

ANNUAL REPORT



2020

Research. Educate. Lead.



INTERNATIONAL
ASSOCIATION OF
**Forensic
Nurses**

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HIGHLIGHTS



INTERNATIONAL
ASSOCIATION OF
**Forensic
Nurses**

Introduced our new logo!

Launched *No SANE in Sight* -

A training for non-SANE/SAFE healthcare clinicians who provide emergency health care for victims of sexual violence

**Designed and published a new website for our
Indigenous Sexual Assault & Abuse Clearinghouse**

www.isaaconline.org

**Launched the Intimate Partner Violence Nurse
Examiner Certificate Program**

**Published a Spanish translation of SANE Education
Guidelines**

Began offering monthly Open Office Hours

Launched our Social Justice Committee

MEMBERSHIP

The International Association of Forensic Nurses (IAFN) is a professional education and membership association representing more than 6,000 forensic nurses and allied professionals worldwide. The Association establishes and improves standards of forensic nursing practice by fostering growth and development of the specialty. We promote increased knowledge and skills among our members and among professionals from other disciplines who are dedicated to the dissemination of knowledge about forensic nursing globally. We wish to thank all the members who volunteered on a Committee or Task Force for their work and dedication.

MEMBERSHIP AND CHAPTERS

The Association closed the year with 6,094 members and 22 chapters.

ASSOCIATION WEBSITES

ForensicNurses.org (@forensicnurses)

SAFETA.org (@safeta)

TribalForensicHealthcare.org

ISAAConline.org

CONNECTIONS

Facebook 10,183 followers

LinkedIn 7,409 followers

Twitter 2,766 followers

YouTube 1,880 subscribers

Instagram 1,126 followers

Our weekly newsletter, Forensic Nurses News, continues to be widely read with over 14,000 subscribers.

300,519 new users visited ForensicNurses.org, a 2% increase from 2019.

FORENSIC NURSES WEEK

Forensic Nurses



Forensic Nurses Week is celebrated annually during the second week in November. The November 9-13, 2020 celebration featured the theme "In every hospital. For every community. The future of care."

LEADERSHIP

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President Denise Covington, MBA, MSN, RN, SANE-A

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Ashley Smith, MSN, BSN, RN, SANE-A, SANE-P

RESEARCH AWARDS

\$12,141 in research grants were distributed to IAFN members in 2020

- Elizabeth Wright, Jocelyn Anderson, Sheridan Miyamoto
Exploring the Evolution of Individuals' Needs Post-Sexual Assault Exam
- Kate McNair
The Influence of #MeToo on Sexual Assault Survivors' Decision Making and Health Behaviors: A Qualitative Inquiry
- Kayla Herbell
Feasibility and Acceptability of a Maltreatment Prevention Intervention for Children in Psychiatric Residential Treatment



STAFF

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Online Learning Coordinator Amy Valentine

Project Manager, TeleSAFE Diane Daiber, BSN, RN, SANE-A, SANE-P

Project Manager, Tribal Forensic Healthcare Bonnie Barsa, BS

TeleSAFE Project Coordinator Andrea Cavanagh, BS

ADVOCACY

ADVOCACY DAY



Our 2020 Advocacy Day was held February 19, 2020. After a morning briefing, forensic nurses from throughout the US and Canada took to Capitol Hill to talk with legislators and their staff about the issues important to forensic nurses and the patients for whom we care. More than 47 forensic nurses from 19 US States and Canada participated in the event.

2020 PUBLIC POLICY AGENDA

Funding request for the DOJ and HHS to increase training funds for forensic nursing:

- Survivors' Access to Supportive Care Act
- Violence Against Women Act
- Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act
- Cures Act 2.0

The Association also supported:

- Funding for the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to conduct public health research into firearm morbidity and mortality prevention
- The Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act
- Multiple COVID bills advocating specifically for assisting frontline forensic nurses and ensuring patients can access forensic nurses
- The Families First Coronavirus Response Act
- Fully funding the Debbie Smith Act
- The Resilience Investment, Support and Expansion from Trauma Act

Additionally, IAFN assisted at the state level, working with chapters to review testimony and support legislation about tracking kits, strangulation, intimate partner violence, billing, and funding.

JOURNAL OF FORENSIC NURSING

The *Journal of Forensic Nursing* (JFN), the official journal of the International Association of Forensic Nurses, features empirical studies, review and theoretical articles, methodological and concept papers, and case reports that address the provision of care to victims and perpetrators of violence, trauma, and abuse.

2020 JFN Clinical Article of the Year

Stanley, S., Rutty, G., & Rutty, J. (2020). Postmortem computed tomography: An overview for forensic nurses Involved in death investigation. *Journal of Forensic Nursing*, 16(2), 99-107.

2020 JFN Education Article of the Year

Hornor, G. (2020). Child labor trafficking essentials for forensic nurses. *Journal of Forensic Nursing*, 16(4), 215-223.

2020 JFN Research Article of the Year

Paradis-Gagné, E., Holmes, D., & Perron, A. (2020). Experiences of family violence committed by relatives with severe mental illness: A grounded theory. *Journal of Forensic Nursing*, 16(2), 108-117.



JOURNAL OF FORENSIC NURSING EDITORIAL BOARD

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623

nurses applied to take the SANE certification exams

397

nurses renewed their SANE certification

75%

renewal rate

CERTIFICATION

The Association's certification program continues its robust growth. More than 1,000 candidates applied in 2020, marking a 10% increase in exam applicants and a 16% increase in renewal applicants, bringing our recertification rate to a record 75%! Despite the increase in renewal applications, IAFN decreased its average submission-to-notice time from 10 days to 1.2 days.

The COVID pandemic affected test takers' schedules, ability to travel, and testing center options as many US and international testing sites closed in April. IAFN responded by offering to defer any exam for any examinee who so requested. Nearly 250 applicants postponed their exam to the September exam window. In September, with some testing sites still closed, the Association beta-tested Live Online Proctoring (test from home!). We continue to offer this option.

IAFN also launched the Intimate Partner Violence Nurse Examiner Certificate Program in 2020.

COMMISSION FOR FORENSIC NURSING CERTIFICATION (CFNC)

The CFNC develops, oversees, and administers the Association's SANE-A and SANE-P certification programs. Serving as an independent and autonomous entity within the Association, the CFNC develops, evaluates, and oversees administration of all CFNC certification program policies and decisions related to certification eligibility and renewal and examination development and administration, consistent with the Association's Bylaws, mission, and policies.

Chair: Marni Dodd, DNP, FNP-BC, SANE-A, SANE-P

Commissioners:

Karen Carroll, RN, SANE-A, SANE-P, NY-SAFE (through 11/2020)

Bethany Copper, MSN, RN, SANE-A, SANE-P

Carrie Edwards, PhD, RN, Ca/Cp SANE

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Marie Ann Marino, EdD, RN, FAAN

Laure O'Neal, MBA, BS (through 11/2020)

Priscilla Simms-Roberson, DNP, NP-C, SANE-A

99%

of SANE renewal applications were approved

EDUCATION

The Association offers education through live trainings, our Online Learning Center, our grant projects, and our clinical partner sites.

ONLINE LEARNING

In 2020, IAFN's Online Learning Center continued its upward trend, issuing 6,777 certificates compared to the prior year's 5,701. The most popular courses remain our 40-hour Adult/Adolescent Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner course and the Pediatric/Adolescent Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner course.

6777

online learning
certificates
awarded

19%

increase in
certificates awarded

APPROVERSHP

2020 was a banner year for our Approvership program; the number of hours approved jumped 102%, up to 917.85 from the prior year's 454.

IAFN's Approver Unit approves forensic nursing professional development programs that meet the highest standards of educational planning, implementation, and evaluation as set forth by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.

917.85

hours of nursing
professional
development were
approved

CONFERENCE

Due to COVID-19, IAFN's 2020 Conference was held virtually, allowing more nurses than ever to attend. A total of 1,869 people joined the mix of live and prerecorded sessions - a 54% increase! Going virtual solved the challenge of choosing just one session per time block, allowing attendees to attend all 160 offerings, earning up to 106.5 contact hours.

106

opportunities to
earn contact hours

21,761

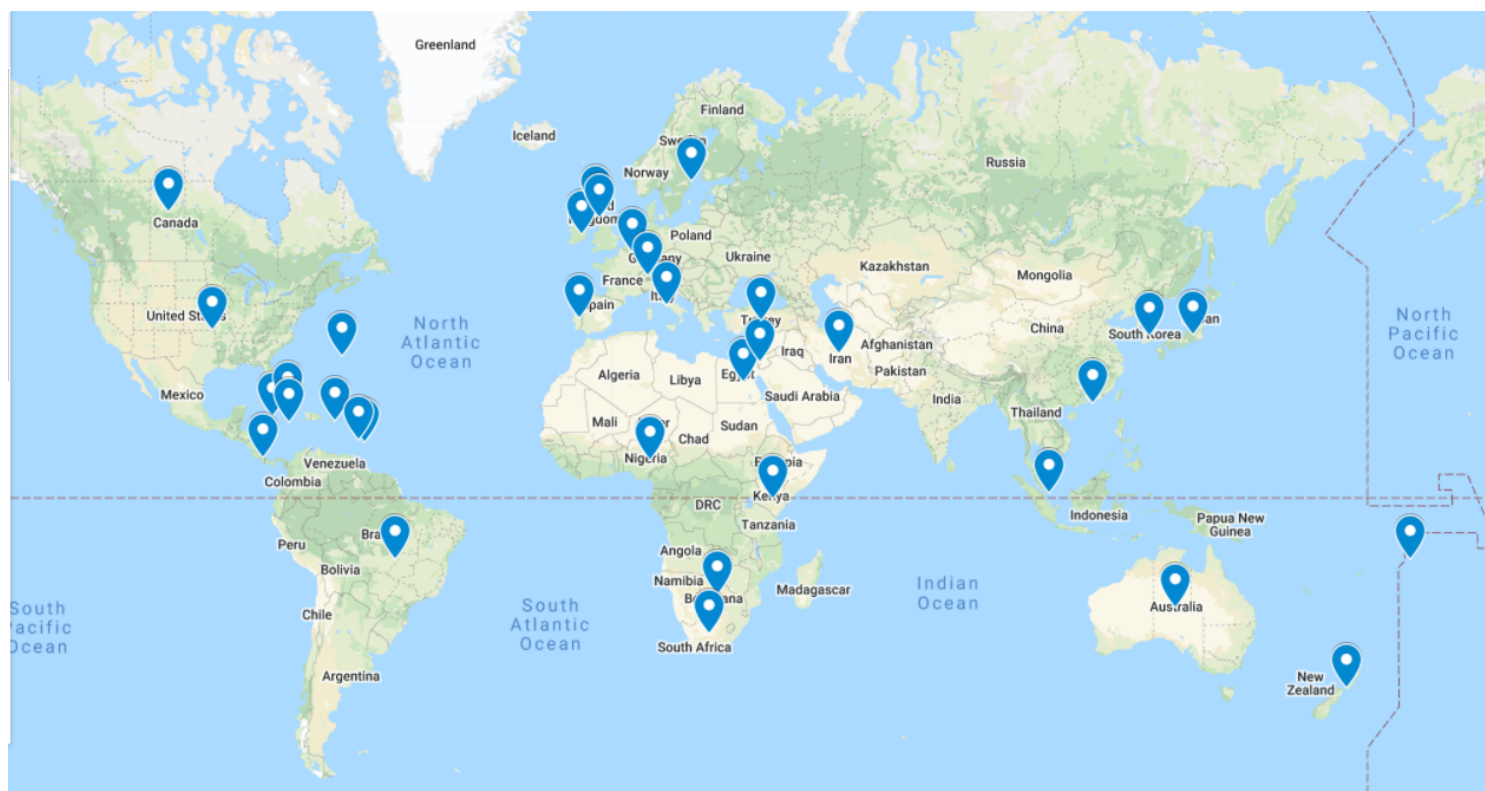
hours of nursing
professional
development
completed

GLOBAL HIGHLIGHTS

Continuing our efforts to increase accessibility of forensic nursing resources, IAFN worked with the University of Arizona, Tucson, to translate our SANE Education Guidelines into Spanish.

- American Samoa: Provided an Adolescent/Adult SANE clinical skills training to doctors and nurses in American Samoa
- South Africa: Provided technical assistance to expand awareness of forensic nursing and the role and scope of practice of forensic nurses
- Sri Lanka: Collaborated with the faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka, on provisions for adding forensic nursing to their curriculum

In 2020, IAFN had members from 34 countries and territories as indicated below:



SPECIAL PROJECT: ADDRESSING GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE IN MEXICO

The IAFN continued as a partnering organization with the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) for a multi-year project addressing sexual and gender-based violence in Mexico funded by the US Department of State – INL Merida Initiative. The IAFN provided virtual education on intimate partner violence, neurobiology of trauma, strangulation, and sexual violence for delegations from Mexico. Delegations included judges, prosecutors, police managers, psychologists, and Women’s Justice Centers staff.

GRANT PROJECTS

940

technical assistance
requests answered

123

trainings provided

7057

attendees trained

262

hours of training provided

SEXUAL ASSAULT FORENSIC EXAM TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECT

For the 15th year, the Association continued to provide education and technical assistance regarding the *National Protocol for Sexual Assault Medical Forensic Examinations, 2nd Edition*, through the SAFETa Project, funded by the US Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women. 2020 marked the third year of education and technical assistance regarding the *National Protocol for Sexual Abuse Medical Forensic Examinations - Pediatric*.

The SAFETa project supports formal and informal local, state, and national multidisciplinary efforts to coordinate the response of healthcare professionals, law enforcement officers, prosecutors, and victim service providers who respond to sexual assault.

Highlights from 2020 include:

- Reviewed and provided recommendations on protocols and policies from pediatric and adult sexual assault programs, IAFN chapters, Health

Resource and Service Administration (HRSA) grant recipients, and State agencies.

- Developed and presented 3 webinars collaboratively with the Vera Institute for Justice that included education on (1) conducting the medical forensic exam with patients with disabilities; (2) service animals and the medical forensic exam; and (3) differences between emotional support animals and therapy animals.
- Presented virtually at a variety of virtual conferences, including IAFN's Conference on Forensic Nursing Science and Practice, the Wyoming Joint Symposium, the National Institute on the Prosecution of Sexual Violence in Indian Country, NCJTC, and a ICJR New Grantee Orientation.

SAFETA PROJECT (CONTINUED)

- Created and presented 2 webinars collaboratively with Impact Justice and the PREA Resource Center.
- Collaborated with the Victim Rights Law Center to develop a SANE Campus Sexual Assault FAQs document to coincide with a webinar discussing privacy and confidentiality laws related to campus medical forensic examinations.
- Hosted monthly statewide SANE Coordinator meetings to discuss issues, share state-level resources, and develop trainings and resources.
- Michigan State University (MSU) Project: Provided a 40-hour in-person didactic SANE training for nurses who will be responding to sexual assault on the MSU Campus and attended multiple Advisory Board meetings to work with MSU on the development and implementation of the Campus-Based Program.
- Worked with End Violence Against Women, International, on the SAFE Virtual Practicum Project, providing script revisions and providing a live demonstration of the new Virtual Practicum at the IAFN conference.

EXAM PAYMENT PROJECT

This Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) funded project provides training and technical assistance related to improving access to and payment for sexual assault medical forensic examinations, including examinations of patients who do not wish to report the crime to law enforcement at the time of the exam.

In 2020, the project provided 14 trainings and 6 webcasts. The webcasts covered navigating the Payment TA webpages and resources; how to complete the CMS-1500 and UB-04; and considerations for exam billing and coding. Additionally, we developed Fact sheets on the following topics: Medical Billing and Coding Definitions; Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) Codes; International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-10-CM) Codes; Intimate Partner Violence and ICD-10-CM Codes; Medications; and Federal Funder Facts.

14

trainings provided

1744

attendees trained

6

webpages developed

GRANT PROJECTS

TRAINING STANDARDS PROJECT

In 2020, IAFN completed work on the OVW-funded Training Standards Curriculum Project culminating in *Caring for the Sexually Assaulted Patient When There is No SANE in Sight: A Training for ALL Healthcare Providers*, an interactive online learning program for non-SANE/SAFE healthcare clinicians (nurses, physicians, PAs, and general ER staff) who provide emergency health care for victims of sexual assault. This curriculum incorporates the Appendix C: Minimum Training Recommendations from the *National Training Standards for Sexual Assault Medical Forensic Examiners (2nd ed)*. This training is being promoted to health facilities across the country, and healthcare institutions are welcome to use the training files in their own internal learning management systems. Sixty-nine healthcare facilities have adopted this training and 522 clinicians have completed the training through IAFN.

69

facilities using
curriculum

522

clinicians trained
through IAFN

NATIONAL INDIAN COUNTRY CLEARINGHOUSE ON SEXUAL ASSAULT (NICCSA)

In 2019, IAFN was awarded funding for an OVW Special Initiative as a part of the congressionally mandated National Indian Country Clearinghouse on Sexual Assault (NICCSA). Working in concert with the OVW Tribal Unit project manager in 2020, IAFN added two Alaskan staff who began training and building relationships with partner agencies throughout Alaska. We also created a website for our Indigenous Sexual Assault & Abuse Clearinghouse, geared toward professionals responding to sexual assault survivors in Alaska and throughout Tribal territories in the United States. Our partners' needs informed the content. Covid-19 restricted live trainings and site visits, but we were able to implement a scholarship program for nurses who work with American Indian/Alaska Native patients to gain sexual assault specific education.

GRANT PROJECTS

200

**technical
assistance
requests
answered**

TELESAFE

In September 2019, IAFN received a grant to provide technical assistance to four OVC demonstration sites using Telehealth to provide sexual assault forensic exams. Throughout 2020, IAFN staff provided two webinars and answered 200 requests for technical assistance. A hub needs assessment and spoke readiness assessment were developed and completed by demonstration sites, culminating in a report outlining remaining needs prior to launch of the programs, including recommendations for

achievement. Development of a series of FAQ documents began and IAFN staff participated in a panel presentation called “The TeleSAFE Programs in Rural and Tribal Sexual Assault Response: Perspectives from a National Technical Assistance Provider” at CrimCon (the virtual Criminology Consortium Conference). Lastly, a TeleSAFE webpage was created to house resources and recorded webinars, and includes a helpline (833-835-8353) and email address to reach project staff.

FORENSIC-MEDICAL AND ADVOCACY SERVICES FOR TRIBES (FAST) INITIATIVE

In 2020, the Office on Violence Against Women awarded IAFN the Forensic-Medical and Advocacy Service for Tribes (FAST) initiative grant for establishing, sustaining, and/or expanding Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner (SAFE) services. The target audience for the IAFN FASTta project are grantees who are funded under the OVW FAST program and potential grantees in rural, remote, and tribal communities. As a result of the training and TA offered by this project, the OVW FAST sites will be supported through all phases of program development from planning to implementation to long-term sustainability. Assistance will also be provided to communities with existing SANE programs that may be struggling with sustainability. Efforts will be focused on strategies that will reach the greatest number of potential SANE/SAFE programs.

TRIBAL FORENSIC HEALTHCARE TRAINING PROJECT

Since March 2013, the Indian Health Service has contracted with IAFN to develop, deliver, and evaluate in-person and web-based training related to the identification, collection, and preservation of medical forensic evidence obtained during the treatment of victims of sexual and domestic violence. The Tribal Forensic Healthcare Training project provides training for Sexual Assault Examiner, Pediatric Sexual Assault Examiner, Sexual Assault Clinical Skills, Pediatric Sexual Assault Clinical Skills, Intimate Partner Violence Examiner, and Intimate Partner Violence Screening, as well as quarterly webinars on related topics.

In 2020, the Association updated the intimate partner violence examiner web-based course and more than 700 individuals who watched the archived webinars. The COVID pandemic limited the number of medical professionals trained in-person due to the cancellation of live clinical skills labs and pediatric sexual assault examiner courses. Training attendees provided service to over 180 federally recognized tribes. Additionally, some attendees noted that they served multiple tribes in their area, AI/AN serving in the military, or Urban Indian populations.

SPECIAL PROJECT: TELEMEDICINE IN INDIAN COUNTRY

The Tribal Forensic Healthcare partnered with Our Kids in Nashville, TN, to launch a Telemedicine Program in 2016. This project has two components: an expert peer review process and expert case review.

EXPERT PEER REVIEW consists of a monthly review of cases between Our Kids, Four Directions Clinic, and Pine Ridge Hospital. In 2019, 11 peer reviews panels reviewed 59 cases with an average of 10 participants for each monthly review.

EXPERT CASE REVIEW provides real-time review of case-specific information with acute and non-acute patients. These reviews are performed with the use of telemedicine software, Second Opinion, during case consultation. Our Kids provides 24/7 availability to Four Directions Clinic and Pine Ridge Hospital, including working with local agencies by using teleconferencing equipment.

26

trainings provided

35

healthcare providers
completed clinical skills
training

1203

attendees trained

PARTNERSHIPS

AEquitas: The Prosecutors' Resource on Violence Against Women

[Alaska Native Women's Resource Center](#)

Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

[Anne Arundel Medical Center](#)

Battered Women's Justice Project

[Boston Area Rape Crisis Center](#)

Canadian Forensic Nurses Association

[Cheyenne Regional Medical Center](#)

Cleveland Clinic

[Crisis Services of North Alabama](#)

Danger Assessment Training and TA for IPV

Risk Assessment Center

[District of Columbia Forensic Nurse Examiners](#)

Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Center

Idaho Falls, ID

[Driscoll Children's Hospital](#)

Emergency Nurses Association

[Emory Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing](#)

End Violence Against Women International

[Evidentia Learning](#)

Forensic Nurse Examiner Program Crisis Services

[Forensic Nursing Services Memorial Hermann Health System](#)

FORGE Forward

[Frederick Health](#)

Futures Without Violence

[Healing Justice](#)

HonorHealth

[Indian Health Service](#)

Indiana SANE Training Project

[International Association of Chiefs of Police](#)

Louisiana State University

[Massachusetts Department of Health](#)

Matrix Life Care Center

[MetroHealth](#)

Michigan State University Relationship Violence and Sexual Misconduct Workgroup

[MetroHealth](#)

Monmouth University

[National Children's Alliance](#)

National Sheriffs' Association

[National Sexual Violence Resource Center](#)

Nursing Organizations Alliance

[Our Kids Center](#)

Pennsylvania State University

[Prisma Health](#)

Redwind Consulting, Inc.

[Regions Hospital](#)

Reid Health

[Research Triangle Institute \(RTI\)](#)

Sexual Violence Justice Initiative of Minnesota

Coalition Against Sexual Assault

[Southwest Center for Law and Policy](#)

Texas Forensic Nurse Examiners

[University of Arizona - Tuscon](#)

University of Colorado Health – Memorial Hospital

[University of South Alabama](#)

US Department of Justice, Office for Victims of Crime

[US Department of Justice, Office for Victims of Crime Training Technical Assistance Center \(OVCTTAC\)](#)

US Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women

[US Department of State](#)

US Department of Health and Human Services' National Human Trafficking Training and Technical Assistance Center (NHTTAC)

[Vera Institute of Justice](#)

Victims Rights Law Center

[West Central Indiana AHEC](#)

Statement of Financial Position

as of December 31, 2020

International Association of Forensic Nurses, Inc. Statement of Financial Position

	December 2020	December 2019
ASSETS		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 455,153	\$ 308,546
Grants and Other Receivable	341,898	387,086
Investments	2,892,260	2,230,181
Inventory	-	16,116
Due from Foundation	3,312	877
Prepaid Expenses and Other Assets	19,927	27,167
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 3,712,550	\$ 2,969,973
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Liabilities	\$ 15,809	\$ 68,169
Accounts Payable		
Accrued Expenses	46,772	33,803
Deferred Revenue	108,525	141,584
Other Liabilities	20,314	2,922
Total Liabilities	191,420	246,478
Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions	3,521,130	2,723,496
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 3,712,550	\$ 2,969,973

Research. Educate. Lead.



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