



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.



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 from 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 unique needs of their patients, particularly in underserved populations, but may not have the necessary funding to investigate ways to enhance access to care.



25 million Americans, including **1 in 11 children** suffer from asthma.



Without an allergist, patients experience more...



Emergency care visits



Hospitalizations and longer lengths of stays



Lost work days



Lost school days



Lower satisfaction and decreased productivity

More than

32 MILLION

Americans have a serious and potentially life-threatening food allergy.

OUR GOAL IS 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, at all stages of their careers, to improve patient care and strengthen their clinical practice.

Practical research to strengthen patient access and to improve outcomes needs only a small amount of seed funding to reap big rewards. 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.

Since the Community Grant Program was launched in 2021...

Nearly **\$400,000** was awarded in grants

25 projects were implemented

19 FITs and early-career allergists were given the opportunity to lead a grant-funded project

16 grantees presented their posters at the College's Annual Scientific Meeting

14 states in the U.S. have communities that already benefited from the program

8 Clinical areas have been addressed, including anaphylaxis, asthma, atopic dermatitis, food allergy, inborn errors of immunity, penicillin allergy, x-linked chronic granulomatous disease, and angioedema

Community Partnerships

Our grantees are establishing valuable partnerships with a variety of community-based stakeholders that play a key role in reaching underserved patient populations. Some of these include...



Community-based clinics and medical centers

Primary care and nonallergy practices



Nonprofit organizations and patient advocacy groups

Research centers focusing on health disparities



Schools and early education centers

A rural school nurse who participated in one of our grantee's projects (led by Andrea Pappalardo, MD, FAAAAI) let us know how much of a difference outreach from an allergist can make to ensure successful implementation of stock albuterol school policy.

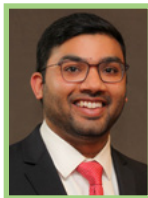
“Coordinating time with the school board to propose the (stock albuterol) policy and convincing them of the medication's importance took longer than I had hoped,” said the participating school nurse. “During one of Dr. Pappalardo's online community meetings, I sought advice on how to gain attention for this critical issue in my area. Dr. Pappalardo's team matched me with a school nurse (from another area) who successfully implemented the program in her district. She offered insightful suggestions on how to engage the school board and emphasize the value of stock inhalers. By (the next) spring, our district successfully established a stock inhaler policy. Now that the policy is in place, **I feel empowered to help other districts establish their programs. I no longer feel helpless when caring for students and staff in respiratory distress.** (The program) also opens opportunities for ongoing discussions with parents and physicians about the importance of effectively managing a child's chronic condition.”

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.

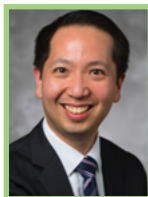
Together, we are making a difference in addressing unmet needs in allergy and asthma care in communities across the U.S. and Canada. Below is what a few of our grantees had to say about their experience.

“Receiving this grant was an incredible opportunity and enabled us to develop a comprehensive simulation curriculum, fostering essential teamwork skills and confidence among diverse health care providers in responding to life-threatening anaphylaxis. Thank you for believing in our work and helping us ensure a bright future for the specialty.”



— Krishan D. Chhiba, MD, PhD

“I am grateful to The Allergists' Foundation for their support of our quality improvement project to reduce unnecessary food allergy testing and encourage early food allergen introduction! We were able to partner with community physicians on this critical issue through this grant program and make progress in addressing the burden of food allergy in our area!”



— Gerald Lee, MD, FAAAAI

“This grant was an amazing opportunity to better understand the air quality in children's homes who have asthma. The insights we have gained will help us enhance the care we are able to provide in the future. Thank you to the College for believing in our ideas and helping us make this happen.”



— Matt McCulloch, MD

“I would like to thank The Allergists' Foundation for this invaluable opportunity which enabled my team to better understand current practices in the diagnosis and treatment of Inborn Errors of Immunity, and educational needs of ACAAI members. The support we received will help us to equip the practicing allergist with further resources and connections to provide enhanced patient care in this area.”



— Barbara Ariue, MD, FAAAAI

The Community Grant Program would not be possible without the generous donations from members of the College and support by GSK. We would like to express our appreciation for their investment in this program.



Learn more about the program and the 25 projects that have been funded by visiting college.acaai.org/grants.

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

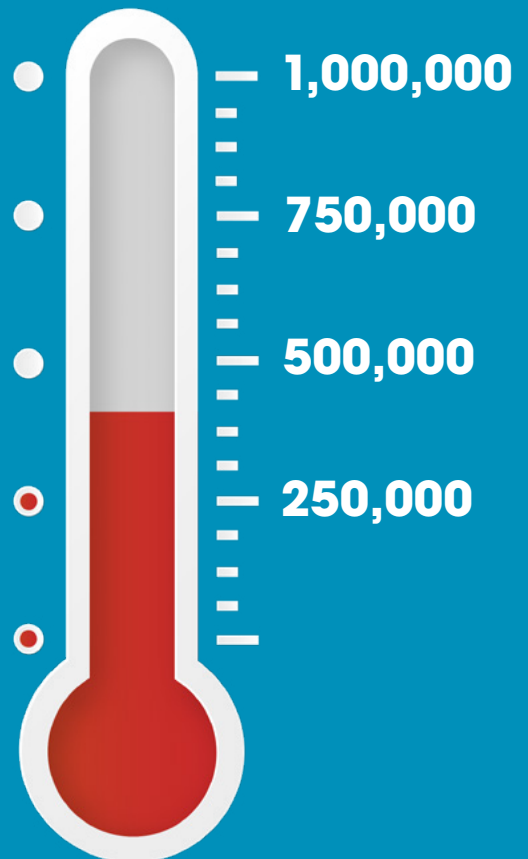


The Allergists' Foundation aims to raise at least \$1 million toward the Community Grant Program by 2031. Thanks to the generous support by our members, we are on track to reach our goal. Through this important initiative, we are able to enrich our specialty, address disparities and overcome barriers to care in the practice of allergy.

Top 40 Donors*

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
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*Donations received from 2021-2024.



PAY IT FORWARD

As a leader in the field, 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 or a mentor who inspired you in your career.
- 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.

GIVE TODAY



“ We are so grateful for the incredible opportunity to share our work on food insecurity with the ACAAI community. Thank you for selecting our project and enabling us to better understand and to support our patients experiencing this issue.”

— Kelly Colas, DO, PhD,
Jing Yi Sun, MD, and
Gabriel Mendoza, MD

The Allergists' Foundation
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