



# 2021 Impact Report

How Sabin expanded research, access, and equity of vaccines during the pandemic

# 2021 Impact Report

## Letter from the Chair & CEO

.....Page 4

## Year in Review

.....Page 8

## Generating Data for Better Decision Making

.....Page 11

## Exploring What's Behind Vaccine Acceptance and Demand

.....Page 14

## Supporting Immunization Professionals as Leaders

.....Page 19

## Advancing Vaccine Research & Development

.....Page 22

## Recognizing Groundbreaking Vaccine Leadership

.....Page 25

## Summarizing 2021

.....Page 29

## Staff & Board

.....Page 31

# 2021 Impact Report

## Financials

.....Page 33

## How You Can Help

.....Page 36

## Contact Us

.....Page 38

A photograph of two women embracing. The woman on the left has dark, curly hair and is wearing a yellow top. The woman on the right has long, wavy brown hair and is also wearing a yellow top. They are outdoors, with a wooden fence and green foliage in the background. The text "Letter from the Chair & CEO" is overlaid in white on the image.

# Letter from the Chair & CEO

As we entered the second full year of the COVID-19 pandemic, we found ourselves feeling hopeful. Following a year of devastating loss to families, communities and livelihoods worldwide, scientists had developed and administered the first globally authorized COVID-19 vaccines for emergency use just days prior to the start of 2021.

Here at Sabin, we joined the scientific and global health communities in celebrating this extraordinary moment and the ensuing optimism. And then, we got back to work.

New vaccines meant new opportunities and new challenges — from the logistics of vaccinating the world to opportunities to build on the historic collaborations that produced these lifesaving vaccines. Sabin's position at the nexus of vaccine stakeholders has given us a unique role in fostering even greater understanding and collaboration to tackle this pandemic and prevent the next one.

We began with the true experts, the professionals working on the ground and on the frontlines, and the communities they serve in low- and middle-income countries. We adapted our tools for use in under-resourced settings, producing mini case studies, podcasts and other multimedia offerings with firsthand insights around vaccine roll outs, equity, and acceptance. We chipped away at what the World Health Organization has termed an “infodemic” of vaccine misinformation and disinformation with robust trainings for journalists, immunization professionals and health workers seeking to increase accurate reporting, communication, and advocacy around vaccines in more than 50 countries.

The work we do is essential to help increase vaccine uptake. A recent Lancet study found that COVID-19 vaccines saved nearly 20 million lives globally in the first year, cutting the potential death toll by an estimated 63%. However, as you read this,

just about 21% of people in low-income countries have received at least one dose of the vaccine and in some countries, uptake has now stalled at 50%.

At the same time, the pandemic along with an increased number of children living in conflict zones were key factors for global childhood vaccinations plummeting to their lowest level in 30 years in 2021; the steep decline is just more proof of the critical need for continuing and strengthening our support to global immunization programs. We expanded our disease burden surveillance and vaccine impact work, drawing on established community partnerships to collect new vaccine data and create cost-effective diagnostics for typhoid.

We continued to engage research leaders around pathways toward next generation influenza vaccines to prevent an even deadlier pandemic. And we continued further research into developing vaccines against two of the world's deadliest diseases, Ebola Sudan and Marburg. Our vaccine candidates have each cleared Phase 1B trials demonstrating safety, paving the way for Phase 2 efficacy trials to begin soon.

### The need for Sabin's approach to vaccine innovation is clear.

In 2021, membership in Sabin's Boost community, which provides skill- and career-building tools to immunization professionals, soared 54% to more than 1800 participants. Applications for our signature grant program resourcing social and behavioral studies at the community level increased 290%.

We are also strengthening our own organization. Sabin established a staff-level Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) committee last year and launched an [action plan](#). New DEI initiatives currently underway include setting up an annual scholarship fund for a STEM and/or public health student at a historically black college and organizing a workshop to develop measurable mechanisms to track DEI-related goals within Sabin program and operating teams.

The organization's financial picture is healthy with 2021 revenue at \$27M. We received funding from government agencies, foundations, corporate entities, and countless individuals from around the world.

Your shared dedication ensures that our work will continue until every family who needs a vaccine, of any kind, can get one. Together, we can further expand the research, acceptance, and access to lifesaving vaccine solutions and hope in communities across the globe.

With gratitude,



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Regina Rabinovich'.

**Regina Rabinovich, MD, MPH**  
Board of Trustees Chair



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Amy Finan'.

**Amy Finan**  
Chief Executive Officer



# Year in Review





**R&D FUNDING**

**\$35.5 M**

Additional funding in 2021

**\$40.5 M**

Previous funding: 2019-2020

We received an additional \$35.5 million to advance vaccines for two diseases: Marburg and Ebola Sudan



1,855 immunization professionals from 133 countries were active in our Boost community

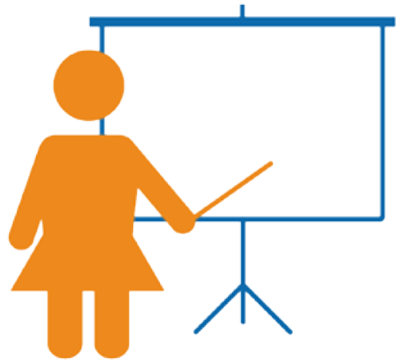


**2,252**  
**downloads**

2,252 people worldwide downloaded our COVID-19 Listening & Learning podcast



We trained 1,200+ health workers from 147 countries on communications and advocacy skills to provide or promote vaccines

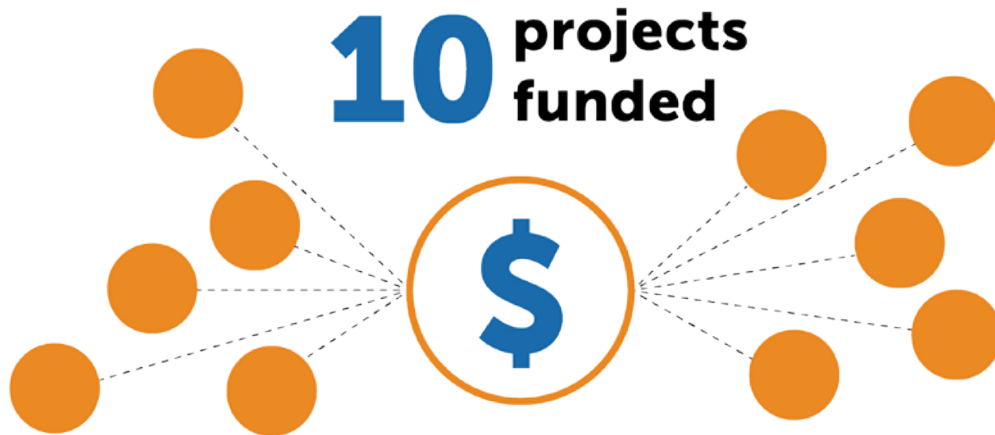


**337** media professionals  
**53** countries

We supported 337 media professionals from 53 countries in deepening their understanding of vaccines



427 vaccine professionals attended our virtual International Conference on Typhoid & Other Invasive Salmonellosis



**10** projects funded

We funded 10 projects investigating social and behavioral drivers of vaccine demand

**3** studies funded



We funded 3 studies exploring effective online strategies to boost vaccine acceptance in low- and middle-income countries



# Generating Data for Better Decision Making

Throughout 2021, Sabin staff and community partners worked to gather, analyze and disseminate community-sourced vaccine-related data critical to national and global decision makers. From typhoid to COVID-19, these efforts reflected our signature approach of evidence-based solutions and multidisciplinary collaborations.

## 12th Conference on Typhoid and Other Invasive Salmonellosis

In December 2021, we held the **12th Conference on Typhoid and Other Invasive Salmonellosis**. This virtual event brought together more than 400 researchers, health workers, civil society representatives and government and industry professionals to exchange the latest findings and research on typhoid, paratyphoid, and invasive non-typhoidal Salmonella disease. Nearly 90% of attendees surveyed felt they'd achieved their goals, which included greater understanding of conjugate typhoid vaccines (TCV) introduction, new research findings and the burden of typhoid.





## Spotlight on Collaboration:

In May 2021, the Sabin-Aspen Vaccine Science & Policy Group released its latest report exploring real-time lessons from the record-breaking development of COVID-19 vaccines for the future of vaccine R&D. The report shares five “Big Ideas” to rethink the development of vaccines to help prevent future pandemics and check ongoing disease threats like malaria, TB and HIV.

## Disease Burden Surveillance Studies

Our Sero-epidemiology and Environmental Surveillance (SEES) study continued to build on community partnerships in Bangladesh, Nepal and Pakistan to validate a **more accessible, cost-effective diagnostic test for enteric fever**. And the **Coalition against Typhoid** continued to bring evidence of the burden of enteric fever, including increased drug resistance, and new vaccine efficacy analysis to high-risk countries considering adding TCV to immunization programs.



# Exploring What's Behind Vaccine Acceptance and Demand

What fuels vaccine uptake in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs)? Sabin's Vaccine Acceptance & Demand team invests in a global network of social and behavioral scientists, academics, global health experts and community partners uncovering the complexities of why people welcome and want vaccines from the ground up. With an emphasis on locally driven solutions, our 2021 efforts marry evidence-based strategies that engage social scientists, journalists and health workers to meet their communities' needs.

## Social and Behavioral Research Grants


For the third year, our **Social and Behavioral Research Grants** program funded local research teams in LMICs exploring structural, cultural, economic and social drivers of vaccine acceptance and demand in their communities. Following a 290% increase in applications received, **ten selected projects explored vaccine equity, marginalized communities and online messaging strategies**. In 2021, we required project teams to be multidisciplinary in expertise, have established partnerships with local organizations and support of the community in which the research was to be conducted, and outline an appropriate project output (e.g., policy briefs, solution pathway papers, case studies etc.) and feasible dissemination channel to reach relevant audiences (e.g., immunization program; Ministry of Health). This wide-ranging approach amplifies impact of the program, allowing community organizations to quickly translate research into evidence-based action.

## Social and Behavioral Research Grants Program

2021 Call for Proposals - Expressions of Interest by Country



**KEY**

 Countries from which we received applications

*\*excludes applications from Global North institutions with partners in Global South countries*



## Immunization Advocates

Through the **Immunization Advocates** program, Sabin worked with partners to support journalists and health workers to report, communicate or advocate accurately on vaccines and immunization.

We provided 337 media professionals from 53 countries with key information to support accurate reporting on COVID-19 vaccines and other immunization topics, as well as tools to learn more and connections to expert sources. We also trained and mentored a total of 107 journalists from 30 low- and middle-income countries in Africa, the Americas and Eastern Europe, helping them to develop in-depth stories on vaccines and immunization. Following this training, the journalists published more than 200 stories and investigative reports in local, regional and global media outlets.

Sabin partnered with the International Pediatric Association (IPA), guiding more than 1,200 health workers from 147 countries through a nine-module course covering infodemiology, behavioral science, advocacy and media engagement to enhance their vaccine communications and advocacy skills. In collaboration with the Nursing Now Challenge, we selected seven nurses through a competitive process to receive training on storytelling and vaccine advocacy. These nurses delivered their messages to the International Council of Nurses Congress 2021, which was attended by 5,255 participants from 131 countries. This group of nurses continues to advocate for vaccine acceptance and equity within their communities and globally.

## Spotlight on Collaboration:

Sabin's Vaccine Acceptance & Demand and Boost teams collaborated with the Bay Area Global Health Alliance and the Alliance for Advancing Health Online. The partnership launched Insights Dialogue, **an online knowledge-sharing platform** that offers resources for addressing local vaccine confidence in social media and other digital spaces and is designed for use by academics, vaccine program implementers and policymakers.



## Tune in for Immunization Insights

Sabin's **Community Conversations on Vaccines podcast**, launched in March 2021, spotlights researchers, journalists and health workers in Africa, the Americas, Eastern Europe and South Asia. These stakeholders share their experiences as they communicate about vaccine equity and acceptance in challenging contexts.



# Supporting Immunization Professionals as Leaders

To effectively drive vaccine confidence and uptake across the globe, we need to support the immunization professionals working to meet the complex, evolving needs of their communities across the globe. In 2021, Sabin worked to provide these and other frontline health workers with the tools, knowledge and connections they need to develop and operate successful vaccine initiatives—from COVID-19 vaccine roll outs to routine immunization programs.

## Boost Community

Boost, our team dedicated to fostering a global community of immunization professionals, joined Ariadne Labs in launching the Global Mass Vaccination Site Collaborative in November 2021. Just as low- and middle-income countries were beginning to tackle the question of how to jump-start COVID-19 mass vaccination campaigns, this **initiative brought live education sessions, resources, and accessible tools**. In addition to the virtual offerings aimed at mass vaccination site set-up, operations and sustainability, a standing **Learning Group** on the Boost platform continues to share up-to-date resources and events.

## Bright Spots Initiative

Meanwhile, we continued to spotlight ground-up vaccine innovations and adaptations through Bright Spots & Sparks. This storytelling initiative takes a **behind-the-scenes look at immunization campaigns and programs** around the world, from groundbreaking, fully executed projects to quick lessons from the field. To date, we've shared more than 25 stories from 10 countries at the regional, district or facility level, giving immunization professionals an invaluable opportunity to learn from their peers.

## Spotlight on Boost Champions

In 2021, Boost partnered with People Power Health and Adaptive Change Advisors to establish a virtual Flagship Fellowship for Boost members to augment their adaptive leadership, community building and storytelling skills. The initial four-month Advanced Community Activation Training and subsequent three-day intensive Adaptive Leadership Train-the-Trainer Workshop were completed by 20 immunization professionals who developed capstone projects around identifying problems and improving community and regional immunization systems.



## Tune in for Lessons from the Pandemic

In response to the ongoing introduction of COVID-19 vaccines, Boost launched the **COVID-19 Listening and Learning Series** in April 2021. This five-episode podcast and six-part live engagement series features real-time lessons and actionable takeaways from immunization professionals and other key stakeholders around COVID-19 vaccine introduction and delivery.

A photograph of a female scientist in a laboratory setting. She is wearing a white lab coat, a blue surgical mask, and safety glasses. She is holding a pipette and appears to be working with a sample. The background is slightly blurred, showing laboratory equipment and a window. The text 'Advancing Vaccine Research & Development' is overlaid in white on the image.

# Advancing Vaccine Research & Development

## Vaccine Development

In 2021, Sabin made significant progress towards developing **vaccines against Marburg and Ebola Sudan**, two deadly viruses that kill approximately half the people they infect. This includes successful Phase 1b clinical trials in the United States demonstrating the vaccines were well tolerated, and no severe adverse events were reported. With these data, Sabin is designing Phase 2 clinical trials to be launched in Africa in 2023.

In September 2021, the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA), part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, exercised its third contract option valued at \$34.5 million. This funding enables continued nonclinical efficacy and safety studies, the Phase 2 clinical trials and vaccine manufacturing processes to ensure quality and safety. To date, **BARDA has invested \$75 million** in Sabin's Ebola and Marburg R&D program.

## Tackling Marburg with the World Health Organization

When a Marburg virus disease outbreak occurred in Guinea in August 2021, the WHO invited Sabin to join a group of experts from industry, government and academia dedicated to the rapid development of Marburg vaccines, called MARVAC. As a **MARVAC member**, Sabin continues to support strategies to share knowledge, laboratory networks and other resources to ensure communities have the tests, vaccines and medicines to avert large scale health crises.

## Filovirus Vaccine Research

Sabin convened more than 30 key scientific and regulatory leaders to consider actionable steps for broader filovirus vaccine research — Ebola and Marburg are two of the better-known members of the filovirus family. A two-part workshop series in May and October 2021 focused on improving regulatory harmonization, pathways to vaccine licensure and development of immunological markers to speed the trial-to-approval process. This work has laid the foundation for a larger conference, currently being planned for 2023.



## A Framework for A Better Flu Shot

A universally-protective influenza vaccine (UIV) — one that would provide multi-year or even lifelong protection — has been in the works for decades. In September 2021, our Influenza Initiative released its

Influenza Vaccines Research and Development Roadmap to help move the needle on this historic pursuit. This **first such strategic planning framework** guides researchers and funders alike as they work to accelerate the development of UIVs.



# Recognizing Groundbreaking Vaccine Leadership



## Gold Medal

Each year, **Sabin honors scientists and global health leaders** whose contributions in the laboratory and the field continue to transform vaccinology and immunization programs worldwide.

In 2021 we awarded the **Albert B. Sabin Gold Medal** to Barney S. Graham, MD, PhD, deputy director, Vaccine Research Center and chief of the Viral Pathogenesis Laboratory at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), part of the National Institutes of Health. The Gold Medal, now in its 28th year, is Sabin's highest scientific honor. Dr. Graham was selected for his extraordinary contributions to research, which have led to the development and testing of new vaccines for many global pathogens, including influenza, HIV, Ebola, West Nile, chikungunya, Zika, SARS and MERS. His laboratory's work also helped lead to the development of COVID-19 vaccines.



28<sup>th</sup> Annual  
Albert B. Sabin



Gold Medal

---

**Barney Graham, MD, PhD**

2021 Gold Medal Recipient

---

## Rising Star Award

We awarded **the Rising Star Award** to Nginache Nampota-Nkomba, MBBS, MSc, a research physician and clinical research site leader at Blantyre Malaria Project in Malawi. The Sabin Rising Star Award recognizes an early-career professional who demonstrates a commitment to the field of immunization. Dr. Nampota-Nkomba's community-based research informs immunization solutions in Malawi and globally. Her work includes leading a clinical trial of a novel typhoid conjugate vaccine in children and investigating HIV/AIDS and malaria in vulnerable communities.



---

**Nginache Nampota-Nkomba**  
**MBBS, MSc**

2021 Rising Star Recipient

---

**Barney Graham, MD, PhD**   
@BarneyGrahamMD · [Follow](#)

I was honored today by receiving the Sabin Gold Medal for my work in vaccinology and public health. I want to thank all the people I've worked with over the years who made this happen. 2021 Albert B. Sabin Gold Medal Ceremony [youtu.be/zOvWd5neHFA](https://youtu.be/zOvWd5neHFA) via [@YouTube](#)

youtube.com  
2021 Albert B. Sabin Gold Medal Ceremony  
Sabin Vaccine Institute is proud to award Dr. Barney Graham the 2021 Albert B. Sabin Gold Medal for his ...

7:34 PM · Jun 3, 2021 

 **440**  [Reply](#)  [Share](#)

[Read 33 replies](#)

**Nginache Nkomba**   
@NginacheVN · [Follow](#)

So humbled to have received such a prestigious award 🙏

youtube.com  
2021 Albert B. Sabin Gold Medal Ceremony  
Sabin Vaccine Institute is proud to award Dr. Barney Graham the 2021 Albert B. Sabin Gold Medal for his ...

2:16 PM · Jun 4, 2021 

 **14**  [Reply](#)  [Share](#)

[Read 4 replies](#)

A close-up photograph of a woman wearing a teal hijab and a dark blue top, holding a baby. The baby is wearing a teal long-sleeved shirt with a black pattern. The woman is looking down at the baby with a gentle expression. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

# Summarizing 2021

## **Sabin Vaccine Institute**

The historic response to the COVID-19 pandemic has brought new opportunities for partnership and innovation to the surface — as well as highlighted the gaps that still remain in vaccine R&D, acceptance and uptake. As a trusted leader in advancing global vaccine solutions and elevating community voices, Sabin is ready to help build a stronger, more equitable vaccine landscape.



# Staff & Board

## Executive Staff

(as of 8/2022)

**Amy Finan**

Chief Executive Officer

**Kiju deLeon, CPA**

Chief Financial Officer

## Program List

**Applied Epidemiology**

**Boost Community**

**Influenzer Initiative**

**Vaccine Acceptance and Demand**

**Research and Development**

## Board of Trustees

(as of 8/2022)

**Regina Rabinovich, MD, MPH**

Chair

Executive Committee Chair

Governance Committee Chair

**Amy Finan**

Chief Executive Officer

**Richard A. Adegbola, MSc PhD, FIMLS, FRCPath, FRCP (Hon), FAS**

**Norman Baylor, PhD**

**Yacine Djibo, MBA**

**Elizabeth Fox, PhD**

**Wendy Commins Holman**

**Axel Hoos, MD, PhD**

**Jeffrey P. Libson, JD**

**Saad Omer, MBBS, MPH, PhD**

Global Immunization Chair

**David Salisbury, CB, FMedSci, FRCP, FRCPCH, FFPH**

**Jacqueline Shea, PhD**

**JoAnn Suzich, PhD**

R&D Committee Chair

**Peter L. Thoren**

Vice Chair

Treasurer

Finance & Audit Committee Chair



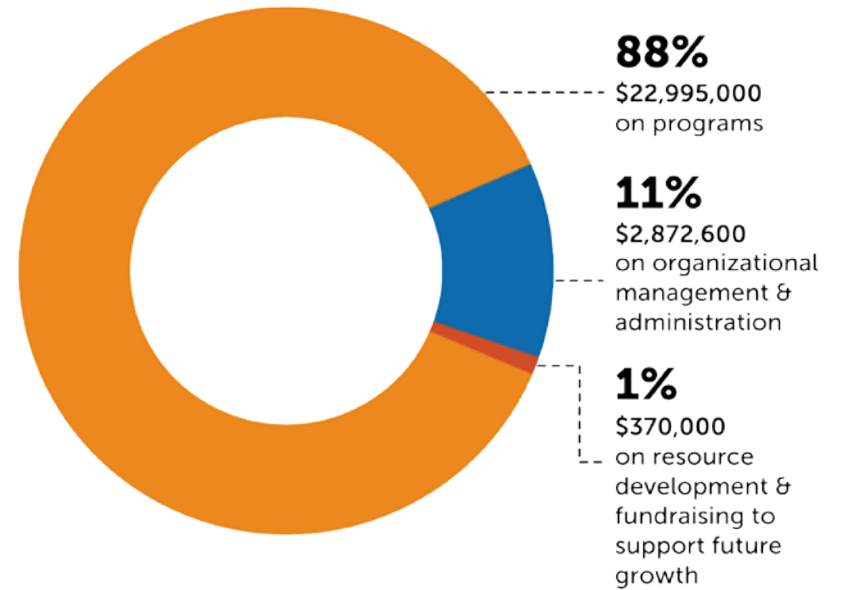


# Financials

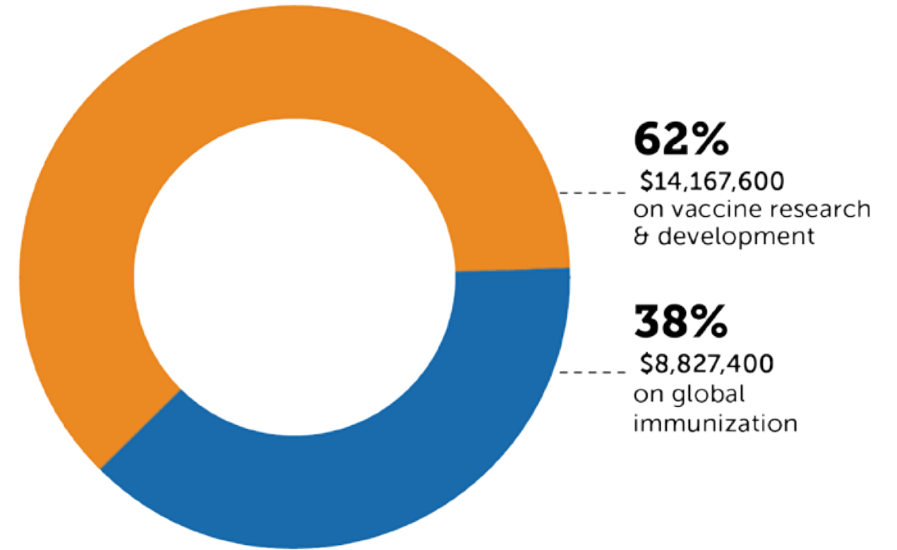


Our commitment to increasing access to the lifesaving promise of vaccines is matched by our pledge of accountability to our generous donors: 88% of our expenses go directly to programs that advance our mission. And for 13 out of the last 15 years, we've received a four-star rating from [Charity Navigator](#).

# How We Used Our Funds



# Program Expenditures





# How You Can Help

We are deeply grateful to our supporters and partners who make this work possible. Your shared commitment will help create a future free of vaccine-preventable diseases.

[Please donate today.](#)



**S** SABIN  
VACCINE INSTITUTE

2175 K Street, NW, Suite 400

Washington, DC 20037

+1 202 842 5025

[info@sabin.org](mailto:info@sabin.org)