



 **MCI**
**Male Contraceptive
Initiative**
2018 Annual Report

MISSION & VISION

Male Contraceptive Initiative's (MCI) mission is to facilitate research & development of male contraceptives for people around the world and to build awareness among researchers, donors, and the general public about the demand for and status of novel male contraceptive methods.

MCI was founded in 2014 in Durham, North Carolina. *We are a global hub for researchers, philanthropists, and advocates in search of ways to advance the development of novel safe, non-hormonal, reversible male contraceptives.*

MCI is working diligently to reimagine and bring an empowered, inclusive, choice-maximized world of contraception to people globally. Our work will make the world a better place by transforming the contraceptive landscape to enable betterment and self-determination for all people.





A LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

It has been a busy and exciting year for us at MCI as we expanded our grant portfolio to include six new grants, four of which were to partners working in early stage product development and two to support the development of later-stage vas occlusive devices. We also had the pleasure of welcoming two Fellows to our team this year – fulfilling our mission to support the next generation of scientists working in the field of non-hormonal male contraception.

MCI also experienced personal (or personnel) growth in 2018 with my joining the team in August followed by Kevin Shane, our Communication and Design Strategist in September. I would be remiss not to take this opportunity to thank MCI’s Board and Interim Executive Director, Deb Levine, for ensuring that my transition into the role of Executive Director was a gentle landing.

I would also like to thank those who have donated to MCI in the past year. It has been striking to me to see the dedicated level of support that we receive from repeat donors and exciting to see those who donated for the first time in 2018. We are humbled by every dollar that we receive and work diligently to ensure that those funds are programmed in the most effective way possible.

In the short time that I have been with MCI, I have had the good fortune to meet many of our grantees and other colleagues working in the male contraceptive space and find myself invigorated after each discussion. I have also had the privilege of speaking to dozens of people from all walks of life who are genuinely interested in and waiting for more methods of male contraception. The phrase “It’s about time” is by far the most common reaction to our work, coming from both men and women who see a need for expanding the contraceptive method mix to offer greater choice for all individuals looking to manage their sexual and reproductive health. A side-effect of this experience is that I now often find myself quietly willing strangers to ask me what I do for a living!

While male contraception has been on a back burner for decades, there are advantages to be had from this position. We have the opportunity to learn from the past 50+ years of female contraceptive product development while also incorporating approaches and practices that have resulted in success in other fields of practice.

To this end, I am keen on engaging possible users throughout the development process of potential male contraceptives, communicating with scientists, regulators, and business leaders to ensure that products are poised for success by the time they reach the market. This includes a major focus on adolescent and young adult populations as they will be the first users and drivers for normalizing the expectation for greater choice in male contraceptive options. I am also optimistic that this already collaborative community of researchers can identify innovative ways of working together to expedite the development of new methods. MCI will be exploring various approaches for catalyzing development efforts in the non-hormonal male contraceptive space and working diligently to fundraise in support of this mission; I look forward to working with our research colleagues in this capacity as well.

Finally, I wish to convey to you that Logan, Kevin, and I truly aspire to be active advocates and resources for the male contraceptive community. Please don't hesitate to reach out to us with any ideas or needs that you may have. We are always ready to assist in any way that we can. I look forward to seeing the efforts of our work progress. I am also eager to explore innovative approaches to move the field forward.

Male contraception has been on a back burner for decades, let's work together to make new methods a reality!

Heather Vahdat,
Executive Director



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

\$600k in Seed Grants

We provided four \$150,000 grants to researchers across three continents to continue early-stage work in male contraception

Conferences & Events

We presented our work and advocated for male contraception at conferences and events throughout the United States, Asia, and Africa

MCI Branding

We completed a branding exercise to streamline the MCI aesthetic, including a complete overhaul of our website:
malecontraceptive.org

Our Family Grew

Four new members joined our board, our permanent staff grew to three full-time members, and two graduate fellows joined the team





INVESTMENT STRATEGY

RESEARCH



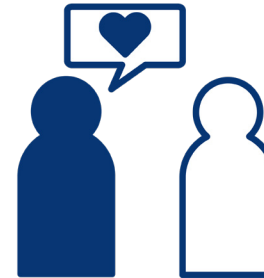
We provide funding to help advance the research & development of promising non-hormonal, reversible male contraceptive methods. We work with academics and entrepreneurs, foreign and domestic.

SCHOLARSHIPS & FELLOWSHIPS



We support graduate students working in the male contraception field to help ensure that interest is nurtured and a career path in the field is extended. Our goal is to promote a long-term investment in the field and ensure innovation and development for decades to come.

PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT



We facilitate participation in workshops, conferences, professional development, and other meetups for young professionals interested in male contraception to connect them to peers for collaboration opportunities.

ADVOCACY



We act as a resource and positive voice supporting the valuable work and developments in male contraception research and development. We speak to the public and media to ensure that the science behind and consumer demand for male contraception is heard.

GRANTEES & FELLOWS

MAJOR AWARDS



In 2017 we provided a \$500,000 Development & Discovery Award to Vibliome Therapeutics. The team's work is progressing well in the development of a drug candidate that is a highly selective inhibitor of homeodomain-interacting protein kinase 4 (HIPK4).

SEED GRANTS



We provided \$150,000 grants to Dr. Patricia Cuasnicu, Dr. Gunda Georg, Dr. Wei Yan, and Dr. Sab Ventura for a wide variety of early stage academic projects. These merit-based awards are intended to help advance their work to the next stage of research & development.

GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS



We provided fellowship grants to Dr. Aaron Crapster, a post-doctoral researcher from Stanford University and Liliya Gabelev, a graduate student from UC Berkeley to provide them with support as they pursue careers in the field of male contraception.

TRAVEL GRANTS



We provided funding and support to Dr. Jacqueline Ngong Shaka, Marcelline Sounnoukinny, Maria Gracia Gervasi, and Krista Symosko to allow them to attend conferences and meetings to help further their careers and interests in the field.

ADVOCACY & COMMUNICATIONS

Blog

Our blog continues to be a valued resource, driving nearly 75,000 views across the 14 posts in the year

Collateral Development

We utilized our new branding to develop video, graphics, one-pagers, new posters, a tri-fold brochure, as well as to create branded merchandise to promote MCI and the work of our grantees

Social Media

We extended our social media footprint to include Instagram, Snapchat, and Soundcloud, and were active in creating captivating visual and video content

Events

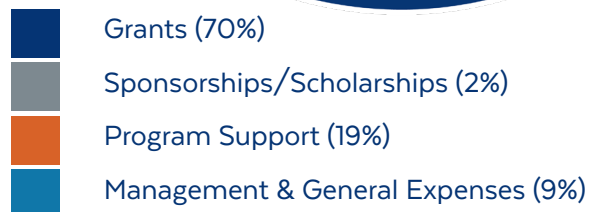
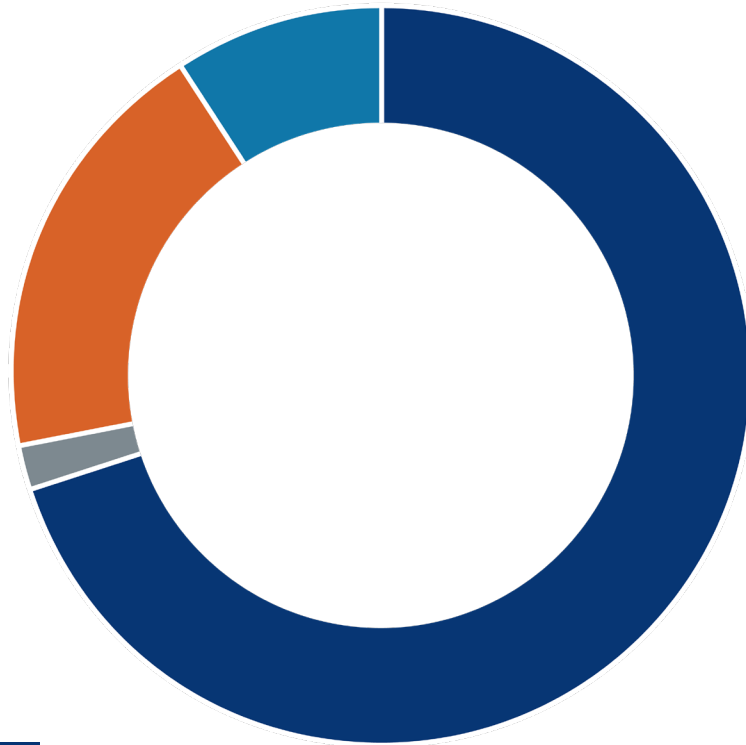
We hosted several fundraising and networking events as we continue to market the MCI mission while advocating for male contraception



INVESTMENT SUMMARY

EXPENSES: \$1,307,672

Reporting year January 1, 2018 - December 31, 2018 (unaudited)



Our investment strategy is focused on maximizing impact. As a nonprofit, we are keenly aware of the importance each dollar has in advancing our mission. We treat each donation and contribution to our organization with the importance it deserves.

This focus on impact and efficiency allowed us to commit **91% of our funding** towards programs to facilitate research and development of new male contraceptive products and to support professional development of the next generation of researchers and advocates.

Direct contributions accounted for 99.7% of this year's revenue, which totaled **\$1,962,358**.

THANK YOU!

Hall of Fame - \$100,000 and up

Anonymous

VIPs - \$1,000 to \$100,000

Edward Eddy

Core Supporters - \$100 to \$1,000

Beverly Tucker

David Sokal

Naomi Flinders

Heather Vahdat

Dan Oldman

Mark Barone

John Stanback

Eugene Mills

Anonymous

Judann Ebio

Thomas Aurdal

Curt Akins

Dawn Chin-Quee

Laneta Dorflinger

Marjorie & James Rodman

Diane Sokal

Contributors - \$1 to \$100

Diana Morris

William Goetz

London O'Connor

Carl Evans

Christina Folger

Dave Kirby

Pavel Kirkovsky

Charles Morrison

Wendy Royce

Doug Schneider

Jill Sergison

Marc Silling

Michael Solomonides

Barry Tuck

Yohanna Vernon

Nikolai Rakhilin

Emily Gulbranson

Jennifer Ayres

Helen Bertelli

Rebecca Callahan

Dawn Dampier

Carolyn Jenkins

Kate Rademacher

Julie Solo

Markus Steiner

Arthur Taub

Mark Weedon

June O'Connell

Mark Tarnuzzer

Astra Tucker

Aria Vess

Saagar Singh Sachdev

Nancy Wee

Eric Squair

Marvin Diaz

John Shane



MCI BOARD & STAFF

Board of Directors

David Sokal, MD
Beverly Tucker, MPH, MPIA
Gail King, MBA
Mitch Eddy, PhD
Carolyn Jenkins
Gregory Kopf, PhD
Deborah O'Brien, PhD
Michael Rusnak, MS

Staff

Heather Vahdat, MPH
Logan Nickels, PhD
Kevin Shane



We want to hear from you!

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