



2025 AHTF ANNUAL REPORT

MISSION: IMPROVE PATIENT OUTCOMES BY PROMOTING EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE THROUGH FUNDING CLINICAL AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND EDUCATION.

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Message from the Chair



Gary Solomon, MBA, MS, OTR/L, CHT

Dear colleagues and friends,

Our focus on advancing research, education, and clinical excellence in hand therapy has continued to drive innovation and improve patient care. Through generous contributions from donors and sponsors, we have expanded our grants, funded impactful research and education experiences, and supported the next generation of hand therapists.

The [AHTF Board of Directors](#) works tirelessly to review and award grants and scholarships, raise funds, and guide AHTF toward fully attaining our mission. We continue to evolve with the changing environment and look for new methods to support the hand therapy professional specialty.

American Hand Therapy Foundation Board Members



Gary Solomon MBA, MS, OTR/L, CHT
Chair



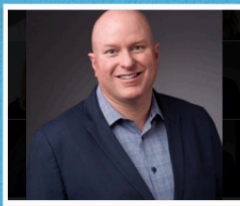
Alexandra Mackenzie
OTR/L, CHT, CLT
Vice-President



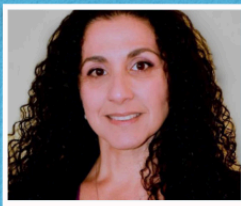
Gretchen L. Bachman
PhD, OTR/L, OTD, MBA/HCM, CEAS, CHT
Treasurer, Director of Finance



Stacy Lynn Hite PT, DPT, MS, CHT
Secretary



Kirk Gober
OTR, OTD, CHT
Director of Fundraising



Marisol Monasterio
OTR, MOT, CHT
Director of Communications



April C. Cowan
OTR, OTD, CHT
Director of Grants



Caroline W. Stegink Jansen
PT, PhD, CHT
Grant Review Committee Chair; Director
of Engagement Division



Hannah Gift
OTR/L, CHT, COMT UE, CEAS
Education Division Chair



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MD, F.A.C.S., F.A.A.O.S.
Board Member



Rebecca L. Ehretsman
PhD, OTR/L
Board Member



Barbara Winthrop
OTR, MA, CHT, FAOTA
Board Member



Dorit Aaron OTR, MA, CHT, FAOTA
Board Member

Operating Highlights

In 2025, we were excited to introduce the “[Hand in Hand Research Grant](#)”, a \$50,000 funding opportunity made possible through a new partnership between the American Occupational Therapy Foundation, the American Society of Hand Therapists, and the American Hand Therapy Foundation! Applications are currently under review and will be awarded in 2026!

Our 2025 research grants awarded include the Burkhauler New Investigator Grant and Tri Alliance Grant, honoring the ASHT Founders. We also awarded the Jan Albrecht Scholarship and AHTF (Orthotics) Education Scholarship.

Our Funding

AHTF is solely dependent on the generosity of donations to fulfill our commitment to fund grants and scholarships. We are extremely grateful for the generosity of our individual donors as well as corporate supporters who enable us to achieve our mission.

Thank you all for your support of AHTF,
Gary

Research Division



April C. Cowan OTR, OTD, CHT
Director of Grants

The AHTF Research Division is excited about the number of applications received and congratulates the following research grant recipients.

CONGRATULATIONS



PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:
JENNIFER DODSON, OTD, OTR/L, CHT

CO-INVESTIGATORS:
GLENN GASTON, MD
BRYAN LOEFFLER, MD
CHRISTOPHER DY, MD, MPH
CALVIN CHANDLER, MD, MBA
RYAN SERBIAN
ANDREW REES
AMY MCQUEEN

**FOR RECEIVING THE
2025 BURKHALTER
NEW INVESTIGATOR
GRANT SUPPORTED
BY DORIS SLACK
RESEARCH**



**“DEVELOPMENT AND
VALIDATION OF A
NOVEL PATIENT-
REPORTED
OUTCOME MEASURE
FOR BRACHIAL
PLEXUS INJURIES”**



www.ahtf.org

CONGRATULATIONS



PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:
SAURABH MEHTA, PT, PHD, GCS

CO-INVESTIGATORS:
CHRISTOS KARAGIANNPOULOS, PT, PHD, CHT
ANN LUCADO PT, PHD, CHT
MIA ERICKSON, PT, EDD, CHT
KIMBERLY MASKER, OTD, OTR/L, CHT
SCHEHENAZ CHATTERTON, BS

**FOR RECEIVING THE
2025 TRI-ALLIANCE
GRANT HONORING
ASHT FOUNDERS,
FUNDED BY AHTF,
ASHT & HTCC**



**“FEASIBILITY AND
ACCEPTABILITY OF
IMPLEMENTING
CLINICAL PRACTICE
GUIDELINES USING
A SMARTPHONE
APP: A RANDOMIZED
TRIAL”**

www.ahtf.org

Each year, AHTF offers multiple grants and scholarships and invites qualified applications. A list of AHTF's funding opportunities is posted on our website, at <https://www.ahtf.org/grants/>, along with ample and helpful information about the application process. We encourage all of you to apply and/or help spread the word about these generous funding opportunities to your colleagues who participate in research. The AHTF Research Grants continue to benefit from a generous donation made in honor of **Doris Ann Slack**. The Slack Fund has enabled AHTF to grow our grant awards and we are grateful for the thoughtful contribution in her honor.

Education Division



Hannah Gift, OTR/L, CHT, COMT UE, CEAS
Education Division Chair

The education division continues to update its processes to improve the experiences of those applying for scholarships and those reviewing them. The Ida M. Stern Research Education Grant has been updated to now be offered at \$2,000 to support a therapist pursuing additional research implementation skills.

The Evelyn Mackin Travel Grant was awarded to Aviva Wolff in 2024 and was completed in 2025 and was presented at the ASHT annual meeting and as a fundraiser for AHTF.

The Janet Albrecht Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Victoria Delgado to pursue her hand therapy certification.



The 2025 AHTF orthotics education scholarship is currently being reviewed. The 2 previous awardees, Anna Gray and Maya Bell, participated in their Hands-On Orthotics courses provided by ASHT.

Fundraising Division Highlights



Kirk Gober
OTR, OTD, CHT
Director of Fundraising

The fundraising committee extends a heartfelt thanks to all the donors, sponsors, and cosponsors for their generous financial support of the foundation. Your contributions make grants and scholarships possible. Over the past year, the fundraising team has worked to deliver engaging in-person and virtual events.

We recognize the American Society for Hand Therapy's ongoing and unwavering support of the Foundation. ASHT and AHTF continue to work closely together to support each other's goals.

The Foundation benefits tremendously from an extraordinary \$100,000 donation made in 2022 from **North Coast Medical, Inc., Mark E. Biehl, President and CEO**. With this contribution, North Coast generously underwrites the AHTF annual fundraiser, [Happy Hour with a Scholar](#), the [Evelyn Mackin Travel Grant for Education and Research](#), and is the official underwriter of [our website](#). Thank you, North Coast Medical!

AHTF is pleased to underwrite the **American Society of Hand Therapists' Scientific Sessions** at the annual meeting through a generous donation from **Jim and Beverly King**. Thank you, Jim and Beverly, for your continuous support!

We appreciate the support of everyone who contributed by applying for one of our grants, volunteering, and/or making a financial donation to the Foundation this year. We can only continue this magnificent work with your help. Learn more about our funding opportunities and how to make an impact through contributions at <https://www.ahtf.org/>.



Highlights:

AHTF Virtual 5k Run/Walk - 123 Participants and 17 teams



**AHTF 5K
VIRTUAL RUN
2025**

VIRTUAL RUN/WALK
FOR HAND THERAPY
RESEARCH

THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO SUPPORTED THIS EVENT!!

Academic Circle: American Society of Hand Therapists
Research Circle: RTR Assets
Mentor Circle: Anchor Crude Marketing, Chicago Metro Hand Study Group, Modern Performance, Pat Crespil Locksmith & Safes, Athletic Physical Therapy
Explorer Circle: Gain Asset Management, Association Headquarters, BraceLab, Gripz, Authentic Hand Therapy, Point Design, Georgia Hand and Upper Extremity Special Interest Group.

Thank you to all our 123 participants and our 17 teams including : ASHT, AHTF, HTTC, Hand Therapy Association of California, Athletico, Chicago Metro Hand Study Group, Indiana Hand to Shoulder Center, UVA Orthopedic Center, Northwestern Medicine, UMass Memorial Health, Pediatric Hand Therapists, Georgia Hand and Upper Extremity Special Interest Group, John Hopkins Hand Therapy Fellowship, HSS, The Texas Society for Hand Therapy, University of Wisconsin Hand Therapy and USAHS Dallas.


American Society of Hand Therapists | RTR ASSETS | Anchor | ATHLETICO | GAIN ASSET | GHUESIG | AH | GRIPZ | Chicago Metro Hand Study Group | BraceLab | point designs

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Virtual Fundraising Event- Immediate Past Chair Jim King, PhD, OTR/L, CHT
-68 Pushups for 68th Birthday Challenge



AHTF Happy Hour with a Scholar Event- Speaker: Julianne W Howell, PT, MS, CHT.
 -“50 Years of Relative Motion: Changing Practice”




THE AMERICAN HAND THERAPY FOUNDATION

“HAPPY HOUR WITH A SCHOLAR EVENT”

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25

6:15 TO 7:45 PM


REGISTER NOW!



JULIANNE HOWELL, PT, MS, CHT

“50 Years of Relative Motion: Changing Practice”

Generously Underwritten by North Coast Medical

MORE INFO

THE 2025 HAPPY HOUR WITH A SCHOLAR EVENT CO-SPONSORS

Underwriter



Scholar Circle

Susan & David Viniar  Dorit Aaron OTR, MA, CHT, FAOTA & Barbara Winthrop OTR, MA, CHT, FAOTA

Research Circle

  **Kirk Gober, OTR, OTD, CHT**


Mentor Circle

Aviva Wolff, EdD, OTR, CHT **Graham and Kelly Reeve** **Gregg Pitts, OTD, OTR/L, CHT**

Explorer Circle

Virtual Fundraising Event- Speaker: Aviva Wolff, EdD, OT, CHT
 -Healing that Lasts: How Training Therapists Multiplies Impact After War



The American Hand Therapy Foundation



EVERLYN MACKIN TRAVEL GRANT UNDERWRITTEN BY NORTH COAST MEDICAL AWARDEE “AVIVA WOLFF” PRESENTS: HEALING THAT LASTS: HOW TRAINING THERAPISTS MULTIPLIES IMPACT AFTER WAR.

Online Fundraising Zoom Event!

- Date: Wednesday, December 3rd
- Time: 7 pm to 8 pm CST
- Suggested donation: \$25
- REGISTER AND SUPPORT HAND THERAPY RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

Join us!!

DECEMBER 3RD

7 PM TO 8 PM CENTRAL TIME

REGISTER NOW




Contact Us www.ahtf.org


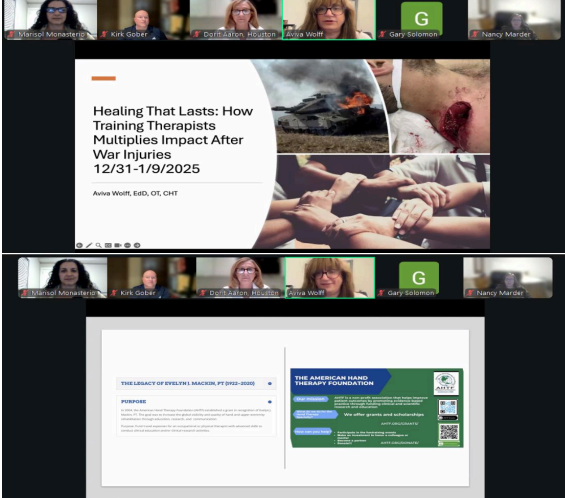
AHTF Presents: Evelyn Mackin Travel Award Recipient Aviva Wolff, EdD, OTR, CHT

Healing That Lasts: How training therapists multiplies Impact after war

The Evelyn Mackin Travel Grant is generously underwritten by North Coast Medical



AHTF
Research & Education
Established in 1989

Healing That Lasts: How Training Therapists Multiplies Impact After War Injuries
12/31-1/9/2025
Aviva Wolff, EdD, OT, CHT

The AHTF Silent Auction held at ASHT




2025 IN PERSON AHTF SILENT AUCTION!!

THANKS TO OUR DONORS

- NorthCoast Medical
- The Indiana Hand and Shoulder Center
- ASHT
- HTCC
- Virtual Hand to Shoulder Fellowship
- AAHS
- 3 Point Products
- HTA-CA
- The Hand Rehabilitation Foundation
- The Texas Society for Hand Therapy
- Evidence Based Hand and UE Protocols
- Visit Salt Lake
- 3 Point Products
- The Georgia Hand and Upper Extremity Special Interest Group
- ASSH
- Michigan Society of Hand Therapists
- Hand Functional Anatomy and Therapy by Gregory Mesplie
- Treating Musicians as Athletes by Saba Kamal OTR, CHT
- Rose McAndrew, Rob McClellan, Kirk Gober, Marisol Monasterio, Wilhem Jimenez,
- The Sustainability-Inspired Artists




Communications Division



Marisol Monasterio, OTR, MOT, CHT
Director of Communication

The Communications Division continued to work closely with ASHT to promote the 2025 ASHT Annual Conference. We also participated in co-marketing efforts AOTF and ASHT to increase participation in the Hand in Hand Research Grant. The Committee has been actively building relationships with other associations, underwriters, and donors.

Social Media Growth:

LinkedIn Followers: 770 (+63)

Instagram: 825 followers (+190), 18.3K views last 30 days

Facebook: 1,113 followers (+211), 8,875 views last 28 days

Financial Highlights



Gretchen Bachman, OTD, OTR/L, MBA, CHT

AHTF as a 501(C)3 independent Foundation relies solely on its generous supporters for revenue. Projected operating income for 2025 is approximately \$95,000. Projected 2025 operating expenses are approximately \$69,000. 2025 restricted fund expenses included over \$70,000 in Grants and Awards and underwriting of the 2025 ASHT Annual Meeting Scientific Session.