



NEWS FROM
THE EYE-BANK
FOR SIGHT
RESTORATION, INC.

SUMMER 2021

eye to eye

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Of interest

The Eye-Bank of New York Campaign

IN ADDITION TO ITS PLANNED MULTI-MEDIA AD

CAMPAIGN THIS SUMMER, which includes TV, radio, newspaper and digital advertising, The Eye-Bank's message will be reaching thousands of baseball fans, especially those rooting for the New York Mets. Beginning in July, The Eye-Bank is the exclusive advertiser for "Beyond the Booth," the popular baseball talk show on SNY.tv, a broadcast sports network serving approximately seven million households in the Greater New York Metropolitan area and the official television home of the New York Mets. The Eye-Bank's ads will encourage Mets fans to "Be Amazing!" and sign up to become eye, organ and tissue donors in the New York State Donate Life Registry.

The latest edition of "Beyond the Booth," can be seen on SNY.tv as of the third week in July and continuing on Facebook, YouTube and Instagram, thereafter. Hosted by commentator Gary Cohen, along with former Mets stars Keith Hernandez and Ron Darling, "Beyond the Booth" covers all things Mets including prognostications for the second half of the season. The Eye-Bank's 30-second television ad airs during the show and the popular hosts personally highlight the message for the audience as well. Go to <https://sny.tv/shows/beyond-the-booth/beyond-the-booth-taped/gkr-s-favorite-broadcasting-moments>

A special thank you to The Eye-Bank's Creative Specialist David Goodnight for customizing The Eye-Bank's ad campaign for the special advertising opportunity. According to Goodnight, "The messaging was a perfect match since the New York Mets were affectionately called "The Amazin' Mets" by fans in their 1969 pennant series and The Eye-Bank ads urge New Yorkers to "Be Amazing," and give the beautiful gift of sight and life.

Sports fans accessing SNY.tv long after the boys of summer hang up their gloves will still see The Eye-Bank ads on the network into football season through December 2021.



Save the Date: "New York Back in Sight"

THE EYE-BANK'S VIRTUAL FALL BENEFIT

New York Back in Sight will be held on **Thursday, October 14, 2021** from **6:30 pm to 7:30 pm**.

This year's Benefit Committee Co-Chairs, Eye-Bank Treasurer Umber Ahmad and Douglas R. Lazzaro, M.D., former member of The Eye-Bank's Medical Advisory Board, invite you to celebrate New York's reopening with us.

Join us as our host Steve Schirripa from *The Sopranos* takes us on a virtual tour of the quintessential New York experiences that we all have been missing. Enjoy the unparalleled food scene with James Beard Award-winning Chef

Dan Kluger of Loring Place, learn how to make a classic New York cocktail with master mixologist Erin Davey and celebrate a return to Broadway as *Come From Away* playwrights David Hein and Irene Sankoff share an exclusive behind-the-scenes glimpse into their creative process.

This year's event will take place on Zoom allowing all attendees to experience it from the safety and comfort of our own homes.

For more information on sponsorships and tickets, contact **Interim Development Director Robert Hankins** at rhankins@ebsr.org.



"New York Back in Sight"
The Eye-Bank's Fall Benefit
Thursday, October 14, 2021

Three Members Elected to Eye-Bank Board of Directors

THE EYE-BANK'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS has elected three new members: **Courtney DiTullio** and **Manish Krishnan** were elected at the April 2021 meeting and **Audrey MacIssac** was elected at the June 2021 meeting. Currently comprising 15 members, the Board draws its Directors from a diverse field of professionals who bring their experience and expertise in helping to steer the organization in fulfilling its sight-restoring mission.



Courtney DiTullio

Ms. DiTullio is a Managing Director at Cantor Fitzgerald, a privately held investment bank and brokerage, where she focuses on growing sales and trading revenues in equities and equity-related products. She works in conjunction with the Private Capital Markets division to help raise capital for private companies, specifically those in fintech, healthcare and technology. Previously, Ms. DiTullio was a Director at

Barclays Capital and a Managing Director at Nomura Securities. Ms. DiTullio received her B.A. in Economics and Psychology from Florida Southern College in Lakeland, Florida. She currently volunteers with Big Brothers Big Sisters of NYC and helps fundraise for Bright Horizons – Bright Space.



Manish Krishnan

Mr. Krishnan is the Founder and CEO of ATCS, Inc. (Advanced Technology Consulting Service) a global IT consulting firm which focuses on providing digital and analytic solutions to clients in the pharmaceutical, healthcare, finance and automotive industries. Mr. Krishnan received his MBA from Columbia University's Graduate School of Business and his undergraduate degree from the Birla Institute of Technology and Science (BITS) in Pilani, India as well as completed an Executive Education program focused on Leading Professional Service Firms

from Harvard Business School. He is involved in multiple initiatives in the areas of child education and health and he volunteers with non-profit organizations focused on meeting the needs of underserved children.



Audrey MacIssac

Ms. MacIsaac, a donor mother, is Vice President of Business Operations at Oracle Advertising and Customer Experience. Previously, she was Vice President of Business Operations at Moat, a SaaS analytics company, which was acquired by Oracle in 2017. She started her career off in investment banking followed by financial technology before joining technology start-ups in New York City. Ms. MacIsaac graduated from Wellesley College with a B.A. in Mathematics and Economics and for the past 14 years, she has served on the New York Wellesley Club Board in the positions of President, Past President and is currently Treasurer.

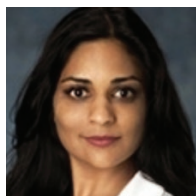
Four Physicians Elected to the Medical Advisory Board

AT THE MAY 20TH MEETING of the Medical Advisory Board, The Eye-Bank welcomed **ANA G. ALZAGA FERNANDEZ, M.D.** and **ANITA GUPTA, M.D.** as newly-elected members and welcomed back returning members **GEORGE FLORAKIS, M.D.** and **DAVID C. RITTERBAND, M.D.** Members may serve two, three-year terms in succession and are then required to rotate off the Board for a minimum of one year. The 24-member Board provides advice and counsel to The Eye-Bank's Executive Director, Medical Director and Board of Directors regarding technical and medical issues of the Ocular Laboratory and Ocular Tissue Research Program.



ANA G. ALZAGA FERNANDEZ, M.D.

is an Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology at Weill Cornell Medicine. She graduated from the medical school of the Universidad Autonoma de Tamaulipas in Tampico, Mexico. She then completed a research fellowship at the Retinal Vascular Center at St. Joseph's Hospital in Houston, followed by an ophthalmology residency at the Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit and a Cornea, Cataract and Refractive Surgery fellowship at Weill Cornell Medicine Ophthalmology in New York. Her professional societies include The American Academy of Ophthalmology, the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery and the Pan-American Association of Ophthalmology.



ANITA GUPTA, M.D. is an Associate Professor of Ophthalmology and Medical Education at the New York Eye and Ear Infirmary of Mount Sinai. After earning a B.A. from

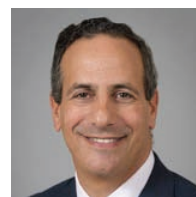
the University of California, Berkeley and a medical degree from the University of California, San Francisco, she went on to complete a residency in ophthalmology at the Wilmer Eye Institute, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and a Cornea fellowship at Bascom Palmer Eye Institute, University of Miami. Her professional society memberships include the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery and the American Academy of Ophthalmology.



GEORGE FLORAKIS, M.D.

is a Clinical Professor of Ophthalmology at Columbia University Medical Center and Director of the Cornea Clinic of the Edward S. Harkness Eye Institute in New York. His areas of expertise are in cornea and external eye diseases, including cornea transplants; dystrophies and degenerations; ectasias (keratoconus); infectious diseases, such as herpetic (viral) and bacterial keratitis; anterior segment trauma and reconstruction. A graduate of Columbia College, Columbia University in New York, Dr. Florakis earned his medical degree from Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons in New

York. He completed his residency at the Edward S. Harkness Eye Institute at Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center and his research fellowship, in cornea and external eye diseases, at the University of Iowa with Dr. Jay Krachmer.



DAVID C. RITTERBAND, M.D.

is a Professor of Ophthalmology at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai and is currently System Director of Refractive Surgery at the Mount Sinai Health System. He is also Director of the Laser Vision Correction Center and Surgeon Director at the New York Eye and Ear Infirmary of Mount Sinai. Dr. Ritterband received his undergraduate degree from Duke University and his doctorate from New York Medical College where he completed his residency training in ophthalmology. He completed his Corneal and External Disease fellowship at The Eye and Ear Institute of the University of Pittsburgh's School of Medicine. Dr. Ritterband has published more than 65 peer-reviewed manuscripts; several book chapters, and more than 150 research abstracts.

Drs. Douglas R. Lazzaro, Richard D. Najac, Kimberly C. Sippel and Jules A. Winokur have rotated off the Board having completed their terms as of May 2021. The Eye-Bank thanks them for their expert contributions and generous service in support of our mission. 👁️

Police Detective Celebrates 10th Anniversary of Receiving the Beautiful Gift of Sight

DETECTIVE ANITA MOORE started her career with the New York City Police Department in 2005 as a police officer assigned to the 23rd Precinct that serves the neighborhood of Manhattan north of 96th Street known as East Harlem or El Barrio. Through the years, she moved into different units, worked on task forces and in other precincts. In 2011, she was a plainclothes police officer working in an anti-crime unit when she noticed that her eyesight was lacking.

She went for eye exams and received glasses, but became concerned that even when wearing glasses, she couldn't see clearly. According to Anita, "I was working with my partner and couldn't read license plates or street signs." That was when she was sent to a specialist and learned that she suffered from an eye disease called keratoconus. A congenital and progressive eye disease, keratoconus can cause the cornea, the clear, outer covering of the eye, to become increasingly cone-shaped, until blindness occurs. It is often treated with hard contact lenses. Sometimes the cornea becomes so misshapen that a contact lens cannot be worn, but eyesight can be restored with a cornea transplant.

That is what happened to Anita. Her eyesight became progressively worse. She was wearing the special hard contact lenses but they didn't help. She recalled the moment she realized another solution was necessary. "I was on the job at night and chasing a suspect, when we collided and I fell. My contact lens popped out and I could hardly see!"

Anita was very concerned about her future as a police officer and for her life in general. "I was used to being very independent, loving my job, and loving to travel. And now I was



Anita Moore shares a happy moment with her father, Cortez Moore.

faced with the fear that I wouldn't be able to do any of those things. I needed to see to use a computer at work and to drive. I was worried about what my life would become."

Luckily for the Police Officer, on July 21, 2011, six months after being diagnosed with keratoconus, she received a sight-saving cornea transplant in her left eye with donor eye tissue provided by The Eye-Bank for Sight Restoration. Following her brief recovery, she was able to go back to work and soon thereafter was promoted to Detective, a position she holds today in the Special Victims Division, Child Abuse Squad in the Bronx.

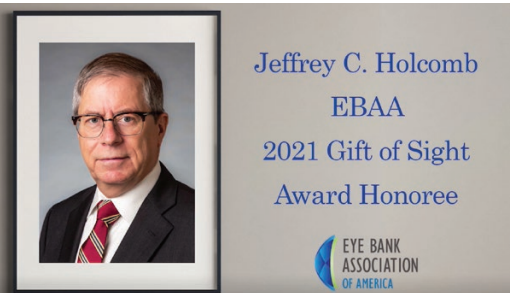
Her transplant story doesn't really end there, however. Unfortunately, Anita's father, a Vietnam veteran, was seriously ill with liver disease most likely caused by a blood transfusion received when being treated for an injury. He had been on the waiting list for a liver transplant for more than 8 years, when it was determined that Anita could save his life by being a living liver donor to her father.

In little more than 6 months after her own sight-saving cornea transplant, Anita donated a portion of her liver to her father in a successful liver transplant procedure. Father and daughter are both healthy today. Detective Moore just celebrated the 10th anniversary of her sight-restoring cornea transplant by traveling to Ghana. And she and her Dad will celebrate what they refer to as their 10th "Liver-versary" in February 2022.

Detective Moore feels extremely grateful to her donor and her donor's family for her restored eyesight. "Thanks to my donor, I have in many ways been re-born. I am truly sorry for my donor family's loss, but want them to know how blessed I feel for the gift of sight from their loved one that I carry with me."

Watch Detective Moore's eye donation story in her video testimonial on The Eye-Bank's website at <https://www.eyedonation.org/videos>.

Local Funeral Director Receives National Recognition



DURING THE OPENING SESSION of the Eye Bank Association of America's (EBAA) Annual Meeting on June 8, The Eye-Bank's Executive Director Patricia Dahl presented the EBAA's 2021 Gift of Sight Award to Jeffrey C. Holcomb, of Staten Island. The Eye-Bank nominated Mr. Holcomb, a licensed funeral director, to receive the award in recognition of his decades-long advocacy of eye donation within the funeral services profession in the Greater New York City area.

He founded Continuing Vision LLC in 2006 with the mission of providing quality continuing educational opportunities to funeral professionals and has invited Eye-Bank Hospital and Community Liaisons to give educational sessions multiple times over the last several years throughout Long Island, the Lower Hudson Valley and in Brooklyn.

Mr. Holcomb feels strongly about the importance of eye donation since both his daughter, Erin, and son, Brian, have received sight-restoring transplants as youngsters. He is deeply grateful to the eye donors and their families for giving the beautiful gift of sight to them. "It has made a world of difference in all of our lives," says Holcomb. "It's important for me to encourage others to consider donation as a priceless legacy that lives on in others."

The EBAA Gift of Sight Award is presented annually to a professional who works closely with the eye banking community and whose efforts have helped to increase support of eye banking and cornea donation. The Eye-Bank offers our congratulations and sincere gratitude for Mr. Holcomb's ongoing efforts to increase awareness for eye donation.

President's Report 2020



Before I report on The Eye-Bank's activities as they relate to the accompanying financials for the year 2020, I wish to acknowledge the steadfastness of the organization and its staff who continued to perform their roles through the unprecedented challenges of a public health crisis with diligence and dedication.

I also wish to pay tribute in memory of my predecessor, former Eye-Bank President James Fabian, who passed away in August 2020, after having so expertly served the organization and its mission of sight restoration for more than 18 years. I was very fortunate to serve as Vice President during his tenure and benefitted greatly from his knowledge and leadership, which I intend to uphold on behalf of The Eye-Bank.

Not surprisingly, the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting restrictions on elective surgeries in The Eye-Bank's service area from March 17 to July 8, 2020 had an impact on the recovery and distribution of eye donor tissue. As a result, The Eye-Bank's Ocular Laboratory recovered a total of 977 eye/cornea donations in 2020 and provided tissue for a total of 1038 cornea transplants. Of those transplants, 563 cases were endothelial keratoplasty (EK) procedures and 97 percent (97%) of the tissue provided for those EK procedures was prepared by The Eye-Bank's laboratory technicians, which was an increase of four percent (4%) over the previous year's figure of tissue prepared by Eye-Bank technicians.

While the functioning of The Eye-Bank's Ocular Laboratory was maintained at all times, the limited need for donor tissue for several weeks mandated technicians to work on a rotational basis and The Eye-Bank's administrative staff worked from home and met via video conferencing to keep projects moving forward.

Plans were in place to celebrate The Eye-Bank's 75th Anniversary as the world's first eye bank, and many of those plans still came to fruition, albeit in different formats and venues, like people's homes via video conferencing.

One of our first adaptations to the COVID-19 pandemic was to alter our multi-media advertising campaign to urge New Yorkers to help flatten the curve by wearing masks and staying socially distant. And while continuing to remind the community to enroll in New York State's Donate Life Registry, the images included individuals wearing face coverings when they were outside their home.

Our Hospital and Community Liaisons were instrumental throughout the year in providing much-needed thank-you notes and gestures of appreciation to our service area's frontline workers in healthcare. Unable to visit in-person, The Eye-Bank's liaisons sent electronic signs of support and even participated in caravans driving by facilities with signs of encouragement for the overburdened hospital staffs.

In June, The Eye-Bank was well represented at the Eye Bank Association of America's (EBAA) annual meeting which was held via video conference over the course of several days. The Eye-Bank's Communications Director Noël Mick began her two-year term as Chair of the Association at the meeting which was attended by more than 1,000 eye banking participants from their remote locations. Also playing a key role was The Eye-Bank's Medical Director, Michelle Rhee, M.D. who moderated the annual Scientific Symposium and the Medical Directors Symposium. Another position in the EBAA was assumed by The Eye-Bank's Executive Director Patricia Dahl who was named Co-Editor-in-Chief of the International Journal of Eye Banking (IJEb) published by the EBAA as the only peer-reviewed publication devoted exclusively to eye banking.

During the fall, The Eye-Bank persevered with plans to celebrate our 75th Anniversary with the necessary accommodations for social distancing. On October 1, The Eye-Bank hosted its first-ever virtual Fall Benefit called *Sight-Seeing* with Emmy Award-winning travel expert Samantha Brown who guided attendees in an online tour of Austria. The evening included a wine tasting and a guided preparation of *Jagerschnitzel* and raised more than \$46,000 in support of Eye-Bank programs.

Also in October, The Eye-Bank co-hosted with the Venice Eye Bank Foundation, *Foresight 2020*, an international virtual scientific workshop. It was joined by 140 attendees from around the world to hear the panel of basic science and clinical researchers share their knowledge and perspectives about the potential for new treatments of corneal and retinal diseases.

And in November, The Eye-Bank hosted a very special virtual event marking its 75th Anniversary called *Celebrating You!* to honor eye donors and highlight cornea transplant recipients. The afternoon event featured video testimonials from donor family members; a special video greeting from award-winning actor Mandy Patinkin, who is a cornea recipient himself and the premier showing of The Eye-Bank's 75th Anniversary video chronicling our history from its founding in 1944 to our innovative work today.

As anniversary years go, it was turbulent and unexpected changes had to be made. But The Eye-Bank continued to carry out its mission of restoring sight, providing safe, quality ocular tissue for sight-saving procedures and honoring our generous eye donors and their families for giving the beautiful gift of sight.

As always, we thank you.

Leo J. Corbett
President

Major Donors \$500+ from 01/01/20 to 12/31/20 *(Italics denote EBSR Board Member or Medical Advisory Board Member)*

Kim and David Adler
Ms. UMBER AHMAD
Anonymous (2)
Association for Macular Diseases, Inc.
James D. Auran, M.D.
Dr. Thomas W. Bennett and Dr. Soja Park Bennett, M.D.
Richard E. Braunstein, M.D.
Mr. Frank P. Bruno
Mr. Marvin H. Cheiten
Columbia University Medical Center
Mr. Leo J. Corbett
Ms. Anne Alexis Coté Taylor
Ms. Monica Cray and Mr. John Bambury
Ms. Patricia Dahl
Mr. and Mrs. Eugene J. Daly
Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas J. D'Amato

Mr. Joseph J. D'Ambrosio, CFA
Ms. Anke Denning Volcker
Mr. Giovanni F. DiCenso
Ms. Lynne Dintrone
East Elmhurst Hospital
James Fabian's NYH Crew
George J. Florakis, M.D.
Mr. Stephen A. Glanzrock
Himani Goyal, M.D.
Reverend Linda Peyton Hancock
Mr. Roger J. Held
Alexandra Herzlich, M.D.
Mr. Bryant Jackson
Mr. Paul Kayaian
John J. Kim, M.D.
Mr. and Mrs. James M. Koza
Ms. Joan Larson
Douglas R. Lazzaro, M.D.
Dana and Alan Lestz

Ms. Marjorie Riche Lewis
Mr. Patrick Loman
Mr. William E. Lynch
Mrs. Sandra Maher
Sid Mandelbaum, M.D.
Manhattan Eye, Ear & Throat Hospital - Northwell
Mrs. Jeanne McCooey
Mr. and Mrs. Paul L. Miller
Mr. Richard A. Mittenthal
Ms. Ellen E. Molloy
Mr. Ross F. Mongiardo
Mr. and Mrs. Gardner M. Mundy
Mr. Robert J. Nardella
Network for Good
Ms. Colette Newman
Nixon Peabody LLP
Mr. Kevin O'Leary
Soo Mee Pak, M.D.

Mr. Wayne Palladino
Mr. Robert Picken
Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Pilkington
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Prescott
Pzena Investment Management, LLC
Leela Raju, M.D.
Vadrevu Raju, M.D.
Regeneron Healthcare Solutions
Ms. Joy Reis
Mr. and Mrs. Eugene A. Renna
Mr. James Renna
Michelle K. Rhee, M.D.
Mr. John Ross
Sage Graphics, LLC
Mr. Nicola Scheraldi
Mr. Myron S. Scholes
Mr. Joseph Shaheen

Ms. Carla H. Skodinski
Laurence T. D. Sperber, M.D.
Mrs. Ronnie Stern
Mr. Dennis Tarzian
Ms. Joan E. Thomas
Mr. Jose A. Vinas Toledo
Danielle Trief, M.D.
James C. Tsai, M.D., M.B.A.
Mr. Paul H. Weinstein and Mrs. Wendi G. Glassman
Dr. Jules Winokur and Mrs. Adrienne Winokur
Ms. Elizabeth Wruszek
Gerald W. Zaidman, M.D.

FOUNDATION SUPPORT
Alexandra Foundation
The John N. Blackman, Sr. Foundation
Eye Foundation of America, Inc.

The Gettinger Family Foundation
Melvin and Eunice A. Miller Foundation
Nitram Foundation, Inc.
Sandpiper Fund, Inc.
The David & Sylvia Teitelbaum Fund, Inc.

TRUST AND ESTATE GIFTS
The Bauer Charitable Remainder Trust
The Estate of Mabel Lowton
Estate of Jane M. Lowry
The McCurdy Trust
The E. Milnor Peck Trust
Estate of Mary P. R. Thomas

The Eye-Bank For Sight Restoration, Inc. Financial Report 2020

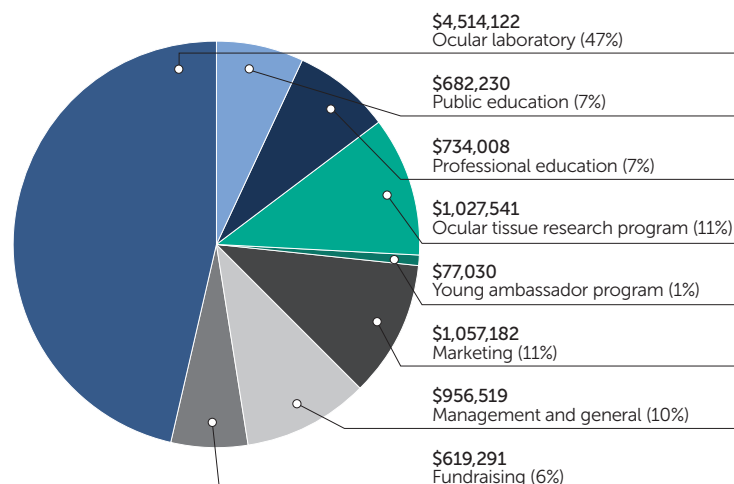
Statements of Financial Position

	December 31st	2020	2019
Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	204,566	285,914
Accounts receivable, net		1,914,252	1,332,866
Accrued interest receivable		83,561	110,440
Pledges and bequests receivable		400,687	253,580
Prepaid expenses and other assets		191,687	175,229
Property and equipment, net		1,224,112	1,356,056
Investments, at fair value		69,282,190	63,036,838
Beneficial interest in charitable trusts		4,620,358	4,197,783
Total assets	\$	77,921,413	70,748,706
Liabilities			
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$	326,937	242,520
Deferred rent payable		417,603	422,716
Due to organization		46,750	21,250
Total liabilities	\$	791,290	686,486
Net assets			
Without donor restrictions	\$	72,405,665	65,760,337
With donor restrictions	\$	4,724,458	4,301,883
Total net assets	\$	77,130,123	70,062,220
Total liabilities and net assets	\$	77,921,413	70,748,706

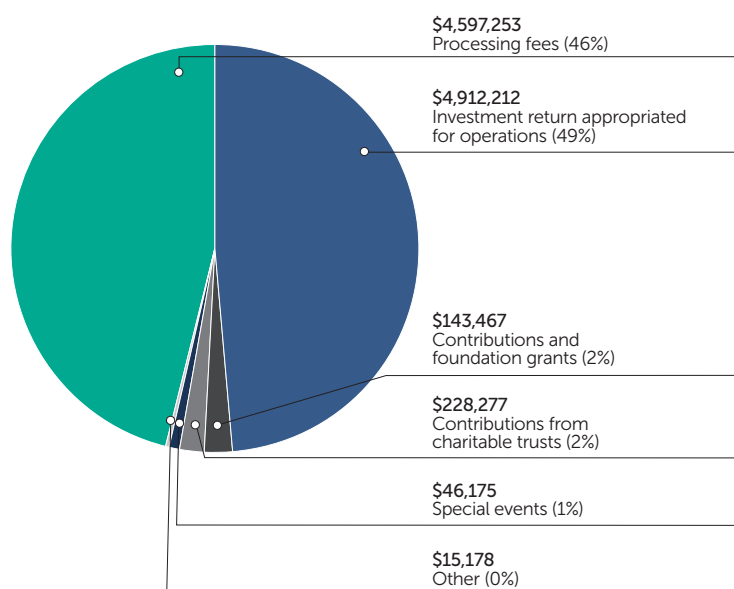
Statements of Activities

	Year Ended December 31st	2020	2019
Public support			
Contributions and foundation grants	\$	143,467	238,950
Contributions from charitable trusts		228,277	163,177
Special events		46,175	46,999
Total public support		417,919	449,126
Operating revenue			
Processing fees		4,597,253	5,341,263
Investment return appropriated for operations		4,912,212	3,026,039
Other		15,178	32,277
Total operating revenue	\$	9,524,643	8,399,579
Total public support and operating revenue	\$	9,942,562	8,848,705
Expenses			
Program services			
Ocular laboratory	\$	4,514,122	4,136,603
Public education		682,230	710,170
Professional education		734,008	677,309
Ocular tissue research program		1,027,541	908,798
Young ambassador program		77,030	76,070
Marketing		1,057,182	1,005,303
Total program services	\$	8,092,113	7,514,253
Supporting services			
Management and general	\$	956,519	736,462
Fundraising		619,291	631,572
Total supporting services	\$	1,575,810	1,368,034
Total expenses	\$	9,667,923	8,882,287
Excess of operating revenue over expenses	\$	274,639	(33,582)
Non-operating revenue			
Contributions from legacies and bequests	\$	471,421	794,657
Change in value of beneficial interest in charitable trusts, net		422,575	611,540
Investment return designated for long-term investment		5,899,268	10,175,048
Total non-operating revenue		6,793,264	11,581,245
Change in net assets	\$	7,067,903	11,547,663

2020 Operating Expenses \$8,882,287



2020 Public Support and Operating Revenue \$8,848,705



This data has been extracted from our financial statements which were audited by Condon O'Meara McGinty & Donnelly LLP One Battery Park Plaza, New York, NY 10004-1405.

CAPITAL TRANSACTIONS

The Eye-Bank, in association with outside, independent counsel, has its investment portfolio under continuous review. The review's purpose is to improve dividend and interest income with securities, which, in the carefully considered opinions of all concerned, are of sound value. With these objectives in mind, changes in holdings are made from time to time.

A copy of the Annual Report BSW-497 can be obtained on request from the Attorney General's Office, Charities Bureau, 120 Broadway, New York, NY 10271 or from The Eye-Bank.

The first eye bank in the world, The Eye-Bank for Sight Restoration was established in 1944 and incorporated under the laws of the State of New York. It is a voluntary, charitable organization devoted to the collection, processing and distribution of donor eye tissue for transplantation, research and medical education.

The Eye-Bank office and laboratory are located at 120 Wall Street, New York, NY 10005. Telephone (24 hours): (212) 742-9000, Fax: (212) 269-3139. Email: info@ebsr.org, Internet address: www.eyedonation.org.

These statements of conditions and results for the years ending December 31, 2019 and December 31, 2020 have been prepared by Condon, O'Meara, McGinty & Donnelly, LLP and presented in condensed form by management to provide a capsule view of our finances. Since January 1978, in order to meet day-to-day expenses, The Eye-Bank for Sight Restoration, Inc., like other eye banks throughout the country, has assessed a fee for the processing of corneas.

The Eye-Bank has been able to build up a financial reserve thanks to the receipts from legacies. However, legacy income is largely unpredictable. We hope that our benefactors and good friends, a major source of support, will continue to aid us and, through this means, greatly help The Eye-Bank meet its daily operating needs. To include The Eye-Bank in your will, just add the following language: **"I give and bequeath to The Eye-Bank for Sight Restoration, Inc., the sum of \$_____ to be applied to the uses and purposes of the corporation."**

Officers and Board Members as of December 31: Mel M. Immergut, Honorary Director; David Paton, M.D., Honorary Director; Leo J. Corbett, President; Dennis R. Tarzian, Vice-President; Rachel A. Heisler, Secretary; Umber Ahmad, Treasurer; Joseph J. D'Ambrosio, CFA; Giovanni F. DiCenso; Paul Kayaian; Joan L. Larson; Jeanne McCooey; Richard A. Mittenthal; Andrea Nordquist

Medical Advisory Board: Leela V. Raju, M.D., Chair; Himani Goyal, M.D. Secretary; James Auran, M.D.; Priti Batta, M.D.; Jessica B. Ciralsky, M.D.; Robert Cykiert, M.D.; Beverly A. Forsyth, M.D.; Alexandra Herzlich, M.D.; Joann J. Kang, M.D.; Viral V. Juthani, M.D.; Maayan E. Keshet, M.D.; John J. Kim, M.D.; Edward C. Lai, M.D.; Douglas R. Lazzaro, M.D.; Sid Mandelbaum, MD.; Richard D. Najac, M.D.; Kimberly C. Sippel, M.D.; Laurence T.D. Sperber, M.D.; Danielle Trief, M.D.; Elizabeth Viriya, M.D.; Angie En Wen, M.D.; Jules Winokur, M.D.; Gerald W. Zaidman, M.D.

Patricia Dahl, Executive Director/CEO; Michelle K. Rhee, M.D., Medical Director

This and the 2020 President's Report are available at eyebank.org/financial-reports or upon request at (212) 742-9000.



People Who Help Make a Difference

THE EYE-BANK IS PLEASED TO RECOGNIZE the Catholic Health EPIC software team for their dedication in providing credentials to The Eye-Bank recovery technicians, enabling them to view the electronic medical records (EMR) of potential donors prior to completing the eye donation recovery procedure. This essential step in the screening process ensures that donor eye tissue is safe and suitable for transplant or research.

This spring, the EPIC team expanded Eye-Bank technicians' onsite EMR access to include the ability to view records remotely from The Eye-Bank office before traveling to perform a recovery. The transition to remote access is a major process improvement in The Eye-Bank's ability to serve a group of five

hospitals; Good Samaritan, St. Catherine of Siena, St. Charles, St. Francis and St. Joseph, all located throughout Nassau and Suffolk counties. By partnering with The Eye-Bank in a more efficient process, the Catholic Health EPIC team helps Eye-Bank technicians to recover more eye donations which ultimately helps more New Yorkers receive the beautiful gift of sight.

In addition to granting remote EMR access, members of the EPIC team accommodated Eye-Bank staffing needs by offering frequent and conveniently timed training classes. And we are grateful for how responsive and positive the Catholic Health staff have been in collaborating with The Eye-Bank to put systems in place to enhance our ability to help others to see again. 👁️



L-R top: Andrew Osso, EPIC Credentialed Trainer; Laura Hermann, EPIC Credentialed Trainer; L-R bottom: Blake Benz, Director, Project Management, EPIC Operational Lead; Christine Seery, MSN, BSBA, RN-BC, EPIC Operational Lead; Mike Warren, IS Security Analyst EPIC Security/User Provisioning

The Eye-Bank Meets with Legislators Virtually



Hospital and Community Liaison Supervisor Maria Chelko (top-right) met with NYS Assemblymember Edward C. Braunstein of Bayside (bottom-left) to discuss the importance of DLNYS efforts to increase the availability of life-saving and life-enhancing organs and tissues for transplantation.

FROM APRIL 26-30, THE EYE-BANK JOINED OTHER MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS of Donate Life New York State (DLNYS)—a statewide association of eye, organ and tissue recovery agencies—to conduct appointments over Zoom with state lawmakers and their staff. The meetings took place over the course of a week as opposed to conducting in-person meetings all in one day.

Eye-Bank staff members and volunteers met virtually with assembly members and state senators, educating them about our legislative priorities and allowing our donor families and cornea transplant recipients to share their personal donation stories.

We are pleased to report that our main legislative priority, the "Doorways to Donation Act of 2021," passed both houses of the state legislature. The bill creates additional

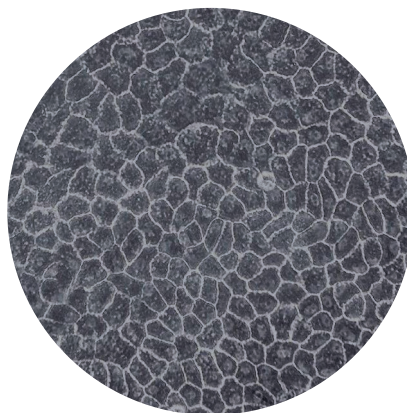
opportunities for New Yorkers to register as organ and tissue donors by adding the donor designation question to electronically processed NYS tax filings, applications and renewals for student aid and loan programs through the NYS Higher Education Services Corporation and applications for other social services. It is estimated that providing these additional portals will present more than 13 million New Yorkers with an opportunity to enroll in the registry. In addition, the Organ Transport Vehicle Act, which designates a vehicle transporting organs for transplants as an emergency vehicle and authorizes it to use lights and sirens, is also awaiting the Governor's signature.

The Eye-Bank thanks our volunteers who joined us virtually and whose dedication to our mission made these advocacy efforts successful. 👁️

The Eye-Bank's RPE Project Provides Cells for Research

THE EYE-BANK is currently supplying a number of researchers with adult human retinal pigment epithelial cells (ah-RPE) that have been isolated from donor eye tissue and cultured into high quality RPE monolayers in vitro. The Eye-Bank's RPE cell lines are especially valuable to ophthalmic researchers because they are primary cells cultured directly from donor tissue that can more accurately maintain the native physiology of in vivo RPE cells than other currently available stem cell-derivative RPE lines. RPE cells are essential to the study of retinal diseases and for the purpose of finding potential cures and treatments of diseases such as macular degeneration.

According to Brian McArdle, research supervisor at The Eye-Bank, it required extensive effort to establish the necessary processes to cultivate ah-RPE cells in The Eye-Bank's Ocular Laboratory, and it is



The above image taken through the eye piece of the microscope represents a 4X magnification of an ah-RPE monolayer after 2 months of culture.

exciting to see the contribution our cell lines can make to innovative retina research. The Eye-Bank is able to supply vials of over 500,000 frozen cells to scientists who want to study retinal diseases using the highest quality of cells available.

In the past several months, The Eye-Bank's RPE project has supplied cells to scientists conducting retinal research at The University of Michigan Kellogg Eye Center, Florida International University and The Veneto Eye Bank Foundation in Italy.

According to the National Eye Institute (NEI) macular degeneration is the leading cause of central vision loss in people over age 50. In addition to helping to restore sight by providing donor tissue for upwards of a thousand sight-saving cornea transplants each year, The Eye-Bank's RPE project can contribute to valuable research into diseases of the retina such as macular degeneration.

For more information about RPE or to register to receive research tissue, please go to www.eyedonation.org/surgeons-and-researchers 👁️

Honor/Memorial Gifts from January 1, 2021 – July 30, 2021

Memorial and honor gifts are given to recognize loved ones or to mark a special occasion. To make a gift in honor or memory of someone, please use the enclosed envelope, visit www.eyedonation.org/give or contact The Eye-Bank's Development Department at **212-742-9000**.

IN MEMORY OF...

Anna Abbott	Sheila Corrie	Brian M. Jackel	Dr. and Mrs. R. Townley Paton	George J. Florakis, M.D.
Michael Abelson	Germaine DeFeo	Warren C. Karstendick	Jean Russo	Margaret A. Gelardo
Marie Cosmo Barbato	Nicholas DeLorenzo	Karen Katz	Elcira Sotomayor	Alexandra Herzlich, M.D.
Anna Battle	Mr. and Mrs. Robert DiBello	David Kohane	Maksym Sugorovskiy	Rose Howe
Ruth Berenda, M.D.	Sue Eckhoff	Betty Leibowitz	Eufrocina Torres Cantos	Jesus Christ
Philip A. Bilotti	James Fabian	Peter H. Long	Julia D. Vasi	Bob Morales
Grace Blandino	Tony E. Farrar	Giovanna Maggiore	Dominick G. Yacono	Maksym's Giving Tree Foundation
Ate Bong	Nancy Faulkes	Grace Mayer	Robert Zahler	Andrew Nordquist
Carmela F. Bongiorno	The Flanagan Family	Marisa Mazzuchetti		Michael L. Renna
Genevieve L. Bruno	Henry Gerber	John McNulty	IN HONOR OF...	Leejee H. Suh, M.D.
Michael Buro	Donald Gladstein	Nicholas S. Meli	Margaret Barry	Jules Winokur, M.D.
Landon Bush	Joseph Grunner	Christopher Nordquist	Elliot Bardavid	Mary L. Zini
Cornea Donors	Theresa Guarino	Herbert Orenstein	Bess Diener	
	Marcia Halperin	Laura Palma	Joan Sheridan Farrar	

The Eye-Bank Co-hosts 2nd Annual International Conference

THE EYE-BANK FOR SIGHT RESTORATION will be co-hosting *Foresight 2021* together with the Venice Eye Bank Foundation (FBDO) and the German Society for Tissue Transplantation (DGFG) on October 14, 2021.

This international, virtual scientific session will focus on how eye banks can effectively work with industry, without compromising their non-profit status, to create new and innovative treatments for blinding eye diseases through cellular therapies. Presentations will be given by experts from the fields of bioethics, law, nonprofit governance, ophthalmology research and industry.

Stefano Ferrari, Ph.D. and Michelle K. Rhee, M.D. will be the session moderators. Dr. Ferrari is head of the Research Centre of the Veneto Eye Bank Foundation and Dr. Rhee is The Eye-Bank for Sight Restoration's Medical Director.

Foresight 2021 follows in the success of last year's virtual *Foresight 2020*, in which 140 attendees from around the world joined online to hear medical and basic science researchers share their knowledge and various perspectives about eye banking at large and the possibilities and future opportunities that may be embraced in the treatment of corneal and retinal diseases.

For more information or to register, please go to eyedonation.org/foresight2021. 



New Ideas Bring Increased Awareness to Donation

THE EYE-BANK'S TEAM OF COMMUNITY AMBASSADORS has elected its first Chair and Secretary of the Leadership Council. Following the group's April 21, 2021 meeting, Nathan Sheinfeld was elected to fill the Council Chair position and Patrick Corbett will serve as Secretary.




Mr. Sheinfeld is an Analyst with RVX Asset Management, an emerging-market focused hedge fund. He has had a close personal connection to The Eye-Bank since 1998 when he became a living eye donor at the age of nine following an accidental injury to his eye.



Mr. Corbett is the VP of Product at Icon Technology Studio. He has been an active member of The Eye-Bank's Leadership Council since 2018. The executive team will be a central part of all Council activities and this year will be focusing their efforts on the recruitment of new members.

As advocates and ambassadors, the Leadership Council (formerly known as the Junior Council) is a group of mid-career professionals who promote The Eye-Bank's mission through outreach and fundraising efforts aimed at increasing awareness of the need for and benefits of eye donation. The ultimate goal of the Council is to encourage New Yorkers to say 'Yes' to donation and sign up to become eye, organ and tissue donors in the NYS Donate Life Registry. In addition, the Leadership Council works to support The Eye-Bank's existing fundraising initiatives. Some of the projects that the Council will be undertaking this year include hosting an end-of-summer happy hour at a trendy New York City pub, conducting a peer-to-peer social media fundraising campaign and promoting The Eye-Bank's Virtual Fall Benefit *New York Back In Sight*.

If you would like to know more about The Eye-Bank Leadership Council and its initiatives or are interested in joining the Council as a member, please send all inquiries to info@ebsr.org. 

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

eye to eye is published by The Eye-Bank for Sight Restoration, Inc., a non-profit organization located at 120 Wall Street, New York, NY 10005-3902. The Eye-Bank was founded in 1944 for the purpose of collecting and distributing corneal tissue for transplants, research and medical education. More than 69,000 people in the greater Metropolitan area have had their sight restored through the work of The Eye-Bank.

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Executive Director/CEO

Noël Mick

Editor

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Of Interest...

2021 EBAA ANNUAL MEETING



The Eye Bank Association of America's (EBAA) Annual Meeting was held virtually this year, with Communications Director **Noël Mick** giving the meeting's opening remarks on June 8 in her position

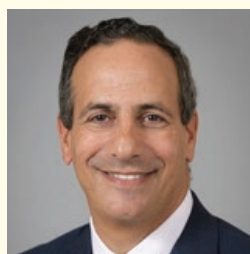
as Chair of the EBAA's Board of Directors. This year, the EBAA is celebrating 60 years of leadership and innovation in the field of eye banking and cornea transplantation, a history in which The Eye-Bank features prominently as the world's first eye bank.



As part of the EBAA meeting, The Eye-Bank's Medical Director **Michelle K. Rhee, M.D.** helped organize a segment entitled "Engaging Residents and Fellows with Local Eye Banks" and

invited two recent post-ophthalmology fellows, Drs. Grace Huang and Neha Shaik to participate in the session. Both physicians endorsed the educational

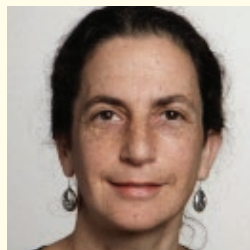
value of visiting their local eye bank for an understanding of how eye banking contributes to successful surgical outcomes and they shared very favorable comments on their experiences doing a wet lab at The Eye-Bank.



Members of The Eye-Bank's Medical Advisory Board also presented at the annual meeting. **David C. Ritterband, M.D.**

participated in the Scientific Symposium as part of a point-counterpoint

segment advocating the use of donor rim cultures to seek early fungal results so prophylactic treatments can be offered to patients who test positive following a transplant. His counterpoint argued that it was an




unnecessary expense and exposure to the treatments since most positive results do not result in infections. And **Beverly A. Forsyth, M.D.** participated in the Medical Director Symposium, offering her expertise in

infectious diseases while discussing COVID-19 and cornea transplants.

NEWEST LITTLE EYE-BANKER!

On February 25, The Eye-Bank's Development Director **Karen Bardavid** gave birth to her beautiful daughter **Luna Rose**, weighing 6 lb. and 15 oz.

Luna Rose joins her older brother, Julian Ellis, who was born in April 2019.

Congratulations, Karen — best wishes to you and your growing family! 



Let others know about eye donation and how to enroll in the Donate Life Registry at facebook.com/eyebankny



Stay current with Eye-Bank happenings [@eyebankny](https://twitter.com/eyebankny)



Follow The Eye-Bank on Instagram [@eyebankny](https://www.instagram.com/eyebankny)