



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

SUMMER 2024

# eye to eye

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Of Interest

## Eye-Bank Board of Directors Elects New Officers, New Member

**THE EYE-BANK'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS** held elections at its June 12th meeting, which included the following transitions to the Executive Board: **Dennis R. Tarzian** has been appointed President, **Umbur Ahmad** Vice-President, **Audrey MacIsaac** Secretary and **David R. Adler** Treasurer.

**Leo J. Corbett**, who has been serving as the Board's president since 2020, and **Rachel A. Heisler**, who has been Board secretary since 2009, will both continue to support The Eye-Bank as members of the Board.



Dennis R. Tarzian

Initially elected to the Board in 2018 and having served as the Board's Vice-President since 2020, Mr. Tarzian is currently a Managing Partner and Member of the Board of Directors at BCHT Holdings LLC, a privately held investment group. Prior to joining BCHT Holdings LLC, he was Co-founder, Chief Operating Officer and Managing Partner at National Registered Agents Inc., a legal services and technology firm. Mr. Tarzian received his MBA from Columbia University's Graduate School of Business and his B.S. in Systems Engineering and Computer Science from the Polytechnic Institute of New York University.

Currently comprised of 18 members, the Board draws its directors from diverse fields and professions to help

steer the organization toward fulfilling its mission and achieving its strategic goals.

At the June meeting, the Board elected one new member, **Kieran Powell**. Mr. Powell currently serves as the Executive Vice President of Channel V Media, a strategic communications agency in New York, where he specializes in creating and executing public relations



Kieran Powell

programs for clients with complex or unique stories to tell. Previously, he served as a Senior Consultant with PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) in New York and prior to that as a Senior Business Analyst with Ernst & Young (EY) in Dublin. According to Patricia Dahl, Executive Director and CEO of The Eye-Bank, Mr. Powell brings expertise in marketing and public relations, which will be very valuable as the organization seeks to increase its outreach efforts and gain expanded support of eye donation.

The Eye-Bank's Directors and Ms. Dahl wish to recognize three outgoing members of the Board: **Courtney DiTullio**, **Joan Larson** and **Joseph J. Shaheen**. The Eye-Bank appreciates their outstanding service and generous support of our sight-restoring mission.

The complete list of Board members and their profiles are at [www.eyedonation.org/board-of-directors/](http://www.eyedonation.org/board-of-directors/).

## Medical Advisory Board Elects New Members

**AT THEIR MAY 15TH MEETING**, The Eye-Bank's Medical Advisory Board elected **Ana G. Alzaga Fernandez, M.D.** to the position of Secretary and welcomed **Albert S. Hazan, M.D.** as a new member to the Board. Dr. Joann J. Kang's term as Secretary has ended but she will continue to serve as Associate Medical Director.

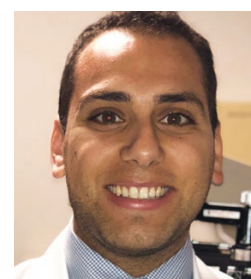


Ana G. Alzaga Fernandez, M.D.

Dr. Alzaga Fernandez completed a research fellowship at the Retinal Vascular Center of

Ana G. Alzaga Fernandez, M.D. is an Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology at Weill Cornell Medicine and an assistant attending ophthalmologist at New York Presbyterian Hospital. She graduated from the medical school of the Universidad Autonoma de Tamaulipas in Tampico, Mexico.

St. Joseph's Hospital in Houston, followed by an ophthalmology residency at the Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit and a fellowship in cornea, cataract and refractive surgery at Weill Cornell Medicine.



Albert S. Hazan, M.D.

University, he earned his medical degree from the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. Dr. Hazan (continued on page 2)

Albert S. Hazan, M.D. is an ophthalmologist at Glaucoma Consultants of New York, an attending surgeon with Maimonides Midwood Community Hospital and an adjunct surgeon at New York Eye and Ear Infirmary of Mount Sinai.

# Physicians Join Eye-Bank's Medical Advisory Board (continued from page 1)

completed his internship in medicine at Maimonides Medical Center, his residency at Columbia University's Department of Ophthalmology and his fellowship in cornea and refractive surgery at New York Eye and Ear Infirmary of Mount Sinai.

Returning to the Medical Advisory Board for a new term are **Douglas R. Lazzaro, M.D., MBA**, **Kimberly C. Sippel, M.D.** and **Danielle Trief, M.D.** Dr. Lazzaro is a Professor of Ophthalmology at New York University's Grossman School of Medicine and is currently Vice-Chair of Operations, Clinical Affairs and Business Development of Ophthalmology at NYU Langone Health. A graduate of New York University, he received his medical degree from the State University of New York (SUNY) Downstate Medical Center.



Douglas R. Lazzaro, M.D.

Dr. Lazzaro completed his internship in internal medicine at Staten Island University Hospital, his residency in ophthalmology at SUNY Downstate

Medical Center and his fellowship in cornea at Manhattan Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital.

Dr. Sippel is an Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology at Weill Cornell Medicine and New York Presbyterian Hospital. A graduate of Harvard College, she received her medical degree from



Kimberly C. Sippel, M.D.

Columbia University's College of Physicians and Surgeons. She completed her residency in ophthalmology at Harvard Medical School/ Massachusetts Eye and Ear and her fellowships in ophthalmology as well as in cornea and refractive surgery at Harvard Medical School/ Massachusetts Eye and Ear.

Dr. Trief, an associate professor of ophthalmology at Columbia University Medical Center, earned her medical degree from Columbia University's College of Physicians and Surgeons. She completed her internship in medicine at Lankenau Hospital in Wynne-

wood, PA, her residency in ophthalmology at Harvard Medical School/ Massachusetts Eye and Ear and her fellowship in cornea and refractive surgery at New York Eye and Ear Infirmary. Dr. Trief specializes in adult and pediatric cornea.



Danielle Trief, M.D.

As of May 2024, Drs. Anita Gupta, Alexandra Herzlich, John J. Kim, Angie E. Wen and Gerald W. Zaidman have rotated off the Medical Advisory Board. The Eye-Bank thanks them for their expert contributions and dedicated service in support of our mission.

Members of the Medical Advisory Board may serve two consecutive three-year terms before rotating off the Board for a minimum of one year. The Medical Advisory Board provides oversight to the Ocular Laboratory and Ocular Tissue Research Program in consultation with The Eye-Bank's Medical Director Michelle K. Rhee, M.D. 👁

## Eye-Bank Names Two Scholarship Winners



Hannah Ganson

**THE EYE-BANK'S SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE** has awarded the 2024 Young Ambassador Scholarship to Hannah Ganson and the 2024 STEM Scholarship to Abou Fofana. Each will receive a \$3,000 prize from The Eye-Bank.

A graduate of Commack High School, Hannah will be attending the University of Rhode Island's College of Nursing in the fall. Among her project's outreach efforts qualifying her for the Young Ambassador Scholarship, Hannah conducted a tabling at Nassau Community College's Day of Service, educating faculty and students about eye donation and helping them to register as eye, organ and tissue donors. She

created original promotional items with an eye donation theme and also reached out to the broader community through eye-care providers by supplying Eye-Bank informational cards about eye donation. Established by Eye-Bank Board Member Andrea Nordquist, the Young Ambassador Scholarship, named in memory of her son Christopher who became an eye donor when he died suddenly at the age of two, seeks to engage high school and college students in activities that highlight the importance of eye donation.

Abou is a rising sophomore at the State University of New York at Old Westbury, where he is enrolled in their computer science program. In his STEM research paper, he proposed a method of increasing awareness for eye donation that utilizes virtual reality technology to replicate the experience of someone in need of a corneal transplant,



Abou Fofana

thereby fostering a deeper appreciation for the significance of one's eyesight as well as creating interest in becoming an eye donor by enrolling in the New York State Donate Life Registry.

The STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering or Math) Scholarship was established in memory of The Eye-Bank's former President James Fabian who served on the Board for a total of 18 years.

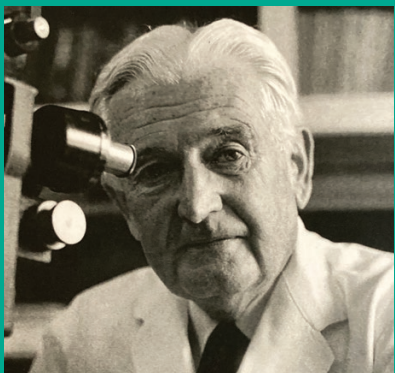
The Eye-Bank's Scholarship Committee wishes both Hannah and Abou success in their future endeavors. Information about The Eye-Bank's Scholarships and previous winners is at [www.eyedonation.org/scholarship/](http://www.eyedonation.org/scholarship/). 👁

## R. Townley Paton Fellowship for Research

The Eye-Bank for Sight Restoration's R. Townley Paton Fellowship is a \$10,000 merit award for research in ophthalmology. The Eye-Bank established the R. Townley Paton Fellowship to help meet today's needs for innovative research by encouraging basic science and clinical research in the discovery of possible treatments and cures of blinding eye diseases.

The Fellowship is open to all ophthalmology disciplines located within The Eye-Bank's service area of New York City, Long Island and the Lower Hudson Valley.

Deadline for submission is October 15, 2024. Full criteria and application form can be found at [www.eyedonation.org/r-townley-paton-fellowship/](http://www.eyedonation.org/r-townley-paton-fellowship/).



R. Townley Paton, M.D.



# Teenager Remembers Life Before and After Receiving the Beautiful Gift of Sight

By Isabelle Weiner

**RAEYA BRYANT, A 14-YEAR-OLD HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT** living in upstate New York, is constantly busy—but that’s how she prefers things. When she is not studying or playing for her travel ice hockey team, she is creating art animation projects or rehearsing for her school’s latest musical. “I love theater, especially musicals, I just think they’re so much fun,” Raeya said.

She has a bubbly, bright energy that is apparent to everyone she meets, but the life she leads now seemed unlikely in her early childhood. For the first four years of her life, Raeya suffered from repeated eye infections that caused extensive scarring in both of her corneas.



Pictured here when she was four years old, Raeya and her mother, Jacqueline, are grateful for the generosity of Raeya’s two eye donors.

When Raeya began to develop eye infections, her mother, Jacqueline, searched for a solution. In spite of being treated by doctors who prescribed eye drops and various medications, Raeya continued to develop infections and styes. “It was almost like she was having repetitive pink eye,” said Jacqueline. Her eyes were so sensitive that she would have to wear sunglasses inside the house.” None of the prescriptions or regimens seemed to work. Raeya’s condition worsened until, eventually, she became legally blind. “When she was in kindergarten, she couldn’t learn to read or write because she couldn’t see the paper in front of her,” her mother recalled. “Her teachers had to put special covers over the



Raeya Bryant

classroom lights and enlarge things with a projector in order for her to see them.” Eventually she was referred to corneal specialist Gerald W. Zaidman, M.D. who noticed the scarring on her corneas and told her family that she would need corneal transplants in both eyes. It was somewhat of a relief to Raeya’s parents to finally have a treatment plan for their daughter. “I almost didn’t believe the doctor when, within the first five minutes of meeting us, he knew exactly what was wrong and how to fix it because we had tried so many different treatments that just weren’t working,” said Jacqueline.

Raeya was only four years old when Dr. Zaidman performed her first corneal transplant surgery at Westchester Medical Center with eye donor tissue provided by The Eye-Bank. She was a little frightened but, having treated many pediatric patients, Dr. Zaidman was able to explain the surgery in a way that she could understand and be reassured about the procedure. The first surgery was very successful, and she had a corneal transplant in her other eye the following year. “The first thing she said to me when she woke up from the first transplant and had her eye patch

removed was ‘Oh, mommy you’re so pretty! And you wear earrings!’” said Jacqueline. From the moment Raeya could see and no longer experienced painful light sensitivity, life was completely different. She caught up with learning to read as she could now see letters on the page; and she learned to write her name and do math. She started exploring interests that have now blossomed into avid hobbies. “To be able to go from not being able to see the paper in front of her to the artwork she does now is just amazing!” her mother said. Ten years later, Raeya is an active high school student pursuing her passions with gusto. She is a gifted artist and, as an Eye-Bank Young Ambassador, she has designed The Eye-Bank’s Thanksgiving card! Raeya played Anna in her school’s production of *Frozen* and is the goalie on her travel ice hockey team, the Louisville Arctics.



With her restored eyesight, Raeya can play goalie on her travel ice hockey team, the Louisville Arctics.

According to Raeya, “I wouldn’t be able to play hockey or see the puck at all without the gift of sight thanks to my eye donors. I truly appreciate them so much for helping me to see. I will always be grateful to them.” In March 2024, Raeya and her mom, Jacqueline, shared their heartfelt story in a video testimonial for The Eye-Bank that can be viewed at [www.eyedonation.org/video/raeya-and-jacquelines-story](http://www.eyedonation.org/video/raeya-and-jacquelines-story). 👁

## Volunteers Advocate in Albany

**ON APRIL 16**, The Eye-Bank joined Donate Life New York State (DLNYS), a statewide organization of eye, organ and tissue recovery agencies, in Albany to secure a \$1 million appropriation in the state budget for the administration of the NYS Donate Life Registry. Eye-Bank staff and volunteers met with state legislators and their staffs to advocate for legislation in support of bills to improve access to the Registry and increase the number of potential eye, organ and tissue donors in New York State.

This year’s proposed bills included the Doorways to Donation Act of 2024, which requires electronic health record vendors to integrate components giving patients the opportunity to enroll in the NYS Donate Life Registry. The Doorways to Donation Act of 2024 was passed and is awaiting signature by Governor Kathy Hochul.

The Eye-Bank appreciates our volunteers for all their time and effort sharing their personal eye donation stories with state legislators and their staffs. Their participation strengthens our advocacy efforts and helps to make important gains for our mission. 👁



L-R: Hospital and Community Liaison Paulina Kaczmarczyk; Sujehiry Ureña with her son, corneal transplant recipient Austin; Communications Manager Maria Chelko; corneal transplant recipient Oscar Martinez-Ruiz; Leadership Council Member and living eye donor Nathan Sheinfeld; Senior Communications Coordinator Chadwick Shank; and corneal transplant recipient Elena Dinn.

# President's Report 2023



The following narrative highlights Eye-Bank activities for 2023 as accompaniment to the financial statements for the same period shared in this report.

In 2023, The Eye-Bank's Ocular Laboratory recovered a total of 1427 eye/cornea donations and provided a total of 1179 corneas for transplants. Of those transplants, 643 cases used pre-cut and prepared tissue for endothelial keratoplasty (EK) including 106 EK tissues preloaded for the surgeons. All EK tissue provided was prepared by The Eye-Bank's laboratory technicians.

In addition to tissue provided for transplants, The Eye-Bank, through its growing RPE Research Project, distributed 7 vials (500,000 cultured cells per vial) of adult human retinal pigment epithelial cells (ah-RPE) to multiple retina research projects in the United States. The Eye-Bank also processed and/or distributed 286 units of research tissue comprising mostly corneas, whole eyes and shells for retina cells, representing a 276% increase in tissues provided for research studies over 2022.

January marked the launch of a new multi-media ad campaign for The Eye-Bank urging adults ages 16 and up to enroll in the New York State Donate Life Registry to become eye, organ and tissue donors. Based on current data indicating the largest percentage of New Yorkers enroll in the donor registry through the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), The Eye-Bank's new theme emphasizes that "Everyday New Yorkers Can Become Heroes" when they sign up to become eye, organ and tissue donors at the DMV or online at Eyedonation.org. The ads have been created in English and Spanish for television, radio, print and social media placement throughout the year and include different tag lines such as "Check the 'Yes' Box at the DMV" to "Heroes Wanted."

The Eye-Bank placed additional emphasis on innovations in research in February with the onboarding of YoneJung Yoon, Ph.D., research and relationship development manager, to lead the organization's Ocular Research Program. In addition to the culturing of ah-RPE cells for research, the Program has grown to include the distribution of donor

eye tissue to researchers for eye disease pathology studies as well as pharmacology research and the development of new drug therapies. This is of tremendous value in helping research collaborators study how diseases like diabetes or dementia affect eye health.

The Eye-Bank hosted two successful fundraising events in 2023. The Spring Benefit on May 11, which was held on the garden terraces of 23 Grand in SoHo, celebrated the theme of *20/20 Vision* for a "Roaring Good Time." Benefit Co-Chairs John J. Kim, M.D. of the Medical Advisory Board and Audrey MacIsaac of the Board of Directors and approximately 300 attendees helped to raise more than \$102,000 for The Eye-Bank's programs. The Fall Benefit in October, co-chaired by Board Member Jeanne McCooley and The Eye-Bank's Medical Director Michelle K. Rhee, M.D., was a lively *Salsa Night for Sight* held at the Bohemian Benevolent and Literary Association in Manhattan and generated more than \$113,000 for The Eye-Bank.

In October, The Eye-Bank was pleased to award the 2023 R. Townley Paton Fellowship to Lucy Cobbs, M.D., a vitreoretinal surgery fellow at NYU Langone Health's Department of Ophthalmology. In honor of our founder's dedication to restoring sight, the \$10,000 fellowship in his name is a merit award for research across all ophthalmology disciplines being conducted within The Eye-Bank's service area.

In November, The Eye-Bank's annual Thanksgiving cards featured the artwork of two Young Ambassadors—Reuben, age 11, and Raeya, age 14. Both young artists had their sight restored thanks to corneal transplantation and donor eye tissue provided by The Eye-Bank.

Of course, ultimately, the gift of sight is only made possible thanks to the generosity of corneal donors and their families, who think to help those in need in spite of their personal loss. On behalf of all our transplant recipients, we offer them our most sincere gratitude.

**Leo J. Corbett**  
President

## Major Donors \$500+ from 01/01/23 to 12/31/23 *(Italics denote EBSR Board Member, Leadership Council Member or Medical Advisory Board Member)*

Kim and David Adler Sumayya Ahmad, M.D. Ms. UMBER Ahmad Mr. Andrew B. Anderson Ms. Lisa Anderson Anonymous Ms. Gina J. Argento Jacqueline Armani, O.D. Association for Macular Diseases, Inc. James D. Auran, M.D. Mrs. Ibolya Balla-McKeon Debra and Elliott Bardavid Mr. Henry C. Barkhorn Mr. Mitchell Berger Mr. Robert Berlingo Beth Ward Studios Mr. Darren Blumenfeld II Richard E. Braunstein, M.D. Mr. Randy Brosseau Mr. Frank P. Bruno Cantor Fitzgerald Ms. Donna Chandler Mr. Marvin H. Cheiten Mr. Seen Kei Chiew Mrs. Marie Cole Columbia University Medical Center Mr. Leo J. Corbett Mr. Patrick K. Corbett Ms. Anne Alexis Coté Taylor Maria P. DaCosta, M.D. Ms. Patricia Dahl Joan and Eugene Daly Dalver Media Group - City Guide Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas J. D'Amato Mr. Joseph J. D'Ambrosio, CFA Ms. Lynne Dintrone	Ms. Courtney DiTullio Dompé Mr. Timothy Duignan Ms. Deborah Dunevant Mr. and Mrs. Robert Easton Ms. Marie Fabian and Ms. Eugenie Cesar-Fabian Mr. Michael L. Feldman Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund Robert M. Fischer, M.D. George J. Florakis, M.D. Mr. Barry Friedberg Muriel L. Frischer, Ph.D. Mrs. Susan Gibraltar and Richard P. Gibraltar, M.D. Mr. Stephen A. Glanzrock Ms. Wendi G. Glassman and Mr. Paul H. Weinstein Glaukos Corporation Goldman Sachs & Co. Mr. Christian Gonzalez Mr. Eduardo Gonzalez Ms. Alice T. Gordon Himani Goyal, M.D. Mr. Harvey Gram Ms. Cheryl Grandfield Ms. Donna Hager Ms. Marsha-Ann Hay Beth and David Hazan Ms. Rachel A. Heisler Mr. Roger J. Held Alexandra Herzlich, M.D. Hollow Brook Golf Club Mr. John F. Homan Mrs. Diana J. Kalman Joann J. Kang, M.D. Mr. Paul Kayaian Ms. Shiobian Kelly Maayan E. Keshet, M.D. Mr. Gregory Kiernan John J. Kim, M.D.	Mr. and Mrs. James M. Koza Mr. Manish Krishnan Ms. Joan Larson Latham and Watkins LLP Ms. Marta Jo Lawrence Ms. Danielle Leask Ms. Jan Lee Dana and Alan Lestz Mr. Howard Levine Ms. Lynn Levy Mr. and Mrs. John Drake Lobrano Mr. William E. Lynch Ms. Audrey MacIsaac Ms. Sruthi Madhavan and Mr. Piyush Sachdeva Sid Mandelbaum, M.D. and Diane Oshin Ms. Michele A. Masucci and Mr. Alexander Schlossberg Ms. Mary Anne Massey Mrs. Jeanne McCooley Ms. Marjorie McEnerney Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Inc. Mrs. Ann Breen Metcalfe Mr. Joseph F. Meyer Ms. Cathy N. Miller Milliman USA Mr. Richard A. Mittenenthal Ms. Ellen E. Molloy Mrs. Diana Mundy and Mr. Gardner Mundy Richard D. Najac, M.D. National Financial Services Network for Good William Neville, Esq. Ms. Colette Newman Ms. Jaclyn Newman NYC Health + Hospitals/Elmhurst	Nixon Peabody LLP Mrs. Andrea C. Nordquist Ocular Therapeutix Soo Mee Pak, M.D. Mr. Wayne Palladino Joseph Panarelli, M.D. Ms. Rucha Pandit Ms. Danielle M. Parco Ms. Amy Parets Mr. Jarrett Parver Carissa and Robert J. Perrotta Mr. Robert Picken Mr. and Mrs. Roger E. Podesta Power Media, Inc. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Prescott PZENA Investment Management LLC Mrs. Ileana Quinones Ruiz and Mr. George Ruiz Leela Raju, M.D. Regeneron Healthcare Solutions Regions Ms. Joy Reis Mr. and Mrs. Eugene A. Renna Mr. James Renna Mr. Andrew Rhee Michelle K. Rhee, M.D. Richard Rodgers Theater David C. Ritterband, M.D. Mr. John Ross Ms. Susan Salerno Mrs. Linda Salzer and Richard L. Salzer, Jr., M.D. Mr. Julian Sanchez Rocio and Jimmy Sanz Christina Scelfo, M.D. Mr. Nicola Scheraldi Mr. Jason Schiciano Mr. Myron S. Scholes John A. Seedor, M.D.	Mr. Joseph J. Shaheen Mr. Kaivan M. Shakib Ms. Sarah Silver Kimberly C. Sippel, M.D. Ms. Carla H. Skodinski Southern Dames Association Laurence T. D. Sperber, M.D. Ms. Monika Srivastava Mr. Kenneth A. Steiner Mrs. Ronnie Stern Mr. William Stoddard Leejee H. Suh, M.D. Mr. and Mrs. David Sullivan Tarsus Pharmaceuticals Linda and Dennis Tarzian Thea Pharma, Inc. Ms. Joan E. Thomas Mr. Mark Thompson and Family Rabbi Malcolm Thomson Mrs. Joan P. Tilney Tio Pepe Restaurant Tod's Group Danielle Trief, M.D. and Ari Friedman James C. Tsai, M.D., MBA Mr. Jose A. Vinas Toledo Ms. Anke Dening Volcker Ms. Darcy Volpe Mr. Jay Waxenberg Weill Cornell Medicine Israel Englander Department of Ophthalmology Ms. Joan Weingarten and Mr. Robert Donnalley Angie E. Wen, M.D. Peter E. Weseley, M.D. Mrs. Adrienne Winokur and Jules Winokur, M.D. White Beeches Golf and Country Club	Mr. Eric C. Woglom Mrs. Ellen H. Yoshiuchi Ms. Joy C. Young Melissa Zack Gerald W. Zaidman, M.D.
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### FOUNDATION SUPPORT

Alexandra Foundation  
The John N. Blackman, Sr. Foundation  
Eye Foundation of America, Inc.  
The Ernst and Elfriede Frank Foundation  
The Gettinger Family Foundation  
Dick and Jelma Hubert Foundation  
J. P. Morgan Chase Foundation  
Jewish Communal Fund  
Jophed/Thomas Foundation  
The Kranzdorf Family Foundation  
The Macula Foundation, Inc.  
The Omer Foundation  
The Samuel and Edythe J. Pivar Family Fund  
Sandpiper Fund, Inc.  
Schwab Charitable  
Sheila and Jon Charitable Gift Giving  
The Ellen M. Violet and Mary P. R. Thomas Foundation, Inc.

### LEGACIES AND BEQUESTS

Estate of Patricio Andrade-Marin  
The Estate of Mabel Hylton L. William Kay II Trust  
The McCurdy Trust  
Estate of Mary P. R. Thomas

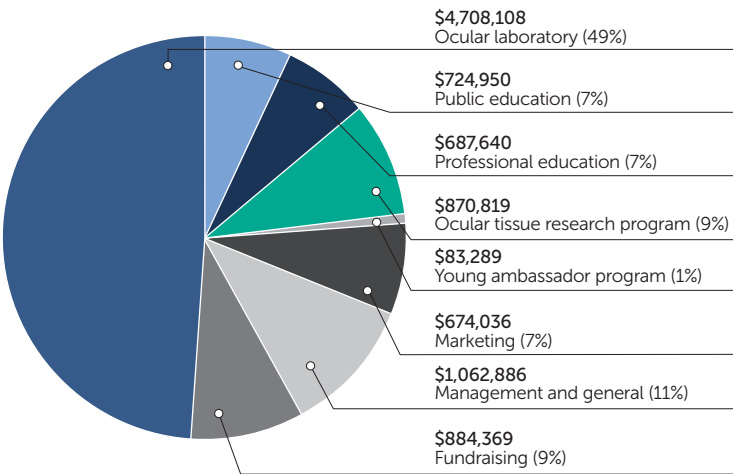


# The Eye-Bank For Sight Restoration, Inc. Financial Report 2023

## Statements of Financial Position

	December 31st	2023	2022
<b>Assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	144,217	-
Investments, at fair value		70,748,244	60,549,044
Accounts receivable, net		1,963,276	1,779,624
Accrued interest receivable		181,145	99,221
Prepaid expenses and other assets		257,752	224,557
Property and equipment, net		896,163	1,058,012
Beneficial interest in charitable trusts		4,531,795	4,128,683
Investment in simple agreement for future equity, at cost		650,000	-
Right of use asset - operating lease		2,047,448	2,419,711
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>81,420,040</b>	<b>70,258,852</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$	347,448	534,895
Due to organization		164,687	120,062
Operating lease payable		2,421,896	2,884,791
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>2,934,031</b>	<b>3,539,748</b>
<b>Net assets</b>			
Without donor restrictions	\$	73,850,114	62,484,870
With donor restrictions	\$	4,635,895	4,234,234
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>78,486,009</b>	<b>66,719,104</b>
<b>Total liabilities and net assets</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>81,420,040</b>	<b>70,258,852</b>

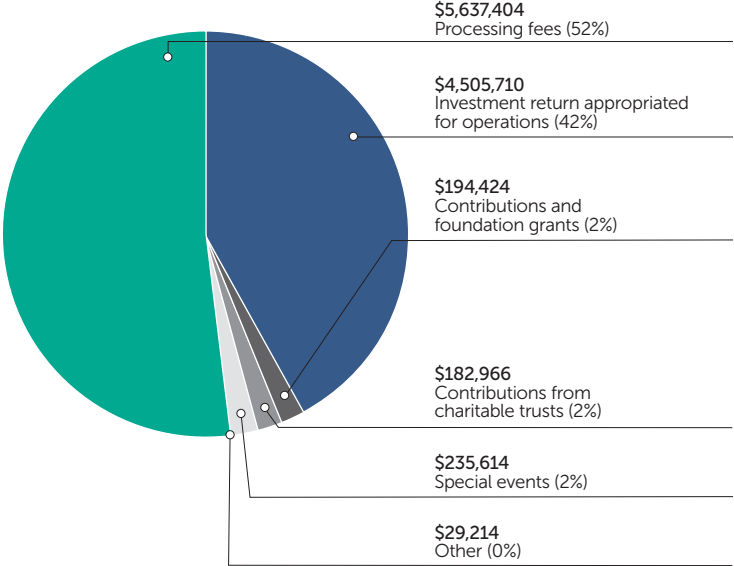
## 2023 Operating Expenses \$9,696,097



## Statements of Activities

	Year Ended December 31st	2023	2022
<b>Public support</b>			
Contributions and foundation grants	\$	194,424	223,389
Contributions from charitable trusts		182,996	238,352
Special events		235,614	201,569
<b>Total public support</b>		<b>613,034</b>	<b>663,310</b>
<b>Operating revenue</b>			
Processing fees		5,637,404	5,203,115
Investment return appropriated for operations		4,505,710	3,891,037
Other		29,214	7,855
<b>Total operating revenue</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>10,172,328</b>	<b>9,102,007</b>
<b>Total public support and operating revenue</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>10,785,362</b>	<b>9,765,317</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
<b>Program services</b>			
Ocular laboratory	\$	4,708,108	4,627,000
Public education		724,950	737,989
Professional education		687,640	738,172
Ocular tissue research program		870,819	853,935
Young ambassador program		83,289	83,754
Marketing		674,036	1,018,507
<b>Total program services</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>7,748,842</b>	<b>8,059,357</b>
<b>Supporting services</b>			
Management and general	\$	1,062,886	1,016,207
Fundraising		884,369	885,744
<b>Total supporting services</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,947,255</b>	<b>1,901,951</b>
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>9,696,097</b>	<b>9,961,308</b>
<b>Excess of operating revenue over expenses</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,089,265</b>	<b>(195,991)</b>
<b>Non-operating revenue</b>			
Contributions from legacies and bequests	\$	75,831	5,000
Change in value of beneficial interest in charitable trusts, net		403,111	(1,077,113)
Investment return designated for long-term investment		10,198,698	(16,573,503)
<b>Total non-operating revenue</b>		<b>10,677,640</b>	<b>(17,645,616)</b>
<b>Change in net assets</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>11,766,905</b>	<b>(17,841,607)</b>

## 2023 Public Support and Operating Revenue \$10,785,362



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.

**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; David R. Adler; Joseph J. D'Ambrosio; Giovanni F. DiCenso; Courtney DiTullio; Paul Kayaian; Manish Krishnan; Joan Larson; Audrey MacIsaac, Sruthi Madhavan; Michele A. Masucci; Jeanne McCooley; Richard A. Mittenenthal; Andrea Nordquist; Rocio Sanz; Joseph J. Shaheen; Michael Zambrelli

**Medical Advisory Board:** Himani Goyal, M.D., Chair; Joann J. Kang, M.D., Secretary, Associate Medical Director; Maayan E. Keshet, M.D., Associate Medical Director; Sumayya Ahmad, M.D.; Richard Braunstein, M.D.; Jessica B. Ciralsky, M.D.; Robert C. Cykiert, M.D.; Ana G. Alzaga Fernandez, M.D.; George J. Florakis, M.D.; Beverly A. Forsyth, M.D.; Anita Gupta, M.D.; Alexandra Herzlich, M.D.; Viral V. Juthani, M.D.; John J. Kim, M.D.; Richard D. Najac, M.D.; David C. Ritterband, M.D.; John A. Seedor, M.D.; Laurence T.D. Sperber, M.D.; Leejee H. Suh, M.D.; Elizabeth Viriya, M.D.; Angie E. Wen, M.D.; Jules A. Winokur, M.D.; Gerald W. Zaidman, M.D.

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

This and the 2023 President's Report are available at [www.eyedonation.org/financial-reports](http://www.eyedonation.org/financial-reports) or upon request at (212) 742-9000.

These statements of conditions and results for the years ending December 31, 2022 and December 31, 2023 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."**




## People Who Help Make a Difference

**THE EYE-BANK IS PLEASED TO RECOGNIZE** the Office of Quality and Patient Safety at Episcopal Health Services for its leadership in advocating for the gift of sight. The Department, led by Director of Quality Management Bevin Mathew, has taken major strides to increase the focus on eye donation within St. John's Episcopal Hospital over the last two years.

The Office of Quality and Patient Safety collaborates with The Eye-Bank to arrange unit education and streamline processes for eye donor recovery. And, continuing the practice initiated by Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Karen Paige, MBA, RN, the Department has elevated the importance of recognizing staff who support eye donation. Both Ms. Paige and Mr. Mathew routinely accompany Eye-Bank Hospital and Community Liaison Amanda Vesey-Askey to

hospital units to deliver eye donation outcomes and to personally thank staff for their roles in each eye donation process. This practice sends a clear message that support for eye donation is an integral part of the hospital's culture and provides administrative recognition of the unit as well.

With the leadership of Ms. Paige and Mr. Mathew, Episcopal Health Services was one of the first health care entities in the state to gain approval by the NYS Department of Health as an official partner of the New York State Donate Life Registry, a move that makes signing up to become eye, organ and tissue donors accessible to more people.

The Eye-Bank appreciates Episcopal Health Services' dedication and outstanding support of eye donation both within the hospital and through its very active outreach to the greater community. 



Executive Vice-President and Chief Operating Officer Karen Paige, MBA, RN and Director of Quality Management Bevin Mathew, CPHQ, CPPS.


## Eye-Bankers Attend 2024 EBAA Annual Meeting



At the EBAA Annual Meeting: (L-R) Associate Director Edwin Roberts; Laboratory Director Hortense Kendall; Eye-Bank Board President Dennis R. Tarzian; Executive Director Patricia Dahl; Communications Director Noël Mick; and Communications Manager Maria Chelko. Missing from photo: Research and Relationship Development Manager YoneJung (YJ) Yoon, Ph.D. and Medical Director Michelle K. Rhee, M.D.

### THE EYE-BANK WAS WELL-REPRESENTED AT THE 2024 EYE BANK ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA ANNUAL MEETING IN KANSAS CITY, MO FROM JUNE 5-8.

At the meeting, which convened more than 300 professionals from U.S. and international eye banks, The Eye-Bank's Communications Manager Maria Chelko presented in a panel discussion addressing "Social Media Strategies: Maximizing your Efforts to Make a Difference." The Eye-Bank's Research and Relationship Development Manager YoneJung (YJ) Yoon, Ph.D. gave two presentations at the meeting—the first in a workshop providing best practices for "Research Requests: Advancing Research and Maximizing Tissue;" and the second during the June 8th Scientific Symposium, where she delivered an abstract "Retrospective Analysis of Adult Human Retina Pigmented Epithelial Cell Culture Success Rate."

At the House of Delegates meeting on June 7, The Eye-Bank's Medical Director Michelle K. Rhee, M.D. was elected to the EBAA Board of Directors as a member-at-large and Eye-Bank Communications Director Noël Mick completed her two-year term as Immediate Past Chair of the EBAA, rotating off the Board of Directors after six years of service. 

## Honor/Memorial Gifts from January 1, 2024 – June 30, 2024

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](http://www.eyedonation.org/give), or contact The Eye-Bank's Development Department at **212-742-9000**.

### IN MEMORY OF...

Alice Beach  
Michael T. Betjemann  
Murray, Miriam and Ann Black  
Carmela F. Bongiorno  
Priscilla Boyd  
Gerald Cantor  
Karen Carroll  
Paul Cerini  
Rose Cerini  
Filomena Di Justo  
Elizabeth G. Domino  
Don Lisle Eddy

Carol Fay  
Martha Gale  
Mary K. Gara  
Connie L. Gordon  
Abby Harris  
Irena Henry  
Brian M. Jackel  
Robert Jaeger  
Angela Kepka  
Rev. Fr. Rufin Kuveikis  
George Lucier  
Kenneth G. Lyons  
Bruce A. Mazor, M.D.  
Kathy McCarthy

Anthony McDonald  
Gretta and John McDonald  
Nicholas S. Meli  
Dolores Moran  
Christopher Nordquist  
Sharon Orenstein  
Sidney Orenstein  
Muriel Palumbo  
Louis Pommer  
Denise Genatzky Rabinovitch  
Anna Ricci  
Marion and Herman Riha  
Maria Hernandez Rosello

Nancy Russo  
Susan Salerno  
Diane Salkowitz  
Gerald "Jerry" Schiowitz  
Gaetano Siggia  
Irene and Sidney B. Silverman  
Clarise M. Smith  
Michael W. Sodoma  
Harriet Solomon  
Maksym Sugorovskiy  
Genevieve Torpey  
Luis Enrique Uribe, M.D.

### IN HONOR OF...

Kim and David Adler  
Sandra C. Belmont, M.D.  
Children of Gaza  
Cornea Donors and their Families  
Cornea Surgeons  
Ms. Cindy Dejulia  
William and Elizabeth Dougherty  
George J. Florakis, M.D.  
Ms. Ann Funicelli  
Mr. Dennis Gitler  
Mr. Shiu Chuen Ko

Maksym's Giving Tree Foundation  
Mr. Timothy McDonald  
Mr. Ralph McGrath  
Mr. Andrew Nordquist  
Susan Rapoport and Henry Leopold  
Mr. Michael L. Renna  
Ms. Maria C. Rosello  
Rocio and Jimmy Sanz  
Arielle and Nathan Sheinfeld  
William, Bonnie and Samuel Stubbs Family  
Ms. Mary L. Zini



# Eye-Bank Spring Benefit Celebrated Under the Disco Ball

**DISCO NIGHT WAS "OUTTA SIGHT!"** On Thursday, May 16, the Bohemian, Benevolent and Literary Association on Manhattan's Upper East Side was livelier than ever for The Eye-Bank's Spring Benefit. DJ Herbert Holler had guests, especially those dressed in disco glam, moving and grooving under the disco ball to popular dance hits from the 70's all while supporting The Eye-Bank.

Co-Chairs Board Secretary Rachel A. Heisler and Richard D. Najac, M.D. of the Medical Advisory Board welcomed everyone to this stellar night. Guests enjoyed Executive Chef Samuel Drake Jones' and the team from Sweetbriar's incredible cuisine and cocktails. Those who saved room for dessert were rewarded with delectable treats from Mah Ze Dahr, supplied by the bakery's owner and Eye-Bank Board Treasurer Umber Ahmad.

The silent auction was a big success with guests eagerly bidding on a variety of items from theatre tickets to golf outings; Major League baseball games to classic horse shows; and, in addition, there was exquisite jewelry supplied by Leadership Council Member Ileana Quinones Ruiz's Artisans of IQ and a trendy culinary experience for your friend group at Sweetbriar's in Manhattan, known for upscale comfort food and live-fire cooking.

We especially thank this year's Spring Benefit Committee, our corporate sponsors and all the attendees for their generous support that raised more than \$104,000 for The Eye-Bank's public and professional education programs. 👁️



L-R: Benefit Co-Chair Richard D. Najac, M.D., Eye-Bank Executive Director/CEO Patricia Dahl and Benefit Co-Chair Rachel A. Heisler.



## Leadership Council Kicks Off Summer

**ON JUNE 27, THE LEADERSHIP COUNCIL MEMBERS** and their friends enjoyed networking, classic lawn games, cool refreshments and raffle prizes at The Lawn Club in Manhattan. The annual summer happy hour raised more than \$5,000 in support of The Eye-Bank's sight-saving programs.

The Leadership Council comprises a group of mid-career professionals who promote The Eye-Bank's mission through outreach and fundraising efforts aimed at increasing awareness for the need and benefits of eye donation. For information about joining the Leadership Council, contact Robert Hankins (rhankins@ebsr.org) or (646) 930-2197. 👁️



L-R: Leadership Council Members Nathan Sheinfeld, Patrick K. Corbett, Nicole Madison Chan and Rucha Pandit.



120 Wall Street  
New York, NY 10005  
(212) 742-9000

[www.eyedonation.org](http://www.eyedonation.org)

#### 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 73,000 people in the greater Metropolitan area have had their sight restored through the work of The Eye-Bank.

#### Patricia Dahl

Executive Director/CEO

#### Noël Mick

Editor

#### Chadwick Shank

Associate Editor


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## Of Interest...

**ON SATURDAY, APRIL 6,** Eye-Bank volunteer and corneal transplant recipient Kristy Meaney was a featured speaker at the 27th Annual "Remember & Rejoice" ceremony held at St. Patrick's Cathedral in Manhattan.

The ecumenical service, organized by Transplant Recipients International Organization's (TRIO) Manhattan Chapter, is held in honor of donor families and eye, organ and tissue transplant recipients.

More than 300 attendees heard Kristy, a physical education teacher in Westchester County, speak about what receiving the gift of sight has meant to her and how it has enabled her as a mother of three to enjoy an active life full of quality family time, professional excellence and team sports. Kristy has shared her personal sight restoration story in a testimonial which can be viewed on The Eye-Bank's website, [www.eyedonation.org/video/kristys-story](http://www.eyedonation.org/video/kristys-story).

The Eye-Bank is grateful to all our donors and their families and we thank Kristy for sharing her personal story about the good that eye donation can do. 



Corneal transplant recipient Kristy Meaney with her family at St. Patrick's Cathedral.

#### CONGRATULATIONS TO


Eye-Bank Ocular Laboratory Technicians Jen Fernandez and Ja'keil Gravely who recently passed the Eye Bank Association of America's (EBAA) Certified Eye Bank Technician (CEBT) exam. The Eye-Bank's laboratory technicians are required to meet EBAA Medical Standards consistently while providing quality ocular tissue for transplant.



Jen Fernandez



Ja'keil Gravely

Jen, who joined The Eye-Bank in May 2023, holds a B.S. in Biology from Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton and an A.S. in Mortuary Science from Nassau Community College. Ja'keil, who also joined The Eye-Bank in May of 2023, earned her B.S. in Biology from the University of South Carolina. 



Let others know about eye donation and how to enroll in the Donate Life Registry at [facebook.com/eyebankny](https://facebook.com/eyebankny)



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