

# Empowering practicing allergists. Removing barriers to care.



THE ALLERGISTS' FOUNDATION of the American College of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology The increasing burden of allergic diseases continues to be an important public health concern, exacerbated in communities facing health care disparities.

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## Allergies are the 6th leading cause of chronic illness in the U.S.

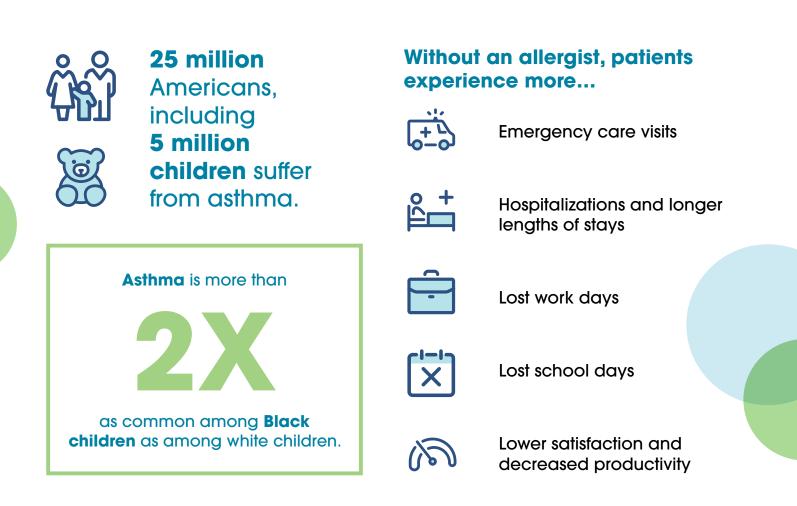
Source: Allergies: Gateway to Health Communication (CDC)

# As many as **50 MILLION**

Americans suffer from allergies each year.



Strengthening access to care by allergy and immunology specialists is vital for the future health and well-being of our communities. **Today more than ever,** practicing allergists play a critical role in ensuring the health and well-being of their communities. They recognize the immediate needs, particularly in underserved patient populations, but may not have the necessary funding to investigate means to enhance access to care.



#### WE NEED TO EMPOWER ALLERGISTS AT ALL LEVELS TO TACKLE THE ISSUES THEY ENCOUNTER DAY IN AND DAY OUT IN THEIR PRACTICE.

## The Allergists' Foundation Solution: The Community Grant Program

The Allergists' Foundation is supporting practicing allergists to improve patient care and strengthen their clinical practice at all stages of their careers. Practical research to strengthen our patient access and outcomes needs only a small amount of seed funding to reap big rewards. Why? Because community-based allergists have firsthand insight into the challenges facing today's allergy patients in their communities. Research and clinical pilot projects funded by The Allergists' Foundation focus on immediate, real-world results.

We have awarded nearly \$100,000 in grants every year since the program launched in 2021 to support innovative means for addressing challenges faced by community practicing allergists, including health disparities in underserved communities. These projects exemplify the creativity and resourcefulness of the College's membership and have the potential to make an important difference in our efforts to improve the care for allergy and asthma in every community."

- Melinda Rathkopf, MD, FACAAI, president of The Allergists' Foundation



#### The Allergists Foundation's Community Grant Program has one main objective:

#### To direct support to allergists for research projects that improve clinical practice with a focus on reducing health disparities.

We funded seven new innovative projects led by the following College members in 2023:



Alan P. Baptist, MD, MPH, FACAAI Ann Arbor, Michigan Project Title: Treatment For Mild Asthma: What Matters to Patients and Providers.



Krishan D. Chhiba, MD, PhD Chicago, Illinois Project Title: Simulation-Based Training of the Emergent Management of Anaphylaxis in Clinic: A Focus on Facilitating Teamwork Among Providers.



Nerissa C. D'Silva, MD Galveston, Texas Project Title: Global Search Engine Powered by Artificial Intelligence to Improve Management of Food Allergies and Intolerances: A Digital Pilot in Marginalized Communities Across the State of Texas.



#### Michael C. DiCello, MD Bozeman, Montana Project Title: Employing Artificial Intelligence (AI) as a Clinical Tool to Ease the Administrative Burden Associated With

Prescribing Therapies and Completing Prior Authorizations.



Kamran H. Imam, MD San Diego, California Project Title: Burden of Atopic Disorders in American Indian/Native Alaskan Populations of San Diego County.



Matthew R. McCulloch, MD San Francisco, California Project Title: Indoor Air Quality and the Home Environment in Children With Asthma.



Andrea A. Pappalardo, MD, FACAAI Chicago, Illinois Project Title: Stock Inhaler Programming: Improving Access to Critical Asthma Medications in Rural Schools.

These awards are made possible through the generous donations from College members and support by GSK.

By focusing on clinical outcomes, each Community Grant Project has the potential to impact tens of thousands of patient lives, and from all walks of life.

Learn more about our Community Grant Program by visiting college.acaai.org/grants.

### TOGETHER, WE CAN TRANSFORM THE FUTURE OF ALLERGY AND IMMUNOLOGY.

The Allergists' Foundation is proudly leading the way forward to better serve the ever-evolving challenges faced by our specialty. In the past three years, we have:

Revitalized the foundation with a new name and mission.

Designed the community grant program with oversight from the grants allocation committee.

Awarded nearly \$300,000 community grants to address health disparities and barriers to care.

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Adopted policies and procedures for even greater transparency and accountability.

#### WE ARE NOT THE SAME FOUNDATION YOU'VE KNOWN FOR THE PAST 20 YEARS.

The Allergists' Foundation aims to raise at least \$1 million over a 10-year period to award more grants and magnify our impact. Through this important initiative, we will enrich our specialty, address disparities and overcome barriers to care in the practice of allergy.

## **PAY IT FORWARD**

As a leader in the field of practicing allergists, you have a unique opportunity to **directly impact the practice of allergy at the community level.** Your support can make all the difference towards the success of practicing allergists and providing richer, fuller lives for their patients.

#### There are many ways to give...

- Make an online donation at college.acaai.org/donate
- Send a check payable to: The Allergists' Foundation, 85 W. Algonquin Road, Suite 550, Arlington Heights, IL 60005.
- Contribute as part of your next ACAAI dues statement.
- Donate your **honorarium** from a speaking engagement.
- Establish a bequest or charitable trust.
- Donate royalties from published material.
- Make a **special contribution** in the name of someone who passed away.
- Donate corporate stock.

Together with your peers, supporting the Community Grants Program makes the advancement of community allergy to improve clinical practice and patient outcomes possible.



Practicing allergists and those in training need your support more than ever. Join The Allergists' Foundation to pay forward your success by strengthening the future of our specialty for the next generations.







The Allergists' Foundation Tax ID #36-4305678

85 W. Algonquin Road, Suite 550, Arlington Heights, IL 60005 **college.acaai.org/foundation** 847.427.1200

