

THE SONTAG FOUNDATION

Sontag Foundation Awards \$3 Million Dollars for Brain Cancer Research *The Sontag Foundation is one of the Largest Private Funders of Brain Cancer Research in North America*

Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida- December 16, 2022- The Sontag Foundation announces the five winners of the Distinguished Scientist Award which is a \$600,000 grant awarded through a competitive scientific review process. These five extraordinary scientists, with the potential to make a significant impact in the field of brain cancer, are selected to join the prestigious network of Sontag Foundation award recipients. To date, the Foundation has invested over \$55 million dollars to launch the careers of young scientists at academic medical institutions throughout North America.



“We established the Distinguished Scientist Award 20 years ago to aid the career development of young researchers and help them to grow into leaders in the field.” Rick Sontag, President.

The following **Distinguished Scientist Awardees will receive \$600,000** to advance their research on brain cancer:

- Dr. Sameer Agnihotri, University of Pittsburgh
- Dr. Aparna Bhaduri, UCLA
- Dr. Kevin McHugh, Rice University
- Dr. Humsa Venkatesh, Brigham & Women’s Hospital
- Dr. Rebecca Voorhees, Caltech

“The support from the Sontag Foundation enables us to really understand these devastating tumors using novel tools,” says Dr. Aparna Bhaduri, one of the five 2022 award recipients. “We hope this research will enable us to better understand which cells drive this tumor, and in turn design therapies against them.”

In February 2023, the Foundation will host its 20th annual scientific summit in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, bringing current and past awardees together to engage in collaborative conversations to drive science forward to make a difference in the field of brain cancer and in the lives of brain cancer patients.

About The Sontag Foundation

The Sontag Foundation, Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, is the largest funder of brain cancer research in North America. The Foundation was established in 2002 by Frederick and Susan Sontag following Susan’s successful battle with a normally lethal form of brain cancer. To date, the Foundation has granted \$50 million in funding to support brain cancer research. In 2014, the Sontags established The Brain Tumor Network, to provide free navigation services for patients with brain tumors, helping to connect them to brain cancer specialists, second opinions and clinical trials. To date, the Sontags have invested over \$20 million to support the work of The Brain Tumor Network.

To learn more about The Sontag Foundation, visit the website at www.sontagfoundation.org. If you or a loved one has been diagnosed with a brain tumor, visit Brain Tumor Network’s website at www.braintumornetwork.org or call 904-395-5220 for free patient navigation services.