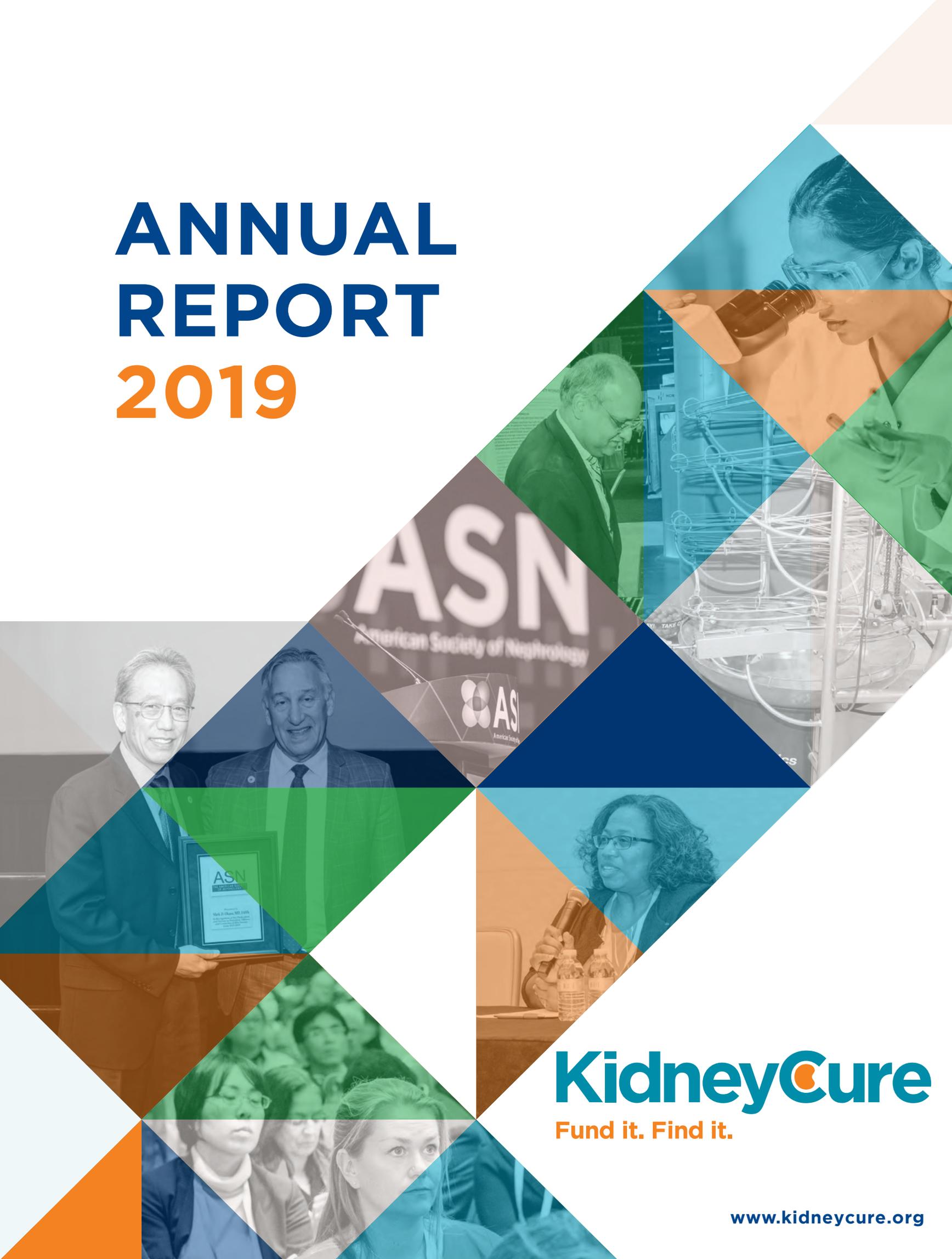


# ANNUAL REPORT 2019



ASN  
American Society of Nephrology



**KidneyCure**

Fund it. Find it.

[www.kidneycure.org](http://www.kidneycure.org)



**ADVANCING AMERICAN KIDNEY HEALTH IS FOCUSING ON PATIENT CHOICES; IMPROVING THEIR CHOICES TO HAVE MORE HOME DIALYSIS THERAPIES, MORE TRANSPLANTS.** We know from the research that quality of life does improve with these treatments. I really think we can move the field forward in terms of improving the lives of patients with kidney disease.

**Nwamaka D. Eneanya, MD, MPH, FASN**  
2013 Sharon Anderson Research Fellow  
University of Pennsylvania  
Philadelphia, PA

Please note that the following report was excerpted from the ASN Alliance for Kidney Health 2019 Annual Report. To view the full report, visit [www.asn-online.org](http://www.asn-online.org).

The American Society of Nephrology leads the fight to prevent, treat, and cure kidney diseases throughout the world by educating health professionals and scientists, advancing research and innovation, communicating new knowledge, and advocating for the highest quality care for patients.

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# KidneyCure

## Fund it. Find it.

Established in 2012, KidneyCure provides \$3 million annually to fund the ASN Pre-Doctoral Fellowship Program, the Ben J. Lipps Research Fellowship Program, the Transition to Independence Grants Program, the William and Sandra Bennett Clinical Scholars Program, and the American Society of Nephrology-Harold Amos Medical Faculty Development Program Award.

In July 2019, the ASN Foundation for Kidney Research launched a major rebranding initiative. The new name, KidneyCure, focuses all foundation efforts toward improving treatments and finding cures for the approximately 850 million people worldwide living with kidney diseases. KidneyCure will continue funding current grant programs while exploring new avenues to support.

The foundation granted \$3 million in support of 46 leading kidney researchers in 2019, including 27 new projects and 19 projects continuing from 2018.

**Our mission is to prevent and cure kidney diseases through research and innovation.**

## 2019 KIDNEYCURE BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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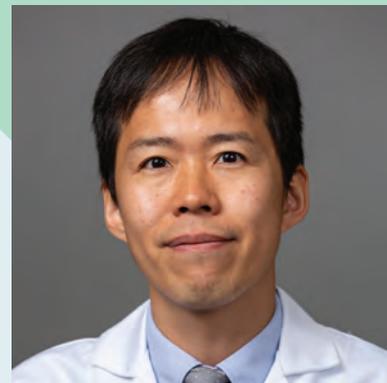
John R. Sedor, MD, FASN  
Director

## KIDNEYCURE GRANT RECIPIENT SPOTLIGHT

**Grant Program:** Transition to Independence

**Recipient:** Tomokazu Souma, MD, PhD

**Project Title:** Harnessing Antioxidative Stress Pathways in Renal Epithelial Progenitors To Prevent AKI-to-CKD Transition



### HOW WOULD YOU SUM UP YOUR RESEARCH IN ONE SENTENCE?

My research primarily focuses on understanding cellular stress adaptive pathways in kidneys with the ultimate goal to harness these pathways for therapeutic uses to prevent kidney disease progression in patients.

### PROVIDE A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE RESEARCH YOU WILL CONDUCT WITH HELP FROM THE GRANT.

The goal of my project is to investigate the functions of antioxidative stress pathways in the transition of acute kidney injury (AKI) to chronic kidney disease (CKD). We will use multiple transgenic mouse lines to address this research aim.

### WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO FOCUS YOUR RESEARCH IN THIS AREA?

The kidney has always been my favorite organ to study. I was fascinated when I first learned the beautiful structure and functions of kidneys. I cannot forget the excitement I got when I observed the intricate network of renal erythropoietin-producing cells. My prior clinical and research training has inspired me and guided me to focus on the cellular stress adaptation pathways in kidneys.

### WHAT ARE THE MAJOR CHALLENGES FACING NEPHROLOGY RESEARCH TODAY?

The current technological advancements are so rapid and transformative. However, partly based on the complexity of renal structure and function, we have not utilized the newest revolutionizing technologies well. Multidisciplinary collaboration with scientists in other fields would facilitate our discoveries.

### WHAT HAS SURPRISED YOU MOST ABOUT YOUR CAREER?

I have been so fortunate to meet multiple great scientists throughout my early career. All the encounters shaped my career path and provided me incredible opportunities. I would like to thank Dr. Mitchell Halperin, Dr. Susan Quaggin, Dr. Myles Wolf, Dr. Jing Jin, Dr. Brigid Hogan, Dr. Masayuki Yamamoto, and my excellent colleagues.

### WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO OTHERS TO ENCOURAGE THEM TO APPLY FOR THIS GRANT FUNDING?

This is an excellent mechanism for supporting early career investigators in nephrology toward research independence. I encourage all eligible early career scientists to apply for this prestigious award.

## KidneyCure congratulates the talented group of researchers and educators who were awarded grants in 2019.

### Transition to Independence Grants Program

The program invests \$100,000 a year per investigator for two years to foster independent research careers and ensure a pipeline of innovative research in the field of nephrology. The Transition to Independence Grants Program is supported by contributions provided by ASN, Akebia Therapeutics, Amgen, and individual donors.

### Carl W. Gottschalk Award Recipients



Subhashini Bolisetty, PhD  
University of Alabama  
at Birmingham  
*Targeting Ferritin in Sepsis-  
Associated Acute Kidney Injury*



Louise Evans, PhD  
University of Minnesota  
*Pathological Role of T-Cells in  
Salt-Sensitive Hypertension*



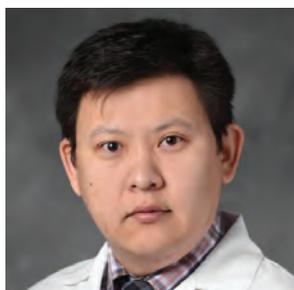
Naoka Murakami, MD, PhD  
Brigham and Women's Hospital  
*Roles of Immune Checkpoint  
Signaling in Autoimmune Kidney  
Diseases*



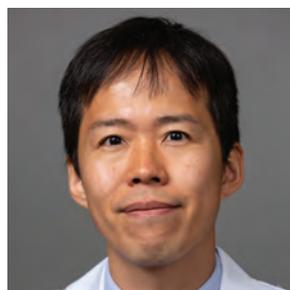
Sagar Nigwekar, MD, MMSc  
Massachusetts General Hospital  
*Novel Determinants of Calcific  
Uremic Arteriopathy*



## Carl W. Gottschalk Award Recipients (continued)



Tengis Pavlov, PhD  
Henry Ford Health System  
*Mechanism and Role of ATP Release  
in Polycystic Kidney Diseases*

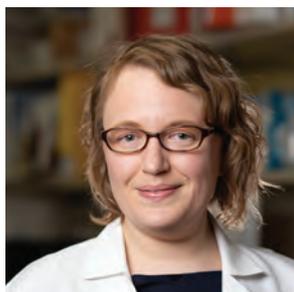


Tomokazu Souma, MD, PhD  
Duke University  
*Harnessing Antioxidative Stress  
Pathways in Renal Epithelial  
Progenitors to Prevent AKI-to-  
CKD Transition*

*(Not Pictured)*

Fahad Saeed, MD  
University of Rochester  
*Pilot Testing of a Communication  
Intervention to Promote Shared  
Renal Replacement Therapy  
Decision Making in Older Patients  
with Chronic Kidney Disease  
(RRT-SDM Trial)*

## John Merrill Grant in Transplantation Recipient



Sarah Panzer, MD  
University of Wisconsin Madison  
*Impact of B Cell Survival Cytokines  
on Transplant Glomerulopathy*

## Norman Siegel Research Scholar Grant Recipient



Brian Becknell, MD, PhD  
The Research Institute at  
Nationwide Children's Hospital  
*Therapeutic Urothelial Remodeling:  
A Novel Strategy to Limit  
Obstructive Kidney Injury*

## Oxalosis and Hyperoxaluria Foundation (OHF)-KidneyCure Grant Recipient



Dylan Dodd, MD, PhD  
Stanford University  
*Gut Microbiota Modulation of  
Oxalate*



## Ben J. Lipps Research Fellowship Program

The Ben J. Lipps Research Fellowship Program supports nephrology fellows who will advance the understanding of kidney biology and disease and is fully endowed by contributions provided by Fresenius Medical Care, ASN, the American Renal Patient Care Foundation, Inc., Amgen, Baxter, and the PKD Foundation. The program distributes \$50,000 a year per fellow for two years.

## Ben J. Lipps Research Fellows



Lakshmi Ganesan, MD, MAS  
Stanford University  
*Pediatric Peritoneal Dialysis and Uremic Solutes*



Kana Miyata, MD  
University of Montreal Hospital  
Research Center  
*Novel Role of Heterogeneous Nuclear Ribonucleoprotein F (hnRNP F) in Regulation of Sodium-Glucose Cotransporter 2 (SGLT2) Expression in Diabetes*



Nabin Poudel, PhD  
University of Virginia  
*Pannexin1 and Acute Kidney Injury*



Katherine Scovner, MD  
Brigham and Women's Hospital  
*Acid-Base Status of Hospitalized Patients on Maintenance Hemodialysis as a Predictor of Hospital Outcomes*



Seyedmohammad Ebrahim Tahaei, PhD  
University of Maryland, Baltimore  
*Illuminating the Mechanisms that Control Salt Balance in the Face of NCC Inhibition*

**Sharon Anderson Research Fellow**



Sri Lekha Tummalapalli, MD, MBA  
University of California, San Francisco  
*Screening Strategies for Chronic  
Kidney Disease in US Populations*

**George B. Rathmann Research Fellow**



Michael Holliday, Jr., MD, PhD  
Baylor College of Medicine  
*From Bedside to Bench: Gramoxone  
and Mesoamerican Nephropathy*

**Jared J. Grantham Research Fellow**



Ken Sutha, MD, PhD  
Lucille Packard Children’s Hospital  
*Patient-Derived Kidney Organoids*

**Donald E. Wesson Research Fellow**



Xiao-Tong Su, PhD  
Oregon Health and Science University  
*Dietary Potassium Causes Chloride-Induced  
Distal Hypertension*

**Dimitrios G. Oreopoulos Research Fellow**



Aneta Przepiorski, PhD  
University of Pittsburgh  
*Modeling Kidney Fibrosis and  
Testing Therapeutic Compounds in  
Human Kidney Organoids*



### **William and Sandra Bennett Clinical Scholars Grant Program**

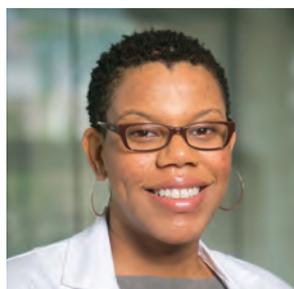
The William and Sandra Bennett Clinical Scholars Program provides funding to clinician educators to conduct a project to advance all facets of nephrology education and teaching. The program provides \$50,000 a year for two years to one recipient annually.

*(Not Pictured)*

Tushar Chopra, MBBS, FASN  
University of Virginia  
*Peritoneal Dialysis (PD) Curriculum  
Development to Improve PD  
Prescription Writing Amongst  
Nephrology Trainees*

### **American Society of Nephrology-Harold Amos Medical Faculty Development Program**

The ASN-Harold Amos Medical Faculty Development Program aims to increase diversity among future leaders in nephrology by supporting the research and career development of a kidney scholar and future healthcare leader from a historically disadvantaged background.



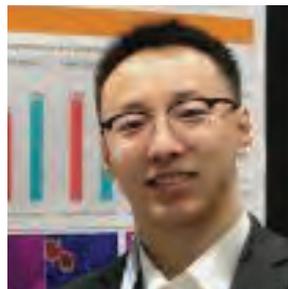
Rasheeda Hall, MD, MS  
Duke University  
*Establishing Evidence to  
Manage Geriatric Syndromes in  
Hemodialysis Patients*

## ASN Pre-Doctoral Fellowship Program

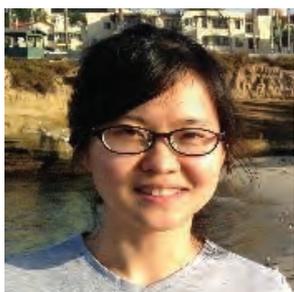
The ASN Pre-Doctoral Fellowship Program provides \$10,000 a year per recipient for two years to early career-stage PhD students to conduct original research projects and make contributions to the understanding of kidney biology and disease.



Benjamin Bowe  
St. Louis VA Health Care System  
*Identification of Inpatient Acute  
Kidney Injury and Phenotypes  
Using Large Scale Electronic  
Medical Records*



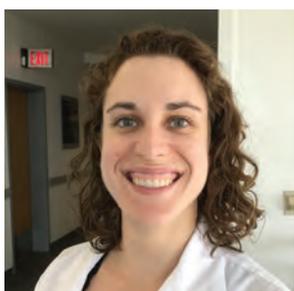
Yijiang Chen  
Case Western Reserve University  
*Computational Pathology Approach  
for Characterizing Kidney Biopsies and  
Predicting APOL1 Risk Variants*



Pei-Ju Liu  
SUNY Upstate Medical University  
*The Role of Myo1e- and Clathrin-  
Dependent Endocytic Trafficking in  
Podocyte Health and Disease*



Franco Puleo  
Boston University  
*Sympathetic Nervous System  
Regulation of the NCC in Salt  
Sensitive Hypertension*



Annie Ryan  
UT Southwestern Medical Center  
*Elucidating Vascular Signals in  
Nephron Formation Using Human  
Organoids*



## FOUNDERS CIRCLE MEMBERS

KidneyCure gratefully acknowledges our Founders Circle Members for their generous contributions. With the help of our Founding Members, KidneyCure is making great strides in supporting the next generation of nephrology clinicians, researchers, and educators who will fuel innovation and translate findings into improved quality of life for patients.

### Transition to Independence Grants Program Donors



**\$15,000,000**



**\$1,000,000**

### Ben J. Lipps Research Fellowship Program Donors



**\$10,000,000**



**\$6,500,000**



**\$1,000,000**



**\$1,000,000**



**\$1,000,000**



**PKD FOUNDATION**  
Polycystic Kidney Disease

**\$500,000**

## KIDNEYCURE SUPPORTERS

### Visionary Circle

The Visionary Circle recognizes individuals who have donated, pledged, or made a bequest of \$75,000 or more to the foundation or its programs.

Bob Alpern and Pat Preisig  
William and Sandra Bennett  
Jonathan and Deb Himmelfarb

Paula Messenheimer and Ray Harris  
William E. Mitch and Alexandra F. Mitch

### Securing the Future Campaign Donors

Donations to the *Securing the Future Campaign* support efforts to endow the Transition to Independence Grants Program.

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Akebia Therapeutics  
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