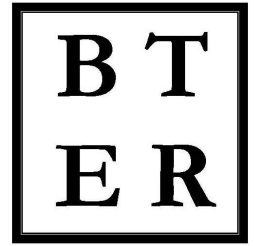


# BIOTHERAPEUTICS EDUCATION AND RESEARCH FOUNDATION



aka BTER Foundation  
Irvine, CA  
www.BTERFoundation.org  
(949)278-9756

[View GuideStar Profile](#)

Silver  
Transparency  
2023

Candid.

## MISSION

The BTER Foundation is dedicated to Advancing Health Care through education and research in Biotherapy (the use of living animals to help in diagnosis and treatment of medical illness).

## EIN

83-0351746

## DIRECTOR

Ronald Sherman

## RULING YEAR

2003

## BOARD CHAIR

Ronald Sherman

## IRS SUBSECTION

501(c)(3) Public Charity

## SUBJECT AREA

University education

## FOUNDING YEAR

2003

Medical education

Nursing education

## MAIN ADDRESS

36 Urey Ct  
Irvine, CA  
92617

Health

Zoology

Diseases and conditions

## AFFILIATION TYPE

Independent Organization

## NTEE Code

Alliance/Advocacy  
Organizations (G01)

## CONTACT

Dr. Ronald Sherman, Director  
(949) 278-9756  
RSherman@BTERFoundation.org

Research Institutes and/or  
Public Policy Analysis (G05)

Diseases, Disorders, Medical  
Disciplines N.E.C. (G99)

## PROGRAMS

### 1. Patient Assistance Grants

Population(s) served: Economically disadvantaged people, People with diseases and illnesses

### 2. Therapist Education & Training

Population(s) served: Adults

### 3. Intramural Research

Population(s) served:

### 4. Research Presentation & Publication Grants

Population(s) served:

### 5. Therapist Education & Training Grants

Population(s) served: Adults

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## POPULATIONS SERVED

### 1. Adults

## COMPLIANCE

✓ IRS Pub 78 Verified as of July 2023

✓ IRS BMF 509(a) (1) as of July 10, 2023

Section 509(a)(1) organization as referred to in Section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)

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## TRANSPARENCY MEASURES

✓ Board Practices Reported?

✗ Diversity Data Reported?

# Programs & Results

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## PROGRAMS

Source: Self-Reported by Organization,  
January 2023

### Population(s) Served:

Adults

Grants to health care workers that subsidize the costs of attending biotherapy training programs.

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### Patient Assistance Grants

**Population(s) Served:** n/a

Subsidize the costs of therapy for patients without insurance.

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### Therapist Education & Training

**Population(s) Served:**

Adults

Through lectures, workshops, conferences, webinars, videos, and print materials, the BTER Foundation produces educational programs and materials that education and train health care providers to safely and effectively deliver care, using living animals.

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### Intramural Research

**Population(s) Served:** n/a

The BTER Foundation actively performs and supports research projects in biotherapy (with preference to projects not receiving other support).

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### Research Presentation & Publication Grants

**Population(s) Served:** n/a

The BTER Foundation supports extramural biotherapeutic research and researchers with grants to help them present their findings at conferences and in print.

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### Therapist Education & Training Grants

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## CHARTING IMPACT

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### What is the organization aiming to accomplish?

Our mission is to advance healthcare through education and research in biotherapy. Our goals are to provide patients and their health care providers with the support they need to obtain high quality care, using medicinal animals.

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### What are the organization's key strategies for making this happen?

In more concrete terms, we accomplish our mission by:

- 1) Providing information and consultative services to patients, therapists, industry, and the general public, via phone, fax, post, website, blog, and our social media sites.
  - 2) maintaining registries of therapists in the biotherapeutic modalities – service animals and guide dogs, leeches, maggots, bee venom, helminths, etc.
  - 3) Announcing the latest information and educational opportunities through our newsletters and journal.
  - 4) Producing educational programs for clinicians, and making some of those programs available for free on the internet; producing some of them for larger conferences and organizations within the healthcare industry.
  - 5) Providing grants to patients, therapists and researchers in order to help them reach their treatment, educational, or publication goals (respectively).
  - 6) Our membership service provides the opportunity for networking and professional growth among biotherapeutic practitioners.
  - 7) Large portions of biotherapeutic medicine are unexplored and unexplained. This is largely since medicinal animals are not directly patentable nor lucrative, and therefore not attractive to conventional or commercial sources of medical research funding. Therefore, we support, organize and/or perform clinical research that can have direct and immediate impact on biotherapeutic healthcare.
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### What are the organization's capabilities for doing this?

The BTER Foundation has a team of dedicated volunteer directors, and a network of dedicated members, who are knowledgeable and excited by medicinal animals. They are driven to educate others in the proper use and value of biotherapy in all of its forms.

Foundation directors and members include professionals who have years of academic and research experience in this and related fields.

The foundation maintains a library of resources, with literature and artifacts going back nearly 100 years.

Currently the Foundation subleases space and collaborates with commercial and non-commercial organizations, giving us ready access to classrooms, vivariums and research space.

Computers and the internet provide us – and everyone else – with easily affordable capabilities to provide and disseminate educational materials.

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### What have and haven't they accomplished so far?

A. What we have accomplished:

- 1) Created a monthly newsletter with news and information about medicinal animals.
- 2) Created a quarterly journal describing and reviewing recent research in biotherapy.
- 3) Created educational materials (documents, guidelines, instructional videos)
- 4) We produced a number of courses and workshop which are now being requested as part of other conferences.
- 5) Over a dozen research studies have already been completed and/or published in peer-reviewed journals.
- 6) We have designed clinical trials of leech therapy and ichthyotherapy

B. What we have not accomplished:

The major objective we have not yet achieved is performing our leech and ichthyotherapy clinical studies. What has prevented us from moving forwards on those studies is access to adequate funding.

# Financials

FISCAL YEAR START: 01/01 FISCAL YEAR END: 12/31

## Revenue & Expenses

Revenue		2021
Contributions		\$17,938
Program Services		\$0
Investments		\$15
Special Events		\$0
Sales		\$0
Other		\$845
<b>Total Revenue</b>		<b>\$18,798</b>
Expenses		
Grants		\$1,500
Salaries & Employee Benefits		\$0
Professional Fees		\$3,000
Occupancy		\$0
Printing, Publications, Postage, etc.		\$0
Other Expenses		\$7,886
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>\$12,386</b>
Net Gain/Loss		
Net Gain/Loss		\$6,412

## Balance Sheet

Assets	1/1/2021	12/31/2021	Change
Cash & Equivalent	\$78,410	\$88,744	\$10,334
Fixed Assets (LBE - Depreciation)	\$1,512	\$1,512	\$0
Other	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$79,922</b>	<b>\$90,256</b>	<b>\$10,334</b>
Liabilities	1/1/2021	12/31/2021	Change
Total Liabilities:	\$1,617	\$5,539	\$3,922
Fund Balance	1/1/2021	12/31/2021	Change
Net Assets:	\$78,305	\$84,717	\$6,412

[☑ 'Key Revenue & Expense Data from Form 990'](#)

[☑ 'Key Balance Sheet Data from Form 990'](#)

# Operations

Source: Self-Reported by Organization, January 2023

## DIRECTOR

Dr. Ronald Arlen Sherman

[🔗 LinkedIn profile](#)

Born in Los Angeles, Ronald Sherman earned his B.S. in Entomology at UC Riverside, and his medical degree at UCLA. Between his internship in San Francisco, and his Internal Medicine Residency at UC Davis, he spent a year as a general practitioner in Arizona, treating Native Americans, the Urban Poor, and the rural under-served. From 1987 - 1988, Dr. Sherman completed the Masters Degree program in Clinical Tropical Medicine at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. During his fellowship in Infectious Diseases, Dr. Sherman began his clinical studies of wound care and maggot therapy. Dr. Sherman has continued his studies of maggot therapy ever since . . . while on staff at the VA Medical Center as a full-time geriatrician and Infectious Diseases consultant, and subsequently at the University of California, Irvine, with NIH funding.

As Executive Director of the BTER Foundation, Dr. Sherman believes that medical care should be available to all, regardless of ability to pay. He also believes that training programs are essential to ensuring the medical practitioners provide the quality of care that they and their patients expect. The Foundation's programs reflect and fulfill these goals.

## BOARD CHAIR

Ronald Sherman

BTER Foundation

## BOARD MEMBERS

Sheri Rosen

Ronald Sherman

Chris Kleronomos

Sagiv Ben-Yakir

Samuel Kohn

## Officers Directors, Trustees, Key Employees

FISCAL YEAR 2021

Name	Title	Compensation	Benefits/Deferred Compensation	Expense Account, Other
Christopher Kleronomos	MEMBER OF THE BOARD	\$0	\$0	\$0
Sagiv Ben-Yakir	MEMBER OF THE BOARD	\$0	\$0	\$0
Shari Cameron	MEMBER OF THE BOARD	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ronald Sherman	BOARD CHAIR AND DIRECTOR	\$0	\$0	\$0
Samual Kohn	TREASURER	\$0	\$0	\$0



## Paid Preparers

FISCAL YEAR 2021

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Firm Name	Firm EIN	Firm Address	Firm Phone
EIDE BAILLY LLP	450250958	17501 17TH ST STE 100, TUSTIN CA 927807924	7145059000

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## BOARD LEADERSHIP PRACTICES

GuideStar worked with BoardSource, the national leader in nonprofit board leadership and governance, to create this section, which enables organizations and donors to transparently share information about essential board leadership practices.

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### BOARD ORIENTATION & EDUCATION

Does the board conduct a formal orientation for new board members and require all board members to sign a written agreement regarding their roles, responsibilities, and expectations? No

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### CEO OVERSIGHT

Has the board conducted a formal, written assessment of the chief executive within the past year? No

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### ETHICS & TRANSPARENCY

Have the board and senior staff reviewed the conflict-of-interest policy and completed and signed disclosure statements in the past year? No

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### BOARD COMPOSITION

Does the board ensure an inclusive board member recruitment process that results in diversity of thought and leadership? No

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### BOARD PERFORMANCE

Has the board conducted a formal, written self-assessment of its performance within the past three years? No

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## Organizational Demographics

Who works and leads organizations that serve our diverse communities? This organization has voluntarily shared information to answer this important question and to support sector-wide learning. GuideStar partnered on this section with CHANGE Philanthropy and Equity in the Center.

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### Leadership

*The organization's leader identifies as:*

*No data*

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### Race & Ethnicity