

# Press Release



## For Immediate Release

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### **NREF and AANS/CNS Tumor Section Announce StacheStrong and NREF Research Grant Recipients**

Rolling Meadows, Ill. (Sept. 17, 2021) – The Neurosurgery Research and Education Foundation (NREF) and the American Association of Neurological Surgeons (AANS) and Congress of Neurological Surgeons (CNS) Section on Tumors are pleased to announce Jacob Young, MD, and Daniel Green Eichberg, MD, as the recipients of the StacheStrong and NREF Research Grants on behalf of the AANS/CNS Section on Tumors. These grants were funded by the NREF through a partnership with StacheStrong, a 501(c)3 not-for-profit charity focused on raising funds and awareness for brain cancer research.

StacheStrong has raised considerable funds for glioblastoma multiforme (GBM) brain cancer research and has become a significant source of hope for families facing this currently incurable disease. Through its mission to raise funds and awareness of brain cancer research, StacheStrong has grown their partnership with the NREF by doubling their support for NREF research projects this year. StacheStrong's mission is to flip the script on GBM; as demonstrated by StacheStrong's funding of multiple clinical trials to date. All of this is done in loving memory of co-founder GJ Gerner, who wanted to help others in the brain cancer community fight battles similar to his own.

Regarding the organization's support of these research grants, StacheStrong President and Co-Founder Colin Gerner says, "Being in a position to not only provide hope for families and patients diagnosed with brain cancer, but also serve as a catalyst for change by directly funding pivotal research is something I'm truly passionate about."

Dr. Young's research "In Vivo Gene Screening and Transcriptome Editing with Retroviral-Delivered CRISPR-Cas for the Treatment of Glioblastoma" is receiving funding in the amount of \$50,000 through this partnership and will be conducted at University of California San Francisco (UCSF) Medical Center. Regarding his research opportunity, Dr. Young shares, "I am incredibly honored to receive this award. After learning about the StacheStrong story, I am even more motivated to live up to their mission and do everything I can to flip the script on glioblastoma."

Dr. Eichberg's research "Investigating the Role of CD97/ADGRE5 Receptor in Glioblastoma Invasion and its Mechanism of Action in the Brain" is receiving funding in the amount of \$50,000 through this partnership and will be conducted at the University of Miami. According to Dr. Eichberg, "It is a tremendous honor to have been selected for the StacheStrong and NREF Research Grant. I feel fortunate for the opportunity to conduct meaningful research in the field of glioblastoma, and I am grateful for the generosity of the NREF, StacheStrong and the AANS/CNS Joint Tumor Section."

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## **About the NREF**

The Neurosurgery Research & Education Foundation (NREF) is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization created in 1980 by the American Association of Neurological Surgeons (AANS) to provide education to neurosurgeons at all stages in their careers and support research identifying links between best practices and improved outcomes in patient care. Through voluntary public donations, corporate support and donations from allied groups, the NREF supports endeavors that impact the lives of those suffering from epilepsy, stroke, brain tumors, spinal disorders, sports-related head injuries, lower back pain, Parkinson's disease and other neurological conditions.

For more information about the NREF, visit [www.nref.org](http://www.nref.org).

Visit the [AANS/CNS Section on Tumors website](#) for more information about research opportunities.

Visit the [StacheStrong website](#) for more information about its mission or to support the 4th Annual StacheStrong 5K Run/Walk to raise awareness and funds for brain cancer research, being held the weekend of September 18, 2021.