

Women's Board of Barrow Neurological Foundation



IN A STORIED TRADITION dating back to 1965, the Women's Board of Barrow Neurological Foundation holds the Barrow Grand Ball each year to celebrate innovative research and treatment at Barrow Neurological Institute and thank all the generous donors who support its mission. From the first Ball at the Casa Blanca Inn, which netted \$26,000, exceptional women in the Phoenix community have stepped forward to carry on this legacy. Almost 60 years later, the Women's Board has reached an unprecedented lifetime milestone of \$100 million raised since their inaugural Ball.

The Women's Board raised an incredible \$7 million through the 2023 Barrow Grand Ball. Championed by 2023 Women's Board Chairman Diane Might and Co-Chaired by Amy Cohn and Erin Gogolak, the 2023 Ball demonstrated the generosity and commitment of the Women's Board and its donors in supporting advancements in neurological research. The Grand Ball committee selected the Barrow Aneurysm and AVM Research Center as its special project for the 2023 Ball. Under the leadership of Barrow President and CEO Michael T. Lawton, MD, scientists in the Center pioneer novel preclinical models to develop new and more effective ways of preventing the rupture of aneurysms and arteriovenous malformations (AVMs).



million
raised



areas of
support



individual
donors

WOMEN'S BOARD SUPPORT THROUGH THE 2023 BARROW GRAND BALL

SPECIAL PROJECT:

BARROW ANEURYSM AND AVM RESEARCH CENTER *Donors contributed \$753,047*

Tomoki Hashimoto, MD, received a \$3 million, five-year grant from the NIH to further study the link between cell senescence (when cells stop dividing due to aging), inflammation, and aneurysm rupture. Ultimately, he aims to develop a drug target to reduce the risk of a rupture.

ALZHEIMER'S AND MEMORY DISORDERS PROGRAM *Donors contributed \$750,000*

The Steele Foundation generously endowed the Dan Cracchiolo and Pam Grant Behavioral Neurology and Neuropsychiatry Fellowship, which trains physicians in both patient care and innovative research for Alzheimer's disease and related dementias.

BARROW GLOBAL *Donors contributed \$280,000*

Barrow Global has established its first international neurosurgical training site at Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre in Tanzania, East Africa. The inaugural Franke Global Neurosurgery Fellow, Kerry Vaughan, MD, arrived there in spring 2023.

BRAIN INJURY & SPORTS NEUROLOGY CENTER *Donors contributed \$65,000*

The Domestic Violence Brain Injury Program has expanded its cognitive retraining program, Brains Club, to two new Phoenix shelters. It now holds Brains Club in six domestic violence shelters.

CENTER FOR NEUROMODULATION *Donors contributed \$102,500*

Center Director Francisco Ponce, MD, performed Arizona's first essential tremor procedure utilizing focused ultrasound. The noninvasive technology uses MRI guidance to deliver beams of ultrasound energy deep in the brain, much like deep brain stimulation.

DIABETES RESEARCH *Donors contributed \$142,500*

Zaman Mirzadeh, MD, PhD, has continued enrolling patients for his type 2 diabetes study, with a total of six participants, and has continued preclinical work for his type 1 diabetes study.

EDUCATION AT BARROW *Donors contributed \$162,000*

In summer 2023, Barrow provided 51 high school and undergraduate students with the opportunity to conduct hands-on neuroscience research under the mentorship of its experts.

ELLEN & HOWARD KATZ CHAIR OF NEUROIMAGING RESEARCH *Donors contributed \$400,000*

The Katzes generously endowed the chair and donors contributed to studies aiming to reverse paralysis in veterans with peripheral nerve injuries, identify biomarkers to track myelin loss in multiple sclerosis, and more.

IVY BRAIN TUMOR CENTER *Donors contributed \$1,186,618*

The Ivy Center is pioneering a drug-delivery method that aims to bypass the blood-brain barrier. Called superselective intra-arterial infusion (SSIAI), the novel technique delivers a highly concentrated dose of a drug directly to the brain tumor while minimizing side effects.

MADE A DIFFERENCE IN NEUROLOGICAL RESEARCH AND TREATMENT

LEWIS HEADACHE CENTER *Donors contributed \$700,000*

Thanks to a generous gift from Jan and Tom Lewis, the Center has been able increase its number of clinical trials and expand its comprehensive wellness program with the addition of a headache psychologist.

MUHAMMAD ALI PARKINSON CENTER *Donors contributed \$40,000*

Center director Holly Shill, MD, FAAN, is collaborating with Mayo Clinic researcher John Caviness, MD, to examine the physiology of essential tremor in elderly individuals.

MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS PROGRAM *Donors contributed \$50,000*

Multiple sclerosis (MS) neurologists are collaborating with neuroimaging scientists on studies that aim to detect changes in myelin (the protective coating around nerve fibers), with the goal of restoring function in MS patients through remyelination.

NEURO-REHABILITATION CENTER *Donors contributed \$100,000*

Barrow is analyzing data from its robotic devices to identify trends that deliver the best results based on the patient's injury type, helping them maximize their recovery.

PITUITARY CENTER *Donors contributed \$46,000*

Barrow pituitary specialists are working to develop more effective treatments for Cushing's disease, successfully creating an organoid model that replicates the pituitary tumor that causes it.

PETZNICK STROKE CENTER *Donors contributed \$480,956*

Barrow has been selected to participate in a subgroup trial of the StrokeNet FASTEST study to include its mobile stroke units. The trial tests the delivery of a new drug for patients who have suffered a hemorrhagic stroke.

SONNTAG SPINE CENTER *Donors contributed \$287,500*

The Virtual Reality Spine Lab welcomed an additional software engineer and is working with Barrow Global to bring virtual reality technology to developing countries for neurosurgical training.

THURSTON INNOVATION CENTER *Donors contributed \$75,000*

The Center has supported 22 projects, filed eight full patent applications, and transformed more than 14 projects from concept to prototype over the past year.

ADDITIONAL AREAS SUPPORTED BY DESIGNATED FUNDS *Donors contributed \$1,337,892*

Funds went to the Cleft & Craniofacial Center, Eller Telepresence, LSS Black Belt, Mind Exploratorium, Barrow Neuroplex, Najafi Chair, Woodlyn T. Kendrick Fellowship, and Petznick/Stewart Endowed Fund.

UNDESIGNATED FUNDS *Donors contributed \$750,118*

Undesignated funds are being used to support research studies in the areas of migraine, brain tumors, ALS and frontotemporal dementia (FTD), AVM, traumatic brain injury, and neuroimaging for spinal cord implants.



2023–24 WOMEN'S BOARD

The current Chairman of the Women's Board is Jan Lewis,
with Carrie Hulburd and Kathy Munson serving as the 2024 Barrow Grand Ball Co-Chairs.

Kathleen O. Barrow

Catherine Bentley

Shaun Bracken

Prue Brito

Christy Burton

Jan Cacheris

Martha "Muffie" Churchill

Amy Cohn

Pamela Cracchiolo

Robyn DeBell

Ann Denk

Jacquie Dorrance

Judy Shannon Edens

Jane Edmunds

Stevie Eller

Nancy Hanley Eriksson

Ardie Evans

Amy Flood

Sydney Fox

Nita Francis

Shan Francis

Harriet Friedland

Nancy Gaintner

Dyan Getz

Sandy Getz

Erin Gogolak

Penny Gunning

Betsy Haenel

Carrie Hall

Marilyn W. Harris

Sandy Hecomovich

Barbara Henward

Judy Hewson

Suzi Hilton

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Mary Hudak

Carrie Hulburd

Andrea Katsenes-Pappas

Michelle Kerrick

Cathy Kleeman

Julie Kroot

Robyn Lee

Jan Lewis

Janis Lyon

Sandy Magruder

Bonnie Martin

Beth Matthews

Mary Ellen McKee

Tahnia McKeever

Jean Meenaghan

Angela Melczer

Karen Meyer

Diane Might

Kolby Moffatt

Elizabeth "Betsy" Moore

Carole Moreno

Katie Mueller

Kathy Munson

Dionne Najafi

Carolyn O'Malley

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Becky Pierson

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Susie Small

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Sarah E. Suggs

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Sharon Ulrich

Nancy Walker

Mary Ward

Christine Watson

Susan Westra

Gay Firestone Wray