REPORT TO THE AVMA HOD – July 2019
The American Veterinary Medical Foundation (AVMF), founded in 1963, is the charitable arm of the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA). The mission of the AVMF is to develop resources to advance the science and practice of veterinary medicine to improve animal and human health.

GIFTS IN ACTION
Through the generosity of donors, the Foundation has been able to help veterinarians help animals through a variety of education, animal care, disaster relief, and research programs and activities.

Disaster Relief and Reimbursement Grants
The AVMF provides two grant programs to help veterinarians and the animals they care for during times of disaster. Grants are available to support victims of hurricanes, floods, tornadoes, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, wildfires and oil spills. Since September 2017, the AVMF has distributed more than $323,000 in disaster relief and reimbursement grants to veterinarians, veterinary students, and allied health organizations.

Disaster Reimbursement Grants for Veterinary Medical Care
The AVMF disaster reimbursement grants up to $5,000 are for ensuring the emergency veterinary medical care of animal victims of disaster. AVMF reimburses for the costs of medical supplies, boarding, and transporting animal victims of disasters to safety. (Note: Must be a licensed veterinarian and current member of AVMA)

Disaster Relief Grant for Veterinarians and Veterinary Students
The AVMF disaster relief grants up to $2,000 are for assisting veterinarians and veterinary students with necessities due to a disaster. The grants would cover items such as clothing, temporary housing, transportation and meals that were needed immediately following a disaster. (Note: Must be an individual who is a current student at, or a graduate of, a veterinary medical school accredited by the AVMA Council on Education, or a veterinarian that currently holds or formerly held a valid license to practice veterinary medicine in any U.S. state or territory)

Scholarships
By investing in the education of veterinary students, donors play a role in ensuring that future veterinarians have the skills and training necessary to treat our pets, safeguard our food supply, and protect public health.

For the 2018/2019 academic year, the Foundation provided 196 scholarships for veterinary students in North America, the Caribbean, Latin/South America and Southeast Asia. We are pleased to continue our partnership with Merck Animal Health who has funded national and international student scholarships over the past five years. Merck will continue to fund this
program for the 2019/20 academic year with $300,000. The Auxiliary to the AVMA Legacy Endowment supported 137 scholarships for outstanding students. Future Auxiliary scholarships will be supported from the income from this permanent endowment. Individuals who established named scholarships through bequests and the Harold Wetterberg Foundation are also major donors to the AVMF Scholarship Program.

**Merck Veterinary Student Innovation Awards**
Merck Animal Health, in partnership with the AVMF, launched the Veterinary Student Innovation Awards in 2018. This program recognizes an outstanding graduating senior at each of the AVMA accredited schools in the U.S. and Canada who demonstrates innovative and/or entrepreneurial creativity leading to a project or idea that impacts or inspires others within the veterinary profession. 29 schools chose an innovative student to receive a certificate of recognition and a $500 award.

**Achieving, Leading and Learning (ALL) for Students**
Student Chapters of the AVMA use this funding to provide programming in four key areas: Leadership, Wellness, Professional Development, and Community Outreach. The AVMA, AVMA LIFE, AVMA PLIT, and SAVMA contribute to these programs for a combined donation of $337,000.

**Research Support**
The Foundation devotes its efforts to raising financial support for research projects that will help lead to improved prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of prevalent, life-threatening diseases in animals. The following research grants were supported in 2018.

**Veterinary Pharmacology Research Grant Recipient**
- Dr. Lauren Trepanier, University of Wisconsin-Madison, “Understanding individual risk of toxicity from drugs with narrow safety margins in dogs” - $11,304.00

**Dr. Brian Riviere Memorial Veterinary Pharmacokinetic Research Grant**
- Dr. Jonathan Foster, Friendship Hospital for Animals, “Population pharmacokinetic analysis of enrofloxacin and its active metabolite ciprofloxacin following intravenous injection in cats with reduced kidney function” - $11,985.00
- Dr. John Thomason, Mississippi State University, “Population pharmacokinetics of subcutaneous enoxaparin in hypercoagulable dogs” - $14,634.00

**AVMF Research Grant for Pain Management in Dogs**
- Dr. Kristin Messenger, North Carolina State University, “The effects of combined carprofen and omeprazole administration on carprofen pharmacokinetics and gastrointestinal permeability in dogs” - $24,486.00

**Early Investigator Awards**
- Three recipients will be announced at the National Veterinary Scholars Symposium

**Second Opportunity Research Scholarships**
- Five recipients at $6,000 each
AVMF/Winn Feline Foundation Research Award
- One recipient at $2,500

AVMF Veterinary Care Charitable Fund®
The AVMF Veterinary Care Charitable Fund is a program created to provide veterinarians with a simple and effective way to offer charitable veterinary services to clients facing personal hardships, as well as a means to help animals that have been injured or rescued from abuse and neglect.

Through this program, donors make gifts to the AVMF in support of the charitable work of the practices enrolled. AVMA member veterinarians can then request a grant from those donated funds so they may be reimbursed for the charitable veterinary services they provide.

As of the end of May 2019, the Foundation was tracking the donations for nearly 1,297 practices enrolled in the program from all 50 states, Guam and Puerto Rico. AVMF staff sends fundraising tips and sample emails for clients to the participating practices to assist with fundraising efforts.

Websites and Social Media

The AVMF Facebook page has 31,457 page “followers,” which is an increase of 10.5% since July 2018.

Meetings and Conventions
The AVMF staff and volunteers delivered presentations and worked the AVMF exhibit booth at the following events:

AVMA Veterinary Leadership Conference in Chicago, IL
AVMA Convention in Denver, CO
VMX in Orlando, FL
WVC in Las Vegas, NV
SAVMA in Athens, GA (volunteers only)

We are deeply appreciative of the donors who help make these programs possible. Names of donors who made gifts of $250+ between June 1, 2018 and May 31, 2019 will be recognized on donor boards at the AVMA Annual Convention.

FOUNDATION OPERATIONS

The Foundation Board of Advisors (BOA) provides input, advice and guidance to the AVMF Board of Directors in furtherance of the Foundation’s mission, activities, services and programs. The BOA is a standing committee of the AVMF and reports to the AVMF Board of Directors.

The BOA is comprised of members of the AVMF Board of Directors, one of which is the director representing the Auxiliary to the AVMA; one voting member nominated by the Student
American Veterinary Medical Association; and additional at-large, voting members. The majority of the at-large members are AVMA members. All BOA members are appointed by the Board of Directors.

At-large members are appointed for a term of three-years with a limit of two terms. Terms are staggered (1, 2, or 3 years) to reduce the likelihood that the term of more than one member will end at the same time. All members who serve the initial 1-year or two-year term will be eligible to serve subsequent 3-year terms.

The Board of Directors appointed the first Chair of the BOA for a one-year term. The BOA shall select its own Chair after the term of the first Chair expires. The BOA also selected its own Vice Chair. The Vice Chair assists the Chair, as directed, and also serves as the BOA SAVMA Liaison to support the SAVMA BOA member by helping to coordinate student activities that promote greater understanding of AVMF programs and foster lifelong support.

The BOA meets twice each calendar year, or as necessary to fulfill its duties. Up to two in-person meetings are authorized per year as needed. Telephone conferences are authorized as frequently as needed.

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