THE CHRISTOPHER D. SMITHERS FOUNDATION, INC.

ANNUAL REPORT
2018
THE CHRISTOPHER D. SMITHERS FOUNDATION, INC.

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Son, Father, Hero
By Brinkley Smithers

There was this house on a pond
A mother, a father, and a son lived there
The father would take his son fishing
Teach him how to catch the greatest fish
The son would study his father’s techniques
And begin to learn
The mother would knit beautiful fabrics
The son would study her techniques
“It’s all in the detail” the mother would say
Years went by and this son, this boy, became a man
He would put the motivation he learned from his father into his work
And into his life
He would make sure to do everything with purpose
Never forgetting one detail
Years went by
This house on the pond was still there
The man became a husband and soon after a father
His children looked up to him
Called him their hero
But he was not only their hero
He was a hero to those that couldn’t take care of themselves
Who never even heard of the word hero before
This man knew that behind every person,
No matter how many mistakes they had made,
Was a soul
Each made up of intricate detail
This man would knit these people’s lives back together
Never giving up on anyone
There was this house on a pond
A mother, a father, and a son lived there
The son grew to be a man,
Who grew to be a hero

In Loving Memory Of Christopher B. Smithers
THE 67th ANNUAL REPORT

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

It is with tremendous sadness that I report the passing of my beloved husband, Christopher B. Smithers on December 30, 2018. Chris was the President of the Smithers Foundation. He dedicated most of his professional life to helping others in the field of addiction and research. He worked tirelessly to help erase the terrible stigma associated with the disease and advocated to treat alcohol use disorder (AUD) and substance use disorder (SUD) as diseases that should be dealt with medically just like other serious illnesses. Chris will forever be in our hearts, and the Foundation Board and I will ensure his passion for helping others lives on.

Christopher B. Smithers

President’s Report on Foundation’s Own Projects

As the opioid crisis has reached epidemic proportions in 2018, the Foundation created a public awareness campaign called, “Stop the Spiral” to bring greater attention to opioid use disorder (OUD) and to advocate for medical interventions. The mission was to educate people who suffer from OUD that there is a medical alternative (MAT) and not to rely solely on traditional counseling as the only form of treatment. Over 60,000 Americans were killed by opioid drug overdoses just last year and the numbers are only increasing.

Robert Smyth from Heavy Pictures and Brinkley Smithers wrote and co-directed a PSA called, “Hey Charlie,” a short video following a seemingly “normal” teenager as he quickly turns his life upside down with addiction, spiraling out of control.

The Foundation hired a public relations and web design firm to build out the campaign and to leverage the video and other announcements to spearhead a robust social media campaign. With their help, the video received over 2.5 million views on social media and over 40 million impressions. The Foundation also directed these messages to industry trade magazines to ensure that they were aware of the work. See attached.
In the coming year, the Foundation plans to cut back a bit in grant giving, as 2018 was a more costly year. I would like to thank the entire Board and Foundation staff—Barbara Maccio, John Dennehy, Jr., and Scott Garley for all their outstanding work and commitment to the field of addiction.

This Annual Report is dedicated to Christopher B. Smithers. We will continue to pursue his commitment to treat addiction as a medical condition and fight the stigma associated with addiction, including the epidemic of OUD.

Nikki Smithers
President
A Teen Wrote and Co-Directed This Powerful PSA About the Rapid Spiral of Opioid Addiction

'Hey Charlie' aims to promote medical treatment over faith-based recovery
A recent opioid-abuse awareness ad isn’t just targeted at teens; it’s also written and directed by one.

“Hey Charlie,” is a nearly 4-minute ad from The Christopher D. Smithers Foundation and Columbia University Medical Center, following a 17-year-old boy living in suburbia as he goes from a star athlete with good grades to abusing prescription pills and worse—almost in an instant.

A pointed narrative about the kind of rapid, surprising decline that’s becoming increasingly common in recent years, it’s the brainchild of Brinkley Smithers—the 18-year-old granddaughter of the philanthropic nonprofit’s founder and great-granddaughter of its namesake. It’s also the centerpiece of the group’s broader effort, titled “Stop the Spiral,” to promote pharmacology-based treatments for opioid addiction—in short, using anti-craving drugs like methadone to help keep users clean, rather than relying on 12-step or faith-based abstinence approaches.
Some 60,000 Americans die each year from drug overdoses, some 40,000 of them involving opioids. Prescription opioid overdose alone—not counting drugs like heroin—claimed some 22,000 lives last year.

A high school senior, Smithers zeroed in on the idea last summer while volunteering at the Long Island Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (LICADD)—an organization also founded by Smithers’ grandfather, and that receives funding from the Smithers Foundation—where she says she learned about the way opioid addiction affects families, and about the prevalent stigma around the disorder.

“A lot of people think people who are addicted to pills, or anything really, are just lowlifes—so they don’t really care and don’t really pay attention to it,” she says. “I wanted to make it like it could be any other normal kid that you just would imagine, who’s doing well; he just fell into the wrong thing at the wrong time at a party—how it usually kind of happens.”

After writing the script, she—then still age 17, like the protagonist—shared it with Steve Chassman, executive director at LICADD. He connected her with Robert Smyth, a director at production company Heavy Pictures, who co-helmed the spot to help bring it to life.

It was essential to the team that the film steer clear of the preachy tone so many PSAs adopt—Smithers cites the infamous egg in a frying pan, while others try to lecture young people about avoiding bad choices. “Coming from a kid’s point of view it never really works,” she says. “You can tell kids to not do things all you want but it’s no sure thing that they’re going to listen. I wanted to tell a story and have people feel something and make a choice for themselves, because that’s what’s most effective, I think.”
So far, the clip has accumulated more than 3 million views, boosted by initial paid promotion on platforms like Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

Some viewers may note stylistic similarities to Darren Aronofsky’s “Requiem for a Dream,” especially in the editing, but Smithers says that while she understands the comparisons, she hadn’t seen the 2000 feature film—a brutally graphic generational cult classic about drug abuse—until after the PSA was finished (See also: Aronofsky’s 2011 anti-meth PSAs.). The goal of her piece, she says, is to get teenagers and adults talking more openly about opioid use and addiction “and to show you don’t have to be afraid to come forward, you don’t have to be afraid to get help. This could be you. This could be anyone, and (we want) to erase the stigma.”

A second PSA currently in the brainstorming phase, meanwhile, will focus more on showing how effective forms of treatment—evidence-based, medicine-assisted approaches—will play out. “People need to know it’s OK to get medication for this problem,” says Smithers, who’ll be attending NYU’s Tisch School of the Arts to study film starting in the fall, and included “Hey Charlie” in her application portfolio.

The Smithers Foundation, founded in 1952 to fight substance abuse, primarily involving alcohol, has over the past four years or so increased its commitment to battling opioid use disorder, says President Christopher Smithers, also Brinkley’s father.

“We’re losing a large portion of our youth to an epidemic,” he says. “It doesn’t have to be this way. But because we use archaic ways of looking at treating it and looking at it, our society has done this to ourselves, basically.”

The answer isn’t in the criminal justice system, he explains, or what he describes as the dogmatic thinking of abstinence and faith-based programs.
“We’ve known for a long time that medications and medical care are what should be on the front line to treat this, but these medications are out there but they’re not being used,” he explains. “Countries like Switzerland and other countries in Europe are very progressive in how they treat these things and their problems have gone away.”

In the United States, the idea of “treating people that are very, very sick with an ideology and talking to them about getting a connection with a power, it’s got to change. A sick person wants to feel better—to get their body and their mind feeling good. You can’t put all those ideas... on top of their dire situation. It kills young people, they just want to go out and get higher.”

By contrast, a program that the foundation has created in partnership with the psychiatry department at Columbia University Medical Center, for example, recommends the use of one of three FDA-approved drugs—buprenorphine, methadone, and XR-naltrexone—for at least a year under medical supervision to diminish cravings and reduce the risk of overdose. The same program argues against the use of detoxification and 12-step programs unless combined with pharmacological treatment, and for the removal of financial and insurance based barriers to same-day treatment.

“If you see someone that wants to inject heroin in their veins and nothing is going to stop them because they feel so sick, are you going to take them to a church basement or are you going to take them to a doctor, where you can get medications to take away that desire to go and get heroin?” says Christopher Smithers. “It’s simple. It’s a common sense approach.”

One obstacle to the strategy has been public perception. Last year, then-Health and Human Services Secretary Tom Price drew the ire of addiction experts for dismissing medication-assisted treatments using methadone and buprenorphine—also technically
opioids—as simply substituting one opioid for another, contrary to research showing their effectiveness.

“It’s disgraceful, that somebody that high up in our government would say something like that,” says Christopher Smithers. “It reinforces the stigma, and it’s this backward keeping-everybody-in-the-dark thinking. We’re just trying to break through that and shed light on a dark treatment industry a dark method—because nobody knows what happens most of the time when somebody goes into a treatment center. They close the doors behind them, and that’s it.”
The Christopher D. Smithers Foundation
Awards Received

Over the years, The Christopher D. Smithers Foundation, Officers of the Foundation and the Foundation itself have been honored with scores of national and international awards in recognition of their efforts to create public awareness of the disease of alcohol use disorder.

The Long Island Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (LICADD) honored Brinkley Smithers with the Community Champions Award for the creation of the “Hey Charlie” PSA video that highlights the spiraling effects of drug abuse, and, director and filmmaker, Rob Smythe, who directed and produced the video at the 2018 Annual Adele C. Smithers Angel Ball. The award reads, “In grateful appreciation for your creativity, vision, and dedication to recovery.”

The Suffolk County, New York, Legislature and the District Attorney’s office have both been utilizing the “Hey Charlie” PSA in educational forums throughout the county. In light of the positive feedback the piece has received, Legislator Sarah Anker, and her colleagues, presented Brinkley Smithers with a “Suffolk County Citation of Achievement” for her vision and motivation to combat the substance abuse crisis on Long Island. This was a well-deserved honor and exciting for Brinkley to receive government recognition for all her hard work and the positive impact “Hey Charlie” is having on Long Island youth and families.
Foundation Grants

American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM)
Rockville, MD $5,000
ASAM is most grateful for the Smithers Foundation’s continued support of the R. Brinkley Smithers Distinguished Scientist Lecture/Award. Michael E. Charness, M.D., was honored as the 2018 recipient of the R. Brinkley Smithers Distinguished Scientist Lecture/Award at ASAM’s 49th Annual Conference held in San Diego, California. Dr. Charness is a faculty member at Harvard Medical School and is a nationally recognized researcher in the field of fetal alcohol spectrum disorders. His lecture on “Diagnosis and Treatment of Alcohol Use Disorder in 2070: A Look through the Crystal Ball” was very well received by the participants. The Smithers Foundation’s financial support helped make the conference an enjoyable, educational and memorable event and further ASAM’s mission to treat addiction and save lives.

Boys & Girls Club of Oyster Bay-East Norwich
Oyster Bay, NY $3,000
As a result of the Smithers Foundation’s sponsorship to the Boys & Girls Club of Oyster Bay-East Norwich’s annual gala benefit, they were able to continue providing and expanding vital services and programs to enrich, empower and enhance the lives of the its community’s youth. The mission of the Boys & Girls Club of Oyster Bay-East Norwich is to provide its young members, grades K-12, with guidance and to offer constructive programs promoting responsibility and leadership. The full-time professional staff strives to build good character in its Club members for their own well-being and that of the community.

Columbia University and Foundation for Professional Development
New York, NY $246,410
Columbia University received funding for two important conferences: $83,863 for a Global Mental Health Conference in South Africa and $162,547 for “Building a Bridge for Research to Treatment” symposium.
As part of Columbia Psychiatry Global Mental Health Research Funded Studies, Columbia created a Research Hub in sub-Saharan Africa: PRIDE sSA-Partnerships in Research to Implement and Disseminate Sustainable and Scalable EBPs (Evidence Based Practices) in sub-Saharan Africa.
PRIDE sSA is a product of well-established partnerships in South Africa (Foundation for Professional Development and University of the Witwatersrand), Mozambique (Mozambique Institute of Health Education and Research, Mozambique Ministry of Health, Universidade Eduardo Mondlane), Brazil (Universidade Federal do Sao Paulo) and the United States (Columbia University and University of Pennsylvania). The hub comprises both research and capacity building components. The research component takes place in Mozambique. The capacity building component includes trainees from Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa and Zambia. Each country will contribute “seed teams” committed to working together, that includes all actors needed to develop, test, implement and sustain community-based services to prevent and treat mental and substance use disorders using evidence-based practices. Training comprises synergistic didactics, hands-on research experience designed in partnership local stakeholders, and mentorship from local or US senior investigators. Lessons learned in the scale up research will be adapted for research in partner countries and other low- and middle-income
countries. All five seed teams were brought together to the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg for their first training in Implementation Science.

PRIDE sSA 2018 is based on the Smithers Foundation’s dedicated history to funding educational efforts to train those in the substance abuse and mental health field. PRIDE sSA 2018 overarching goal was to decrease the region’s mental health treatment gap. In this first encounter, they planned to (a) train the seed teams as trainer-of-trainers in: Suicide Prevention and Motivational Interviewing for Alcohol/Drugs; (b) convene experts from the partner and seed team countries together with representatives from the World Health Organization and the U.S. National Institute of Mental Health to present their work tackling the region’s mental health treatment gap; and (c) generate a think-tank with all participants to determine next steps to decrease the region’s mental health treatment gap. Funding this conference offered an extraordinary opportunity to improve research capacity training in mental health and substance abuse treatment services with implications beyond the sub-Saharan African region.

The PRIDE sSA 2018 Global Mental Health Conference in Pretoria, South Africa, was a great success. There were over 40 students, 20 delegates, 20 speakers and 5 poster presentations. This was a remarkable gathering of people who shared their voices and committed to keep fighting to decrease the global mental health research and treatment gap in sub-Saharan Africa. The depth of talent, innovation and passion was inspiring. Seed teams from Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa and Zambia, together with the Mozambique research team members joined investigators from several universities to consolidate our U.S. National Institute of Mental Health funded Partnerships in Research to Implement and Disseminate sustainable and scalable Evidence-based practices in sub-Saharan Africa (PRIDE-sSA). They were joined by Mozambican fellows from their Fogarty International Center funded grant and American fellows from the National Institute of Mental Health funded fellowship within Columbia Psychiatry. The Smithers Foundation sponsored students, delegates and speakers.

The Smithers Foundation supported the symposium “Building a Bridge for Research to Treatment” held October 19, 2018 at the Stewart Hotel in New York City.

This conference, funded by the Smithers Foundation provided a unique opportunity for physicians, social workers, nurses and other health professionals to convene and share the current research and evidence-based practices for preventing and treating adolescent substance use disorders and the value of collaborating. Most often each of these professionals meet independently from one another therefore making it difficult to translate in to every day clinical practices. This conference reinforced the need for interdisciplinary training and ongoing collaboration across all disciplines and the need to support one another. Columbia University was pleased to be able to invite distinguished speakers who are national and international leaders in the addiction field, particularly as it pertains to adolescents. They had a total of eight presenters; six speakers were experts in the field and two individuals were non-clinicians that provided a personal perspective on recovery for the audience. The event was well attended, with a total of 170 registrants.

The agenda for the meeting included:

- Registration and Continental Breakfast
- Welcome: Speaker: Frances R. Levin, MD, Kennedy-Leavy Professor of Psychiatry, Columbia University
- Current State of Alcohol and Other Drug Use Disorders in Adolescents and Young Adults and Related Research: Speaker: John E. Schulingen, PhD
- Addressing Psychiatric Comorbidity in Adolescents and Young Adults with Substance Use
Disorders: Speaker: Timothy E. Wilens, MD
- Pharmacotherapy Research for Youth Substance Use Disorders: Speaker: Kevin Gray, MD
- CRAFT (Community Reinforcement Approach to Family Training) Model: Speaker: Kim Kirby, PhD, BCBA-D
- Contextualizing AA: A Sign of the Times? Speaker: Mark Willenbring, MD
- Lunch - Highlights in the field: Speaker: Christopher Smithers
- Combining Evidence-Based Practices in the Treatment of Opioid Use Disorders Next Steps in Confronting the Opioid Epidemic: Speaker: Marc Fishman, MD; Parent and Patient Provide Their Experiences
- Concurrent Clinical Consults led by experts:
  Co-Occurring Disorders - Timothy E. Wilens, MD
  CRAFT Model - Kim Kirby, PhD, BCBA-D
- Pharmacotherapy for Adolescents with Substance Use Disorders - Kevin M. Gray, MD
- Evidence-Based Treatments for Adolescents with Opioid Use Disorders - Marc Fishman, MD

The feedback received at the meeting was highly positive. Importantly, 98% of the respondents endorsed that the objectives of each session were met. They provided an attendee booklet to allow dissemination of symposium lectures as well as online access to slide presentations.

**Employment Programme for Recovering Addicts (EPRA)**

**United Kingdom**

$20,000

The Smithers Foundation has continued to fund and support the Employment Program for Recovering Addicts EPRA (UK) in England. This support has enabled EPRA to establish a base in Wimbledon in London to continue to help those with addiction and mental health issues.

The two project Directors, Nicky Winter and Billy Steel, are both ex-military veterans having been commissioned in the Household Cavalry and saw active service during the Suez and Cyprus terrorist campaign in 1956, and as part of their “Battle against Stigma” are proud to share the fact that they have the benefit of over 50 years of sobriety between them. They are now sharing their own experience, strength and hope to help others.

We mention this because in the past year, we have identified a particular need for a group in our society comprised of other ex-military veterans, particularly those who have seen active service like them. The Royal Army Medical Corps published a report saying that 1 in 5 service personnel are drinking to dangerous levels affecting a further 5 people who are in some way connected to them.

EPRA has now developed an additional project which is now also being funded by the Ministry of Defense and the Royal British Legion called Veterans Voices (UK) which enables those for whom it is relevant to benefit on their journey of recovery through the healing power of music and have now started a choir with a mixture of both civilians and ex-veterans. This is a Project created by EPRA (UK). We will see the results they are having in an evaluation report that will be published in association with the Veterans Unit at St. Pancras Hospital.

**Long Island Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence, Inc.**

**Westbury, NY**

$114,000

LICADD remains on the front lines assisting thousands of individuals and families annually to combat the current substance use epidemic on Long Island. In 2018, continued funding of $54,000 for an additional credentialed LICADD professional allowed the clinical
team to assist more people in both Nassau and Suffolk Counties by conducting educational outreach and providing professional support to families in the midst of the current substance use crisis. All LICADD clinical staff are licensed as New York State qualified healthcare professionals (QHP) and are well versed in evidence-based practice modalities, including medication assisted treatment (MAT) and screening, brief interventions and referrals to treatment (SBIRT). This additional LICADD clinician has worked as a productive member within the clinical team providing SBIRT interventions to individuals around heroin and opiate abuse, promoting the utilization of medication assisted therapies and psycho-social treatment. The additional funded clinician has assisted the agency in collecting and gleaning meaningful data regarding the substance use crisis. The LICADD expanded clinical team continues to raise awareness in schools and communities surrounding the health risks and dangers associated with substance use. They are working relentlessly to achieve one singular objective—to let those in crisis know that LICADD is there to assist them in accessing effective evidenced based treatment modalities. LICADD is most grateful to the Smithers Foundation’s support, that translates to concrete medical and psycho-social services to promote wellness self-management models, healthy coping skills and medication assisted treatment that promotes recovery and stability.

In tribute to Adele Smithers, the Angel Ball was renamed, The Adele Smithers Angel Ball. Steve Chassman, Executive Director of LICADD, referred to Adele Smithers as the “LICADD matriarch of recovery.” The Smithers Foundation generously supported the 2018 Adele Smithers Angel Ball in the amount of $35,000 to celebrate LICADD’s 62 years of “Recovery…One Step at a Time.” Ms. Claudia Ragni, Owner and Director of the Kenneth Peters Center for Recovery, was honored with the Humanitarian Award. Ms. Laurie Dhue, Former National TV News Anchor and Founder of Dhue Together, was the evening’s Keynote Speaker. LICADD was thrilled to have the opportunity to honor, as Community Champions, Brinkley Smithers, for the creation of the “Hey Charlie” PSA video that highlights the spiraling effects of drug abuse, and, director and filmmaker, Rob Smythe, who directed and produced the video. The event raised over $350,000 to support crucial programs and services.

The Smithers Foundation funded the 38th Annual R. Brinkley Smithers Golf Invitational in the amount of $25,000. The tournament raised over $320,000 to support LICADD’s life-saving prevention, education and addiction program and services.

The unwavering support of the Foundation has helped to provide the necessary resources for LICADD to expand the mission of delivering evidence-based intervention and prevention services to a host of individuals and families across the region.

As LICADD forges ahead and introduces groundbreaking responses to the prescription drug and heroin crisis, LICADD remains steadfast to its core mission of prevention education as they continue to raise awareness of the health risks and dangers of substance use.

New York Institute of Technology – College of Osteopathic Medicine
Old Westbury, NY $20,000

The Adele Smithers Parkinson’s Disease Treatment Center, managed by NYIT’s College of Osteopathic Medicine, offers an innovative and comprehensive treatment program that empowers and improves the well-being of people with Parkinson’s Disease. The Center was designed through a collaborative effort between the Christopher D. Smithers Foundation, physicians, health professionals, and neuroscientists.

The Center staff work to alleviate the physical limitations and debilitating symptoms of Parkinson’s patients. In addition to working closely with a Smithers Center physician, each
patient can have one-to-one interactions with one or more of the Center therapists (occupational, physical, and/or speech) as well as a psychologist. Depending on the needs of each patient, weekly sessions may also include exercise (Wellness Program) and/or osteopathic manipulation. This unique regimen has been shown to improve patients’ physical capabilities and reduce the disabling symptoms of the disease. Patients also can partake in “Rock Steady Boxing” classes, a non-contact boxing-based fitness curriculum, as well as Tai Chi to help fine tune a patient’s memory and improve balance.

The Center staff are committed to performing high-quality clinical research to help treat Parkinson’s Disease, using state-of-the-art equipment for testing and evaluation, and a variety of exercise devices including a whole-body vibration machine.

In addition to the generous support from the Christopher D. Smithers Foundation, the Center has secured grants from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the Thomas Hartman Parkinson’s Foundation, and the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson’s Research.

**New York University**

**New York, NY**

Support to NYU Tisch School of the Arts was earmarked for the Dean’s Discretionary Fund for Research – Mental Health & Addiction. The fund provides emergency support for students in need of special medical or counseling services. These funds will serve beyond the resources that the University already provides. The use of these funds will be on a case by case basis, and, of course, recipients’ names are kept confidential.

**Observatory for Cultural and Audiovisual Communication in the Mediterranean and in the World (OCCAM) and Comitato Italiano del Consiglio Internazionale (CICT-UNESCO)**

**Milano, Italy**

$62,250

The 18th Infopoverty World Conference was held at United Nation’s Headquarters on April 13, 2018, with a large and prestigious participation of eminent personalities from the UN system, Public and Private Institutions, NGOs, and Academia, and transmitted worldwide by UNTV, discussing the theme: “collective creativity: the digital spring of innovations and active participation.”

The various panelists highlighted how the digital revolution has induced several irreversible processes currently leading to new anthropological and social frameworks, considering how the new generation is discovering the great potential opened up in all areas of knowledge and living thanks to mobile devices, thus paving the way for a new Digital Society inspired by human rights and built upon SDGs, which can be achieved through deeper involvement and strong stimulus of collective creativity in order to find the best solutions, not necessarily in the masses but in individuals able to use all digital and mobile tools, which are nowadays widely possessed and interconnected.

Promoting systems which encourage social sharing rather than those directed at the financial field—such as new digital technologies (e.g. block-chain)—permits the mitigation of socio-economic inequality, the transferring of knowledge and adequate technology, guaranteeing transparency and sustainability in the construction of social infrastructures and in improving the well-being of the vulnerable population.

Many valid suggestions on how to transform these premises into reality emerged from the discussion. Concrete proposals have been launched in order to provide basic digital services and initiatives in the field of telemedicine, food security, e-learning, e-money, distant learning, e-
commerce and governance, all coordinated by high performance platforms and apps able to help communities and disadvantaged people immediately.

In particular, the vision shared by the President of the Smithers Foundation—the main sponsor of the Conference—Mr. Christopher Smithers, was deeply appreciated; Mr. Smithers stated, in his videoconference directly from South Africa,

"I am sorry I couldn’t be there today at the UN, and I look forward to meeting all of you soon. Right now, I am involved with a project in South Africa, Mozambique and some of the surrounding countries regarding research and training for mental health issues.

Columbia University’s Department of Global Mental Health through the directorship of Dr. Milton L. Wainberg is leading the team of experts here. This global mental health research studies fund that has been created here in sub-Saharan Africa is a research hub called PRIDE sSA and is a partnership research to implement and disseminate sustainable and scalable evidence-based practices in sub-Saharan Africa. PRIDE sSA is a product of a well-established partnership in South Africa, the foundation for professional development, and the University of Witwatersrand Mozambique. Mozambique ensures health educational researches, along with the Mozambique Ministry of Health, Universidade Eduardo Mondlane, Brasilian Universidade Federal de Sao Paulo, the United States Columbia University and the University of Pennsylvania.

The hub comprises both research and capacity building components. The research component takes place in Mozambique. The capacity building component includes trainees from Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa and Zambia.

Each country will contribute a Seed team committed to working together, which includes all actors needed to develop tests, implement and sustain community-based services, to prevent and treat mental and substance-use disorders using evidence-based practices. Training comprises synergistic didactics, hands-on research experiences designed in partnership with local stakeholders and mentorship from local or US senior investigators. Lessons learned in a scale of research will be adapted for research in partner countries and other low and middle – income countries. Now we are bringing all five Seed Teams together at the University with Witwatersrand in Johannesburg for the first training in implementation science.

This project is a small example of what we can do in Africa by working together in teams with the universities and with foundations, this can be done for very little money. There are many other areas that this same type of teamwork can be done. Not only mental health, that’s just one part of what we can do in Africa to help the countries with better health in that area. But we can do this with other things, we can do it with water, pure water, we can do this with farming, we can do this by alleviating poverty in general. By working with teams on specific goals and trying to focus on one area at a time, we can do all this throughout Africa, country to country, working together, working with universities, working with foundations. And today at the UN, Pierpao Saporito, my colleague, will explain to you the larger picture of furthering this Conference that’s going on at the UN, using the example of Pride sSA as one of the ways we can achieve great things for Africa.

Hopefully this is the start of great things to come for Africa. Thank you all very much, and I look forward to meeting you all in person in the future. Thank you."

Mr. Sarbuland Khan, Chairman of the Panel, promptly replied with this statement:
Thank you for this video message. I recall very distinctly last year that Mr. Smithers was here and he had introduced the project that I was so glad to see is actually now on the ground in Africa where teams are there working, the University of Columbia actively leading the process. And I think we have this wonderful ability to produce synergy among various initiatives and projects, so that teams and groups may come together, using the platform of the World Health & Food Security e-Centre by OCCAM as the networking tool for making things scale up and produce further results. What we need to do is see the results on the ground, as it is a very, very, big and very ambitious global agenda and framework, and unless we scale up and produce results together on a large scale they are not going to be achieved.

The Final Declaration of the Conference, highlighted the proposal launched by Mr. Christopher Smithers in order to “Widen an inclusive participation to empower the projects launched by the Infopovty Conferences in UNHG, such as the World Health & Food Security e-Center, and endorse the project Pride sSA, presented by the Smithers Foundation, aimed at implementing and broadcasting sustainable and accessible evidence on mental health assistance in Sub-Saharan Africa.

The International Council for Film, Television and Audiovisual Communication (ICFT), Paris, announced that they concede the UNESCO Fellini Medal to:

The Smithers Foundation Award 2018.

The Christopher D. Smithers Foundation’s Adele Smithers Award is presented annually to a movie present at the Venice Film Festival that best sheds light on the struggle for social justice and the acceptance of the beliefs, differences and customs of others.

Aware that alcohol abuse and opioid addiction as indicted by the World Health Organization, constitute two of the major health-related issues at a global level, especially among young people, and in keeping with the Smithers Foundation’s mission to erase the stigma associated with addiction, the jury composed of Christopher Smithers, Pierpaolo Saporito and Gabriel Griffin-Hall announced at the Venice Film Festival seat on September 8 that The Smithers Foundation’s 2018 Award recipient was:

A Star is Born by Bradley Cooper

With the following motivation,

In A Star is Born, the director Cooper realizes a musical drama exalting the talent of Lady Gaga in an outstanding performance, where, using popular narration with sophisticated techniques that imply a coral fusion of genres, the director/actor presents the theme of alcohol and drug abuse in all its harsh reality.

The Jury decided to attribute a special mention to:

The Mountain by Rick Alverson

Exemplar of the mental health treatment afflicting sufferers until the advent of the new pharmacological discoveries; in which the director illustrates well how science must take into account the human condition.

Portledge School
Locust Valley, NY

The Portledge Fund is the cornerstone of all its fundraising efforts. The Portledge Fund makes possible a life-changing education for a talented and diverse student body. Through annual giving, donors express their philanthropic commitment to Portledge School.
Sagamore Rowing Association
Oyster Bay, NY

Sagamore Rowing Association’s mission to promote the sport of rowing in Oyster Bay, as well as all of Long Island, was greatly augmented by the Smithers Foundation’s grant. It helped offset expenses and provide for a racing 8 (eight) boat, equipment and coaching for the community. Sagamore Rowing Association fosters a sense of community and promotes a healthy lifestyle for the citizens of Oyster Bay and Long Island.
FOUNDATION’S OFFICERS

Mrs. Nikki Smithers is President of The Christopher D. Smithers Foundation. She was elected a Board member of the Foundation in August 2013. She is co-founder of the Smithers Center at Columbia University Medical Center, and a United Nations Representative from OCCAM (Observatory for Cultural and Audiovisual Communication in the Mediterranean and the World) dealing with economic and social issues in Africa.

Mrs. Smithers attended Arizona State University.

Samuel B. Bacharach was elected Member and Director of the Foundation in January 2015 and elected Vice President in 2019. He is the McElveen-Grant Professor in the Department of Organizational Behavior at the School of Industrial and Labor Relations (ILR) at Cornell University. He is the director of Cornell’s New York City-based Smithers Institute for Alcohol-Related Workplace Studies, a research institute that focuses on alcohol use and abuse in the context of the workplace. As such, with his colleagues at Cornell and other universities, he conducted studies on Member Assistance Programs, which launched a NIAAA-funded study on drinking and blue-collar workers. In turn, the Smithers Institute’s interest in blue-collar workers fueled another NIAAA-funded study that examined drinking behavior among retired workers. Taking up the theme of “transition” and drinking, the Smithers research team tackled the college-to-work transition in another NIAAA-funded research project, investigating the drinking behavior of recent graduates as they enter the workforce. Still maintaining an interest in “transition,” the Department of Defense just awarded the Smithers Institute a four-year grant to examine the soldier-to-veteran transition, with a special emphasis on changes in drinking behavior as the newly discharged veterans enter the workforce. One of the goals of the Smithers research team is to inform researchers in the field of management, organizational behavior, and organizational psychology as focusing on issues related to alcohol and substance use and abuse as part of their overall HR and work wellbeing policies.

Professor Bacharach is the author and editor of over twenty books on management, organizational behavior, and industrial relations, and author of over 100 academic articles. Beyond his Smithers-related work, Professor Bacharach works as a consultant and speaks on leadership for a number of multi-national organizations.

Stacia Murphy was elected to the Foundation’s Board in August 2013, elected Secretary in January 2015 and Treasurer in 2019. She is a member of the Smithers Center at Columbia University Medical Center.

Ms. Murphy was President of the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (NCADD) from 1999-2006. Prior to that she was the Executive Director of the Alcoholism Council/Fellowship Center, the New York Affiliate of NCADD, from 1984-1999.

She was a member of the advisory council of the National Institute on Alcoholism and Alcohol Abuse (NIAAA) from 2000-2006 and was a member of the steering committee work group of the Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) from 1999-2004 that addressed the issues of stigma and alcoholism and drug abuse.

Consultant to The Christopher D. Smithers Foundation, ABT Associates, the R. Brinkley Smithers Institute for Alcohol-Related Workplace Studies, ILR School at Cornell University and Adjunct Professor, New School University.

Stacia Murphy lives in Charleston, South Carolina.
Brinkley Smithers, daughter of Christopher B. and Nikki Smithers, was elected Secretary of the Smithers Foundation at its Annual Meeting in February 2019. She is attending NYU’s Tisch School of the Arts for film.

While volunteering at the Long Island Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (LICADD) when she was a high school senior, Brinkley zeroed in on an idea of writing a script for a PSA video on the opioid crisis, titled “Hey Charlie.” The project came to life. The impactful film, “Hey Charlie” is also the centerpiece of a broader effort, titled #StoptheSpiral. LICADD honored Brinkley Smithers with the Community Champions Award for the creation of “Hey Charlie” PSA video at the 2018 Annual Adele C. Smithers Angel Ball. The award reads, “In grateful appreciation of your creativity, vision, and dedication to recovery.” She also received the “Suffolk County Citation of Achievement” from the Suffolk County, New York, Legislature and the District Attorney’s office for her vision and motivation to combat the substance abuse crisis on Long Island.

Brinkley Smithers volunteered at the Adele Smithers Parkinson’s Disease Treatment Center, managed by NYIT’s College of Osteopathic Medicine, Fashion Show in 2013.

Nicholas A. Pace, MD, was elected to the Foundation’s Board in July 2013. He is a Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine at New York University’s School of Medicine, Diplomat American Board of Addiction Medicine, Fellow in the American Society of Addiction Medicine, Fellow in the New York Academy of Medicine and Director of the Caron Pediatric Addiction Training Program. Presently Dr. Pace is the Medical Director of Caron’s New York Physician’s Addiction Training Program which involves training primary care internal medical resident physicians and family resident physicians from Lenox Hill Hospital and Southampton Hospital and pediatric resident physicians from New York Presbyterian Hospital and Mt. Sinai Hospital. He was the Medical Director of the New York Executive Offices of General Motors Corporation and Director of the Smithers Physician Alcoholism & Addiction Training Program.

Dr. Pace was founding director of Pace Health Services, past chair of New York State Governor's Advisory Committee on Alcoholism, founding director and vice-chair of the American Council on Drug Education, and co-founder and past President of the Alcoholism Council of New York, a life member of the Board of directors of the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence. He was advisor to President Ford’s White House physician and assisted First Lady Nancy Reagan with the Chemical People Project. He is the author of “Safe Drinking” (McGraw Hill, 1984) and co-author of Teens Under the Influence: The Truth About Kids, Alcohol, and Other Drugs—How to Recognize the Problem and What to Do About It (Random House, 2003).
CONDENSED
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
FOLLOWS
THE CHRISTOPHER D. SMITHERS FOUNDATION, INC.

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
As of December 31, 2018

ASSETS

Cash $57,085
Accrued Interest and Other Receivables 79,096
Securities at Market 3,084,221
Donations Received in Trust - FMV 153,467
Property and Equipment - FMV 20,087

Total Assets $3,393,956

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Liabilities
Accrued Payroll Taxes $ 27
Accrued State Filing Fees 275

Total Liabilities 302

Net Assets
Unrestricted 3,240,186
Temporarily Restricted 153,467

Total Net Assets 3,393,653

Total Liabilities and Net Assets $3,393,956

THE CHRISTOPHER D. SMITHERS FOUNDATION, INC.

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
For the Year 2018

INCOME:

Public Support and Bequests $1,950
Gain on Sale of Securities 55,572
Net Income from Investments 199,673
Unrealized Gain on Investments (260,133)
Total income (2,938)

EXPENSES:

General and Administrative 239,076
Program Expenses 112,552

Available for Grants, Awards, & Foundation Projects (354,566)
Contributions & Grants 500,760
Foundation Projects 320,006
Total 820,766
Excess of Expenses Over Income (1,175,332)

Net Assets, January 1, 2018 4,630,159
Net Decrease in FMV Temporarily Restricted Net Assets (61,173)

Net Assets, December 31, 2018 $3,393,956

This statement of accountability has been condensed from financial statements audited by the independent Certified Public Accounting firm of John F. Dennehay, Jr., CPA, PC, Mount Sinai, New York.
The Christopher D. Smithers Foundation, Inc.
Schedule of Contributions, Grants, And Special Projects
Year Ended December 31, 2018

1. **Foundation's Own Project:**
   Information & assistance to organizations in the field of alcoholism $320,006

2. **Contributions and Grants in the Field of Alcoholism:**
   - American Society of Addiction Medicine $5,000
   - Boys' and Girls' Club Oyster Bay-East Norwich 3,000
   - Columbia University 162,547
   - Comitato Italiano del Consiglio Internazional 23,250
   - EPRA (UK) 20,000
   - Foundation for Professional Development 83,863
   - Long Island Council on Alcohol & Drug Dependence, Inc. 114,000
   - OCCAM 39,000

   **Total Contributions and Grants in the Field of Alcoholism** 450,660

3. **Contributions and Grants for Religious, Education, Medical, and Social Purposes**
   - Locust Valley Fire Department 100
   - NYIT 20,000
   - NYU 10,000
   - Portledge School 10,000
   - Sagamore Rowing Association 10,000

   **Total Contributions and Grants for Religious, Educational, Medical, and Social Purposes** 50,100

   **Total Contributions and Grants** 500,760

   **Total Contributions, Grants and Foundation’s Own Projects** 820,766
THE CHRISTOPHER D. SMITHERS FOUNDATION, INC.
SCHEDULE OF UNRESTRICTED SUPPORT
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2018

The Foundation received donations and gifts in 2018 of $1,950 as follows:

I. Donations received with special dedications:

In Memory of Adele C. Smithers:
  Ms. M. Elizabeth Brothers 1,500
  Mr. & Mrs. Gary Maccio 200

In Memory of John F. Dennehy:
  Mr. & Mrs. John F. Dennehy, Jr. 250

Total Contributions and Gifts $1,950

During 2018, the Officers and Directors of The Foundation provided various services to and on its behalf for which they were not compensated. The value of such services has not been calculated and is not included in the above schedule.