



Health
Research
Alliance

2022 IMPACT REPORT

A collaborative member organization of nonprofit research funders, committed to maximizing the impact of biomedical research to improve human health.



LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear HRA Members,

In 2021 we completed the Strategic Plan, and in 2022 we wasted no time in implementing many of the recommendations in the plan.

- We used HRA Analyzer data to publish [HRA's Grantmaking Report](#). A public version highlighted the outsized impact HRA member funding has, and an HRA member-only version showed just how much more impact we could have if all members submitted complete data.
- To build capacity and community, we hosted quarterly CEO Roundtables and continued the [Professional Development Program](#) for staff of HRA member organizations.
- Thanks to generous funding from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and the Rita Allen Foundation, we launched the [Inclusive Grantmaking Initiative](#) (IGI) which arose from the work of the DEI Community and a Nature Medicine [Commentary](#) written by the DEI Cochairs and others.
- With support from another HRA member organization, we also launched our [Explore the Value of Open](#) (EVO) Program to promote open science practices.
- Thanks to the generosity of the Simons Foundation, we were able to meet in person for our [Fall 2023 Members Meeting](#), plus have robust virtual attendance. We are currently planning to have both in-person and remote attendance as well for the Spring 2023 meeting in Irvine, California, hosted by the Arnold and Mabel Beckman Research Foundation.

Please read HRA's 2022 Impact Report for details on the above and additional efforts to increase the impact of your investment in biomedical research.

Though HRA was incredibly busy creating resources and launching programs in 2022, 2023 promises to be even more productive. I look forward to working with all of you in the coming year.

All the best,



ADVANCING INCLUSIVE GRANTMAKING

In 2022, HRA's DEI Learning Community had a prolific year. They hosted webinars and created resources, including publishing a [Commentary](#) in Nature Medicine. Thanks to

generous support from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and the Rita Allen Foundation, the Community's efforts culminated

in the launch of [HRA's Inclusive Grantmaking Initiative \(IGI\)](#).

naturemedicine

Strategies for inclusive grantmaking

Grantmaking organizations play a crucial role in increasing diversity and equity in the biomedical workforce. Collecting demographic data, increasing the diversity of applicants and reducing bias in peer review are valuable strategies to achieve these goals.

Maryrose Franko, Sindy Escobar-Alvarez, Zoë Fuchs, Kimberly Lezak, Lindsay Redman Rivera, Miquella C. Rose and Kristen L. Mueller



Examples of projects the IGI will tackle first include:

- Development of a guide to equitable and informative data collection (*what data can we collect, how can we collect it consistently and equitably, and how can we use that data to create change?*)
- Creation of Bias Reduction Training Models for staff and reviewers

Webinars include:

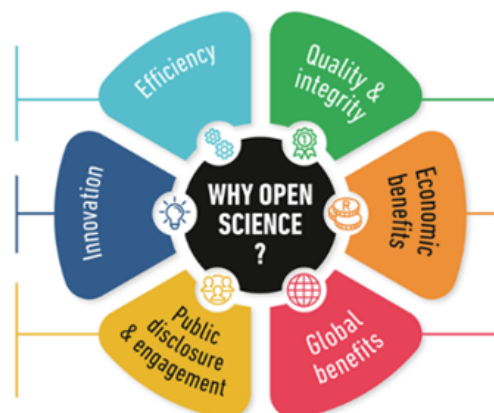
- [How to Build Mentoring and Community Support Platforms To Support Diversity, Equity and Inclusion In Your Scientific Network](#)
- [Improving LGBTQ+ retention in STEM](#)
- [Achieve More Inclusivity, Trust, and Patient Engagement in Clinical Trials](#)
- [Open Mic: Training and Mentorship for Early Career Scientists from Traditionally Underrepresented Groups](#)
- [Scientists from Minority-Serving Institutions and Their Participation in Grant Peer Review](#)
- [Nonprofits' Role in Inclusion of People with Disabilities in the Biomedical Workforce](#)
- [DEI Community Webinar with Disability & Philanthropy Forum](#)



FOSTERING OPEN SCIENCE

Thanks in part to generous support from an HRA member organization, HRA launched our [“Explore the Value of Open” \(EVO\) Program](#) to promote and improve open science practices.

The timing is perfect – as federal agencies announced their “Federal Year of Open Science Initiative.” We’ll be exploring their policies via the EVO Program and using smaller cohorts to help HRA members explore and implement open science policies that are mission-aligned.



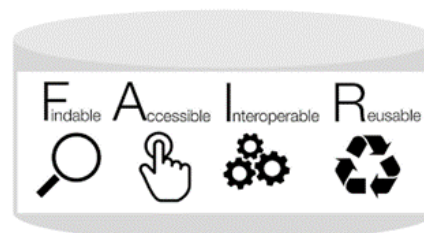
Resources include:

- [NASEM Toolkit for Fostering Open Science Practices](#)
- [ASAP Blueprint for Collaborative Open Science](#)
- [From Policy Into Practice \(Exploring the Value of Open Program\)](#)
- [Inventory of Open Science Resources](#)



- [Value of ORCID for funders](#)
- [HRA Open Relaunch – ORCID replaces Gmail login!](#)
- [HRA Open launches ORCID integration](#)

- [Data Sharing: Why, How, and Measuring Impact](#)
- [NIH Data Management and Sharing Policy](#)
- [NIH Supplemental guidance for DMS Policy](#)



<https://www.go-fair.org/fair-principles/>

IMPROVING RESEARCH CULTURE

Many HRA members fund Early Career investigator programs, and certainly all care about fostering a healthy and productive research environment. Several of HRA's Learning Communities are focused on what funders can do to foster a strong research culture, especially the [Research Workforce and Early Career Development](#) and the [Misconduct and Ethics](#) Learning Communities. HRA members value learning from colleagues, so in addition to the webinars listed below, these communities are using [member-only shared documents](#) to compile strategies implemented by funders.

- The Research Workforce Community is creating an inventory of mentoring, networking and other professional development opportunities members provide.
- The Misconduct and Ethics Community is capturing potential strategies to address ethical misconduct by grantees or misconduct that impacts grantees.

Members are encouraged to add their data to increase the value of these documents.

Webinars include:

- [The Perils Facing Postdocs Today – Research Workforce/Early Career Development call with the National Postdoc Association](#)
- [Funder's Role in ECI's Professional Development](#)



- [Misconduct and Ethics Community Discussion with the NASEM, MSU and the Societies Consortium](#)

INCREASING MEMBERS' EFFECTIVENESS

As noted in HRA's Strategic Plan, much of HRA's value lies in helping staff at HRA members be more successful at their jobs. Several Learning Communities are helping members do just that – whether by creating a new Grants Administration Online Handbook or via [webinars](#) or [resources](#) that provide opportunities to learn from fellow HRA members.

[Grants Administration Learning Community](#)

The draft Grants Administration Handbook can be found [here](#). Your feedback is welcome!

[Communications Community](#)

- [Social Media, Never One Size Fits All](#)
- [Storytelling as a sensemaking strategy](#)
- [From Thankless to Springboard: Rethinking Annual Reports](#)

[Program Evaluation Community](#)

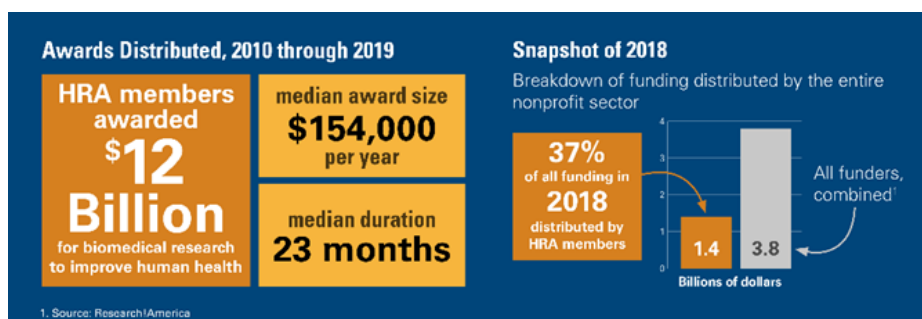
- [Program Evaluation Community Open Mic](#)
- [Using Logic Models to Develop Programs and Measure Impact](#)
- [Utilizing Visualization for Program Evaluation](#)

I encourage you to subscribe to the [Listserv](#) to find resources and register for events, which you can always find through the [Resources](#) and [Events](#) tabs.

Other Community webinars

- [Registry & Biorepository Community Call](#)
- [Venture Philanthropy: Is it for Everybody?](#)
- [Venture Philanthropy: Is it for Me?](#)

The [Grantmaking Report](#) published in 2022, used HRA Analyzer (HRA's awardee database) data to highlight HRA members' significant contributions to health-related research, training and career development, and diversity, equity, and inclusion.



[HRA Analyzer](#) is also a valuable tool for member organizations to use for gap analyses, finding reviewers, identifying collaborating organizations, and much more.

LOOKING FORWARD TO 2023

SAVE THE DATE

Spring 2023 HRA Members Meeting

March 21 & 22, 2023

The Spring HRA Members Meeting will be held in Irvine, California, thanks to the generous support of our host the Arnold and Mabel Beckman Foundation.

2023 PRIORITIES

- HRA's Explore the Value of Open (EVO) Program: EVO will celebrate the "2023 year of Open Science" with more learning opportunities and small group cohorts – helping members implement policies that can help advance their missions.
- HRA hired a new Inclusive Grantmaking Initiative Project Lead: Our new staff member will work across HRA to develop and pilot strategies and explore and analyze ways to advance equity and inclusion within organizations and across the biomedical research community.

THANK YOU!

Thanks to HRA member organizations providing support above and beyond dues.



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SIMONS FOUNDATION

Thanks to the individuals who serve on the [Board of Directors](#), are cochairs of the [Learning Communities](#), and members of the [Strategic Planning and Evaluation Committees](#).