I’m proud to introduce you to our foundation. When I lost my husband Ron to pancreatic cancer when he was 54, it motivated a desire to advance science, help patients, and be part of the cure for pancreatic diseases.

– Agi Hirshberg

Our Purpose
The Hirshberg Foundation for Pancreatic Cancer Research is focused on finding a cure for pancreatic cancer, and empowering the patients and families whose lives are touched by this disease. Founded in 1997, the foundation funds groundbreaking scientific research, provides patient education and support, and sustains hope that this cancer will be eradicated once and for all.

Our Mission
- Find a cure for pancreatic cancer, in honor of Ron Hirshberg and the thousands of people who are diagnosed with this disease each year.
- Create a premier pancreatic cancer center where the most advanced treatment options and comprehensive support services are available, all in one place.
- Earn recognition as the leading resource for information about pancreatic cancer, and support for patients and their families.
- Fund new projects and programs designed to improve patient care, treatment and, ultimately, pancreatic cancer survival rates.
- Integrate and unite generations through participating in physical fitness events, while creating public awareness and raising money to find a cure.

Our Achievements
- Awarded 86 Seed Grants to new investigators and expanded program to 37 medical research institutions in the U.S. and internationally.
- Funded researchers who have received $125 million in NIH grants.
- Established the UCLA Agi Hirshberg Center for Pancreatic Diseases, an integrated practice unit where patients can get extensive evaluation and a personalized treatment plan in just one visit.
- Promoted the collaboration of investigators from different disciplines with a shared goal of finding a cure.
- Raised more than $23 million for pancreatic cancer research and education.
- Hosted more than 60 fundraising events to raise awareness and funds for pancreatic cancer.
- Presented the Agi Hirshberg Symposium at UCLA since 2002 for patients and families.
- Granted over $1 million in financial assistance for patients.
- Provided support and guidance to thousands of patients and their families.
- Supported the American Pancreatic Association, Japan Pancreas Society, and the European Pancreatic Club’s annual meetings.
- Partnered with the World Pancreatic Cancer Coalition to raise awareness around the globe.
What We Fund

UCLA Agi Hirshberg Center for Pancreatic Diseases
- Established in 2015
- Directed by O. Joe Hines, MD
- Provides an integrated practice unit, one of the first of its kind in the US where patients can get extensive evaluation and a personalized treatment plan in just one visit.

Hirshberg Foundation Seed Grant Program
- Launched in 2005
- Directed by Vay Liang W. Go, MD, Chair of the Hirshberg Foundation Scientific Advisory Board.
- Goal is to find investigators in the U.S. and internationally to advance science.

The Hirshberg Translational Pancreatic Cancer Research Laboratory at UCLA
- Opened in 1998; part of the Department of Surgery
- Directed by Guido Eibl, MD
- Goal is to advance research from bench to bedside. The Lab has been awarded multiple NIH grants.

The Ronald S. Hirshberg Chair of Translational Pancreatic Cancer Research at UCLA
- Opened in 1998; part of the Department of Digestive Diseases
- Directed by Enrique Rozengurt, PhD – appointed in November 1999
- Goal is early diagnosis and therapeutic intervention.

Annual Symposium on Pancreatic Cancer
- Launched in 2002; hosted at UCLA
- Organized by Agi Hirshberg, Founder
- Goal is to provide support and information for patients, survivors, caregivers and families and showcase information between the various research and treatment areas for pancreatic cancer.

UCLA Pancreas Tissue Bank
- Established in 2005; part of the Department of Pathology
- Directed by David Dawson, MD, PhD
- Goal is to support researchers with an extensive data bank and results.

Patient Support at CancerCare, Inc.
- Funded since 1998
- Provides support for patients in need of financial aid.
- Goal is to eliminate the financial burdens of treatment.

The Hirshberg Foundation for Pancreatic Cancer Research is a California tax-exempt charitable non-profit, corporation under Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. We invest 85 cents of every dollar raised on medical and scientific research. Tax ID #954640311
Seed Grant Program

The Foundation Seed Grant program has been extremely successful in providing research support to basic and clinical scientists and investigators in the United States and overseas. To date, the Hirshberg Foundation has provided over $8.3 million for this program.

The goals of the program are:

- To provide start-up funding for basic scientists and clinicians who intend to test innovative ideas for improving the diagnosis and current therapies and to develop new treatment modalities for pancreatic cancer.
- To obtain preliminary data required for additional funding from other agencies for pancreatic cancer research.
- To impact on the understanding of pancreatic cancer cell biology, biochemistry, physiology, morphology and response to therapy.
- To establish collaborations within the field for mutual projects that can be considered for further funding.

To date the Seed Grant Program has funded the following areas:

![Pie chart showing distribution of funds by category]

- Treatment-Therapy: 31%
- Patient Care: 24%
- Early Diagnosis/Detection: 17%
- Cancer Biology/Basic Science: 17%
- Prevention/Metabolism: 7%
- Research Core Facilities: 4%

Past medical institution recipients of the Hirshberg Foundation Seed Grant Program include:

- Beth Israel Medical Center
- Boston Children’s Hospital
- City of Hope
- Columbia University
- Dalian University, China
- Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
- Dartmouth University
- Duke University Medical Center
- Emory University
- Fox Chase Cancer Center
- George Washington University
- Harbor-UCLA Medical Center
- Harvard Medical School
- Johns Hopkins University
- Loma Linda University
- Massachusetts General Hospital
- Mayo Clinic & May College of Medicine
- Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center
- New York University
- Oregon Health & Science University
- Penn State University College of Medicine
- The Salk Institute for Biological Studies
- St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital
- Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv
- Thomas Jefferson University
- University of Arizona Cancer Center
- University of California, Los Angeles
- University of California, San Diego
- University of San Francisco
- University of Southern California
- University of Michigan
- University of Minnesota
- University of Pittsburgh
- VA Greater LA Healthcare System
- Vanderbilt Medical School
- Yale University
Directors & Trustees

- Lisa Manheim, Chief Executive Officer
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Scientific Advisory Board

Vay Liang W. Go, MD: Professor of Medicine, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA; Associate Director, UCLA-NIH Clinical Nutrition Research Unit; Editor-in-Chief, Pancreas; Chief of the Hirshberg Scientific Advisory Board.

Suresh T. Chari, MD: Professor of Medicine at Mayo Clinic; Consultant, Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology.

Oscar Joe Hines, MD: Chief of General Surgery at UCLA David Geffen School of Medicine; Director of the General Surgery residency program at UCLA; Director of the American Board of Surgery.

Murray Korc, MD: Myles Brand Chair in Cancer Research at Indiana University Simon Cancer Center; Professor of Medicine, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology; Director, Pancreatic Cancer Signature Center; Co-Director, TME and Metastasis Program; Board Certified in Internal Medicine and in Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism.

Stephen J. Pandol, MD: Director, Basic and Translational Pancreas Research in the Department of Medicine at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center; Professor of Medicine, School of Medicine at UCLA, Los Angeles, CA.

Howard A. Reber, MD: Professor of Surgery & Chief, Section of Gastrointestinal Surgery, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA; Director, UCLA Center for Pancreatic Diseases; Director of Ronald S. Hirshberg Translational Pancreatic Cancer Research Laboratory.

Lee S. Rosen, MD: Assistant Professor in the Division of Hematology-Oncology, Department of Medicine at UCLA, where he founded the Cancer Therapy Development Program; Board Certified in Internal Medicine, Medical Oncology and Hematology.

Diane M. Simeone, MD: Surgical Director, Multidisciplinary Pancreatic Tumor Clinic, University of Michigan Cancer Center; Co-Director of GI Oncology program, University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Center; Director, Pancreatic Cancer Destination Program, University of Michigan Medical Center.

Anirban Maitra, MD: Co-Director and Scientific Director of Sheikh Ahmed Bin Zayed Al Nahyan Center for Pancreatic Cancer Research at MD Anderson.

Ashok Saluja, PhD: Eugene C. and Gail V. Sit Chair in Pancreatic and Gastrointestinal Cancer Research Professor, Vice Chair of Research Department of Surgery.