

2024



# IMPACT REPORT





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### A NOTE FROM OUR LEADERS

#### A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT



Scientific advances occur because of dedicated researchers, working tirelessly to unlock the mechanisms of disease evolution, which may lead to possibilities for treatment and one day a cure.

Generous donations from supporters like you make this work possible.

Over the past year, CLEAR has funded researchers who are driving understanding toward effective treatments for Alzheimer disease and related dementias (ADRD). The aim is to bring us closer to a future without this devastating disease. Every discovery we support builds on decades of knowledge and brings us closer to new advancements for the over 700,000 people in Canada living with some form of dementia.

CLEAR has supported progress in 2024, from possible new drug trials targeting the manifestations of dementia to exploring biomarkers that help diagnose the disease earlier than ever before.

Thank you for believing in science, in innovation, and in a future where dementia is no longer a reality. Your generosity fuels each advance, and together we can make a difference.

### A NOTE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



I was honoured to step into the role of Executive Director at CLEAR in November of 2024. Despite my short time with the Foundation, I have already been inspired by the passion of our researchers, the commitment of our donors, and the urgency of our mission.

I am delighted to lead the Foundation as we continue to fund groundbreaking research that may actively change the future of memory loss disease. What makes the Foundation unique is its singular yet powerful focus: every donation exclusively supports Alzheimer research, accelerating discoveries toward prevention and a cure.\* I look forward to strengthening our partnerships, expanding our impact, and ensuring that we fund world-class dementia science to drive real change.

To every donor who has supported CLEAR's mission: you are the reason our research continues, hope remains and breakthroughs happen. I can't wait to see what we accomplish together.



### **OUR MISSION**

CLEAR's mission is funding transformative dementia research to advance the understanding, prevention and eradication of Alzheimer disease and related dementias.

By supporting international scientists, we help drive innovative breakthroughs that bring hope to individuals and families affected by memory loss.

Like so many of our supporters, our mission is deeply personal. Inspired by lived experiences and personal connections, we are dedicated to uncovering knowledge, accelerating treatments and improving quality of life for those impacted today from memory loss disease—and for future generations.

All donations made by our supporters exclusively fund dementia research, accelerating discoveries toward prevention, treatment and a cure.\*.

 $\star$ CLEAR Foundation operating costs are covered by donations from the Board of Directors and investment income.

48

Total Funded Research Projects

\$17M

Dementia Research Funding

\$26M

Research Funding
Through Partnerships

# DEMENTIA IN CANADA





Anticipated increase in people living with dementia in Canada between 2020 and 2050.

187k

Expected new dementia cases within the next five years.

20k

Will develop dementia every month in the 2040s.

40k

Canadians under 65 will have early-onset dementia by 2050.

414+

People can develop dementia each day. This is more than 17 cases every hour. By 2050

# +1 Million



Care partners will be looking after people living with dementia. This will be equivalent to more than 1.4 billion hours per year or 690,000 full-time jobs.

6.3 Million

People in Canada will develop, live with, and or ultimately die with dementia between 2020 and 2050.





### **OUR RESEARCH**



### TANGIBLE ADVANCEMENTS IN SCIENCE



Dementia Research and Innovation Funders Alliance Partner



Researchers funded in 2024 made possible by the support of our donors.



Our funding has attracted acclaimed scientists to British Columbia.



We proudly support early career researchers, postdoctoral scholars and senior researchers.

### Creation of an Accessible Alzheimer's Diagnostic Tool

Dr. Michael Adachi has developed a fast and affordable sensor to detect Alzheimer's biomarkers in blood, enabling earlier and more accessible diagnoses.



His goal now is to create a simple tool for clinicians to improve personalized care and patient outcomes.

### **Uncovering the Gut-Brain Connection in Alzheimer's**



Dr. Jordan Hamden's research is uncovering the link between inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) and dementia by studying gut inflammation and immune system changes.

His research aims to identify new treatments - whether through medication or microbiome interventions - to lower the risk of developing Alzheimer's.

### A Potential New Drug Discovery for Alzheimer disease

Dr. Anthony Phillips is advancing d-Govadine (d-GOV) a promising drug designed to boost dopamine levels in the brain—a key factor in cognitive decline linked to Alzheimer disease.



His research aims to prove the drug's effectiveness for Health Canada and FDA approval and future clinical trials.

### 3D Bio-Printing to Discover New Alzheimer's Treatment



Dr. Amanda Orr is utilizing 3D bio-printing technology to create patient-specific neural tissue models, offering a more accurate way to study dementia.

Her research hopes to enable better drug screening to discover effective new treatments bringing us closer to new breakthroughs.

# SPOTLIGHT IN SCIENCE



### **ADVANCES IN DEMENTIA RESEARCH**

A potential new treatment for Alzheimer disease

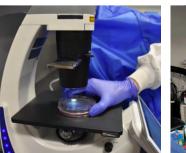


Alzheimer disease has long presented a complex challenge to the scientific community but Dr. Brian MacVicar and Dr. Freda Miller have uncovered leading-edge insights into how brain inflammation drives Alzheimer disease—and how we might stop it.

Dr. MacVicar & Dr. Miller's research project titled, "Therapeutic targets for alleviating neuroinflammation in Alzheimer disease" focuses on why some people with Alzheimer-like brain changes never develop memory loss, while others experience rapid decline. The answer may lie in brain inflammation, specifically how the brain's immune cells (microglia) and support cells (astrocytes) interact. By recreating miniature Alzheimer-affected brain models in the lab, MacVicar and Miller are studying how these cells respond to toxic amyloid-beta ( $A\beta$ ) plaques, a hallmark of dementia cases.









### **Breakthrough discoveries**

Dr. MacVicar and Dr. Miller have significantly expanded our understanding of how microglia protect neurons, by clearing away harmful A $\beta$  before it causes irreversible damage.

They have also successfully examined how brain inflammation is triggered by a protein called PIEZO1, which can lead to the destruction of brain cells.

The discoveries of Dr. MacVicar and Dr. Miller could pave the way to creating new therapeutic treatments, preventing brain inflammation, preserving brain function and slowing down the progression of Alzheimer disease.

# A GIFT IN YOUR WILL CAN ADVANCE DEMENTIA BREAKTHROUGHS

**LEARN MORE.** 

WWW.CLEARALZHEIMERS.CA/LEGACY

Planned giving empowers individuals to leave a lasting impact by funding dementia research with 100% of their investment directed toward cutting-edge research.



### **FINANCIAL SUMMARY**



### **INVESTING IN A FUTURE WITHOUT DEMENTIA**

\$571,000

TOTAL DONATIONS RECEIVED
IN 2024

\$800,000

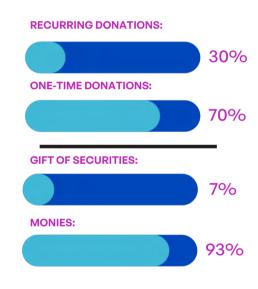
FUNDING TO RESEARCH INITIATIVES IN 2024 \$1,000,000

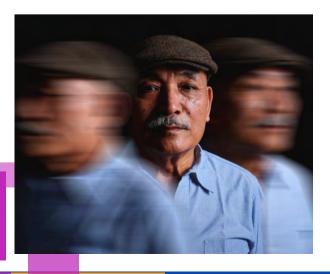
PROJECTED INVESTMENT IN RESEARCH FOR 2025

# DEDICATED TO RESEARCH. DEVOTED TO IMPACT.

At CLEAR, we are unwavering in our singular mission: to fund world-class dementia research right here in Canada.

Every donation made helps us build a better future for people affected by all forms of dementia. By funding leading scientists, we are making tangible advancements and paving the way toward ending dementia.





Looking ahead to 2025, CLEAR plans to direct over \$1 million to funding vital research for memory loss disease.

Every donation made by our donors plays a pivotal role in driving progress and instilling hope for those affected by dementia today - and for future generations to come.

Only through research can we rewrite the future of Alzheimer disease and other dementias.

# **OUR YEAR IN REVIEW**



### 2024 HIGHLIGHTS OF OUR PROGRESS



#### **GOVERNMENT ADVOCACY**

**Provincial Government Meetings** Victoria, BC



#### **CREATING NATIONAL AWARENESS**

**Production of Public Service Announcement** Toronto, ON



#### **COMMUNITY CONNECTION**

2024 Fall Reception & Networking Event Vancouver, BC



### MAY

**GOVERNMENT ADVOCACY** 

CLEAR met with BC's provincial parties to illustrate the increased need for research funding.



### **SEPTEMBER**

**ADVANCING OUR MISSION** 

CLEAR launched its Public Service Announcement (PSA) on national TV networks.



### **DECEMBER**

**COMMITMENT TO CHANGE** 

We launched and exceeded our matching gift fundraising campaign, making double the impact.



### **JANUARY**

ADVANCING IMPACT

**CLEAR** announced winners of its 2023 Operating Grant: Dr. Amanda Orr & Dr. Anthony Phillips.



### JUNE

MAKING RESEARCH CLEAR

We hosted our 2nd annual donor research event with behind-the-scene lab tours at UBC.



### NOVEMBER

**COMMITMENT TO CHANGE** 

We hosted our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Vancouver Fall Reception hosting our supporters and stakeholders.





### THANK YOU FOR MAKING OUR **PROGRESS POSSIBLE**

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all donors, partners, scientists, Board of Directors, and volunteers whose unwavering dedication propels our mission forward. It is your commitment that fuels research initiatives, bringing hope to those affected by dementia.

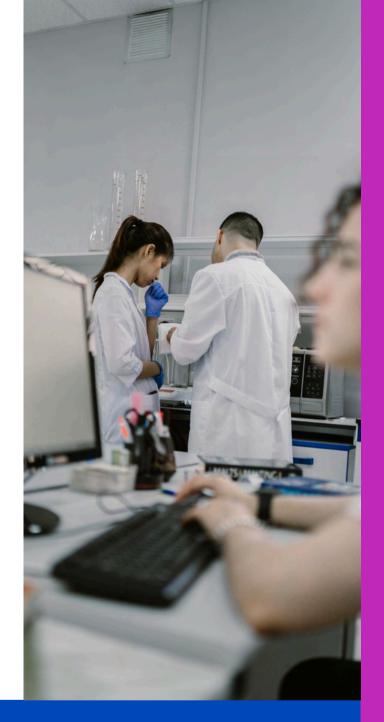
### **OUR FUTURE: ADVANCING RESEARCH, EXPANDING IMPACT**

CLEAR is committed to expanding its funding efforts to support more scientists who are advancing critical advancements in dementia research.

We also aim to amplify our advocacy efforts with stakeholders and government leaders to illustrate the urgent need for increased attention to addressing dementia in Canada.

Lastly, the Foundation is focused on growing its national community by fostering connections and inspiring more Canadians to join our mission.

Together, we are building momentum for lasting change, ensuring that research continues to be the pivotal force in transforming the future of dementia.



### LEADERSHIP AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dr. B Lynn Beattie

President

Robert J. Hastings

Vice-President

**Claire Lynch** 

**Executive Director** 

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**Pam Prior** 

**Bruce Shepherd** 

Director

Dr. Dean Foti

Director

Frank Schober

Director

Jaime Stein

Director

**Shiera Stuart** 

Director

**Una de Boer** 

Marketing Lead & Director



"I support CLEAR because I want to protect my children and grandchildren. Every dollar donated helps fund more research."

### **Bob Hastings**



"I support CLEAR because our donations go directly into funding important dementia research which gets us closer to finding a cure, while improving treatment along the way."

### **Anonymous Donor**



"I support CLEAR because their mission is simple yet powerful - fund dementia research in Canada for better outcomes. I know my gift is going directly to science that will lead to tangible change for memory loss diseases."

### **Kate Turnbull**



**CLEAR Foundation** PO Box 45074 Surrey, BC, V4A 9L1 1-604-900-9323

www.clearalzheimers.ca



marketing@clearalzheimers.ca



@clearalzheimers



@clearalzheimers in

