Brian F. Hofland, PhD, President
Research to Prevent Blindness (RPB)

Charitable foundation

Mission-driven

“To preserve and restore vision by supporting research to develop treatments, preventives and cures for all sight-threatening conditions.”
Founded in 1960 by Dr. Jules Stein, ophthalmologist who became successful businessman
RPB: The most important player in the vision-research ecosystem that you may not know!
LEGACY:
• Key role in creating the National Eye Institute
• Developed departments of ophthalmology throughout the U.S.

TODAY:
• Focuses on early-stage research
• Supports early-career researchers

TO DATE:
Granted more than $357 million for vision research
RPB Funding

associated with most major discoveries in vision research over the past 55+ years.

RPB’s ROI is significant!
Departmental examples:

• University of Michigan:  
  18 to 1 ROI ($112MM / $6.1MM)
• University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center:  
  40 to 1 ROI ($105MM / $2.6MM)

Career Development Award examples:

• First FDA-approved gene therapy for inherited blindness by Jason Comander, MD, PhD, MEEI (CDA, 2013)
• Top Leadership of ARVO
• Emmett Cunningham (CDA, 1998)
ALWAYS mission-driven: RPB funds vision research to advance the field, not for a stake in IP or monetary return
RPB: The most important funder of vision research that you did not know well before today!

We welcome **charitable gifts and partnerships** from the participants in this room.
Research to Prevent Blindness

Learn More:
www.rpbusa.org

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