



GRATITUDE REPORT

2015-2025

Cerebral Palsy
ALLIANCE
RESEARCH FOUNDATION

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A decade of moving forward

This year marks ten years of progress at Cerebral Palsy Alliance Research Foundation. It is a milestone worth celebrating! In that time, researchers, innovators, families, donors, and partners have come together to push forward real change for people with disabilities.

You have shown up, again and again, to support a future where comfort, choice, access, and dignity are possible for everyone. You make a world of difference. Thank you.

The world can feel heavy right now. Hard to navigate. For many people with disabilities, it has always been this way. **And that is why this work matters so deeply.** It does not just move science forward; it moves society forward.

As we look to the next ten years, we will advocate even harder. We will invest in life-changing research and breakthrough technologies. We will back innovators with lived experience through Remarkable US. We will strengthen community through STEPTember. We will share stories and knowledge through our podcast.

We will do all of this with one vision in mind: a world where people with disabilities can live the fullest lives they choose.

We are hopeful because we have seen what is possible. We have seen ideas turn into impact. We have seen progress take root. **And we know there is a bright future ahead.**

Thank you for being part of this journey—past, present, and future.

With my deepest gratitude,

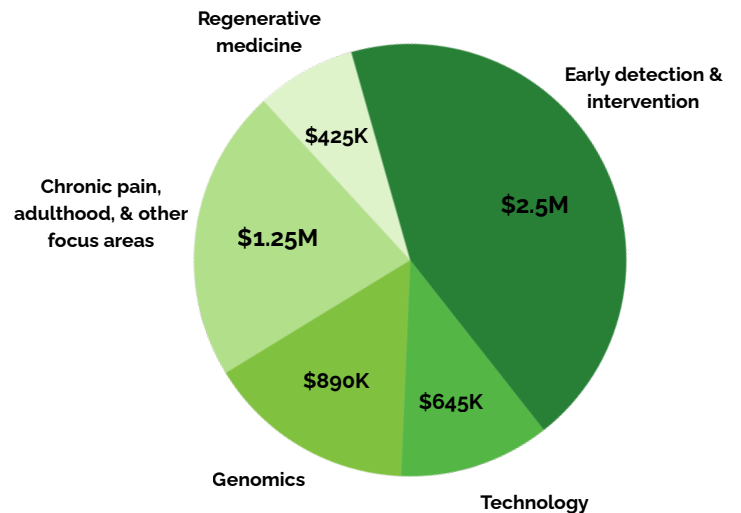


A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Chris Olver'.

Chris Olver
Executive Director

Advancing care from day one

Over the past decade, CPARF has invested in research that does more than advance science. **It changes what is possible for real families.** To date, we've invested \$5.7 million in 48 ongoing or past research studies and fellowships.



One of our recent investments is a powerful example. A team at the University of Virginia is developing an automated video-based movement analysis tool that can detect early signs of cerebral palsy in infants before they leave the hospital. **Today, most babies are diagnosed months or even years later, after critical windows for early intervention have passed.**

The long-term goal is for this to function much like a standard hearing test—a universal screening tool used for every newborn. The system uses machine learning to identify high-risk movement patterns with remarkable accuracy, giving families answers sooner, and opening the door to therapies that support development in the earliest stages of life.

This is more than a breakthrough for cerebral palsy. **It represents a shift in how we care for infants, how we guide parents, and how we ensure every baby has the best possible start.**

92%

accuracy in early data, identifying high-risk movement patterns months earlier than traditional diagnosis methods.

Research that moves us forward

Over the past ten years, CPARF has invested in 48 research studies that advance care, improve daily life, and expand possibilities for people with cerebral palsy and disabilities.

These projects reflect real, lasting progress.



Dr. Amy Bailes, Cincinnati Children's Hospital

2024

Leading a study to **standardize how pain is identified and classified in adults** with cerebral palsy. This work aims to establish a clear national protocol to improve diagnosis, treatment, and quality of life for millions of adults.

Dr. Collin Bowersock, Northern Arizona University

2023

Validated a **wearable robotic ankle exoskeleton designed for daily use at home**. This device strengthens key walking muscles, reduces effort, and has the potential to make everyday movement easier for people with cerebral palsy.

Dr. Zachary Vesoulis, Washington University in St. Louis

2019

Evaluated a **noninvasive method to monitor brain oxygen levels in preterm infants**. The study confirmed the technology's safety and revealed previously unseen hypoxia patterns, which are periods when oxygen levels drop too low, guiding future innovation in early detection and neonatal care.

Dr. Alexander Hoon, Johns Hopkins University

2017

Identified **patterns and risk factors that contribute to chronic pain** in people with cerebral palsy. This research lays essential groundwork for more personalized pain management and treatments that improve long-term comfort and quality of life.

Dr. Nathalie Maitre, Nationwide Children's Hospital

2016

Developed a pacifier-activated device that uses a mother's voice to **encourage stronger feeding in infants at high risk** for cerebral palsy. This early intervention improves feeding skills in the NICU and has the potential to transform care for newborns worldwide.

Investing in remarkable solutions



Photo from Biomotum

Innovation drives inclusion. That's why CPARF launched Remarkable US, the first nonprofit-funded disability technology accelerator in the U.S. **By funding innovation, we help startups create life-changing technology for people with disabilities, older adults, and those with chronic illnesses.**



Photo from WearWorks

Our direct investments follow a regenerative capital model that supports the long-term sustainability of both the startups and Remarkable US. **Holding equity means we're fully committed to each startup's long-term success.**

Remarkable US is built on the belief that progress is strongest when people with lived experience lead. When technology is shaped with the disability community, it becomes more useful and more likely to improve daily life.



Photo from Hominid X

Many founders in this space come from marginalized communities, including women, immigrants, people of color, and disabled innovators. **Traditional investors often overlook them, which is why CPARF's support matters so much.**

Since 2022, Remarkable US has supported 18 startups that together have raised more than \$28 million to expand accessibility and independence worldwide.

“We could not be more excited to welcome these companies into the Remarkable US community. Each is addressing meaningful challenges for people with disabilities, and we’re proud to help bring their innovations to more people—more quickly and affordably.”

— Molly Lazarus, Director of Remarkable US

Funding ideas that empower

Meet the 2025 Remarkable US startups



Photo from The Ask Grandma Project



The Ask Grandma Project is a **mobile health app created by an Indigenous speech-language pathologist** at Johns Hopkins University. It offers caregivers culturally grounded guidance on child development, blending science with Indigenous storytelling and care. The app empowers families with knowledge, connection, and trusted support when they need it most.



Blueberry Technology developed BBGo, an **autonomous mobility vehicle designed for airports that helps passengers with limited mobility travel independently**. Using smart navigation and intuitive design, BBGo makes it easier to move through busy terminals with comfort and confidence. The result is a smoother, more dignified airport experience for everyone.



Glidance is shaping the future of independent mobility through Glide, the **world's first AI-powered primary mobility aid for people who are blind or have low vision**. Glide helps users navigate the world with confidence and independence, combining robotics, safety, and intuitive guidance to support everyday movement.



Good Trouble is **redefining what it means to play by centering accessibility in game design**. Through innovative production methods and collaboration with disabled gamers, they're creating and curating games that everyone can enjoy. Good Trouble is proving that when accessibility leads, creativity follows.

Meet the 2024 Remarkable US startups



Photo from We Hear You



Big Karma creates **video games and digital worlds where disability is a source of power**, not limitation. Their action heroes, known as Phenoms, turn what sets them apart into what makes them unstoppable. Big Karma is building a universe where everyone can see themselves as extraordinary.



Leantime is a **people-first project management system built for the way real minds work**. Using AI and behavioral science, it helps non-project managers and neurodiverse thinkers—including those with ADHD, dyslexia, and autism—organize, focus, and thrive. Leantime makes project management more human, accessible, and empowering for everyone.



We Hear You® creates **assistive technology that turns barriers into gateways**. Their solutions improve physical access in public and private spaces, making the world more equitable for people with disabilities. Their work reimagines everyday environments so more people can move through them freely.



WheelPad designs and builds modular **home additions that make accessibility possible in weeks, not months**. Their adaptable, wheelchair-accessible units transform existing homes into safe, comfortable spaces for people with mobility challenges. WheelPad helps families stay together by bringing independence home.

Meet the 2023 Remarkable US startups

aurie

Aurie is transforming urological care with a **reusable, no-touch catheter system designed to reduce urinary tract infections**. By combining innovation with user-centered design, Aurie offers a safer, more sustainable solution for intermittent catheter users. It's a breakthrough that puts comfort, health, and dignity first.



Cephable (formerly Enabled Play) offers **adaptive tools that let people control technology** in ways that work for them. By supporting voice, movement, expressions, and personalized inputs, Cephable helps level the playing field so more people can access, use, and enjoy the technology they rely on.



Hominid X develops advanced **assistive grasping devices that restore capability and confidence** for people with hand disabilities. By combining innovative design with human-centered engineering, they empower users to perform everyday tasks with ease. Hominid X is redefining independence, one movement at a time.



SpineX develops **non-invasive spinal neuromodulation technology to support mobility and motor function in children** with cerebral palsy and other disabilities. Their device uses gentle electrical stimulation during therapy to help improve posture, balance, and voluntary movement. SpineX is changing the game for at home- and clinic-ready options that enhance independence and quality of life.

Springrose

Springrose designs **adaptive intimate apparel that blends comfort, dignity, and independence**. Thoughtfully engineered for women with limited mobility, their designs make dressing easier without sacrificing style or confidence. Springrose is redefining what it means to feel good in your own skin.



XR Navigation is reimagining how we explore the world with Audiom—the **first fully inclusive digital map experience**. Combining visual, auditory, and tactile feedback, Audiom makes navigation accessible for everyone, including people who are blind or low vision. It's a new way to see, hear, and feel the world around you.

Meet the 2022 Remarkable US startups



Photo from Participant Assistive Products



Biomotum develops **intelligent, wearable mobility systems that support rehabilitation and daily movement**. Their technology is designed for a wide range of users in medical and therapeutic settings, empowering people to build strength, improve mobility, and live more active and independent lives.



Participant Assistive Products designs affordable, durable assistive products that help people with disabilities fully participate in life and community. They are on a mission to make **quality mobility solutions accessible to everyone**. Their work ensures that no one is left behind when it comes to independence and inclusion.



WearWorks is creating **a world you can feel**. By harnessing the power of touch through haptic technology, they design experiences that communicate information without sight or sound. From navigation to connection, WearWorks is making the world more accessible—one vibration at a time.

Conversations that open doors

The “Changing What’s Possible” podcast has made research, technology, and lived experience stories accessible. It brings cutting-edge cerebral palsy research and disability innovation directly to the people who benefit most. Listeners hear from scientists, assistive technology founders, and people with disabilities who use these tools every day. **By sharing knowledge openly and widely, the podcast helps more people access information, feel seen, and stay connected to what is possible now and what is coming next.**



38,543

total listens across all episodes and platforms.



46

episodes released, sharing research, stories, and lived experience.



38

expert guests including scientists, founders, clinicians, caregivers, and advocates.

A community in motion

STEPtember has grown into a strong and thriving community of people moving with purpose. Each year, new participants join seasoned supporters to raise awareness and drive meaningful funding for people with cerebral palsy and other disabilities. **Together, we're building momentum that lasts far beyond the month itself.**



117,818 people have participated in STEPtember over the past nine years.



20,179,765,516 steps were logged by participants moving in ways that work for them.



\$11,510,496 raised to date to fund research, technology, and support.



50 states and 55 countries represented to date, building a community that reaches far beyond one month.

Our leadership

Board of Directors

CPARF's Board of Directors includes leaders from research, business, and advocacy. They guide our strategy, support innovation, and ensure we make progress improving the lives of people with disabilities.

- **Lizette Dunay**, Chair, Disability Advocate
- **David Berman**, Treasurer, Co-Head, Macquarie Capital
- **Matt LoSardo**, Treasurer Elect, Principal, Thoma Bravo
- **Andrew Buchanan**, Principal, AB Communicates
- **Trevor Croker**, CEO & Managing Director, Aristocrat
- **Beena Kamath-Rayne, MD**, SVP, Global Health & Clinical Skills, American Academy of Pediatrics
- **Rhea May, PhD**, Executive Marketing Leader, Molecular Imaging - PDx US CAN, GE HealthCare

Council of Governors

Our Council of Governors brings together experienced professionals and parents whose lives are touched by cerebral palsy. They offer leadership, fundraising support, and insight to help power CPARF's mission.

- **Thomas Laughlin**, Chair of Council of Governors, Partner - Dallas, Kirkland & Ellis
- **Dustin Bartolomeo-Damon**, People Intelligence & Analytics Director, PwC
- **Cameron Brown**, Executive Director, Amber Capital
- **Juliette Cottrill**, Partner, Head Of Investor Relations & Business Development, Hudson Bay Capital
- **Chiara Cummings**, Associate General Counsel, WPP
- **Jaya Kala, MD**, Associate Professor, Director of Onco-nephrology Division of Renal Disease & Hypertension, Department of Internal Medicine, UTHealth Science Center, Houston - McGovern Medical School
- **David Yusen**, Vendor Marketing Manager, Keller Supply

Scientific Advisory Board

CPARF's Scientific Advisory Board is made up of leading experts in medicine and therapy. Their research and guidance drive new discoveries and help improve the lives of people with cerebral palsy.

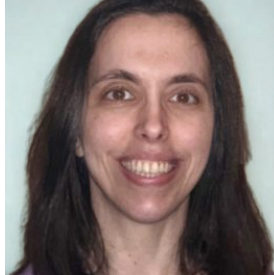
- **Nadia Badawi AM**, PhD, FRACP, FRCPI, MSC
- **Bernadette T. Gillick**, PhD, MSPT, PT
- **Beena Kamath-Rayne, MD**, MPH, FAAP
- **Iona Novak**, PhD, MSc (Hons), BAppSc
- **Yvonne Wu**, MD, MPH

Our team

At CPARF, our team brings together passionate professionals with lived experience, strong nonprofit expertise, and a shared goal to advance research and improve life for people with disabilities.



Chris Olver
Executive Director



Jocelyn Cohen
Vice President of Programs
and Operations



Elizabeth Boyte
Director of Development



Molly Lazarus
Director of Remarkable US



Jennifer Lavi
Strategic Partnerships
Manager



Kristie Hagen
Annual Giving Manager



Jasmine Ferrer
Donor Database
Administrator



**Dr. Joshua D. Allison-
Burbank**
Indigenous Health Advisor

Rethinking accessibility together

At CPARF, we listen first, learn together, and create solutions that work in the real world. We believe progress is possible when people with lived experience lead the way.



You make progress possible. Join CPARF as we celebrate 10 years of advancing research and improving lives. Learn more, donate, or get involved at cparf.org.

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