



# 35<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

**CELEBRATE WITH US!!  
WWW.AHTF.ORG**

## 2024 AHTF ANNUAL REPORT

MISSION: IMPROVE PATIENT OUTCOMES BY PROMOTING EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE THROUGH FUNDING CLINICAL AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND EDUCATION.

## Message from the Chair



**Gary Solomon, MBA, MS, OTR/L, CHT**  
Chair

Dear Supporters,

2024 has been an exceptional year for the American Hand Therapy Foundation as we celebrated our 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary! Our focus on advancing research, education, and clinical excellence in hand therapy has continued to drive innovation and improve patient care. Through generous contributions from donors and sponsors, we have expanded our grants, funded impactful research and education experiences, and supported the next generation of hand therapists. We look forward to continued growth in 2025.

### OPERATING HIGHLIGHTS

In 2024 we awarded over \$75,000 in research grants and educational scholarships. Please refer to the [Grants and Education sections of our website](#) to learn more about the 2024 awardees.

The AHTF “Research Agenda” project was completed and published in the Journal of Hand Therapy! We look forward to funding studies based on the conclusions and thank all who participated in this effort.

### OUR FUNDING

AHTF is solely dependent on the generosity of donations to fulfill our commitment to fund grants and scholarships. We are extremely grateful for the generosity of our individual donors as well as corporate supporters who enable us to achieve our mission.

Thank you all for your support of AHTF,

Gary

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## Grants Division



**April C. Cowan, OTR, OTD, CHT**

Director of Grants

The AHTF Grants Division is excited about the number of applications received and congratulates the following research grant recipients.



The AHTF Research Grants continue to benefit from a generous donation made in honor of Doris Ann Slack. The Slack Fund has enabled AHTF to grow our grant awards and we are grateful for the thoughtful contribution in her honor. Learn more at <https://www.ahtf.org/doris-ann-slack-fund/>.

## Research Priorities Survey

The AHTF Research Division completed the Research Priorities Survey. Results have been published in the Journal of Hand Therapy. This survey will help guide the research priorities of AHTF for years to come!

### Journal of Hand Therapy

[Articles](#) [Publish](#) [About](#) [Contact](#)

RESEARCH PAPER · [Articles in Press](#), January 16, 2025

## The 2021 American Hand Therapy Foundation research priorities survey

[April C. Cowan, OTD, OTR, CHT](#)<sup>a</sup>   · [Marsha B. Lawrence, PT, DPT, CHT](#)<sup>b</sup> · [Elaine E. Fess, OTD, MS, OTR, FAOTA, CHT](#)<sup>c</sup> · [Caroline W. Stegink-Jansen, PT, PhD, CHT](#)<sup>d</sup> · [For the American Hand Therapy Foundation Board of Directors](#)

## Education Division



**Caroline W. Stegink Jansen, PT, PhD, CHT**  
2024 Interim Education Division Director

The AHTF Education Division was established in 2024 to improve focus on the AHTF educational scholarships while enabling the research division to focus on research grant applications and funding. AHTF is proud to award the following educational scholarships:

We thank Caroline W. Stegink Jansen, PT, PhD, CHT for her Education Division leadership during this transition.

Information regarding available scholarships is available at [AHTF.org](https://www.ahtf.org).

Congratulations to the 2024 Scholarship Recipients!



**Congratulations**  
AVIVA WOLFF, EDD, OT, CHT FOR RECEIVING THE EVELYN MACKIN TRAVEL GRANT FOR EDUCATION AND RESEARCH  
"HEALING HANDS: ADVANCED UPPER EXTREMITY REHABILITATION TRAINING IN WAR-TORN AREAS"  
www.ahtf.org

**Congratulations**  
HOLLY FLANAGAN, BS, MSOT, OTRL, CL. FOR RECEIVING THE JANET ALBRECHT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP  
HER GOAL IS TO BECOME A CHT, TO KEEP CARE FOR HAND AND UPPER EXTREMITY PATIENTS ACCESSIBLE IN A REGIONAL SETTING IN WEST MICHIGAN  
www.ahtf.org

**Congratulations**  
ANNA GRAY FOR RECEIVING THE AHTF ORTHOTIC SCHOLARSHIP  
www.ahtf.org

## Fundraising Division



**Kirk Gober, OTR, DOT, CHT**

Director of Fundraising

The Fundraising Committee would like to thank all the donors, sponsors, and co-sponsors for their financial contributions to the Foundation. Without your generous donations, grants and scholarships would not be possible. The fundraising team has worked diligently to bring exciting in-person and virtual events over the last year.

Highlights: [AHTF Virtual 5k Run/Walk](#) - Honorary Chair Jim King, Ph.D., OTR/L, CHT



*Academic Circle: American Society of Hand Therapists  
Research Circle: RTR Assets; Modern Performance  
Mentor Circle: Hand Therapy Academy; Anchor Crude Marketing, Chicago Metro Hand Study Group, Pat Crespil Locksmith & Safes, Athletico  
Explorer Circle: Indiana Hand to Shoulder Center; Gain Asset Management, Association Headquarters, BraceLab, Angular Ortho,*

*Thank you to all our 117 participants and our 20 teams including: ASHT, Chicago Metro Hand Study Group, HTCC, TSHT, Indiana Hand to Shoulder, UVA Orthopedic Center, Hands ROC Raleigh, HSS, Florida Hand Therapy and Rehabilitation, Hand Therapy Center at Holy Cross, TCH Pediatric Hand Therapists, Johns Hopkins Rehab Network, Missoula Bone and Joint Hand Therapy, Commonwealth Hand and Physical Therapy, South Suburban OTs Unite, Atletico, Del Valle Physical Therapy & Hand Therapy and GHUESIG.*

*Thank you to our Honorary Chair and Immediate Past AHTF Chairman, Jim King, Ph.D., OTR/L, CHT.*

# AHTF ANNUAL REPORT

## AHTF Happy Hour with a Scholar - Speaker: Speaker Charles Goldfarb, MD. “Maximizing Your Impact

- AHTF would like to give a special thank you to our event underwriter North Coast Medical, Inc.



THANK YOU TO ALL OUR “HAPPY HOUR WITH A SCHOLAR” EVENT CO-SPONSORS

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THANK YOU TO ALL OUR “HAPPY HOUR WITH A SCHOLAR” PARTNERS

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# AHTF ANNUAL REPORT

## **Online Events**

- “Watercolor Painting: Just Getting Started”- Instructor: former Occupational Therapist and Hand Therapist, Kim Granhaug.
- Equipping Ukrainian Hand Therapists - Nathan Short, Ph.D., OTR/L, CHT, FAOTA
  - Nathan Short was the recipient of the 2023 AHTF Evelyn Mackin travel grant, which assisted with his travel to Ukraine.
- The AHTF Silent Auction

The Fundraising Committee expresses gratitude to all who helped to support the Foundation in 2024. Your donations and support are the lifeblood of our organization and assist us with carrying out our mission and vision.

Donor lists are updated quarterly and can be viewed at [AHTF.org](https://www.AHTF.org).

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## Financial Highlights



**Gretchen Bachman**, OTD, OTR/L, MBA, CHT

Treasurer, Director of Finance

AHTF as a 501(C)3 independent foundation relies solely on its generous supporters for revenue. The Foundation continues to be fiscally responsible in controlling its operating costs and maximizing allocations for grants and educational scholarships.

2024 income sources included generous monthly donors and individual donors, as well as support from upper extremity associations, organizations, corporate partnerships, and event underwriting. The projected 2024 income is approximately \$81,000. 2024 non-grant and scholarship-related expenses include fees for our part-time executive director, accounting services, website maintenance, state registration compliance with charitable giving regulations, legal services, and fundraising events. Projected 2024 expenses are approximately \$69,000. 2024 restricted fund expenses included over \$70,000 in Grants and Awards and underwriting of the 2024 ASHT Annual Meeting Scientific Session.

The newly established Jim King Scientific Session Support Fund was established through a generous donation from Jim and Beverly King. Their financial commitment will permit AHTF to provide support for the AHTF Scientific Sessions through 2034.

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## 2024 AHTF Board of Directors



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OTR, MA, CHT, FAOTA  
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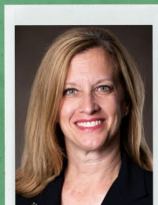
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