

The NATF Annual Report

2016



LOOKING BACK AT 2016

With your help, in 2016 NATF....

Hosted six online VTE support groups, with over 447 patients signing up

Gained 39,750 website views

Began publishing a quarterly newsletter called "The Beat"

Raised \$257,230 for 2016 Annual Fund, up over 50% from 2015

Increased attendance at the Thrombosis Summit, which is up 45% since 2014

Increased its involvement with clinical research by placing representatives on steering committees and by writing letters of support for important research initiatives

Published the AF Action Initiative Consensus Document in the May edition of the American Journal of Medicine, which is distributed to over 125,000 subscribers

Organized its first patient-focused program entitled "Call to Action to Prevent Thrombosis" on April 6 in Boston, selling out at 161 attendees

Held their largest fundraising event to date, the NATF 10th Anniversary Celebration, which had 226 attendees and grossed \$152,964

A Message from the President of NATF

"I am very grateful to our staff, the NATF Board, our committee members, and our supporters across North America and abroad for their ongoing support of NATF's philanthropic mission."



With 2016 behind us, everyone at NATF would like to thank our donors and supporters for their help in making this our best year yet. 2016 was a landmark year for the North American Thrombosis Forum, full of growth and success.

NATF's core mission is to improve patient care through the advancement of thrombosis education to healthcare providers, patients, and the public. We advocate for patients to gain access to innovative cutting-edge medications and medical devices to optimize the management of thrombotic illnesses.

In the spring of 2016, we convened a patient-centric symposium, "Call to Action to Prevent Thrombosis: Power to the Patient," which attracted more than 160 attendees. The program featured several physicians, experts in the field of thrombosis, who gave presentations on related topics. The first topic was heart attack prevention. Dr. Marc Bonaca spoke on the advances in heart attack prevention and Charles Sisitsky, a patient, shared his personal experience with acute myocardial infarction and coronary artery bypass surgery. From there, the program shifted focus to stroke prevention in atrial fibrillation. Patient Robby Sisco shared his personal experience with atrial fibrillation and Dr. Christian Ruff gave a presentation "From New Blood Thinners to Cutting Edge Devices: Stroke Prevention for Atrial Fibrillation in 2016." The third topic was deep vein thrombosis and pulmonary embolism. Dr. Gregory Piazza presented "Pushing the Envelope in Pulmonary Embolism Therapy: Improving Patient Outcomes and Safety," and Jacob Sprague, another patient, shared his personal experience with pulmonary embolism and deep vein thrombosis. I presented on the final topic, healthy living. I discussed the lifestyle modifications we can make to prevent thrombosis. The symposium concluded with a networking dinner for patients, families, and healthcare professionals. Presentations from this symposium can be found on the NATF website (www.NATFonline.org) in the "Patients" section. They are listed under "Educational Videos and Print." We are looking forward to hosting this event again on April 13, 2017.

Since 2006 when NATF was incorporated, our premier annual educational event has been the Thrombosis Summit. Thrombosis experts convened on Saturday, October 1 to speak on a variety of cutting-edge topics at our 2016 Thrombosis Summit. The 2016 Thrombosis Summit was one of our most successful programs yet, with about 300 participants registered for the event. Dr. Deepak Bhatt presented on late-breaking novel strategies and cardiac catheter lab innovations being used to manage acute coronary syndrome. Dr. Christian Ruff presented on NATF's Atrial Fibrillation Action Initiative. Dr. Gregory Piazza spoke about thrombophilia and infertility, and I gave my presentation, "Confronting and Taming Thrombosis: Problems, Priorities, Progress."

Dr. Jeffrey Weitz presented the Arthur A. Sasahara, MD Annual Lecture on Thrombosis, addressing the current status of reversal agents for direct oral anticoagulants. In addition to expert speakers, this year's program featured several patients offering their perspectives on different thrombosis-related health issues. Patient perspectives included Brenda O'Connell, who spoke about her experience with acute coronary syndrome, and Jennifer Moskal, who addressed her experience with VTE and pregnancy. Another speaker was Suzanne McCann, who addressed stroke prevention and atrial fibrillation. She spoke about her experience as a caregiver to her husband, who had suffered from a stroke. A unique feature for the Thrombosis Summit this year was the Lawrence H. Cohn, MD Memorial Session, devoted to honoring the late Dr. Lawrence H. Cohn, one of the world's most talented cardiac surgeons and an avid NATF supporter. Dr. Cohn passed away unexpectedly in January 2016.

In December 2016, we held another successful educational event for healthcare providers, an all-day preceptorship focused on venous thromboembolism (VTE). Held at Brigham and Women's hospital, the VTE Symposium featured several expert speakers. Dr. Jeremiah Schuur spoke about how VTE is handled in the Emergency Department. Dr. Gregory Piazza gave two presentations, one on the optimal duration of anticoagulation after DVT and PE and a second on the clotting cascade and anticoagulants. We also had Katelyn Sylvester, PharmD, as a speaker. She covered anticoagulation management services and strategies to boost patient medication adherence. In addition, Drs. Arman Qamar and Aaron Kithcart presented a case study on pharmacomechanical catheter-directed thrombolysis for DVT. Finally, I spoke on three topics: the advanced management of PE with thrombolysis and embolectomy, the prevention of VTE while patients are in the hospital and post-discharge, and the challenges and unmet needs in the field of PE. A first of its kind, all of us at NATF greatly enjoyed putting on this preceptorship, and we look forward to doing more like it in 2017.

In addition to our successful educational events, NATF completed a three-year collaborative project, publishing our Atrial Fibrillation Action Initiative Consensus Document in the May 2016 edition of The American Journal of Medicine. The consensus document identifies multidisciplinary best practices for stroke prevention in atrial fibrillation. It covers topics ranging from stroke risk stratification and NOACs, to minimizing the risk of anticoagulant-related bleeding and patient education and advocacy to improve patient safety. Our mission was to provide a comprehensive and concise document focused on stroke and bleeding risk assessment in patients with AFib. We would like to extend our gratitude to all involved, including all members of the NATF AF Action Initiative Consensus Group and NATF Board Member Dr. Christian Ruff, who chaired the initiative.



In 2016, NATF launched our new quarterly publication, The Beat. Dedicated to providing patients and healthcare providers with the information they need to combat thrombosis, The Beat features a wide range of articles. These articles include updates on ground breaking research being done in the field of thrombosis, patient profiles, heart healthy tips from medical experts, healthy recipes specifically chosen for patients with thrombosis, and updates on the ever-growing programs that NATF puts on throughout the year. Readers get a first-hand look at NATF's upcoming events and initiatives. In addition, The Beat also features an "Ask the Expert" section where thrombosis specialists address questions from patients, covering topics that range from aneurysms of the aorta to blood clot formation.

To keep up with NATF's expansive growth, we have increased our staff and hired an assistant director of content development, Molly Gately. Molly is a passionate writer and storyteller, who enjoys using these skills to promote thrombosis awareness. Molly is responsible for developing NATF's quarterly newsletter, as well as creating engaging content for NATF's website. She graduated from UMass Amherst in 2016 with her BA in journalism. Molly joins Kathryn Mikkelsen, executive director of NATF, and Kat Marriott, assistant director of marketing. Kathryn, who is in her second year as executive director, has been involved with NATF for the past eight years. She is dedicated to education and advocacy. She most recently started a new online support group for patients with pulmonary embolism and deep vein thrombosis. Kat has been with NATF for the past two and a half years, providing her marketing expertise to promote our events and create educational materials for patients. We remain very proud of our dedicated staff, who give their all to promoting thrombosis awareness.

2016 was a banner year for NATF's Annual Fund. We surpassed our 2016 Annual Fund goal of \$250,000, raising \$257,230 from 230 donors. That is more than double the amount we raised in 2015, when we raised \$117,774. NATF also saw a 25 percent rise in the number of people who donated to the Annual Fund. In 2016, NATF attracted 100 first-time donors, up almost 50 percent from 2015. The Annual Fund supports our operating expenses and allows us to focus on creating our innovative educational programs.

"By contributing to the Annual Fund, we're developing educational programming for patient support. We're developing specific education around awareness of blood clots. We are taking on the whole concept of cardiovascular disease when it relates to thrombosis and training medical students and healthcare providers," explained Ron Feinstein, Chair of the Annual Fund. "I can't think of a better place to invest generosity than in education around these kind of topics."

In 2016, NATF held its largest Annual Fund event yet to celebrate NATF's 10th anniversary, which had 226 attendees and raised more than \$125,000. Our Patient Advocacy Committee's support and dedication to NATF played a key role in planning the celebration, with member Rosemary Pye serving as the 10th Anniversary Celebration Chair. Melanie Bloom was our keynote speaker that night. She shared her personal experience with thrombosis and why she is passionate about NATF. Other patient speakers included Marisa Gregg and Bonnie Bernstein.



Donations to NATF are vital to expanding our mission. They allow us to grow and create new programs, such as our online support groups. Started in 2016, we hosted six online pulmonary embolism and deep vein thrombosis support groups, with 447 online registrants. In the new year, we plan to continue our commitment to patient support by establishing new in-person support groups across North America. The Annual Fund also provides funding for new staff, who support NATF's growth with their unique skills and abilities.

In 2017, NATF is going global, bringing our educational programs to an international scale. We will be taking part in a four city professional-focused educational program, which will include Barcelona, Spain and Berlin, Germany. In addition to our international programs, we are currently gearing up for NATF's spring patient symposium, "Pushing the Envelope in Cardiovascular Disease Prevention: Novel Risk Factors, New Therapies, and One Brave Idea," where attendees will hear first-hand about new revolutionary research currently taking place right here in Boston. Later in the year, we have our eyes set on NATF's 2017 Thrombosis Summit on September 16, 2017 and a fundraising gala on October 18th, 2017.

I am very grateful to our staff, the NATF Board, our committee members, and our supporters across North America and abroad for their ongoing support of NATF's philanthropic mission.

Best Wishes,

Samuel Z. Goldhaber, MD
President, NATF



A Message From the Chair of the Annual Fund

"NATF succeeds because of donors like you, donors who want to make a difference. Your generosity helps save lives through awareness. On behalf of everyone at NATF, thank you for your support."

Each year, NATF has grown and exceeded expectations in the fight against thrombotic diseases. According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, pulmonary embolism (PE) and deep vein thrombosis (DVT) affects as many as 900,000 Americans each year and NATF works hard to lower these numbers. NATF consistently and frequently provides education at both the patient and clinician levels, as well as patient support during recovery. The Annual Fund is essential to providing the resources needed to fulfill this mission.

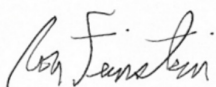
In 2016, NATF marked its 10th anniversary and celebrated another very successful year. The Annual Fund reached its goal of \$250,000. Thanks to your generous donations, the Annual Fund will continue to allow NATF to expand and grow. In the past year, Annual Fund donations have allowed NATF to host a new patient-focused symposium and to grow their online support groups to reach large numbers of patients and a variety of communities. Donations to the Annual Fund also allowed NATF to publish their Atrial Fibrillation Action Initiative Consensus document in the May edition of the American Journal of Medicine, which is distributed to over 125,000 subscribers.

Each year we are proud to add new members who have not previously donated to the Annual Fund, and 2016 was no exception. This exciting growth reflects the way NATF has expanded over the years, touching more lives than ever. By contributing to the Annual Fund, donors help NATF take on the whole concept of cardiovascular disease as it relates to thrombosis. This is done through developing educational programs centered on patient support and blood clot awareness, as well as the training of medical students and healthcare providers. I can't think of a better place to invest than in education around these types of topics.

NATF succeeds because of donors like you, donors who want to make a difference. Your generosity helps save lives through awareness. On behalf of everyone at NATF, thank you for your support. I am excited about our plans for 2017 and look forward to sharing those with you as the year rolls out.

Best wishes for a healthy and prosperous 2017.

Sincerely,

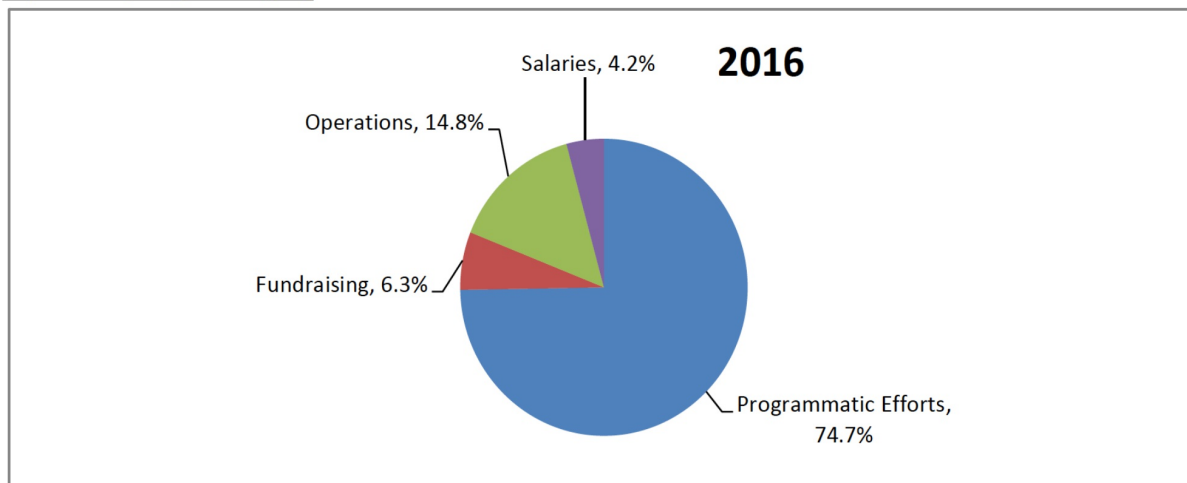


Ron Feinstein
Annual Fund Chair, 2016



2016 Expense Report

Expenses By Major Category



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NATF is pleased to recognize the extraordinary generosity of the following 2016 individual and corporate contributors. Their continued support allows us to execute educational programs and initiatives that help to save lives from blood clots through education and awareness.

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Thank you,
one and all!

