



*2013 Annual Report*  
*Messages from Around the Globe*



**Hepatitis B Foundation**

**BARUCH S. BLUMBERG INSTITUTE**

*Dear Friends,*

This year we have felt a special urgency, and opportunity, in our efforts to achieve the Hepatitis B Foundation's mission. Partly, this is because we now know, with recently approved medications, that hepatitis C is curable. A cure for hepatitis B is, thus, way overdue. Knowing this, coupled with the increasing number of people contacting us, with the many expressions of need and appreciation, has moved us all the more. Liver cancer rates are rising, and the loss of dear friends to liver cancer this year, reminds us that to cure hepatitis B and liver cancer, new tools are needed, and it is more important than ever to bring people in need ... into care.



Timothy M. Block, Ph.D.  
President and Co-Founder



Joel D. Rosen, Esq.  
Chairman

**We are on it! Below are a few highlights from our year's work.**

**Hep B United.** This national coalition, established by the Hepatitis B Foundation in partnership with the Association of Asian and Pacific Community Health Organizations, includes 18 community-based coalitions from across the nation. Its mission is to support and promote local coalitions working together on hepatitis B outreach, screening, vaccination and linkage to care of the hundreds of thousands of Americans who do not know they have hepatitis B.

**Stopping discrimination against those with hepatitis B.** Until this year, protection against hepatitis B-related discrimination for affected persons in the United States was not available. Today, due to the successful advocacy efforts of the Foundation and a landmark settlement by the U.S. Department of Justice on March 5, 2013, hepatitis B is now protected under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), which means it is now unlawful to discriminate against an individual infected with hepatitis B.

**Advancing research progress.** Our research discoveries have now reached a level of maturity where they are generating enormous and unprecedented excitement in the community. The new strategies to target hepatitis B and liver cancer have never been riper for development.

**Grand Re-Opening of the Baruch S. Blumberg Institute.** During a public ceremony, the Hepatitis B Foundation's research institute was officially renamed the *Baruch S. Blumberg Institute*. The new name honors the scientific legacy of the Foundation's Co-Founder, the late *Dr. Baruch Blumberg* who won the Nobel Prize in Medicine in 1976 for his discovery of the hepatitis B virus. Formerly known as the "Institute for Virus and Hepatitis Research," the newly renamed Blumberg Institute has established a special fundraising campaign—*A Nobel Challenge*—to accelerate the pace of research to find a cure for hepatitis B.

In this report, we also want to express appreciation to those who make our research, outreach and advocacy programs possible – our donors. Thank you for your confidence and commitment. We hope that as you read this year's annual report you will be inspired and will continue to support our important work.

Sincerely,

**Timothy M. Block, PhD**  
*President and Co-Founder*

**Joel Rosen, Esq.**  
*Chairman of the Board*

# Changing Lives THROUGH SCIENCE



Since its inception in 2000, the Hepatitis B Foundation's Summer Research Internship Program has graduated 115 alumni who have enrolled in professional (medical or veterinary) and graduate school or have found employment in the biomedical field (e.g. biopharma or academia). This 10-week program allows interns to work with professional scientists from the Hepatitis B Foundation's research affiliate the *Baruch S. Blumberg Institute* and Drexel University.

*I had an incredible experience working at the Hepatitis B Foundation and I feel very fortunate to have been given the opportunity to learn from incredible people on fascinating research projects. I learned every hour and at times every minute. In the end, I convey my greatest gratitude to those who make the program a reality.*  
*Laura DiPaolo, Enrolled in a Masters/PhD Program*

International HBV Meeting co-chairs celebrate a successful meeting.  
L to R: **Dr. Shuping Tong**, Brown U.;  
**Dr. Zhenghong Yuan**, Shanghai Med. College;  
**Dr. Ju-Tao Guo**, Drexel U. and Blumberg Institute  
(Oct. 2013)

## RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

*\*Research accomplished with our on-site Drexel University research scientists*

- **Screening and identifying HBV cccDNA repressors:** We have developed new methods to detect HBV cccDNA repressors, and have already shown that cccDNA can be shut down, in tissue culture, and identified several "hit" "proof of concept" compounds for possible development.
- **Determining the mechanisms of action of the hepatitis B sAg inhibitor:** We now think we know how the hepatitis B sAg inhibitor, which we identified six years ago, works—by repressing a common step that HBV and LDL's use to get out of the liver cells!!!
- **Detecting AFP negative liver cancers:** Our "Glycoprint" technology is detecting liver cancer in AFP negative individuals. In addition, our adjunct faculty has developed technologies (we initially supported) using DNA methods to detect ADP negative cancers.
- **Detecting cholangiocarcinoma (CCC and a type of primary liver cancer):** We have identified a fucosylated form of the acute phase protein Fetuin that appears to detect CCC in 70% of the cases. There are currently no serum markers of CCC, so this is an important advance.

## INTERNATIONAL HBV MEETING HELD AT SHANGHAI MEDICAL COLLEGE OF FUDAN UNIVERSITY

The International HBV Meeting, the definitive scientific meeting for hepatitis B, was held October 20-23, 2013 in the spectacularly modern city of Shanghai. Coordinated by the Hepatitis B Foundation, the meeting was attended by 500 scientists from around the world. There was an increased excitement and **renewed interest in finding a cure for hepatitis B, now that hepatitis C is curable.**  
**The race is on!**



# Changing Lives

## THROUGH EDUCATION & ADVOCACY

**L**ast spring an urgent call was made to the Hepatitis B Foundation's helpline.

A shy, nervous young man from India had just discovered he was chronically infected with hepatitis B. About to be married, "John" was fearful of telling his fiancé about his diagnosis because he didn't want to disgrace her or their families. Initially when he spoke with the Foundation's counselor he was filled with shame. Afterwards, he felt hopeful and realized that hepatitis B could be treated and that a bright future was entirely possible. More than a year later, the young couple recently reported joyful news that they are expecting twins and both babies are healthy.

### PUBLIC HEALTH HIGHLIGHTS

**The Hepatitis B Foundation received a one-year grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**

to document best practices in providing education, screening, vaccination and linkage to care in Asian immigrant communities in Philadelphia, PA. Through the *Hep B United Philadelphia* coalition, which was established by the HBF in 2010 and currently numbers 70+ partners, we were able to offer services to almost 5,000 people.

**In Philadelphia over the past 12 months:**

- We provided free HBV testing to 1,160 high-risk individuals
- We administered 423 free doses of HBV vaccine
- We educated 3,507 people about HBV
- We published 4 scholarly articles in professional peer-reviewed journals



### OUTREACH HIGHLIGHTS

- More than 6,000 requests for information and support were received through our phone and email help lines, Twitter, and Facebook accounts.
- Almost 1 million visitors viewed our website at [www.hepb.org](http://www.hepb.org) for information.
- Nearly 100 superheroes wearing our "B A Hero" t-shirts raced up the Philadelphia Art Museum's steps "Rocky-style" to show our strength and action in tackling hepatitis B during May Hepatitis Awareness Month.



### LiverCancerConnect.org

Since launching our patient-focused liver cancer website, which is the first of its kind, we have attracted more than 5,000 unique visits in the first 10 months from patients, families and healthcare providers. We offered three webinars with national experts in the field focusing on the most common causes of primary liver cancer, which are HBV, HCV, and fatty liver disease. Each webinar attracted 100 participants. In addition, the website regularly updates its Drug Watch, Clinical Trials, and Liver Cancer Specialists Directory.

I am living in darkness afraid to tell my wife who is 7 months pregnant that I have hepatitis B. I feel guilty each time I look at my innocent children and my wife knowing the suffering I have caused. Please help me.

(M.T., SHANGHAI, PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA).

WHEN I LEARNED THAT THE HEPATITIS B FOUNDATION HAD GOTTEN HEPATITIS B PROTECTED UNDER THE ADA, A SENSE OF RELIEF OVERWHELMED ME. THE WEIGHTS ON MY SHOULDERS WERE FINALLY LIFTED AND I KNEW THAT I COULD PURSUE MY DREAM TO BE A DOCTOR WITH THE LAW BEHIND ME.

(UNITED STATES)

**I**magine not being able to pursue a lifelong dream of becoming a healthcare professional because of a chronic hepatitis B infection. This seems unbelievable in an era of universal hepatitis B vaccination programs and effective antiviral therapies. The Hepatitis B Foundation, however, spent several years helping students who were either denied admission to medical and dental schools, or threatened with dismissal from their training programs because of their hepatitis B diagnosis.

In 2011, HBF mobilized support from national leaders and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to address the growing problem. The CDC published updated recommendations for hepatitis B infected healthcare workers and students in July 2012 that clearly state that hepatitis B is not a reason to deny or dismiss a person from studying or practicing a healthcare profession.

The updated CDC recommendations became the cornerstone of the landmark settlement by the U.S. Department of Justice on March 5, 2013 which ruled that a New Jersey medical school had violated the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) by unlawfully excluding two applicants because they have hepatitis B. (Both students had contacted the HBF for assistance.)

#### CDC HONORS HEPATITIS B FOUNDATION'S ADVOCACY WORK

In recognition of the HBF's key role in addressing hepatitis B-related discrimination, HBF executive director and co-founder **Ms. Joan Block** was honored by the CDC on July 25, as part of the World Hepatitis Day activities, for her advocacy success and the resulting protection now provided by the ADA for individuals living with chronic hepatitis B.



Joan Block and Dr. John Ward

#### ADVOCACY HIGHLIGHTS

- July 2012 — CDC updates its recommendations for hepatitis B infected healthcare workers and students
- March 2013 — U.S. Department of Justice landmark settlement that protects hepatitis B under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
- July 2013 — *Hep B United* was officially approved for co-branding with the CDC's first multilingual "Know Hepatitis B" national campaign for Asian Americans.

During a special ceremony hosted by **Dr. Howard Koh**, Assistant Secretary for Health of the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services (HHS), in Washington DC, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announced the launch of its first-ever multilingual "Know Hepatitis B" campaign for Asian Americans. Dr. Koh also announced the new official partnership between the CDC and *Hep B United* and approval for co-branding of the national educational campaign materials. *Hep B United* is a national coalition founded by the Hepatitis B Foundation in partnership with the Association for Asian and Pacific Community Health Organizations (AAPCHO).



*Hep B United* co-chairs **Jeff Caballero** (far left) and **Joan Block** with **Dr. Howard Koh**, HHS (center) and **Dr. John Ward**, CDC, at the Washington, DC launch event. (June 12, 2013)

# Changing Lives

IN THE FUTURE

## ONE HUNDRED CHINESE FAMILIES • FRIENDS

One Hundred Chinese Families • Friends is an international campaign dedicated to eliminating hepatitis B and liver cancer in China and around the world. This is a special program of the Hepatitis B Foundation to specifically increase awareness among Asian Americans about the enormous burden of hepatitis B and liver cancer in their communities, both in the U.S. and abroad.

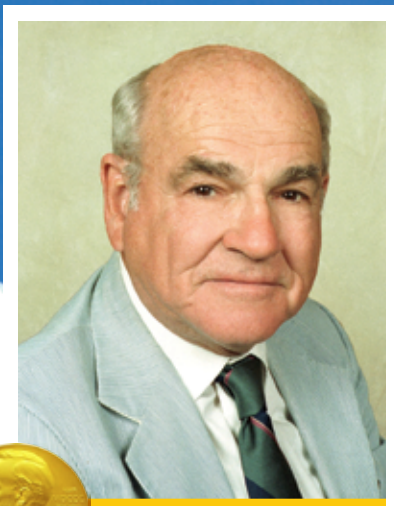
- 1 million young children in China are at risk for hepatitis B every year
- 100 million people in China suffer from chronic hepatitis B
- 500,000 people in China die each year from liver cancer due to hepatitis B

## One Hundred Chinese Families • Friends

- **International Research Exchange**  
We have formal relationships with universities in Beijing and Tianjin to train graduate and medical students in our research labs to learn about hepatitis B and liver cancer so they can return to China to share their new knowledge and skills.
- **Haimen City Education Project**  
We sponsor a citywide education program in Haimen City, located in Jiangsu Province, because it has the highest incidence of hepatitis B-related liver cancer in the world and our goal is to increase testing and treatment to reduce the number of deaths.
- **Gateway to Care Program**  
We support programs in the U.S. that focus on high-risk Chinese communities to promote education and testing. Nearly 1 in 10 Asians living in America suffers silently from hepatitis B and will die prematurely if they are not diagnosed and appropriately treated.



The 2013 One Hundred Chinese Families • Friends annual event held at the Museum of Chinese in America in New York City was a wonderful success and dedicated to Mrs. Arline Loh, a committee member who lost her battle against hepatitis B and liver cancer this year.



Baruch S. Blumberg, MD, DPhil  
July 28, 1925—April 5, 2011



*“The Hepatitis B Foundation is extremely important for the field of hepatitis B. That is why I became involved. It is a major contributor and its work is critical to finding a cure. I am very committed to making sure this goes forward and advances.”*

Nobel Laureate Dr. Baruch S. Blumberg (March 2011)



Grand Re-Opening of the **Baruch S. Blumberg Institute** with the Blumberg Family (October 7, 2013)

**T**hese words of Dr. Baruch Blumberg continue to guide and inspire the scientists and staff of the Hepatitis B Foundation’s research institute—renamed the *Baruch S. Blumberg Institute* this year—in their efforts to find a cure for this devastating and deadly disease.



Described as a pioneer and leading light in the scientific community, Dr. Blumberg discovered the hepatitis B virus in 1967, developed the blood test to detect the virus, and invented the first vaccine in 1969.

The Hepatitis B Foundation has benefited enormously

from the personal support of Dr. Blumberg. From the very beginning, he served as the HBF’s co-founder, active member of the scientific advisory board, and “Distinguished Scholar” who met with scientists and students in his office at the HBF until his death in April 2011.

Thus, the new name—the *Baruch S. Blumberg Institute*—will ensure that Dr. Blumberg’s scientific legacy is continued and his dream of finding a cure will be fulfilled in the bold spirit of inquiry that characterized his work.



## A Nobel Challenge Campaign

The *Baruch S. Blumberg Institute* is driven by a sense of urgency because one million people worldwide die each year from hepatitis B-related liver failure and liver cancer. An infusion of funding is required to move our discoveries more rapidly from the proof-of-principal stage through translational research and preclinical testing that leads to human clinical trials.

To achieve these ambitious goals, *A Nobel Challenge* campaign seeks private philanthropy that will allow us to move forward and recruit outstanding scientists to advance our research mission. The success of *A Nobel Challenge* campaign will allow the Blumberg Institute to make an exponential leap, increasing research productivity, competitiveness and a cure for hepatitis B.

To learn more about *A Nobel Challenge* campaign, please visit [www.blumberginstitute.org](http://www.blumberginstitute.org) or contact us at (215) 489-4900.

# Changing Lives

## THROUGH PHILANTHROPIC SUPPORT

### Our Donor Honor Roll

JULY 1, 2012 – JUNE 30, 2013

The Hepatitis B Foundation's valuable research and programs are supported by generous individual donations, grants, workplace and matching gifts, in-kind donations, donations of auction items and sponsorships for our Crystal Ball, and attendance at our special events. We are grateful to every individual and organization that has stepped forward to advance our Cause for a Cure. *Thank you!*

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*I am most grateful for your inspiring message. I am from (West Africa) where stigmatization of people with such disease is high. Keep up the good works because all of us want to have the hope that we can live a normal life and that's what your organization is doing. Thank you.*

(GHANA)



*Thank you very much for helping me.  
The patient is my wife and I felt helpless  
before I received your suggestion.*  
(INDIA)

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**Princeton Workshop participants, May 2013.**

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**Robert H. Purcell, M.D.**, Co-Chief, Laboratory of Infectious Diseases Chief, Hepatitis Viruses Section, NIAID (on right), receiving the **Baruch S. Blumberg Prize Crystal Ball**. (May 8, 2013).

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 Merck Partnership for Giving  
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 United Way California Capital Region  
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**Many thanks to our in-kind donors who are too numerous to mention.**

*We apologize for any errors or omissions in the donor list despite our best efforts to be as accurate as possible. Please contact editor@hepb.org or call 215-489-4900 so that we can print corrections in our next newsletter. Thank you.*



*In Loving Memory of Arline Loh,  
 HBF Friend and Hepatitis B Advocate*

*Arline Loh, a passionate hepatitis B advocate was recognized as a "Champion of Change" by the White House in May 2013. She is also a founding member of the Hepatitis B Foundation's One Hundred Chinese Families • Friends campaign who lost her courageous and mighty battle to liver cancer on October 15, 2013.*

*A former banking information technology expert, Arline was forced into early retirement because of advancing liver disease caused by chronic hepatitis B. Having been infected at birth, she spent the remainder of her life dedicated to educating and informing people about hepatitis B and how to prevent and manage this serious liver disease. The founder of two hepatitis B support groups in New York City, as well as the co-founder of H+EAL (Health and Education for Asian Livers), her advocacy efforts focused on screening, vaccination, treatment and management of the disease in adults 25 years and older.*

*Arline will be remembered for her strength, determination, generosity and unwavering love of family. Her dedication to the cause of hepatitis B will live on to inspire the continuing work of the One Hundred Chinese Families • Friends campaign to increase awareness about hepatitis B, particularly in the Asian American community.*

*Donations in Arline's memory to support her H+EAL program can be sent to the Hepatitis B Foundation or made online at [www.hepb.org](http://www.hepb.org).*

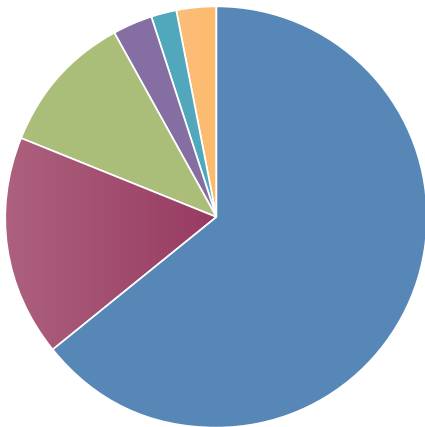
Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

Having hepatitis B protected under the ADA is amazing news. Our family appreciates all you do in the fight for people with HBV. Our daughter is only 14 but is planning a career in the health field. You have paved the way when she was younger and now you are doing it again for her future. We applaud and thank you Hepatitis B Foundation!!!

(UNITED STATES)

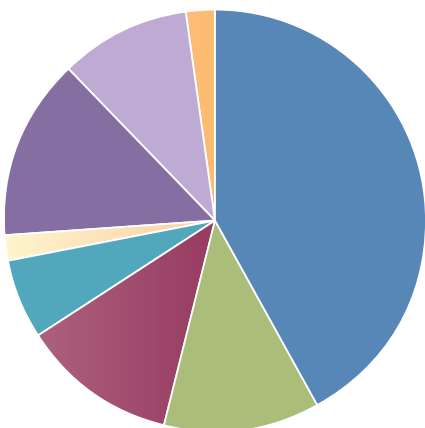
## Year In Review + Financial Information\*

Combined Hepatitis B Foundation & Baruch S. Blumberg Institute (formerly the Institute for Hepatitis and Virus Research \*\*)  
For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2013



### Sources of Funds (Total \$4,311,793)

- Grants **65%** (\$2,802,115)
- Charitable Contributions **17%** (\$727,892)
- Natural Products Discovery Institute Revenue **11%** (\$466,866)
- Management Fees **3%** (\$130,000)
- Special Events **2%** (\$74,783)
- Other Revenue **2%** (\$110,137)



### Uses of Funds (Total \$4,010,095)

- Direct Research **42%** (\$1,672,162)
- Natural Products Discovery Institute **12%** (\$482,783)
- Outreach and Education **12%** (\$471,932)
- Public Health **6%** (\$253,893)
- Biotechnology Programs **2%** (\$68,602)
- General and Administrative **14%** (\$564,307)
- Rent and Depreciation **10%** (\$408,483)
- Development **2%** (\$87,933)

\*The financial information presented above includes the unrestricted fund activity for each entity. It does not include the activity from Hepatitis B Foundation's 50% interest in the net assets of the Pennsylvania Biotechnology Center. At June 30, 2013, this interest was valued at, based on the equity method of accounting, approximately \$3.195 million per the audited Statement of Financial Position of the Hepatitis B Foundation. The Pennsylvania Biotechnology Center was founded in 2006 in partnership with a local college.

\*\* Institute for Hepatitis and Virus Research is the research institute established by the Hepatitis B Foundation in 2004.

The financial information in this report was prepared by management and presented in condensed form from the financial statements of the Hepatitis B Foundation and the Institute for Hepatitis and Virus Research audited by EisnerAmper, LLP for the year ended June 30, 2013. A copy of each financial statement is available upon request.

# Our Mission

*The Hepatitis B Foundation is the nation's leading nonprofit organization dedicated to finding a cure and improving the quality of life for those affected by hepatitis B worldwide through research, education and patient advocacy.*

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*\*Baruch S. Blumberg, MD, DPhil (1992-2011)*

*Nobel Laureate and HBF Co-Founde*

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*Hepatitis B Foundation*

Angela Jacobsen, CAP, CFRE

*Baruch S. Blumberg Institute*

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Anne Dombrowski, PhD

Yanming Du, PhD

Michael Goetz, PhD

David Horn, MD

William Kinney, PhD

John Kulp, PhD

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Bruce Maryanoff, PhD

Cynthia Maryanoff, PhD

Tulin Morcol, PhD

Allen Reitz, PhD

Michael Sofia, PhD

## Drexel Adjunct Research Faculty

*These on-site Drexel U. senior research faculty members are supported in part by HBF/Blumberg Institute funds*

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Mary Ann Comunale, MS

Alison Evans, ScD

Haitao Guo, PhD

Ju-Tao Guo, MD

Anand Mehta, D.Phil

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**Hepatitis B Foundation**

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