. HA helped me see that I wasn't alone. It gave me a place to belong, to be understood, and to thrive. " — David Walters*

WALK To End Hydrocephalus

In 2024, the Hydrocephalus Association's flagship **WALK to End Hydrocephalus** united **7,600+ participants** across **42 events and 862 teams**, raising **more than $1.8 million** for research, education, and community support. These grassroots events build awareness, empower families, and drive progress toward a cure.

We celebrated milestones. In Chicago for its 20th year, led by Stacey Buckner, Katie Cook, and Sherry Reising, the WALK has raised $1.1 million. And Cincinnati reached their 10th year, guided by Heidi and Mike Knapke, to raise nearly $440,000 since its inception.

The Indianapolis WALK returned, led by Kelly Leard, Jennifer Reid, and the Indiana University committee, welcoming back the local community. And we welcomed a new site in Virginia Beach, inspired by Chair Natasha Buchanan.

The WALK program would not be possible without our dedicated and indefatigable volunteer leaders who work tirelessly each year to create outstanding events and encourage fundraising process with their teams! We cannot begin to express our gratitude to each of them.

Advocacy: The Hydrocephalus Community in Action

The Hydrocephalus Association (HA) advanced federal support for research and care in 2024.

We co-hosted a Congressional Briefing, spotlighting the Department of Defense's **Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program (CDMRP)** and its vital role in hydrocephalus research.

The **Congressional Pediatric and Adult Hydrocephalus Caucus** grew to **39 bipartisan members**, reflecting rising national commitment. Local advocates across the country were key to securing these additions.

Together, these actions expand bipartisan support for our mission to advance research, improve treatments, and raise national awareness - strengthening federal partnerships and moving the hydrocephalus community closer to improved care and a cure.

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