



American Veterinary Medical Foundation

2017 Highlights of Programs and Activities

The American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) is the nation's leading advocate for the veterinary profession representing more than 91,000 members. The American Veterinary Medical Foundation (AVMF) is the charitable arm of the AVMA. For more than 50 years, the AVMF has been dedicated to its mission of developing resources to advance the science and practice of veterinary medicine to improve animal and human health.

GIFTS IN ACTION

Through the generosity of donors, the Foundation has been able to help veterinarians help animals. Since its founding in 1963, the AVMF has awarded more than \$10 million in grants to support research, education, advocacy, animal welfare and disaster relief programs.

Disaster Relief and Reimbursement Grants

In 2017, the AVMF distributed nearly \$160,000 in disaster relief and reimbursement grants to veterinarians and allied health organizations who were called to action before, during, and after the hurricanes, flooding and wildfires. Donors supported these disaster relief efforts to give help where help was needed most. Veterinarians and veterinary students transported animals out of harm's way, provided critical care treatment to countless injured animals, delivered feed and pelleted hay to Puerto Rico, and found new homes for animals that were abandoned.

AVMF Veterinary Care Charitable Fund®

The Veterinary Care Charitable Fund is a program created to provide veterinarians with a simple and effective way to offer charitable veterinary services to clients facing personal hardships, as well as a means to help animals rescued from injury, abuse and neglect.

Through this program, donors make gifts to the AVMF in support of the charitable work of the practices enrolled. AVMA member veterinarians can then request a grant from those donated funds to cover some of the costs of the veterinary services provided. Veterinary practices in all 50 states and Puerto Rico are enrolled in this national program. The number of donors to this program has increased 42% in one year and the amount donations received has increased 76%.

Scholarships

By investing in the education of veterinary students, donors play a role in ensuring that future veterinarians have the skills and training necessary to treat our pets, safeguard our food supply, and protect public health.

In 2017, the Foundation provided 89 scholarships for veterinary students in North America, the Caribbean, Latin/South America and Southeast Asia. We are pleased to continue our partnership with Merck Animal Health who has funded national and international student scholarships over the past four years. The Auxiliary to the AVMA Legacy Endowment supported

33 scholarships for outstanding students. Future Auxiliary scholarships will be supported from the income from this permanent endowment. The Harold Wetterberg Foundation is also a major donor and has increased their support for scholarships.

Achieving, Leading and Learning (ALL) for Students

Student Chapters of the AVMA use this funding to provide programming in four key areas: Leadership, Wellness, Professional Development and Community Outreach. Students managed a total of 274 events for 31,000 participants at 36 colleges of veterinary medicine. The AVMA, AVMA LIFE, AVMA PLIT, and SAVMA contribute to these programs for a combined donation of \$336,000.

Research Support

Animal health research is crucial to the future of veterinary medicine. The AVMF devotes its efforts to raising financial support for research projects that will help lead to improved prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of prevalent, life-threatening diseases in animals. Donations also support research into new or currently approved medications for combating diseases and conditions of companion and food animals as well as projects that ensure the safety of food products from treated livestock.

Three new research grants were established in 2017:

- Veterinary Pharmacology Research Foundation/AVMF Pharmacology Research Grant - \$30,000
- Veterinary Pharmacology Research Foundation/AVMF Pharmacokinetic Research Grant - \$15,000
- AVMF Research Grant for Pain Management in Dogs - \$25,000

Partners for Healthy Pets

Led by the AVMA and the American Animal Hospital Association, *Partners for Healthy Pets* provides tools and resources that help communicate the value and benefit of preventive care. Resources for practices are freely available at www.partnersforhealthypets.org. The initiative, in its seventh year, is supported through corporate contributions. The team is currently working on using the PHP materials as curricula for veterinary students.

Websites and Social Media

The Foundation maintains two websites: www.AVMF.org for the Foundation and www.vccfund.org for the AVMF Veterinary Care Charitable Fund®.

Like us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/AVMFdn/>

We are deeply appreciative of the donors who help make all of these programs possible. Names of donors who made gifts of \$250 and more between December 1, 2016 and November 30, 2017 are recognized on donor boards at the AVMA headquarters building in Schaumburg, IL.

FOUNDATION OPERATIONS

The Foundation Board is comprised of veterinary and non- veterinary representatives from the AVMA Executive Board, AVMA HOD and the Auxiliary to the AVMA. Additionally, volunteers serve on the following committees: Executive, Grants/Awards, Finance Administration, Audit, Strategic Planning, Committee on the Board, and Partners for Healthy Pets.

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