Dear Friends and Supporters,

Since Concern Foundation’s inception in 1968, new discoveries in research and medicine continue to be made at an exciting pace. One of the most important discoveries so far is that cancer is not a single disease, but rather hundreds of diseases, each one developing through various pathways with unique responses to available treatments.

So while today millions of cancer patients are winning the battle with this disease, far too many still are not as fortunate. This is why we will remain steadfast in our quest to conquer cancer for as long as necessary. Our board’s leadership and commitment to Concern Foundation’s original “concern” are unwavering: to provide salary support to further the careers of gifted young cancer researchers and put an end to all cancers in our lifetime.

We all know that there is still a long road ahead of us in unlocking the secrets of cancer, so we must continue to develop new avenues for reaching deeper into our community to raise all of the necessary funds to accomplish our mission. We believe strongly that with your support and the precision with which our Scientific Review Committee evaluates each grant proposal, we are on the right path.

I hope that you continue to be inspired and committed to Concern Foundation after reading our annual report. Concern funded researchers have been incredibly productive, and we are proud to play a small role in their successes. The independent audited financial report will give you some insight into how efficient we are in putting your donations to the microscope without wasteful spending.

As Concern Foundation grows year after year, and with the commitment and generous support of friends like you, we are closer than ever to fulfilling our mission to conquer this disease once and for all.

Sincerely,

Derek Alpert
President
WHAT
Concern Foundation’s mission is to fund innovative research worldwide in the quest to conquer cancer. Since its founding in 1968, Concern has been a pioneer in the advancement of cancer immunology—the study of the relationship between the immune system and cancer. Our objective is to further the careers of gifted young cancer researchers (Assistant Professor or equivalent) whose work shows great promise, but may not be sufficiently advanced enough in their careers to justify funding from the government or other major funding sources. We focus on finding the most talented scientists with brilliant approaches to unlocking the mystery of cancer.

WHY
“We have reached the point of diminishing returns with the available cancer therapies...it’s no longer acceptable in the 21st century to deliver more chemotherapy or radiation. New, novel therapies are necessary.”
Laurence Cooper, Scientific Review Committee member, perhaps said it best when he stated the importance of providing start up grants to young investigators. Concern Foundation helps to bridge a critical gap in much-needed research funding, and we believe that this unique approach will continue to fuel progress and effective therapies in the treatment of cancer. For 47 years, Concern Foundation has made it possible to transform new ideas from the mind of a researcher into groundbreaking innovations in cancer research.

HOW
New grant proposals are accepted every two years and undergo a rigorous peer review process. Potential applicants are pre-screened with a Letter of Intent, which ensures that only qualified investigators complete the thorough and detailed grant application. Each application is then administratively reviewed. A primary and secondary review follows by Concern Foundation’s Scientific Review Committee. Those applications that advance through these stringent levels are then discussed in further detail at the biennial Scientific Review Committee meeting.

Concern Foundation strives to recruit a cross-section of new and established cancer researchers who comprise our renowned Scientific Review Committee. These exceptional men and women guide our grant review process and help us select the top researchers from a competitive pool of applicants.

Each grant recipient is awarded a $60,000 grant. Provided that sufficient progress is achieved in the first year, Concern awards a second year grant of $60,000. It is the Foundation’s hope that after two years of funding, Concern-sponsored researchers go on to publish their findings in major journals, obtain larger awards to further their work, and advance their positions at respected institutions across the United States and abroad.
Eyal Arbely  
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev  
Live cell and structural studies of p53 acetylation induced apoptosis

Barbara Bedogni  
Case Western Reserve University  
Targeting a novel MT1-MMP/Notch1 interaction in melanoma

Michael Berger  
Hebrew University of Jerusalem - Hadassah School of Medicine  
The role of the quiescence inducer, SLFN2, and its human paralogs in T-ALL

Michael Boyce  
Duke University Medical Center  
Protein glycosylation in cancer cell signaling and metabolism

Mark Chiang  
The Regents of the University of Michigan  
The collaboration between NOTCH1 and ZMIZ1 in T-cell leukemia

Muller Fabbri  
Children's Hospital, Los Angeles  
Tumor Associated Macrophages exosomeic miRNAs in Neuroblastoma biology

Sarah-Maria Fendt  
Vlaams Institut voor Biotechnologie, Belgium  
Regulation of amino acid metabolism and proliferation by S6K1 in cancer

Ziv Granot  
Hebrew University of Jerusalem  
Dissecting the mechanisms of tumor-cell recognition by neutrophils

Deborah Kelly  
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University  
Molecular Basis for BRCA1 in Transcription-Coupled Repair Mechanisms

Albert Kim  
Washington University in St. Louis  
Regulation of Brain Cancer Stem Cells by the Anaphase-Promoting Complex

George-Lucian Moldovan  
The Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine  
Preservation of genetic stability during DNA replication

Paolo Provenzano  
Regents of the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities  
Stroma targeting therapy for pancreatic cancer

Damien Reynaud  
Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center  
Systemic Metabolic Disorders and Leukemic Clonal Dominance

Jean-Francois Rual  
The Regents of the University of Michigan  
Aberrant epigenetic control of notch signals in medulloblastoma

Hae-Ri Song  
New York University  
Investigating the role of NFIA-NFkB axis in glioma pathogenesis

Gang ‘Greg’ Wang  
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
The role of KDM5 histone lysine demethylases in leukemia and lymphoma

Elizabeth Yeh  
Medical University of Southern Carolina  
A Novel Targeted Approach for Triple-negative Breast Cancer
PEDIATRIC CANCER – BRAIN TUMOR
Anat Epstein
Children’s Hospital Los Angeles
Novel Molecular Model of P1D1 Function in Pediatric Brain Tumors
Funding matched by Mrs. Mimi Feldman & NSBN LLP

ADOLESCENT & YOUNG ADULT CANCERS
The Adolescent and Young Adult Program (AYA@USC) at USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center & Children’s Hospital Los Angeles
Tissue Registry, Social Worker & Data Coordinator
This grant is co-funded by Marion Brucker Legacy Fund

TESTICULAR CANCER
The Adolescent And Young Adult (Aya@Usc) Program in partnership with Los Angeles Unified School District
Pilot Testicular Cancer project for early detection/self-examinations by students
This grant funded by a portion of the proceeds raised during the 2016 LA Marathon

POPULATION SCIENCES – SECONDARY CANCER DEVELOPMENT
Julie Wolfson, M.D.
City of Hope
Disparities in Adolescent & Young Adult Cancers
Funding matched by the Teller & Shapiro Family

CONCERN FOUNDATION STEM CELL RESEARCH AWARD
Dr. Amander Clark, PhD
UCLA Broad Stem Cell Research Center
Conquering Germ Cell Tumors in Children and Young Adults
This grant is co-funded by Wendy & Tom Nogradi and NSBN LLP

PROSTATE CANCER
Dr. Jeremy Jones
City of Hope
Understanding the Relationship between Low Testosterone & Prostate Cancer Risk
This grant is co-funded Myrna & Stanley Zimmerman and the Marion Brucker Legacy Fund

PROSTATE CANCER
Dr. Owen Witte
UCLA Broad Stem Cell Research Center
Identification and Functional Characterization of Kinases Driving Prostate Cancer Metastasis to Bone
This grant is funded through Concern by Myrna & Stanley Zimmerman
Amander Clark, PhD
UCLA Eli and Edythe Broad Center of Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Research

CONQUERING GERM CELL TUMORS IN CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS

Among the Broad Stem Cell Center’s first recruits to UCLA nearly 10 years ago, Dr. Clark has a deep knowledge of stem cell biology and early human development. And now, with funding from Concern, she is working with pediatric clinical fellow, Joanna Gell, MD, to ensure her work can one day be applied to the treatment of pediatric germ cell cancers. Here is her story:

My father is germ cell tumor survivor. He wasn’t even 30 years old when he was diagnosed and, thankfully, successfully treated. I was only eight. As a result of this experience, I have had a long interest in understanding the cause of germ cell tumors and improving treatment options after diagnosis.

I am very grateful for the contribution from the Concern Foundation, which has enabled me to explore how germ cell tumors develop. It has also provided me with the opportunity to collaborate with a talented UCLA Hematology Oncology fellow, Dr. Joanna Gell, who sees adolescent and young adult germ cell tumor patients in her clinic.

Together and with Concern’s support we have identified a new tumor marker that we believe may be the cause of germ cell tumors. With this understanding, we will be better positioned to develop new and more effective therapies.

Thank you Concern!

Jean-Francois Rual, PhD
University of Michigan School of Medicine

ABERRANT EPIGENETIC CONTROL OF NOTCH SIGNALS IN MEDULLOBLASTOMA

Concern had the pleasure of visiting Dr. Jean-Francois Rual’s laboratory at the University of Michigan, where he shared the progress of his research as well as potential applications for the future.

Dr. Rual is looking at notch signaling in cells, the gene L3MBTL3 (hereafter referred to as L3), and the affects they have on brain tumors. Notch and L3 compete with each other to bind to cells. He has found that L3 works as a brain tumor suppressor and in active brain tumors the L3 gene is deleted. This allows the tumor to proliferate and grow. The lab found that if L3 is reinserted, the tumor shrinks and almost disappears, validating their hypothesis.

The Rual lab is using Concern’s second year of funding to work on a model that allows them to turn L3 on and off in the brain. This will enable them to study the mechanisms and how that system works which is important and has the potential to greatly impact treatments and population sciences. In children, brain tumors are generally treated pretty successfully but in some cases they also need radiation treatments which can cause developmental and secondary issues later in life. Researchers are looking for newer, better therapies like L3 to help treat those tumors that don’t correlate with traditional treatments or look similar but behave differently.

His work has some very interesting possibilities for different types of cancer therapies beyond brain tumors. For example in Leukemia patients notch signaling can be very therapeutic. Since Notch and L3 compete for the same cell receptors, if they can turn L3 on and off it could prove to be a very beneficial treatment for Leukemia and other diseases as well.
**CONCERN FOUNDATION ONGOING RESEARCH SUPPORT: KAROLINSKA INSTITUTE**

Karolinska Institute under the direction of George Klein, M.D.

Stockholm Sweden

Concern Foundation, with matching funds from Cancer Research Institute (CRI), provides an annual endowment to the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, Sweden. Under the direction of George Klein, MD, this grant supported 23 researchers who are developing novel approaches to cancer researchers in the following four areas:

**AREA A. EPSTEIN-BARR VIRUS (EBV)**

**A1: Molecular studies of viral latency and transformation**
- Elena Kashuba
- Suhas Darekar
- Larysa Kovalevska
- Alexel Dmitriev
- Alina Matvieieva
- Anastasia Magoulopoulou

**A2: EBV-host cell interactions**
- Daniel Salamon
- Tomasz Kallas

**AREA B. ONCOGENES AND TUMOR SUPPRESSOR GENES**

**B1: Studies on the S18 mitochondrial ribosomal protein family**
- Muhammad Mushtaq

**B2: Discovery and analysis of new suppressor genes**
- Vladimir Kashuba
- Larysa Kovalevska
- Alina Matvieieva
- Alexel Dmitriev

**AREA C. TUMOR IMMUNOLOGY**

**Noemi Nagy**
- Harsha Madapura
- Abu Eahsan Rasul
- Ari Stoppelenburg

**AREA D. INHIBITION OF TUMOR CELL GROWTH BY STROMA CELLS**

**Emilie Flaberg**
- Andrej Alekeseenko

**Hayrettin Guvén**
- Benedek Bozoky

**Twana Alkasalias**
- Elvira Gregorieva

**Tatiana Pavlova**
- Vladimir Kashuba

**System Biology Studies:**
- Peter Csermely
- Andrej Alekeseenko
- Tamas Korcsmaros

**EBV-** Presence of EBV specific T cell responses in infected humanized mice (mice that have been reconstituted with human immune system). Total splenocyte populations (T and B cells) of EBV infected humanized mice were plated with or without the cell inhibitor cyclosporine A (CsA). After 4 weeks, individual wells were photographed to record the size of the growing clumps representing EBV transformed cells that survived the specific T cell control. Growth of the EBV transformed cells occurred when the T cells were inhibited by CsA (right side of the picture), while these EBV infected B cells did not grow in the presence of T cells (control). This growth pattern proves the existence of EBV specific T cells in the spleen.
For over forty years, Concern Foundation has been proud to support the fine work of the Lautenberg Center. This annual endowment is supported by a generous grant from the Ahmanson Foundation. The following page summarizes the incredible work of just two of our funded cancer immunology researchers at the Lautenberg Center.

**BELOW ARE THE SCIENTISTS CURRENTLY SUPPORTED BY THE CONCERN FOUNDATION ENDOWMENT:**

- Rami I. Aqeilan
- Michal Baniyash
- Yinon Ben Neriah
- Michael Berger
- Eli Kedar
- Moshe Kotler
- Ofer Mandelboim
- David Naor
- Eli Pikarsky
- Dana Wolf
- Eitan Yefenof
Recognition of Pathogens by NK Cells
Professor Ofer Mandelboim

Natural Killer (NK) lymphocytes are known to recognize and kill self-cells that have been altered by viral infection or malignant transformation. Recently, however, the group of Professor Ofer Mandelboim has discovered that NK cells interact with bacteria in a unique manner. Rather than killing bacterial targets, bacterial particles induce a death response in NK cells by adhering to them, thereby paralyzing their killing activity. This discovery bears important implications to the understanding of how bacteria attenuates immunity against infections and cancer.

In addition to a very successful past year of research that resulted in 17 publications, Dr. Mandelboim won the Kaye award in 2015 and was selected to be a member in the Israeli Prize selection committee for Life Sciences.

The photo depicts a scanning electron microscopy image of E. Coli bacteria (green) adhering to NK cells (red) and activating a death response in NK cells which are in direct contact with bacteria particles.

Characterizing Inflammatory Links in Liver Cancer
Professor Eli Pikarsky

The link between inflammation and cancer is now established, yet the underlying molecular mechanisms are unresolved. As tumors progress, they modulate the inflammatory cells towards a protumorigenic phenotype. We have shown that the inflammatory cells reciprocate by sculpting the parenchymal epithelial cells. I hypothesize that these reciprocal interactions lie at the heart of the link between inflammation and cancer. Hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC)—the most common form of primary liver cancer, is the second leading cause of cancer death worldwide and is a prototype of inflammation induced cancer.

We employ several strategies to analyze the changes that occur in inflammatory cells before and after tumor emergence, based on our preliminary findings showing that changes in inflammatory cells precede tumorigenesis. We are comprehensively mapping the changing inflammatory microenvironment in mouse models of inflammation induced HCC. Using genetic manipulation strategies, coupled to cell isolation techniques we are delineating the molecular cues that mediate these changes and are analyzing the functional role of key mediators of these processes in the malignant process. We have recently characterized a new form of inflammation which is characterized by the presence of focal collections of immune cells (Finkin et al, Nature Immunology, in press). Surprisingly, this form of inflammation promotes cancer growth by hijacking molecules which are secreted by lymphocytes, which are usually associated with anti-tumor responses. This finding could impact immunotherapy of cancer, wherein lymphocytes are usually considered positive mediators of anti-cancer responses.
2015 LA Marathon

The 2015 ASICS Los Angeles Marathon was our most successful one yet, raising over $130,000! Team Concern has never failed in our six years with the LA Marathon to make us proud, and instead we get stronger each year. We are inspired by Team Concern’s dedication to raising funds and awareness for cancer research. We love cheering on the Team Concern runners and walkers at our Cheer Zone and we are so excited for next year’s events.

Cycle With Soul

On October 4, Concern’s second annual Cycle With Soul fundraiser raised over $18,000 in Santa Monica. The SoulCycle charity ride has now raised more than $32,000 in two years, and plans for a third event are already under way.

NSNBN LLP 2015 Annual Charity Golf Tournament

The 2015 NSBN Charity Golf tournament was yet another wonderful event, raising $20,000 for cancer research. We enjoyed being out at the tournament to represent Concern and we greatly appreciate all the NSBN has done for us. The funds raised were directed toward stem cell research at UCLA. We are excited for the years ahead in our partnership with NSBN.
Universal Studios Day for the Kids

October 25, 2015

On Sunday, October 25, Concern Foundation staff, volunteers and over 300 special guests took over Universal Studios Hollywood at our 27th annual Day for the Kids.

Hundreds of pediatric cancer patients and their guests got the VIP treatment at Universal Studios, including a delicious lunch, face painting, balloon animals and best of all, front-of-the-line passes! We couldn’t have asked for a better event.

We are so very grateful to all of Concern Foundation’s wonderful volunteers who make the event such a memorable one for these kids. And of course, the biggest thank you to Universal Studios and the incredible Discover A Star Foundation for being the perfect hosts.

Holiday Party at Paramount Pictures

December 13, 2015

The annual Holiday Party is simply one of the best days of the year. Seeing so many young pediatric cancer patients and their families having a good time is just another wonderful reminder of how Concern is truly making a difference in our community. With a movie, lunch, makeovers, gifts, treats and more, we are so happy to be able to welcome 600 guests to Paramount Pictures each year. Huge thanks to Paramount, Santa and our amazing volunteers for making this an exceptional day.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSETS</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>$ 458,699</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>3,665,539</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pledges receivable, net</td>
<td>453,845</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beneficial interest in charitable remainder trusts</td>
<td>232,359</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property and equipment, net</td>
<td>10,975</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other assets</td>
<td>47,809</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 4,869,226</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grants payable</td>
<td>$ 592,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable and accrued expenses</td>
<td>39,888</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred revenue</td>
<td>543,545</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,175,931</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Commitments**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Net assets</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undesignated</td>
<td>200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board-designated</td>
<td>1,295,057</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total unrestricted</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,495,057</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporarily restricted</td>
<td>277,866</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanently restricted</td>
<td>1,920,372</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total net assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,693,295</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total liabilities and net assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 4,869,226</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## CONCERN FOUNDATION AND SUBSIDIARY
### (A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION)
#### CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
For the Year Ended December 31, 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue and support</th>
<th>Unrestricted</th>
<th>Temporarily Restricted</th>
<th>Permanently Restricted</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>$134,062</td>
<td>$212,500</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$346,562</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special events, net</td>
<td>1,049,017</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,079,017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campaign</td>
<td>20,633</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>20,633</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment income</td>
<td>42,926</td>
<td>60,686</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>103,612</td>
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<tr>
<td>Change in value of charitable</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>remainder trusts</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(21,813)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(21,813)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net realized and unrealized losses on investments</td>
<td>(109,686)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(109,686)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets released from restrictions</td>
<td>351,707</td>
<td>(351,707)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total revenue and support</td>
<td>1,488,659</td>
<td>(70,334)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,418,325</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Functional expenses                        |              |                        |                        |        |
| Program services                           | 1,546,303    | -                      | -                      | 1,546,303 |
| Management and general                     | 98,020       | -                      | -                      | 98,020  |
| Fundraising                                | 198,423      | -                      | -                      | 198,423 |
| Total functional expenses                  | 1,843,346    | -                      | -                      | 1,843,346 |

| Change in net assets                       | (354,687)    | (70,334)               | -                      | (425,021) |

| Net assets, beginning of year              | 1,849,744    | 348,200                | 1,920,372              | 4,118,316 |

| Net assets, end of year                    | $1,495,057   | $277,866               | $1,920,372             | $3,693,295 |
Nancy Eisenstadt, Chair
Derek Alpert, President
Lexy and John Carroll, Vice Chairpersons
Michael Firestein, Secretary/Legal Counsel
Marc Lauter, Chief Financial Officer

Anne Barnett
Bill Barnett
Harvey Beesen
Nancy Blecker
Shelby Blecker
Mark Bolour
Sheila Bolour
Barry Brucker
Sue Brucker
Carla Daly
David Entin
Steve Fortner
Steve Freed
Jim Freedman
Alan Gittelson
Nancy Gittelson
Robert Goldman
Lorene Goldman
Jackie Gottlieb
Stanley Gottlieb
Max Liszt
Marc Luber
Ian Metrose
Lauri Metrose
Frank Mottek
Jessica Nicastro
Wendy Nogradi
Tom Nogradi
Debbie Powell
Rick Powell
Joyce Powell
Larry Powell
Laurie Resch
Dana Schwartz
Lisi Teller
Steve Teller
Steve Ullman
Briana Vickers
Scott Vickers
Myrna Zimmerman
Stan Zimmerman
Concern Foundation has raised over $57 Million to fund cancer research through donations from individuals like yourself! Help us CONquer canCER Now.

- Make a monetary donation today.
- Become an Annual Sponsor and enjoy sponsorship benefits
- Send a tribute in honor or in memory of someone special
- Be a part of our signature Block Party fund raising event
- Start your own fundraiser
- Be a part of Team Concern by participating in the LA marathon or another athletic event or activity of your choice
- Take steps to create a planned gift
- Donate your time and expertise by volunteering
- Get your place of business involved and become a community partner or corporate sponsor
- Help spread the word about Concern Foundation

Each year, 14 million men, women, and children worldwide are diagnosed with some type of cancer. Continued research to find better, smarter, more effective treatments is urgently needed. Only with your help can we continue to fund innovative research and bring breakthrough treatments and “cures” to more cancer patients.
CONCERN FOUNDATION
FOR CANCER RESEARCH

11111 West Olympic Blvd. Suite 214
Los Angeles, CA 90064
tel: 310.360.6100
fax: 310.473.8300
info@concernfoundation.org
www.concernfoundation.org

Please consider Concern Foundation in your estate plan.