



IMPACT REPORT 2021

Recurrent Pregnancy Loss Association
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2021 SUMMARY

CREATING COMMUNITY



1200+ social media followers



650+ views of educational videos



Peer-to-peer support group started

WORKING TO FIND ANSWERS

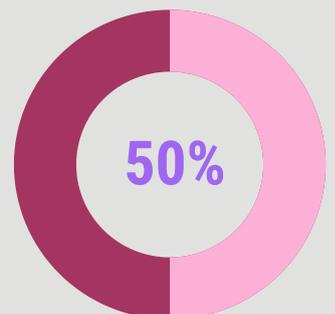


Application opened for first annual RPLA-ASRM Recurrent Pregnancy Loss Research Award



RPL photo research project launched with the University of Chicago

BECAUSE UNEXPLAINED IS UNACCEPTABLE



Cases of RPL that are unexplained

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

If the theme of 2020 was "sparking change", the theme for 2021 would be "laying the foundation." In the past 12 months Recurrent Pregnancy Loss Association (RPLA) has made incredible progress and put programmatic pillars in place that will enable us to service the recurrent pregnancy loss community for years to come. I am thrilled to share our accomplishments with you. Most notably, in 2021 we:

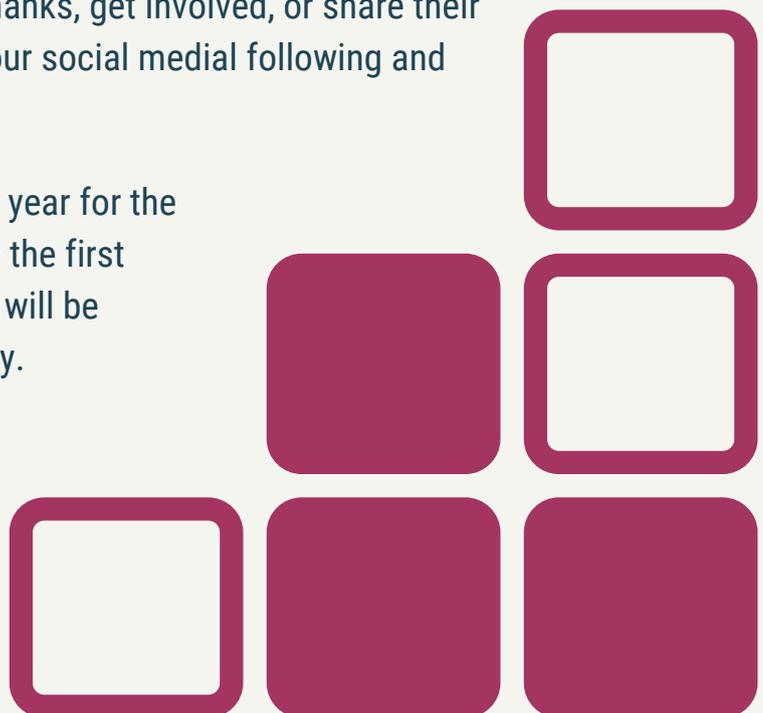
- Established an annual research award with the American Society for Reproductive Medicine (ASRM) to fund innovative projects that advance our understanding of recurrent miscarriage
- Represented the pregnancy loss community at an NIH workshop on early pregnancy loss
- Started a monthly, virtual peer-to-peer support group
- Began researching and documenting the lived experience of recurrent miscarriage in partnership with the University of Chicago

The need to come together as a community has been reaffirmed many times throughout the year by the feedback we received from individuals who reached out to say thanks, get involved, or share their stories of loss and pain. Moreover, our social media following and donor base nearly tripled!

Looking ahead, 2022 will be a pivotal year for the organization. We intend to distribute the first RPLA-ASRM Research Award and we will be launching an RPL Community Registry.

We deeply appreciate your interest and support of our work.

Sincerely,
Megan Hanson



ORGANIZATION

Our Mission

Recurrent Pregnancy Loss Association (RPLA) is dedicated to:

- *Eliminating recurrent pregnancy loss through the advancement of research into causes and treatments;*
- *Providing support and resources to those affected; and*
- *Increasing awareness of the impact of miscarriage and fertility challenges on women and families.*

Our Programs

- **Community Initiatives:** Providing support and resources to help people navigate RPL and their family building process
- **Advocacy Initiatives:** Increasing awareness about the impact of multiple miscarriages and why additional attention and research are necessary
- **Scientific Initiatives:** Supporting activities that advance our understanding of RPL and how to manage it

Our People

2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Megan Hanson (President), Volunteer
Serena Hohmann (Vice President), Astellas Pharma
Benjamin Burnham (Treasurer), Amazon
Katherine Konefal (Secretary), Volunteer
Cynthia Lander, PhD, Cynapse Consulting
Amy Henderson Riley, DrPH, Thomas Jefferson University
Jessica Ryniec, MD, CCRM Fertility Boston
Melanie Thomas, MSW, CHI Franciscan Health

INCOMING DIRECTORS

Mari Trevino Glass, Trevino Consulting Group
Lisa Hanson, Global Urban Village
Ronald Librizzi, DO, Retired, Virtua Health

SCIENTIFIC ADVISORS

Winifred Mak, MD, PhD, Dell Medical School, University of Texas at Austin
Dana McQueen, MD, MAS, University of Chicago
Elizabeth Sefton, PhD, Stanford University

COMMUNITY

“ —
Multiple miscarriages can make you feel very alone - desperate for information and answers.

- RPL Community Member

“ —
Thank you for your page. Watching your Q&A's with experts gave me some new questions to ask my REI today.

- RPL Community Member

PEER-TO-PEER SUPPORT GROUP

Sometimes the most helpful thing is simply talking to others who "get it." That's why this year we created a private Facebook support community and began holding monthly peer-to-peer support group meetings. The meetings are facilitated by our Board member, Melanie Thomas.

ASK THE EXPERT

During these live events the community has the opportunity to ask questions to expert clinicians. This year we added four episodes to the series. The recordings have been **viewed more than 650 times**, and focused on:

- **Miscarriage Tissue Testing** with Dr. Meera Shah of Nova IVF
- **Chronic Endometritis** with Dr. Dana McQueen of University of Chicago
- **Male Factor and Recurrent Miscarriage** with Dr. Winifred Mak of University of Texas at Austin
- **The Doctor-Patient Relationship** with Dr. Jessica Ryniec of CCRM Fertility Boston

BURNING BOWL & VIRTUAL FLOWER GARDEN

After an early pregnancy loss people don't necessarily have remains to bury or keepsakes from their pregnancy. Yet commemoration can be an important part of the grieving process. So, this year we hosted our first annual burning bowl ceremony during Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness month (October) to remember our losses and release our grief.

We also planted a virtual flower garden on our website so that people can add flowers to memorialize their "angel babies."

SCIENCE

“

The most underutilized resource in all of health care is the patient.

- Dave deBronkart, Healthcare Activist

1 ANNUAL RESEARCH AWARD

RPLA partnered with the American Society for Reproductive Medicine (ASRM) to create an annual research award that will support projects which enhance our understanding of recurrent pregnancy loss.

ASRM is the premier professional society for reproductive medicine. As partners, RPLA will fund the award and ASRM will provide a platform and venue to share research findings with the clinical and scientific community.

2 A PICTURE WORTH 1000 WORDS

RPLA is working with Dr. Dana McQueen at the University of Chicago to explore the experience of recurrent miscarriage through a process called photo elicitation.

Participants select and share photographs to tell their story and are then interviewed about the photos they select.

The aim is to understand the emotional impact of recurrent miscarriage to improve patient care.

3 EXAMINING THE ENDOMETRIUM

After receiving our \$8,000 gift to support her investigation into genomic causes of pregnancy loss, Dr. Ruth Lathi and her team at Stanford University received an NIH grant for the same project.

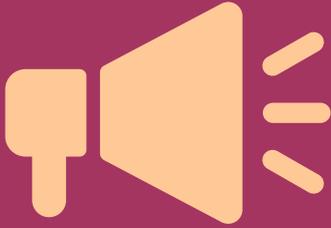
As such, we agreed to redirect the funds towards a project studying endometrial factors associated with recurrent miscarriage.

4 RPL COMMUNITY REGISTRY

A registry can be an incredibly effective way to further research into a disease or medical condition. It is a database of information that can help doctors and scientists answer questions and generate new hypotheses.

This year RPLA participated in a registry "Bootcamp" that walked us through the set-up process for our RPL Community Registry which will launch in 2022.

ADVOCACY



NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HEALTH WELCOMES RPLA

RPLA President, Megan Hanson, represented the pregnancy loss community at a workshop hosted by the Fertility and Infertility Branch of the NIH.

The workshop featured research from basic and clinical investigators focused on early pregnancy loss. Megan used her lived experience of recurrent miscarriage to emphasize the importance of their research and why much more is needed.



RPLA ENDORSES THE SUPPORT THROUGH LOSS ACT

RPLA formally endorsed the *Support Through Loss Act* (S. 2390/H.R. 4576) introduced by Senator Tammy Duckworth (D-IL) and Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley (D-MA). This bill would:

- Ensure employers provide at least 3-days paid leave for workers following a pregnancy loss,
- Have the CDC and HHS develop and disseminate public information regarding pregnancy loss
- Invest \$45m annually to the NIH for research into pregnancy loss

We encourage everyone in our community to reach out to their representatives to ask them to support this legislation.

NUMBERS



251 New Donors



46% Increase in Contributions



Overhead <5% of Revenue

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

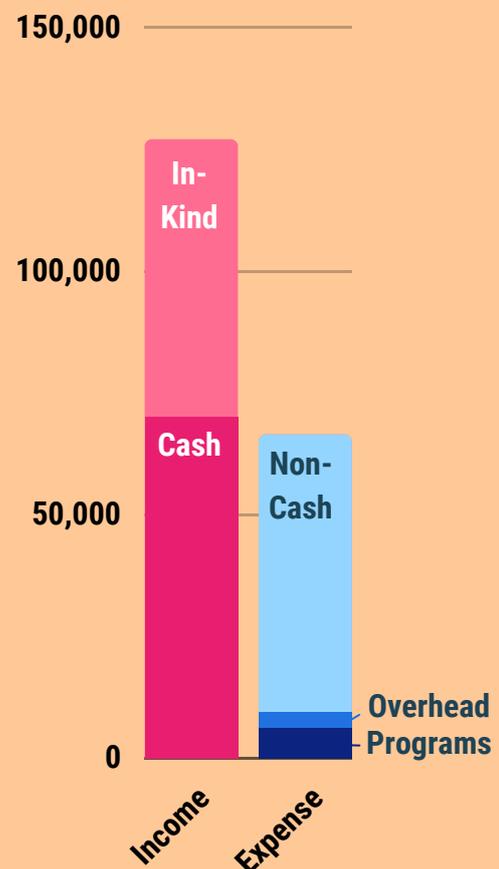
In 2021 RPLA received \$69,936 in unrestricted gifts from 284 donors. This represents a 46% and 186% increase over FY 2020, respectively.

Other income included earned interest and in-kind Executive Director (ED) services valued at \$56,766 for the year. Total income was \$126,708.

Cash expenses for the year were \$9,533. The largest single expense was \$5,000 given to the University of Chicago to support the photo elicitation research project. Management and general expenses totaled \$3,333, representing 4.7% of contributions.

Cash balance as of December 31, 2021 was \$99,101. Ending FY2021 in a strong cash position was an operational necessary to grant 2022 RPLA-ASRM Research Award which we intend to disburse in April 2022.

No money was spent on fundraising or salaries. RPLA is entirely volunteer run. ED services were recognized as an in-kind contribution along with an offsetting non-cash expense to represent the work that is currently done by our Board president on a volunteer basis and our intent to eventually hire a professional ED.



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2021
Assets	
Checking	\$100,511
Cash in Transit	(\$1,410)
Total Assets	\$99,101
Liabilities	
Total Liabilities	\$0
Net Assets	
General Fund - Unrestricted	\$99,101
Total Net Assets	\$99,101
Total Liabilities + Net Assets	\$99,101

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

	Period of January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021
Income	
Contributions	\$69,936
Interest Earned	\$6
In-Kind Donations	\$56,766
Total Income	\$126,708
Expenses	
Programs	\$6,200
Marketing & Development	\$83
General & Administrative	\$2,643
Other Expenses	\$606
Executive Director Services (non-cash)	\$56,766
Total Expenses	\$66,299
Net Income (Loss)	\$60,409

Thank You for Your Support!

\$10,000 and Up

- Ben Burnham & Megan Hanson
- Dr. Joseph J. and Mrs. Karen G. Konefal

\$1,000 to \$4,999

- Richard & Michelle Anderson
- Casey Bradshaw
- Jennifer Chwalek
- Bethany Curd
- Mike & Laurie Burnham
- Capital Group
- Frame USA
- Randy & Nancy Green
- Rev. Jeanne Hanson
- Serena Hohmann
- Judy Jones
- Joey & Kate Konefal
- Dr. and Mrs. Ronald Librizzi
- Gail Palac
- Salesforce
- Beth Rahn
- Brandon & Amy Henderson Riley
- Dr. Jessica Ryniec
- Clint & Melanie Thomas

\$500 to \$999

- Dr. Michela Blain & Scott Peppel
- Drs. Jake Gillen & Natalie Karp
- Pete Greenberg & Carrie Harwood
- Intel Foundation
- Anna Mitsak & Douglas Mullen
- Katie Payne
- Colin & Meghan Sheldon
- Dan & Erin Yoder
- Eric & Amberly Zwiener
- Starbucks

\$100 to \$499

- Abbott
- Pascal & Allie Arcese
- Christine Arpin
- Drs. Alexandra Borst & Mike Neuss
- Rob & Stevie Brinkerhoff
- Nancy Calvaruso
- Sara Carter
- Julie Chan
- Amarpreet Cheema
- Michael & Lori Corey

- Elizabeth Dahlke
- Craig & Nancy Davis
- Dajana Dawoud
- Peter & Shenouda Dawoud
- Traci Dow
- Michelle Engleman & Tim Fischer
- Ben & Megan Foulger
- Jimena Garcia & Tim Moriarty
- Christine Guerra
- Puja Gupta & Chirag Jindal
- Forrest Hanson
- Eric Hause
- Katy Huie Harrison
- Peggy Henderson
- Amanda Henry & Jordan Mandell
- Alicia Irizarry
- Rev. Zina Jacque
- Johnson & Johnson
- Dr. Brent & Susan Kaziny
- Em Kearney
- Min Ku
- Christopher Link
- Laura Locklair
- Jane Lee
- Halley Li
- Sheri Louks
- Diana Scott McGibbon
- Fred & Alice Meyer
- Emma Michels
- Microsoft
- Julie Minch
- Tony Moore
- Nordstrom
- Teresa Okeefe
- Jennifer Pennington
- Dr. Gary & Michele Polvere
- Deepa Prasad
- Devin Kaitlyn Satterwhite
- Courtney Sauer
- Allison Schaaf
- John Schieltz
- Maureen Shanahan
- Aditya Singhal
- Greg & Emily Skidmore
- Debbie Talbot
- Mark & Anjum Abbasi Voight

- Traci Wallace
- Kristen Wilber
- Matt & Ayn Dietrich Williams
- Adam & Christy Wolf
- Donna Zarcone
- Stephanie Zhadkevich

\$50 to \$99

- Amazon
- Lori Widmer Bean
- Brittany Bowden
- George Bowren
- Veronica Bran
- Jackie Korth Cahill
- Melissa Caldwell
- Julie Cangialosi
- Andrea Car
- Ellen Chamberlain
- Ed Cook
- Karoline Eigel
- Kristen Elizabeth
- Breanne Eshelman
- Kara Fischer
- Brian Fitzgerald
- Alexis Flanagan
- Annie Giaquinto-Pozza
- Kari Graham
- Natalie Hagar
- Kyra Hall
- Teresa Harris
- Judy Harvey
- Molly Harvey
- Robert Henderson
- Harvey Hinman
- Diane Howser
- Meagan Ittner
- David James
- Emily Kelly
- Pamela Kelly
- Roberta Jean King
- Margaret Kohin Nitschelm
- Rebecca Kuczynski
- Monica Lang
- Julie Lanterman
- Sacha Lazarre
- Jenny Cooke Malstrom

Thank You for Your Support!

\$50 to \$99 cont.

- Andrea Marasso
- Katie Meckley
- Maria Mei
- Karen Muzio
- Natalie Nichole
- Jennifer Nix
- Mickala Olesen
- Hannah Palac
- Frances Muzio Papell
- Robert Passberger
- Anna Rapp
- Resolve New England
- Alyssa Reyland
- Debra Schuerman
- Valerie Scott
- Ian Shedd
- Sharon George Sjogren
- Michael Smith
- Gina Stanley
- Christopher Stavish
- Genus Warner
- Jamee Warrenfeltz
- Kreigh Valkenaar
- Tom Vincent
- Jeanette White
- Helen Wilson
- Sabrina Young
- Lisa Chosed
- Linda Cleghorn
- David Coon
- Chelsea Cotner
- Melissa Cotner
- Jim Courtney
- Joseph Craven
- Doctor Mommy, MD
- Abby Dovre
- Michele Farley
- Ray Finney
- Gretchen Fitzgibbons
- Elizabeth Forbes-Hoang
- Kelley Gant
- Jean Gagliardi-Ketterer
- Evamarie Gilbes-Cole
- Mary Gioello-Schrank
- Dominic Golly
- Chelsea Grimmett
- Melissa Gold
- Michelle Hamilton
- Catie Hanna
- Marian Harris
- Kathryn Heim
- Katelyn Hensley
- Angie Herrin
- Caitlin Hicks
- Michelle Hilburger
- Becky Hull
- Anthony Jacobs
- Daniel James
- Rasshmmi Khanna
- Teresa Kohring
- Cathy Labriola
- Laura Ladymon
- Ciara Larkin
- Alicia Lauren
- Lee
- Joyce Li
- Bizzie Lizzie
- Karen Kenney Locasto
- Rose Loprete Lettera
- Marybeth Lowrey
- Sarah Lynette
- Fiona MacDonald
- Melissa Maldonado
- Dianna Mann
- Melissa Masaracchia
- Kristine McCabe
- Jen McComb
- Melissa McCue
- Kathy Parris McFadden
- Allison McGinnis
- Stephen McPartland
- Michelle | IVF Support Coach
- Amelia Mijach
- Lori Morrell
- Janie Mullins
- Cynthia Mulvaney
- Brenda Nasr
- Lendon Noe
- Abbi Null
- Tara Patten
- Alexis Patterson
- Lauren Petry
- Rita Pihra-Majurinen
- Ann Pisano-Perullo
- Posalootly Art
- Roxine Potts Doane
- Kelly Powers
- Taylor Rae
- Katelyn Radtke
- Charlie Rockwell
- KaDee Rosner
- Tom Rozanski
- Joanne Cristiano Russo
- JaNae Salko
- Jacqueline Schiemer
- Jessica Seaborn
- Allison Shenker
- Monica Simmons
- Aisha Sissoko
- SLAYS ART
- Amanda Stewart
- Marshall Sunshine
- Kelley Theurer
- Peggy Thomas
- Mindy Waltrip Tidwell
- Jolene tk
- Evie Van Rijs
- Sue Vegors
- Kaylin Waltrip
- Erin Whipple
- Jeff Wilber
- Lucy Davidson Wright
- Cheri White
- Grace Xu
- Angela Yu

Up to \$49

- Tuomi Allen
- Elizabeth Anderson
- Jannelly Areche
- Derek Bankert
- Trevor Bankert
- Jerome Beers
- Jean Breslin Kruger
- Katie Bolling
- Christina Boyle
- Susan Brantley
- Michael Brenan
- Melissa Brkic
- Michael Buttitta
- Carrie Cate
- Anna Catherine
- Michelle Catherine
- Chung-Mei Chin