At the end of 2020, FORCE expanded its mission to support more adults who face hereditary cancer, regardless of mutation or cancer type. Since then, we have seen our community grow in innumerable ways.

In 2021, we welcomed many more individuals and families facing hereditary breast, colorectal, endometrial, ovarian, pancreatic and prostate cancers. The FORCE team has been working diligently to provide millions of individuals and families affected by a BRCA, ATM, PALB2, CHEK2, PTEN or other inherited gene mutation or Lynch syndrome with credible information, compassionate support and high-quality programs.

Our mission has always been to ensure that no one faces hereditary cancer alone. While there are many cancers and many mutations, we will continue striving to be the single best resource for our growing community of survivors, previvors, caregivers and healthcare professionals.
Increasing DEI is a core FORCE value, and it provides us with a path to improve health outcomes for all members of our community.

In recent years, FORCE has been building diversity, equity and inclusion into all of our operations and programs. In 2021, we shared our commitments and progress with our community and partners.

We recognize the many different types of diversity that make up our collective experiences. We also recognize the impact of racial disparities on access to healthcare, cancer genetic services, screening, prevention, treatment, sense of community and support. We are proud to be inclusive in our actions that cover a range of diversity and also acknowledge that issues of racial equity are an important focus in our efforts as an organization.

These efforts include a pledge to ensure diversity among our staff, board and volunteers, as well as the creation of programs that are representative and accessible to everyone who needs our information and resources. To ensure that diversity, equity and inclusion are taken into consideration in all of FORCE’s operations, we also established a DEI committee consisting of staff and board members who track and report our progress for stakeholders.

We are highlighting these efforts in this report and our website to underscore our commitment to DEI and our work to address and improve health disparities. We look forward to building upon our progress in 2022 and beyond.
EDUCATION

FORCE’s website and educational programs provide one of the largest repositories of expert-reviewed information available on hereditary cancer.

After the pandemic-related challenges of 2020, which included the cancelation of our Joining FORCE’s Conference, our education team headed into 2021 armed and ready to reach record numbers of people virtually. With the help of a refreshed website, virtual meeting technology and consistent online outreach, we accomplished the following milestones:

360,000 WEBSITE VISITORS
viewed our information pages to learn about specific genes that increase cancer risk and expert guidelines on hereditary cancer screening, prevention and treatment.

2,248 PEOPLE ATTENDED OUR VIRTUAL 2021 JOINING FORCES AGAINST HEREDITARY CANCER CONFERENCE.

The online platform increased our reach, allowing a record number of people to receive important information about hereditary cancer. All sessions were recorded, posted to our website and remain available for on-demand viewing. Our health equity sessions at the conference featured experts who addressed health disparities and unique issues faced by people from underserved communities.

MORE THAN 500 HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS AND TRAINEES -
including genetic counselors, genetic counseling students, nurses and nurse navigators – were educated through our continuing education workshops on “Digital Health Literacy” and “Communicating Research to Improve Patient Engagement.”
Our XRAY program reached 115,000 people, sharing reliable information and reviews of cancer research reported by the media.

Our Spanish Language Portal, which features cancer resources and translations of our XRAY reviews, was visited by over 1,700 people. We also created two new Spanish resources: Información Importante Sobre Genes y Cancer (What You Should Know About Genes and Cancer) and Los Genes Entre Nosotros: Guía para dar a conocer resultados de pruebas genéticas con familiares (The Genes Between Us: Your guide to sharing genetic test results with relatives).

Our first quarterly newsletter in Spanish was sent to 238 subscribers.

“Muchas muchas gracias! This is an excellent resource. I am very grateful and will share with my colleagues.” — Sonia

“FORCE and XRAY are top resources I give my patients.” — Survey response
AWARENESS
Hereditary cancer awareness saves lives.

Our “Men Have Mutations Too” campaign celebrated Men’s Health Week 2021 by reinforcing the message that men can inherit genetic mutations that put them at greater risk for certain cancers. The campaign also highlighted the fact that men can pass these mutations on to their children, making it important to know one’s genetic status so that informed medical decisions can be made for the entire family.

FORCE partnered with Eisai, Black Health Matters and SHARE Cancer Support to launch the multi-year Spot Her campaign, an initiative that empowers women by teaching them how to spot the signs of endometrial cancer—one of the two most common cancers for those with Lynch syndrome. Increasing awareness among women of color is a primary focus of this campaign, as only 53% of Black women with endometrial cancer receive an early diagnosis, making the disease more difficult to treat.

“For the first few years I knew I had a BRCA2 mutation, I learned what I could, but only when I found FORCE did I feel I had a real resource for knowledge and support. It is by far the best website on the issue, and the people that I’ve interacted with have been top-notch. I’m currently enrolled in an NIH trial for prostate cancer that was recommended to me by my FORCE peer navigator.”

— Brad Hertz, BRCA2 Previvor
Support
No one should face hereditary cancer alone.

In 2021, FORCE established virtual support groups to address the unique hereditary cancer needs and concerns of men, Black, Indigenous and People of Color, LGBTQIA+, D/deaf and hard-of-hearing communities. At these meetings, individuals connect with peers and trained volunteers to obtain information and resources in a safe, caring environment. We will be launching additional groups for:

- Caregivers/Parents
- Español
- Lynch Syndrome
- Previvors
- Survivors
- Young Previvors
- Young Survivors

In May, the private FORCE Hereditary Cancer Facebook group was launched, engaging over 1,200 members as of December 2021. This group provides a safe way for individuals to connect with one another, obtain support and share experiences with peers at any time, from anywhere.

“The hour went quickly with so much information and support. I am very grateful to know, even though living in a very isolated region, that there is great support to be received through FORCE to help me not feel so alone in this.”

- FORCE Constituent
VOLUNTEERS

Individuals from our hereditary cancer community, who understand our unique concerns and decisions, are trained to provide support and to advocate on our behalf.

An expanded team of 390 dedicated FORCE volunteers—with diverse experiences, inherited mutations and hereditary cancers—provide support, comforting words and empowering knowledge in a safe virtual environment to ensure that no one faces hereditary cancer alone. In 2021, this team:

- Provided personalized peer navigation support to 731 individuals
- Connected 288 people to helpline support
- Enabled 1,327 attendees to participate in 164 virtual support meetings
- Helped teach 1,273 participants about FORCE at 25 events
- Shared almost 10,000 posts on our Message Board and Private Facebook Group

Our VolunteerFORCE Academy training consists of 33 interactive courses that include videos, quizzes and real-life situations to empower our volunteers to share factual information without advice or judgement. To address the challenges that our community faces in identifying trustworthy online health information, two courses were added to this training curriculum: “Health Literacy, Social Determinants of Health and the Impact on Health Outcomes” and “How XRAY Unconfuses Cancer Research Reported by the Media.”

“I feel so fortunate to be a part of something that can make such a difference in someone’s life at a time that can be so scary and unnerving.”

– Juliana, FORCE Volunteer
RESEARCH

Research generates evidence that leads to guidelines and improved health outcomes.

MATCHING PATIENTS TO RESEARCH

This year, our research team focused its efforts on identifying new studies that are relevant to our expanded constituency. In addition to promoting studies for people with BRCA1 and BRCA2 mutations, we are now featuring studies enrolling people with Lynch syndrome and inherited mutations in ATM, CHEK2, PALB2, PTEN and other genes. Over 50,000 people viewed the 96 research studies prioritized on our Featured Research page. An additional 3,500 people used our Search and Enroll Tool to find studies relevant to their situation.

WORKING WITH RESEARCHERS TO COMPLETE ENROLLMENT INTO STUDIES

We partnered with researchers to highlight studies of importance to our community. Thanks to these efforts, IMPRES—which has been studying a new approach to improve memory in women who undergo early, surgical menopause—completed enrollment this year. We also worked closely with researchers to highlight the SOROCk clinical trial, which is looking at whether salpingectomy (the surgical removal of one or both fallopian tubes) lowers the risk for ovarian cancer in mutation carriers.

WORKING WITH RESEARCHERS TO DESIGN STUDIES

Our 93 trained research advocates were placed in a variety of roles, advising researchers on cancer-related studies in an effort to provide meaningful input. Their feedback helped to ensure that studies were designed and conducted in a way that’s responsive to our community’s needs.

This year, FORCE collaborated with researchers globally to design studies that fill critical knowledge gaps and are relevant and responsive to patients’ needs. We began designing a study with researchers at Mayo Clinic College and McGill University to understand patient knowledge of, and attitudes about, endometrial cancer risk and hysterectomy in people with a BRCA1 or BRCA2 mutation.

FORCE also collaborated with researchers at the National Human Genome Research Institute on a survey looking at the experiences and the needs of caregivers from hereditary cancer families.

“I really appreciate having information about research readily available. It makes it much easier to find studies that are relevant, without having to sort through the whole NIH website.”
– Search Tool user
Public Policy

Championing increased affordability and access to high-risk medical services.

In 2021, Force advocated for the hereditary cancer community by:

1. Asking the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force to improve its screening recommendations to better identify individuals who may be at increased risk of colorectal cancer and urging it to develop Lynch syndrome screening guidelines to help primary care providers determine which patients may be at increased risk of hereditary colorectal and related cancers.

2. Spearheading the Reducing Hereditary Cancer Act to address the needs of Medicare beneficiaries at risk of hereditary cancers. This bipartisan federal legislation aims to modify the Medicare statutes to increase access to genetic counseling, testing, related screenings and risk-reducing interventions.

3. Working to ensure affordable access to safe, accurate, innovative lab tests by representing the interests of our community in federal efforts to reform patent laws and regulate genetic and laboratory-developed tests.

4. Engaging in federal public policy efforts aimed at expanding access to genetic counseling for Medicare beneficiaries, facilitating equitable insurance coverage of oral cancer therapies and ensuring access to mammograms with no cost-sharing starting at age 40.

5. Developing an intensive volunteer training program and relaunching the Patient Advocate Leaders (PALs) program, with the goal of expanding our federal and state public policy bandwidth by deploying volunteer policy advocates in all 50 states.

“Thank you for your insight, the resources you shared and the work you’re doing with FORCE to push for better laws around high-risk cancer screenings!”

– Jessie, BRCA+ Previvor

“Thank you SO MUCH for our conversation. Once again you really made a difference! It’s just what we hoped existed—objective, knowledgeable advice on health insurance, what to watch for and what options are out there—and support to help negotiate or appeal if it comes to that.”

– Lisa, Family Member of CDH1 Mutation Carrier
Our board members are dedicated to fulfilling our mission by helping shape policies and strategies.

Carrie Catlin  
President

Tara Freundlich  
Vice President

Marina Zinger  
Treasurer

Carmen R. Pace  
Secretary

Denise Bulpitt  

Debora Denardi  

Sue Friedman, DVM  

Dana Goldman  

Wenora Johnson  

Tammy Li  

M. Margaret Snow, MD  

Laurie Spiegel  

Liza Talusan, PhD  

Matt Yurgelun, MD

Thank you to Ellyn Davidson and Elaine Kennedy for serving on our board in 2021.

Emeritus Directors:
Judy Garber, MD | Allison W. Kurian, MD | David Nixon | Rebecca Sutphen, MD

“When I first found FORCE in 2006, I had no idea how it would ignite my passion and become the central focus for my future volunteer work. It is now my sincere privilege to lead the board of directors in FORCE’s mission to improve the lives of individuals facing many hereditary cancers. I am inspired by our community every day.”

– Carrie Catlin, Board President
DEVELOPMENT
Furthering the mission of FORCE through generosity!

2021 Donor List

The programs and services provided by FORCE are made possible thanks to the generosity of individuals, corporate partners and foundations. Their kindness enables FORCE to serve more than one million individuals facing hereditary cancer each year.

FORCE is grateful for the 2,988 individuals who made a gift in 2021. The following donors gave $1,000 or more throughout the year.

$100,000+
AstraZeneca

$50,000 – $99,999
Eisai
Merck
Novartis

$25,000 – $49,999
AbbVie
Anonymous to honor Sherry Pedersen
Clovis Oncology
GlaxoSmithKline
Immunovia
Johnson & Johnson
Michael Sosin and Tedi Siminowsky
Myriad Genetics, Inc.
Natera
Pfizer Inc.
Saul and Theresa Esman Foundation
Seagen
TELETIES, LLC

$10,000 – $24,999
AxoGen, Inc.
Constance M. Chen, MD
Debora Denardi
Exact Sciences
Foundation Medicine
Maralee Schwartz
Mary Stranahan Foti and Anthony Foti
Rebecca Sutphen, MD
Seremet Family Foundation
Tammy and John Li
### 2021 Donor List (cont.)

#### $5,000 – $9,999

- Annette and Robert Seelig
- Dr. Bailey Skin Care
- Eva Bryer
- GRAIL
- Hollub Family Foundation, Inc.
- Informed DNA
- Leslie Seeman

#### $1,000 – $4,999

- Alan Black
- AmazonSmile
- Annette and Jim Alling
- Anonymous (2)
- Barry and Sandy Cohen
- Bradley Hertz
- Brighton Retail
- Brittany Tyner
- Cari Roth and Wellington Meffert
- Carolyn Spellman
- Christina and Tim Cohen
- David Nixon
- Diane and Thomas Rose
- Donelan Giving Fund
- Ellen Cousins
- Ellyn and Jon Davidson
- Erin Spellman
- Eva and William Roche
- Evelyn Philipps
- FJC–A Foundation of Philanthropic Funds
- Hannah Richardson
- Howard Cohen
- Jan and Paul Gronemeyer
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- Jody Gunn
- Kenneth and Tara Freundlich
- Kent Pearce
- Kristine Schannauer
- Laurie Spiegel
- Leslie Rose
- Linda Allard and Andrew Clarke
- Lois and Peter Pardoll
- Margaret Stewart and Severin Borenstein
- Mark and Joan Roby
- Megan LoPresto
- Megan Schlottog
- Melinda Nordeng
- Michelle and Jonathan Barsook
- Myles Brown and Dr. Judy Garber
- Patricia and Charles Deierlein
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- Richard Ramirez
- Risa Green
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- Stephen and Janet Groft
- Stephen Smith
- Steve Wintermeier and Carrie Catlin
- Steven Davis
- Tami Diehm
- Tankenoff Families Foundation
- The Community Foundation Serving SW Colorado
- The Rudnick Family Charitable Fund
- Theobald Chandler Family Giving Fund
- Wagner Foundation
- Yourcause, LLC
Legacy Circle

FORCE is grateful for the commitment of the following individuals who have made a provision in their will or estate plans to help ensure that FORCE’s work continues for future generations.

- Dave* and Jessie Bushman
- Rebecca and Ken Carr
- Carrie Catlin and Steve Wintermeier
- Sandy and Barry Cohen
- Joel Hostetter*
- Karen and Steve Kramer
- Tammy and John Li
- David Patrick Nixon
- Sandi and Bruce Ogin
- Carmen Pace
- Barbara and Alan Pfeiffer
- Michael Sosin and Tedi Siminowsky
- Teri* and Duncan Woodhull

To learn more about the FORCE Legacy Circle and how you can make a positive difference for the future, please contact:

Rebekah Wells, Sr. Vice President of Development
rebekahw@FacingOurRisk.org
(866) 288-7475, ext. 715

*deceased
Corporate Social Responsibility Partners

FORCE is grateful for our Corporate Social Responsibility Partners!
To learn how your company can be involved, contact donations@FacingOurRisk.org today.

TELETIES

TELETIES is a strong-grip, no-rip hair tie that gives back. TELETIES founder Lindsay Muscato understands first-hand how hereditary cancer can touch a family. Her grandmother passed away from breast cancer at the age of 36. When Lindsay’s father tested positive for a BRCA1 mutation, she also tested, and thankfully her results came back negative. Lindsay made a commitment to herself to help educate other families and bring awareness to genetic testing.

By donating a portion of each product sale to FORCE, TELETIES has contributed nearly $250,000 in just a few short years. As our largest retail partner to date, FORCE is humbled to be the beneficiary of such overwhelming generosity that is furthering our mission and helping bring awareness to genetic testing and prevention.

By sharing FORCE’s logo and mission on each packet sold, TELETIES is placing potentially life-saving information in the hands of tens of thousands of people each year!

DR. BAILEY SKIN CARE

In 2021, Dr. Bailey Skin Care became FORCE’s newest retail partner! As a board-certified dermatologist and breast cancer survivor, Dr. Cynthia Bailey donates a portion of each Dr. Bailey’s Chemotherapy Skin Care Kit to FORCE. We are grateful to Dr. Bailey for her support.
We applaud those who raised funds for our mission in 2021, both in-person and virtually. FORCE would like to recognize a few of the people and organizations that showed their support, including:

- The unwavering commitment of Marlon Sumlin, Lauri Haase-Sumlin and the National Auto Sports Association (NASA) Great Lakes Region Racing Group
- Lauri Haase-Sumlin’s car from the NASA Great Lakes Region Racing Group
- The innovation of Sam Cohen in his college 4x4 basketball tournament
The energy of Jill Rafia in her Cycle to Empower Event

The determination of Carly Miller in her awesome 2021 swim

All the participants in our running events, both at the runDisney events at the Walt Disney World® Resort in Orlando, Florida and at the 2021 TCS New York City Marathon

“FORCE gave me the tools to be a better partner and support system for Lauri in her fight against cancer, as well as a resource to get answers to my questions.”

– Marlon Sumlin
In 2021, FORCE spent more than $1.4 million on programs to support, educate and advocate for the hereditary cancer community.

**REVENUE AND SUPPORT:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
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<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
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<td>Grants (Government and Private)</td>
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**EXPENSES:**

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<tr>
<td>Programs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
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<td>(12%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Management and General</td>
<td>$245,085</td>
<td>(12%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,977,202</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NET ASSETS BEGINNING OF THE YEAR:** $2,100,997

**NET ASSETS END OF YEAR:** $2,464,315

**CHANGE IN NET ASSETS:** $363,318