



American Heart Association®

Research Roundtable™

2026 AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION

# RESEARCH ROUNDTABLE

FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2026

10:30 AM – 2:00 PM

FOUR SEASONS SILICON VALLEY, EAST PALO ALTO

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Gather with health and life sciences leaders, innovators, and changemakers for an inspiring afternoon as we honor decades of progress and possibility, reflecting on the 32 years of milestones that have shaped our community and the science that drives us forward. Research Roundtable invites you to be part of this exciting chapter where innovation meets purpose and every connection builds towards a healthier tomorrow.

DIGITAL PROGRAM LOCALLY SPONSORED BY:

**AMGEN®**



American  
Heart  
Association.

# 2 STEPS TO SAVE A LIFE: HANDS-ONLY CPR

According to the AHA,  
about

**90%**

of people who suffer  
out-of-hospital  
cardiac arrests die.

During cardiac arrest,  
immediate CPR can

**DOUBLE  
OR TRIPLE**

a person's chance  
of survival.



## STEP 1

Call 9-1-1 immediately.



## STEP 2

Push hard and fast on the center  
of the chest at a rate of 100 to 120  
compressions per minute.

Need help keeping that beat?  
Think of "Stayin' Alive" by the Bee  
Gees or "Hips Don't Lie" by Shakira

Learn more at [cpr.heart.org](http://cpr.heart.org)

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# SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

## REGISTRATION AND NETWORKING

### WELCOME FROM OUR CO-CHAIRS

#### **MICHAEL BODNER**

Company Group Chair, Electrophysiology & Neurovascular  
*Johnson & Johnson MedTech*

#### **CHUCK SIMONTON, MD**

Chief Medical Advisor, Interventional Cardiovascular  
*Johnson & Johnson MedTech*

### OPEN YOUR HEART AND SPECIAL APPEAL

#### **JERRY ERVIN**

Heart Attack Survivor

### SPEAKERS

#### **THORSTEN SIESS, PHD**

EVP Managing Director & Chief Technology Officer  
*Johnson & Johnson MedTech*

#### **TODD BRINTON, MD**

Chief Scientific Officer & Corporate Vice President  
*Edwards Lifesciences*

#### **CHIP HANCE**

Chief Executive Officer  
*Regatta Medical, a private equity investment partnership with GTCR*

#### **DEVI GOVENDER**

Worldwide President  
*Johnson & Johnson MedTech Heart Recovery*

#### **NAVIN K. KAPUR, MD, FAHA, FACC, FSCAI, FHFA**

Chief Medical and Scientific Officer  
*Johnson & Johnson MedTech Heart Recovery*

### 2027 & 2028 CHAIR ANNOUNCEMENTS

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A HEARTFELT THANK YOU TO OUR

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*Sponsor Listing as of 2/23/2026*



# WELCOME FROM OUR 2026 CO-CHAIRS

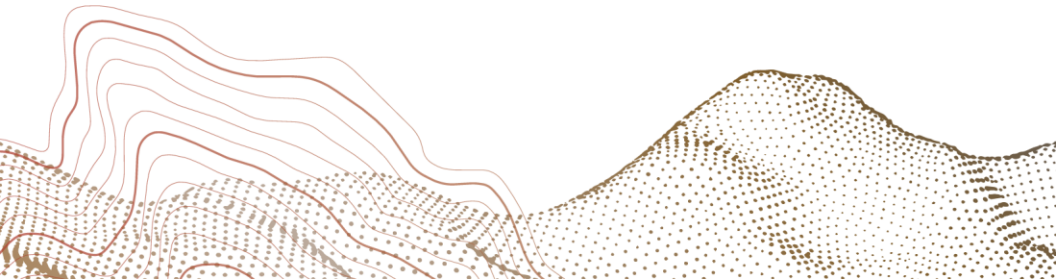
Thank you for joining us for the 32nd annual Bay Area Research Roundtable. As this year's Co-Chairs, we are honored to celebrate the American Heart Association's mission with all of you.

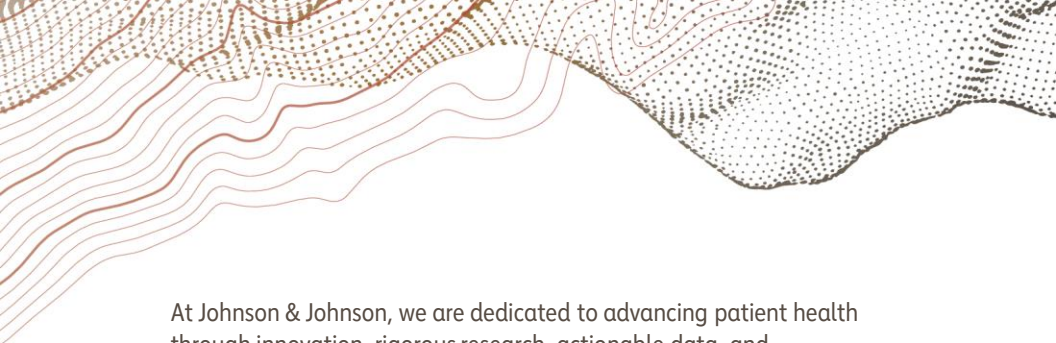
For more than a century, the American Heart Association has been a global force, advancing prevention through lifestyle change and early detection, improving care, and helping people manage high blood pressure to reduce their risk of heart disease and stroke. And, the American Heart Association has supported groundbreaking research fueling discoveries that have led to new medicines, therapies, and technologies — all while working to ensure access to quality care.

Today, the American Heart Association continues its role as the largest non-governmental funder of cardiovascular and cerebrovascular research in the U.S. Its leadership continues through expanded scientific guidelines and strengthened quality-of-care initiatives such as *Get With The Guidelines*.

Through science and discovery, we share a vision of a world where all people can live longer, healthier lives. Through collaboration and forward-thinking innovation, we can tackle today's most pressing health challenges and accelerate progress like never before.

While cardiovascular deaths have been reduced by half since the Association's founding, significant work remains. With countless lives still at risk, continued innovation in science, policy, and data will be essential to drive the next wave of advancements and transform health outcomes for all.





At Johnson & Johnson, we are dedicated to advancing patient health through innovation, rigorous research, actionable data, and meaningful therapies — all focused on giving people everywhere the chance at another day.

We are proud to champion the Research Roundtable, bringing leaders together to advance innovation and collaboration. Together, we are working to raise transformational funds that will help the American Heart Association continue advancing more equitable health for all — driven by its 2026 priorities of prevention, addressing persistent health inequities, and confronting the growing burden of cardiovascular disease.

On behalf of our Roundtable leadership team, please accept our heartfelt gratitude for your generous support today and throughout the entire year.

Sincerely,




**MICHAEL BODNER**

Company Group Chair,  
Electrophysiology & Neurovascular  
*Johnson & Johnson MedTech*



**CHUCK SIMONTON, MD**

Chief Medical Advisor,  
Interventional Cardiovascular  
*Johnson & Johnson MedTech*



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*Member listing as of 3/8/2026*

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**STEERING COMMITTEE**

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*Stanford Medicine*

*Member listing as of 3/8/2026*



# SPEAKERS



## **THORSTEN SIESS, PHD**

Dr. Thorsten Siess joined Abiomed in 2005 upon its acquisition of Impella Cardio Systems, AG, which he co-founded in 1998 and served as manager of Research and Development, then chief technology officer. His work in the development and marketing of the Impella 2.5® heart pump and Impella 5.0® heart pump in Europe led to their CE Mark approval. During his time at the University of Aachen, he developed the Impella® technology which serves as a platform for the entire Impella product portfolio.

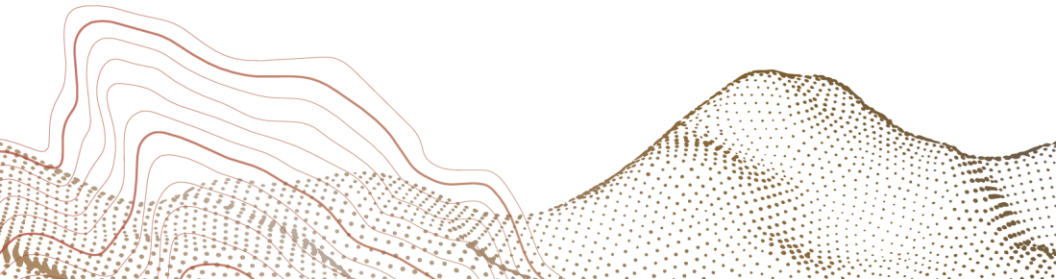
Prior to founding Impella, Dr. Siess served as a scientist in the biomedical technology team at the Helmholtz-Institute of Biomedicine at the University of Aachen. Dr. Siess received his doctorate and Master of Applied Science in mechanical engineering from the University of Aachen.



## **CHIP HANCE**

A 35-year industry veteran of cardiovascular, diabetes and diagnostics devices, Chip Hance is CEO, Regatta Medical, a private equity investment partnership with GTCR. Regatta builds specialty technology companies with unique relevance to the medical device industry. Hance also volunteers with the Medical Device Innovation Consortium (MDIC) and champions the EFS collaborative initiative. Hance is an active seed investor and board member for Ireland-based cardiovascular startups.

Previously Hance has been CEO of Creganna Medical, Entrepreneur-in-Residence at CDRH, and President of Abbott Vascular, the cardiovascular device division of Abbott. Hance has a B.S. in Chemical Engineering from MIT and MBA from Harvard.





# SPEAKERS



## TODD BRINTON, MD


Todd J. Brinton, M.D., has been chief scientific officer and corporate vice president, advanced innovation & technology, since 2019. Dr. Brinton has significant experience as a champion of cardiovascular innovation and has a strong patient focus as a tenured practicing clinical cardiologist. He has deep ties to the medical technology community as a founder, board member and advisor to several start-up companies, including his role as physician founder, board member, and chief medical officer of Shockwave Medical Inc., acquired by J&J in 2024.

Dr. Brinton began his career as an engineer in the medical technology industry, ultimately becoming the director of clinical R&D prior to leaving to enter medical school. Before joining Edwards, he was a clinical professor of medicine (cardiology) and adjunct professor of bioengineering at the Stanford University School of Medicine. He was an attending interventional cardiologist at both the Stanford University Medical Center and the Palo Alto VA Medical Center. Dr. Brinton was the fellowship director of the Stanford Mussallem Center for Biodesign from 2006 to 2019, where he mentored and directed numerous teams on the development of new technologies.

He also served as the co-director for both the graduate and executive education programs at the center during a similar time period. He is currently an adjunct professor of medicine (cardiology) at Stanford University as well as senior advisor and member of the advisory board for the Stanford Mussallem Center for Biodesign. He is extremely active in the American Heart Association (AHA) serving as the chair of the 2022 Bay Area Research Roundtable and the 2022 Orange County Heart & Stroke Ball. He currently serves on executive committees for both programs, the AHA national research committee, and is chair elect for the board of the AHA Western region.

He also serves on the board of directors for the Medical Device Manufacturers Association and advisory board for the Edwards Lifesciences Foundation Cardiovascular Innovation and Research Center at UC Irvine.

Dr. Brinton received his bachelor's degree from the University of California, San Diego in biomedical engineering, and his medical degree from the Chicago Medical School at Rosalind Franklin University. He completed his internship, residency, and fellowships in cardiology and interventional cardiology at Stanford University.





# SPEAKERS



## **DEVI GOVENDER**

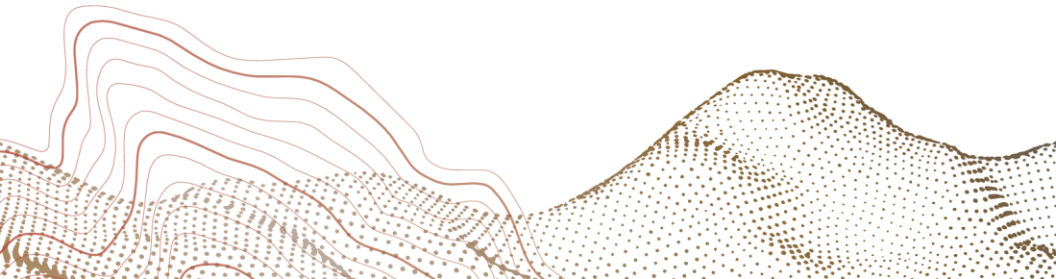
Since taking on the role of Worldwide President of Johnson & Johnson MedTech, Heart Recovery in 2025, Devi Govender has led organizational transformation that delivered double-digit growth and record quarters for patient treatments with Impella™ heart pumps, physician adoption, and global expansion. Her focus for the organization is on outcomes driven growth, relentless innovation and product development, advancing clinical science and increasing market access.

Devi's leadership is shaped by deep field and sales experience and a global perspective, having lived and worked across Europe. She built a two-decade career in cardiovascular care in roles spanning sales, market development, product and platform leadership, strategic marketing, academic and clinical research, reimbursement, and market access.

Over Devi's 10-years at Abiomed/J&J MedTech, her role and scope expanded from therapy and market development responsibilities to leading global healthcare solutions as platform president.

Prior to Abiomed, Devi worked at Abbott Vascular in sales, professional education and KOL management. She began her healthcare career in pharmaceuticals in her home country of Ireland before moving into the medical device industry. In Ireland, Devi worked with distributors across different markets and health systems to deliver technologies within the cardiac surgery, cardiac cath lab, endovascular and neurovascular care areas.

Devi holds a B.A and master's degree from University College Dublin. She moved from Dublin to the United States in 2010 and became a U.S. citizen in 2021.





# SPEAKERS



## **NAVIN K. KAPUR, MD, FAHA, FACC, FSCAI, FHFA**

Dr. Navin Kapur joined Abiomed in 2025 as chief medical and scientific officer, bringing extensive expertise in the field of cardiology and a commitment to advancing healthcare innovation.

Prior to joining Abiomed, Dr. Kapur was a professor at Tufts University School of Medicine in Boston, where he established himself as one of the most accomplished practitioners, scientists, and trialists in the field of cardiology. He is the founder of the Cardiogenic Shock Working Group, board-certified in interventional cardiology and advanced heart failure, and globally recognized as a leading expert in acute mechanical circulatory support, cardiogenic shock, the science of cardiac unloading and the biological response of Impella® heart pumps.

Dr. Kapur's clinical expertise includes advanced invasive hemodynamics, complex coronary intervention, mechanical circulatory support, and interventional therapies for advanced heart failure patients. He is the founding director of the Robert Kung combined Interventional Heart Failure fellowship program and served on multiple committees with organizations such as the American Heart Association, the American College of Cardiology, the Heart Failure Society of America, the International Society for Heart and Lung Transplantation, and the Society for Cardiac Angiography and Interventions.





American Stroke Association.  
A division of the American Heart Association.

Together to End Stroke®

# F.A.S.T. is how we come together to end stroke®

Learn the stroke warnings signs

# F.A.S.T.

Face  
Drooping

Arm  
Weakness

Speech  
Difficulty

Time to  
Call 911

**Every 40 seconds, someone in the U.S. has a stroke.**

It could happen on your street, in your workplace, at a store where you shop — anywhere. Your readiness to spot the stroke warning signs and call 911 could save a life or make the difference between a full recovery and long-term disability. That's why it's so important to learn the stroke warning signs and urge everyone you know to do the same.

**The faster stroke is treated, the more likely the patient is to recover.**

In fact, stroke patients who are treated with the clot-busting drug IV r-tPA Alteplase within 90 minutes of their first symptoms were almost three times more likely to recover with little or no disability.

In some cases, a procedure to remove the clot causing the stroke is also recommended. Ninety-one percent of stroke patients who were treated with a stent retriever within 150 minutes of first symptoms recovered with little or no disability.

The thing to remember is that stroke is largely treatable. It's a matter of getting the right treatment, right away.

**StrokeAssociation.org**

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# PASSION SPEAKER



## **JERRY ERVIN**

Heart Attack Survivor

Jerry Ervin's journey reflects extraordinary resilience and the lifesaving impact of emergency response and cardiovascular innovation. During a routine workout, Jerry suffered a sudden cardiac arrest and required 45 minutes of continuous CPR before a pulse was restored — a survival outcome that is exceptionally rare.

Jerry's collapse was caused by a small, previously undetected blockage, and the damage to his heart required advanced support, including a left ventricular assist device (LVAD) to help his heart rest and recover. Today, he is thriving — a living example of what is possible when science, innovation, and rapid intervention converge at exactly the right moment.

Jerry's experience is a powerful reminder of why research, technology, and CPR training matter. He urges continued investment in the American Heart Association's mission so more people can survive cardiac arrest, return to their families, and live the lives they were meant to live.

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of 3/10/2026

Our most heartfelt thanks to our Cor Vitae philanthropic giving society members and to our generous donors who have included us in their wills, trusts or estate plans through the Paul Dudley White society.

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**Paul Dudley White Legacy Society Members**

Anita Abbonsa	Laura Giannini
Dori B. Acedillo	Mr. Steven Goodspeed
Adi Adins	Unona Goreva
Ms. Ellen Alberstat	Nancy Gurski
Gloria A. Alsheimer	John Hagan
Gloria Anderson	Julie Harrelson
Benny Avelino	William Harriman
Enrique Bachinelo	David Harris
Patricia Barker	Mr. Larry Hedrick in Memory of William A. Hedrick
Tequilla Beckum-Davenport	Monica and Robert Hiiva
Barbara Jeanne Bernard	Monica and Robert Hiiva
Opal F. Blase	John Hoffman
Burt W. Blum	Nevenda Hunter
Anthony Ventura Bryan	Louise Jeung
Richard L. Bush	Roberto Alexandro Jimenes
Nancy Calcese	Abigail Johnson
Hsiou M. Chen	Kelly Kaddu
Yu-Mei Chen	Jayaprakash Kannuvellil
Julia Chue	Jeanne Kearns
Giselle Clements	Betty Kwong-Lee
Judith L. Coffey	Lenore Lafayette
Gloria Contreras	Gary Lau
Lisa Cooper	Judith Lerma
Albina Datsukova	Maureen D. Ling
In Memory of Rev. Lindsay C. and Dr. John L. Davis	Joseph Lisboa
Mike Davis	Bruce Logie
Helen Diodati	Joann R. Lucan
Teresa Doty	Clifford H. Lura
Tara Leah Edgell	Thomas & Candace MacDevitt
John and Sarah Elliott	Mr. Ronald Maciak
Debra Esposti	Tommie Mayfield
Barbara Felix	Kenneth Le'San McCardie
Faye Fisher	Dawn Merrow
Jacqueline Fisher-Hare	Mark Michel
Eric Flett	James V. Miller
Kaykhosrow Foroudi	Mrs. Nancy Milteer
Jaquieta Gains	Delia Monge
Linda Gawura and Ronald R. Maciak	Flo Moore

Our most heartfelt thanks to our Cor Vitae philanthropic giving society members and to our generous donors who have included us in their wills, trusts or estate plans through the Paul Dudley White society.

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**Paul Dudley White Legacy Society Members**

Joyce Moser  
Dulce Nelson  
Glorraine Obertello  
Carol Parris  
Sarah A. Pease  
Roy S. Portugal  
Richard Ramirez  
Alani Therese Dela Cruz Ramos  
Dennis Reis  
Mr. Bob Runkel  
Prudence Russell  
Barbara Silverberg  
Jessica Lucy Simmons  
Ms. Helen Smith  
Ann Smoke  
Teresa Speck  
Lillian Stephens  
Alyce Sugimura  
Carole Sullivan  
Martha A. Swatek  
Ingrid Swenson in Memory of Maria Swenson  
Celina Tamayo  
Doris J. Tumey  
Francis W. Wall  
Mrs. Kathie Weinstein  
Patricia H. Wheeler  
Dolly Woodson  
Edna Yanofsky  
Ronald Zein

*Member Listing as of 2/10/2026*

# LEADERS OF IMPACT™

## 2025 GREATER BAY AREA LEADERS OF IMPACT



**WINNER**  
**PAT ARLANTICO**

Every year individuals step up to join Leaders of Impact in an effort to bring the work of the American Heart Association into the community. This 7-week blind competition is focused on driving equitable health for all. At the end of the campaign, the nominee that makes the greatest impact and raises the most funds locally will be named a Leaders of Impact winner.

### THANK YOU TO ALL OUR 2025 NOMINEES



**LISA CUI**



**KENNETH  
MAHAFFEY, MD**  
*Stanford Medicine*



**DAPHNE  
ROYSE**  
*Compass*



**HENRY NUTT, III**  
*Southland Industries*



**MARIE  
FROCHEN**  
*Ramp-Up-Lab*

*To learn more about this year's campaign or to get involved, scan the QR code:*



Upcoming Campaign Timeline: **FALL 2026**

# WOMAN OF **IMPACT**

## 2025 GREATER BAY AREA WOMAN OF IMPACT



### WINNER

**KATIE LARKIN-WONG**

*DoorDash*

Each year a select group of women are nominated to be a part of this initiative because of their passion and drive to make a difference. At the culmination of this 9-week campaign, this special group of volunteers will be celebrated for the overall impact they have on our mission and community. In addition, the woman who brings her network together to have the largest impact will be named the local Woman of Impact Award winner.

Campaign Timeline: **FEBRUARY 6, 2026 – APRIL 9, 2026**

### 2026 NOMINEES



**BEI BEI (BB)  
CHEN, MD**

*CareTie*



**KATHERINE SEARS  
EDWARDS, PHD**

*Stanford Medicine*



**JAZMIN DIAZ**  
*Flourish Learning &  
Development, LLC*



**REBECCA LAI**  
*Rebecca Lai Consulting*



**KATHLEEN  
JORDAN, MD**

*Midi Health*

*To learn more about our  
nominees & support their  
goals, scan the QR code:*



# TEEN OF IMPACT

## 2025 GREATER BAY AREA TEEN OF IMPACT



### WINNER

**RYLEIGH LONGAKER**

*Sacred Heart Atherton*

Every year, teens across the Bay Area step forward to create lasting change through the Teen of Impact campaign. For nine powerful weeks, these passionate student leaders build teams, raise awareness, inspire healthy habits, and fuel critical funding that helps every heart thrive. The 2026 participants have until April 9th to reach their ambitious goals. And here's the exciting part: the teen who makes the greatest impact is named the local campaign winner — a title earned through dedication, creativity, and heart

Campaign Timeline: **FEBRUARY 6, 2026 – APRIL 9, 2026**

### 2026 NOMINEES



**EMMY BALES**

*The Branson School*



**NAOMI KOTANI**

*Aragon High School*



**JIYAFARHEEN  
SHAIK**

*Dublin High School*



**KNOX FRIEDMAN**

*Westmont High  
School*



**GABBY LEVITT**

*Burlingame High  
School*



**IMRAN SOHAIL  
GULLER**

*San Ramon Valley  
High School*



**ALIYA KHAN**

*Aragon High School*



**SYDNEY LOESER**

*The College  
Preparatory School*



**SADIE KOLLAR**

*Sacred Heart Atherton*



**SHREEYA RAO  
LALAM**

*Dublin High School*

To learn more about our nominees & support their goals, scan the QR code:



# TOP HEART AND STROKE RESEARCH ADVANCES OF 2025

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In 2025, cardiovascular investigators worldwide reported findings that could help fill important gaps in preventing and managing conditions including high blood pressure, stroke, heart failure, dangerous blood clots and aortic stenosis.

Scientists looked at how to repair failing hearts at the cellular level and conducted studies to better understand the effects of smoking on young people and sleep on people of all ages. Researchers uncovered new insights into the most powerful modifiable cardiovascular disease risk factors and how key lifestyle changes impact life and death.

Each year, the American Heart Association, a leading funder of heart-and brain-related research, compiles a review of significant scientific advances in the fight against conditions related to cardiovascular disease, which claims nearly 950,000 lives in the U.S. annually and is the leading cause of death worldwide.

Ten overarching themes stood out among this year's remarkable research strides. [Click here to learn more.](#)

THANK YOU TO OUR  
2026 RESEARCH ROUNDTABLE

# LEGACY CIRCLE SPONSORS

SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!

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 ImperativeCare

INTUITIVE

*Rhythm*<sup>™</sup>

Johnson & Johnson  
MedTech

 Kilpatrick

**KILROY**

 King &  
Spalding

 **SANDBOXAQ**

 **SHIFAMED**

*Sponsor listing as of 3.6.26*

The background features a topographic map with contour lines and a grid of dots, rendered in shades of brown and red. A prominent red rectangular border frames the central text area.

THANK YOU TO OUR BAY AREA

# SECOND CENTURY CATALYST SUPPORTERS

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**Intel**

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**iRhythm Technologies**

**Johnson & Johnson MedTech**

**Kilroy**

**LTK Cable**

**Shifamed**

**UCSF Health**

**Wintec**

ANNOUNCING OUR  
2027 & 2028 RESEARCH ROUNDTABLE

# CHAIR ELECTS

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2027 CHAIR ELECT  
**AMR SALAHIEH**

Founder, President, &  
Chief Executive Officer  
*Shifamed*



2028 CHAIR ELECT  
**DARLA HUTTON**

Global Vice President,  
Cardiac Surgery  
*Intuitive*



American Heart Association.

Research Roundtable™

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING

# THE AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION

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## MISSION STATEMENT

**The American Heart Association's  
mission is to be a relentless force for  
a world of longer, healthier lives.**

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