The American Brain Tumor Association (ABTA), headquartered in Chicago, Ill., was the first national nonprofit organization dedicated solely to brain tumors. For over 40 years, the ABTA has provided comprehensive resources that support the complex needs of brain tumor patients and caregivers, as well as the critical funding of research in the pursuit of breakthroughs in brain tumor diagnosis, treatment and care.

Our Mission
The mission of the American Brain Tumor Association is to advance the understanding and treatment of brain tumors with the goals of improving, extending and, ultimately, saving the lives of those impacted by a brain tumor diagnosis.

RESEARCH: Advancing Science
Research is an instrumental part of how we deliver on our mission of advancing the understanding and treatment of brain tumors.

Here’s a snapshot of our success and support:

- OLIG2 inhibitors—research funded by an ABTA Discovery Grant—moved closer to the pre-clinical phase of development. As the study of OLIG2 inhibitors progresses, researchers will determine if these inhibitors slow tumor growth and improve the efficacy of radiation and chemotherapy.

- The ABTA participated in a $2 million international research collaborative grant to explore commonalities among long-term glioblastoma survivors.
$1,035,000 in grants, which includes $937,500 in research funding supporting career development initiatives and exploration of innovative research opportunities.

10 ABTA-funded Medical Student Summer Fellows were awarded a 12-week laboratory experience designed to motivate young, talented medical students to pursue a career in brain tumor research.

“My experience this summer as an ABTA Medical Student Summer Fellow has left a significant impact on me,” Li said. “I plan on pursuing a career in neuro-oncology, and this experience has solidified my motivation to work in this field. I feel much more prepared now to integrate research into my future medical career thanks to the ABTA.”
— Matthew D. Li

“Receiving an ABTA Fellowship was a great honor for me, and gave me the confidence to pursue new avenues of brain tumor research.”
— ABTA Research Grant Recipient

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— Matthew D. Li

“I am truly honored to be a recipient of the ABTA research fellowship. It offers me the opportunity to conduct my research proposal and pursue my career path to be a research fellow in brain tumor research.”
— ABTA Research Grant Recipient

“Obtaining the ABTA award has been critical in my development towards becoming an independent investigator.”
— ABTA Research Grant Recipient
PARTNERS IN TREATMENT AND CARE
Providing Resources & Support:

The ABTA is deeply committed to providing comprehensive resources to patients, caregivers and health care professionals.

In 2014, the ABTA provided personalized information and support to over 3,000 people who contacted the CareLine. ABTA’s health care professionals helped patients and caregivers process the diagnosis and understand a new and difficult vocabulary to empower them to make informed decisions about their course of treatment.

“ABTA is unique in that it has reminded me that my research not only provides knowledge, but instills hope.”
—ABTA Research Grant Recipient

“The ABTA was our first point of contact. We were able to get general information on what we were dealing with. The dictionary of terms and tumor types was very helpful to me as a caregiver. I felt more prepared to care for my husband.”
—Caregiver

ABTA Alumni Research Network (AARN)

Three years ago, the ABTA hosted a conference for ABTA research alumni to share experiences, challenges, and approaches with one another on the future of brain tumor research. Collaborative research opportunities continue to emerge.

AARN members serve as ABTA grant research reviewers

AARN members provided patient-friendly content for the ABTA monthly e-news that is shared with thousands of brain tumor patients, caregivers and health care providers

AARN members participated in donor/development activities on behalf of the ABTA

AARN members presented ABTA webinars that are attended by patients, caregivers and health care providers

Central Brain Tumor Registry of the United States (CBTRUS)

The ABTA provided funding for the publication of the Central Brain Tumor Registry of the United States’ statistical report, which is used by researchers as the statistical guide for brain tumors.

AARN members reported 49 instances of collaboration within the group.

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PUBLICATIONS

• 15,503 publications distributed to patients, caregivers and health care professionals

• 86 health care institutions requested ABTA publications

WEBSITE

• 1,051,502 unique users to www.abta.org

• 1,314,021 total visits to the page

• 2,047,602 unique page views

• Top pages visited were:
  • Glioblastoma
  • Brain tumor symptoms
  • Types of brain tumors

“When my husband was newly diagnosed it was very important to me to become as knowledgeable as possible. I found the ABTA and requested their materials online. As we have navigated this disease for over 15 years, I love having the resources and publications at my fingertips.”

–Caregiver

PATIENT SUPPORT

• Over 4,400 members belong to ABTA’s online support community, Connections.

• Over 1,250 conversation topics with 12,000 unique responses.

• 1,107 people matched to a clinical trial on ABTA TrialConnect®

SOCIAL MEDIA

• Over 5,500 new followers on Facebook

• Over 1,000 new followers on Twitter

Monthly educational webinars about brain tumors and treatment options were viewed by over 12,000 people.
2013 ANNUAL PATIENT AND FAMILY CONFERENCE

The ABTA’s 2013 Patient and Family Conference brought patients, caregivers and health care professionals to Chicago from across the country. More than 12 different brain tumor topics were presented and 18 researchers reported on the findings of their ABTA-funded research.

The 2013 Joel A. Gingras, Jr. Award was presented to Louis and Phyllis Jacobs for their ongoing commitment to the brain tumor cause.

In conjunction with the Patient and Family Conference, the ABTA celebrated its 40th Anniversary Dinner: “An Evening of Love and Laughter,” featuring a special performance from The Second City Touring Company, Chicago’s world-renowned sketch comedy and improv group. The two founders of the organization, Susan Netchin Kramer and Linda Gene Goldstein, joined the milestone celebration event.

CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINES

Helped produce the first clinical practice nursing guidelines for adult and pediatric brain tumor patients.

“The information contained in these new guidelines is based on a thorough review of recent studies and literature and includes for nurses especially, new and valuable information and instructions from what they were taught.”

—Guidelines’ Co-author

Partnering with Support Group Leaders

Supplied more than 200 brain tumor community-based brain tumor support group leaders with educational materials and resources for their members.
EVENTS: Raising Up

Individuals participated in one of the ABTA’s signature fundraising events, Breakthrough for Brain Tumors Run & Walk (BT5K), or hosted an event of their own. Coast-to-coast, patients, families and friends had an opportunity to support brain tumor research and ABTA’s education and services for all tumor types for all ages.

BY THE NUMBERS:

68 Volunteer fundraising events raised $397,238

“I had a BLAST with the ABTA Team and meeting everyone. It was such an emotional weekend and your team could not have been any more wonderful.”
–Team Breakthrough Chicago Marathon Runner

“I had such a great experience being a part of Team Breakthrough for the half marathon and hope to continue with more races in the future.”
–Team Breakthrough/ Choose Your Own Participant

ABTA’S ENDURANCE TRAINING PROGRAM

172 Team Breakthrough participants raised $259,947
“The race really provides a supportive environment for individuals, families and friends who are both celebrating those who are winning their battles and honoring those who have passed away.”
–ABTA BT5K Participant

“We would gladly take her place in all of this, but since we can’t, we looked for ways to support her in this journey. The ABTA BT5K was a perfect fit.”
–ABTA BT5K Participant

“My family values the opportunity to raise money to help find more effective treatments for all types of brain tumors.”
–ABTA BT5K Fund Raiser

BT5K BREAKTHROUGH FOR BRAIN TUMORS RUN & WALK

8 cities, 729 teams and 10,631 participants, including 504 survivors, raised $1,844,905
**LOOKING AHEAD**

In the summer of 2014, the ABTA introduced the first nationwide volunteer network dedicated to serving brain tumor patients, caregivers, families, and health care professionals. Branded “ABTA CommYOUity™” the volunteer network will serve as a framework for increasing awareness, education, collaboration and fundraising, while engaging and connecting the brain tumor community at the grassroots level. Learn more about how YOU can become a part of ABTA’s CommYOUity™ at www.abta.org.

**FISCAL YEAR 2014**

**Financials**

“**I donate to ABTA because of its dedication to brain tumor research and because a low percentage of the donation goes to administrative costs.**”

–ABTA Donor

In fiscal year 2014, **75.22%** of funds raised by the American Brain Tumor Association were allocated to research and patient service programs.

**FYE 2014—Total Expenditures**

$4,681,409

- **Research and Patient Service Programs**
- **Fundraising**
- **Management and General**

“**The ABTA showed that most of the money raised goes towards research and support programs, which is what I really care about.**”

–ABTA Donor
WHERE FUNDS COME FROM

Contributions ........ $2,368,480 (45.5%)
Fundraising
Events ................. $2,432,644 (46.8%)
Other Income ........... $400,920 (7.7%)

Revenues ............... $5,202,044*
Total end of year
net assets: .............. $3,363,898

WHERE FUNDS GO

Program services .......... $3,521,443 (75.22%)
Fundraising ............... $944,234 (20.17%)
Management General ...... $215,732 (4.61%)
Expenditures ............. $4,681,409

FYE 2014—Revenues
$5,403,377*, **

FYE 2014—Program
Expenditures
$3,521,443

* Audited financial statements are available at www.abta.org
** Before unrealized gains from investments. The fundraising from events is reflected as gross revenue and not as net of direct costs.

ABTA Events
Individual Contributions
Corporate Contributions
Foundation Contributions
Estates/Trusts Contributions
Organization Contributions
Non-Gift Revenue

Medical and scientific research grants: $1,868,517
Patient and caregiver support: $882,148
Health care professional outreach: $593,086
Public education and awareness: $177,692

Medical and scientific research grants: 39.78%
Patient and caregiver support: 16.39%
Health care professional outreach: 5.35%
Public education and awareness: 5.32%
Organization Contributions: 11.71%
Estates/Trusts Contributions: 2.79%
Foundation Contributions: 18.66%
Individual Contributions: 16.39%
ABTA Events: 5.35%
Non-Gift Revenue: 16.84%
Fundraising: 5.05%
Management General: 5.05%
Program services: 53.06%
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