



**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH  
GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS AND  
UNIFORM GUIDANCE  
DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

**BOSTON VA RESEARCH INSTITUTE, INC.**

Contents  
December 31, 2023 and 2022

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**Unmodified Opinion on Financial Statements Accompanied by  
Supplementary Information – Not-For-Profit Entity**

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board of Directors of  
Boston VA Research Institute, Inc.:

**Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements**

***Opinion***

We have audited the financial statements of Boston VA Research Institute, Inc. (a Massachusetts nonprofit corporation) (BVARI), which comprise the statements of financial position as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the related statements of activities and changes in net assets, cash flows, and functional expenses for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Boston VA Research Institute, Inc. as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

***Basis for Opinion***

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards (Government Auditing Standards)*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of BVARI and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

***Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements***

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about BVARI's ability to continue as a going concern within one year after the date that the financial statements are available to be issued.

### ***Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements***

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of BVARI's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about BVARI's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control related matters that we identified during the audit.

### ***Supplementary Information***

Our audits were conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements as a whole. The accompanying supplementary information shown on page 16 is presented for the purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements. Additionally, the accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards for the year ended December 31, 2023, as required by Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the supplementary information shown on page 16 and the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

**Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards***

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated May 30, 2024, on our consideration of BVARI's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness BVARI's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering BVARI's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

*AAFCPAs, Inc.*

Boston, Massachusetts  
May 30, 2024

**BOSTON VA RESEARCH INSTITUTE, INC.**Statements of Financial Position  
December 31, 2023 and 2022

<b>Assets</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
Current Assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 3,585,727	\$ 14,938,412
Short-term investments	21,844,333	13,144,835
Accounts receivable	2,459,796	3,066,180
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	149,229	69,259
Total current assets	28,039,085	31,218,686
Property and Equipment, net	105,401	40,454
Total assets	<u>\$ 28,144,486</u>	<u>\$ 31,259,140</u>
<b>Liabilities and Net Assets</b>		
Current Liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 1,442,445	\$ 2,713,689
Payroll related liabilities	243,890	302,590
Current portion of restitution due to the VA Boston Healthcare System	222,333	222,333
Advances	20,892,230	24,794,148
Total current liabilities	22,800,898	28,032,760
Restitution Due to the VA Boston Healthcare System, net of current portion	55,583	277,917
Total liabilities	<u>22,856,481</u>	<u>28,310,677</u>
Net Assets:		
Without donor restrictions:		
Programmatically designated for on-going research activities	774,953	307,133
Funds designated for on-going educational activities	897,431	925,649
Residual and fund balances designated for research and educational activities	1,244,522	1,332,627
Board designated - early-stage investigator	90,906	62,778
Administrative	2,262,193	302,276
Total net assets without donor restrictions	5,270,005	2,930,463
With donor restrictions	18,000	18,000
Total net assets	5,288,005	2,948,463
Total liabilities and net assets	<u>\$ 28,144,486</u>	<u>\$ 31,259,140</u>

**BOSTON VA RESEARCH INSTITUTE, INC.**

 Statements of Activities and Changes in Net Assets  
 For the Years Ended December 31, 2023 and 2022

	2023			2022		
	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
<b>Operating Revenue and Support:</b>						
Program revenue	\$ 15,711,343	\$ -	\$ 15,711,343	\$ 12,380,967	\$ -	\$ 12,380,967
Interest income	677,314	-	677,314	166,198	-	166,198
Education revenue	515,011	-	515,011	346,081	-	346,081
Support services	20,799	-	20,799	383,915	-	383,915
Donated rent	-	-	-	127,436	-	127,436
Total operating revenue and support	<u>16,924,467</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,924,467</u>	<u>13,404,597</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,404,597</u>
<b>Operating Expenses:</b>						
Program expenses:						
Research	12,290,349	-	12,290,349	10,642,156	-	10,642,156
Education	469,826	-	469,826	253,394	-	253,394
General and administrative	2,187,753	-	2,187,753	2,228,129	-	2,228,129
Total operating expenses	<u>14,947,928</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14,947,928</u>	<u>13,123,679</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,123,679</u>
Changes in net assets from operations	1,976,539	-	1,976,539	280,918	-	280,918
<b>Non-Operating Revenue:</b>						
Investment return, net	<u>363,003</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>363,003</u>	<u>13,648</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,648</u>
Changes in net assets	2,339,542	-	2,339,542	294,566	-	294,566
<b>Net Assets:</b>						
Beginning of year	<u>2,930,463</u>	<u>18,000</u>	<u>2,948,463</u>	<u>2,635,897</u>	<u>18,000</u>	<u>2,653,897</u>
End of year	<u>\$ 5,270,005</u>	<u>\$ 18,000</u>	<u>\$ 5,288,005</u>	<u>\$ 2,930,463</u>	<u>\$ 18,000</u>	<u>\$ 2,948,463</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

**BOSTON VA RESEARCH INSTITUTE, INC.**

## Statements of Cash Flows

For the Years Ended December 31, 2023 and 2022

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
<b>Cash Flows from Operating Activities:</b>		
Changes in net assets	\$ 2,339,542	\$ 294,566
Adjustments to reconcile changes in net assets to net cash and cash equivalents provided by (used in) operating activities:		
Depreciation	13,545	12,659
Realized and unrealized gains on short-term investments	(363,003)	(13,648)
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	606,384	49,811
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	(79,970)	21,398
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	(1,271,244)	757,082
Payroll related liabilities	(58,700)	2,782
Advances	(3,901,918)	(252,998)
Restitution due to VA Boston Healthcare System	(222,334)	(223,804)
	<u>(2,937,698)</u>	<u>647,848</u>
Net cash and cash equivalents provided by (used in) operating activities		
	<u>(2,937,698)</u>	<u>647,848</u>
<b>Cash Flows from Investing Activities:</b>		
Purchases of property and equipment	(78,492)	-
Proceeds from sales of investments	12,259,697	32,448,795
Purchases of investments	(20,596,192)	(29,703,363)
	<u>(8,414,987)</u>	<u>2,745,432</u>
Net cash and cash equivalents provided by (used in) investing activities		
	<u>(8,414,987)</u>	<u>2,745,432</u>
<b>Net Change in Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>	<b>(11,352,685)</b>	<b>3,393,280</b>
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents:</b>		
Beginning of year	<u>14,938,412</u>	<u>11,545,132</u>
End of year	<u>\$ 3,585,727</u>	<u>\$ 14,938,412</u>



**BOSTON VA RESEARCH INSTITUTE, INC.**

Statements of Functional Expenses  
For the Years Ended December 31, 2023 and 2022

	2023				2022			
	Program Expenses		General and Administrative	Total	Program Expenses		General and Administrative	Total
	Research	Education			Research	Education		
<b>Payroll and Related:</b>								
Salaries and wages	\$ 3,177,970	\$ 177,344	\$ 1,160,969	\$ 4,516,283	\$ 2,868,317	\$ 139,144	\$ 1,110,903	\$ 4,118,364
Other employee benefits	844,549	36,940	374,170	1,255,659	643,826	18,779	360,344	1,022,949
Payroll taxes	281,128	16,122	102,914	400,164	266,808	10,711	100,978	378,497
Retirement contributions	65,248	-	46,389	111,637	124,788	-	79,632	204,420
Total payroll and related	<u>4,368,895</u>	<u>230,406</u>	<u>1,684,442</u>	<u>6,283,743</u>	<u>3,903,739</u>	<u>168,634</u>	<u>1,651,857</u>	<u>5,724,230</u>
<b>Other:</b>								
Subawards	3,816,706	-	-	3,816,706	2,636,998	-	-	2,636,998
Payments to affiliate	1,718,637	139,051	9,255	1,866,943	1,839,617	35,813	-	1,875,430
Professional fees - other	1,320,892	825	150,272	1,471,989	1,210,678	23,400	113,677	1,347,755
Lab supplies	562,664	2,183	116	564,963	605,083	22	909	606,014
Personnel agreement reimbursements	160,357	-	26,040	186,397	290,841	-	21,012	311,853
Office	97,029	54,932	31,653	183,614	63,357	2,124	34,337	99,818
Information technology	37,340	1,331	138,550	177,221	5,030	-	148,817	153,847
Travel	106,924	15,969	25,148	148,041	56,872	15,925	21,761	94,558
Professional fees - accounting and auditing	-	-	73,804	73,804	-	-	56,029	56,029
Conferences and training	43,470	25,129	197	68,796	5,369	7,476	6,992	19,837
Subject reimbursements	57,435	-	-	57,435	24,572	-	-	24,572
Insurance	-	-	33,675	33,675	-	-	32,555	32,555
Depreciation	-	-	13,545	13,545	-	-	12,659	12,659
Professional fees - legal	-	-	1,056	1,056	-	-	88	88
Donated rent	-	-	-	-	-	-	127,436	127,436
Total other	<u>7,921,454</u>	<u>239,420</u>	<u>503,311</u>	<u>8,664,185</u>	<u>6,738,417</u>	<u>84,760</u>	<u>576,272</u>	<u>7,399,449</u>
Total expenses	<u>\$ 12,290,349</u>	<u>\$ 469,826</u>	<u>\$ 2,187,753</u>	<u>\$ 14,947,928</u>	<u>\$ 10,642,156</u>	<u>\$ 253,394</u>	<u>\$ 2,228,129</u>	<u>\$ 13,123,679</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

## BOSTON VA RESEARCH INSTITUTE, INC.

Notes to Financial Statements  
December 31, 2023 and 2022

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### 1. OPERATIONS AND NONPROFIT STATUS

Boston VA Research Institute, Inc. (BVARI) was established and incorporated as a nonprofit organization under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in May 1990. BVARI derives its origins in legislation authorizing nonprofit research corporations at all Veterans Affairs (VA) Medical Centers. Public law 100-322 dated May 20, 1988, amended 38 USC, Chapter 73, authorizing the establishment of nonprofit corporations at each VA Medical Center, the purpose of which is to provide a funding mechanism for monies received from other than VA appropriations for conducting research and educational projects approved by the Medical Center.

The purpose of BVARI is to advance the mission of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs through the support of research and educational related activities at the VA Boston Healthcare System (VABHS). Collaborative research and educational projects may be established with universities, for-profit companies, hospitals, charitable foundations, professional societies, the Public Health Service or other governmental agencies, and other nonprofit agencies.

BVARI is exempt from Federal income taxes as an organization (not a private foundation) formed for charitable purposes under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC). BVARI is also exempt from state income taxes. Donors may deduct contributions made to BVARI within the IRC regulations.

### 2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

BVARI prepares its financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards and principles established by the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB). References to U.S. GAAP in these notes are to the FASB Accounting Standards Codification (ASC).

#### Recently Adopted Accounting Pronouncement

In June 2016, the FASB issued Accounting Standards Update (ASU) 2016-13, *Financial Instruments - Credit Losses (Topic 326): Measurement of Credit Losses on Financial Instruments*. Topic 326 introduced a new accounting model, the Current Expected Credit Losses (CECL), which requires earlier recognition of credit losses and additional disclosures related to credit risk. The CECL model utilizes a lifetime expected credit loss measurement objective for the recognition of credit losses at the time the financial asset is originated or acquired. BVARI adopted the standard effective January 1, 2023, using the modified retrospective method. Based on the composition of BVARI's accounts receivable and expected future losses, the adoption of Topic 326 did not have a material impact on BVARI's 2023 financial statements.

#### Fair Value Measurement

BVARI follows the accounting and disclosure standards pertaining to ASC Topic, *Fair Value Measurements*, for qualifying assets and liabilities. Fair value is defined as the price that BVARI would receive upon selling an asset or pay to settle a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants.

BVARI uses a framework for measuring fair value that includes a hierarchy that categorizes and prioritizes the sources used to measure and disclose fair value. This hierarchy is broken down into three levels based on inputs that market participants would use in valuing the financial instruments based on market data obtained from sources independent of BVARI. Inputs refer broadly to the assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the financial instrument, including assumptions about risk. Inputs may be observable or unobservable.

## BOSTON VA RESEARCH INSTITUTE, INC.

Notes to Financial Statements  
December 31, 2023 and 2022

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### 2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

#### Fair Value Measurement (Continued)

Observable inputs are inputs that reflect the assumptions market participants would use in pricing the financial instrument developed based on market data obtained from sources independent of the reporting entity. Unobservable inputs are inputs that reflect the reporting entity's own assumptions about the assumptions market participants would use in pricing the asset developed based on the best information available.

The three-tier hierarchy of inputs is summarized in the three broad levels as follows:

Level 1 - Inputs that reflect unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets at the measurement date.

Level 2 - Inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset either directly or indirectly, including inputs in markets that are not considered to be active.

Level 3 - Inputs that are unobservable, and which require significant judgment or estimation.

An asset or liability's level within the framework is based upon the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement.

#### *Cash and Cash Equivalents*

For purposes of the statements of cash flows, BVARI considers all highly liquid investments purchased with a maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents. Cash equivalents are considered Level 1 in the fair value hierarchy.

#### *Short-Term Investments*

Investments consist of BVARI's holding of U.S. Treasury notes and certificates of deposits, held for the purpose of financial returns. Investments are recorded in the financial statements at fair value. If an investment is directly held by BVARI and an active market with quoted prices exists, the market price of an identical security is used to report fair value.

Interest and dividends are recorded when earned or declared. Unrealized gains and losses are recognized based on market value changes during the period. Realized gains and losses on investment transactions are recorded as earned.

#### **Accounts Receivables and Allowance for Doubtful Accounts and Credit Losses**

Accounts receivable are recorded at the invoiced amount and do not bear interest. BVARI records accounts receivable when earned. An allowance for credit losses is established based upon historical collection rates by age of receivable and adjusted for reasonable expectations of future collection performance, net of estimated recoveries. BVARI periodically assesses its methodologies for estimating credit losses in consideration of actual experience, trends, and changes in the overall economic environment.

As of December 31, 2023 and 2022, accounts receivable related to Cooperative Research and Development Agreements (CRADA) were \$631,066 and \$376,890, respectively. As of January 1, 2022, accounts receivable related to CRADA were \$423,687.

## BOSTON VA RESEARCH INSTITUTE, INC.

Notes to Financial Statements  
December 31, 2023 and 2022

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### 2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

#### Property and Equipment

Property and equipment are recorded at cost when purchased or at fair value at the time of donation. Costs of furniture and equipment in excess of \$5,000 and the expected useful lives greater than one year are capitalized, while expenditures for maintenance are expensed as incurred. Depreciation of property and equipment is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of three to five years for furniture and equipment.

#### Net Assets

**Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions** are those net resources that bear no external restrictions and are generally available for use by BVARI. BVARI has grouped its net assets without donor restrictions into the following categories:

*Administrative* represents funds available to carry on the operations of BVARI.

*Board designated – Early Stage Investigator* represents a fund created by the Board to help cover minor shortfalls between BVARI's Federally negotiated indirect rate and sponsor restricted indirect rates on grants. Each qualified request requires Board approval prior to proposal submission.

*Other funds designated for research and educational activities* represent the remaining component of net assets without donor restrictions with intentions other than operations.

**Net Assets With Donor Restrictions** represent amounts received or committed by donors with time or purpose restrictions that have not yet been met. Net assets with donor restrictions as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, are restricted to be used on one BVARI project.

#### Revenue Recognition

##### *Grants and Contributions*

Program, support and education revenue are grants and contributions from government agencies, foundations, universities, and corporations that are recorded as revenue and net assets without donor restrictions upon receipt or when unconditionally committed by the donor. Donor restricted grants and contributions that are donations with time or purpose restrictions are recognized as revenues and net assets with donor restrictions when received or when unconditionally committed by the donor. Grants and contributions with donor restrictions are transferred to revenue and net assets without donor restrictions as services are performed and costs are incurred, or pro-rata over the period covered by the grant or contributions as time restrictions lapse. Donor restricted grants received and satisfied in the same period are included in net assets without donor restrictions.

In accordance with ASC Subtopic 958-605, *Revenue Recognition*, BVARI must determine whether a contribution (or a promise) is conditional or unconditional for transactions deemed to be a contribution. A contribution is considered to be a conditional contribution if an agreement includes a barrier that must be overcome and either a right of return of assets, or a right of release of a promise to transfer assets exists (see Note 12). Indicators of a barrier include a measurable performance-related barrier or other measurable barrier, a stipulation that limits discretion by the recipient on the conduct of an activity, and stipulations that are related to the purpose of the agreement.

## BOSTON VA RESEARCH INSTITUTE, INC.

Notes to Financial Statements  
December 31, 2023 and 2022

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### 2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

#### Revenue Recognition (Continued)

##### *Grants and Contributions (Continued)*

A portion of BVARI's revenue is derived from Federal and private awards, which are conditioned upon certain performance requirements and/or the incurrence of allowable qualifying expenses. Amounts received are recognized as revenue when BVARI has incurred expenditures in compliance with specific award provisions. Amounts received prior to incurring qualifying expenditures are reported as advances in the accompanying statements of financial position (see Note 7).

##### *Contracts with Customers*

BVARI generally measures revenue from exchange transactions based on the amount of consideration BVARI expects to be entitled for the transfer of goods or services to a customer, then recognizes this revenue when or as BVARI satisfies its performance obligations under a contract, except in transactions where U.S. GAAP provides other applicable guidance. BVARI evaluates its revenue recognition based on the five-step model under Topic 606: (1) Identify the contract with the customer; (2) Identify the performance obligations in the contract; (3) Determine the transaction price; (4) Allocate the transaction price to separate performance obligations; and (5) Recognize revenue when (or as) each performance obligation is satisfied.

Included in program revenue, amounts recognized under CRADA are considered reciprocal transactions in accordance with ASC Topic 606 as a result of the fact that BVARI does not retain all rights to the intellectual property and research generated from its project activities. BVARI recognized CRADA revenue over time in which the related service is provided and costs are incurred over the contract period. Amounts received prior to the services provided are recorded as advance (see Note 7). CRADA revenue was \$1,700,259 and \$1,211,105 for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively.

#### Donated Goods and Services

BVARI recognizes the fair value of donated goods and services received if such goods or services a) create or enhance nonfinancial assets or b) require specialized skills that are provided by individuals possessing those skills and would typically need to be purchased if not contributed. Donated goods and services do not have donor-imposed restrictions and are utilized in BVARI's programs and are not monetized.

FASB ASC 958-605 requires the fair value of donated materials and facilities to be recognized in the financial statements. In 2022, BVARI was provided with office space and the use of necessary office equipment as part of their association with the VA Medical Center. BVARI recorded the estimated value of the office space provided in the amount of \$127,436 for the year ended December 31, 2022. No amounts have been recorded in the accompanying financial statements for the value of office equipment provided as there is no measurable benefit specifically accruing to BVARI.

#### Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with U.S. GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

**2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

**Expense Allocation**

Expenses related directly to a function are distributed to that function, while other expenses are allocated based upon management's estimate of the percentage attributable to each function.

Certain categories of expenses are attributable to more than one program or supporting function and are allocated on a reasonable basis that is consistently applied. The expenses that are allocated are certain employee benefits, which are based on the employee's portion of the benefit cost distribution.

**Subawards**

BVARI issues subawards to subrecipients as a pass-through entity from awarded grant funds and recognizes subaward expenses upon reimbursement for expenses incurred by the subrecipient in accordance with the subaward agreement. A Subrecipient Commitment Form is required for subrecipients that are not Participating Organizations in the Federal Demonstration Partnership Expanded Clearinghouse.

**Statements of Activities and Changes in Net Assets**

Transactions deemed by management to be ongoing, major, or central to the provision of program services are reported as operating revenue and support and operating expenses in the accompanying statements of activities and changes in net assets. Non-operating revenue consists of investment returns.

**Income Taxes**

BVARI accounts for uncertainty in income taxes in accordance with ASC Topic, *Income Taxes*. This standard clarifies the accounting for uncertainty in tax positions and prescribes a recognition threshold and measurement attribute for the financial statements regarding a tax position taken or expected to be taken in a tax return. BVARI has determined that there are no uncertain tax positions which qualify for either recognition or disclosure in the financial statements at December 31, 2023 and 2022. BVARI's information returns are subject to examination by the Federal and state jurisdictions.

**Subsequent Events**

Subsequent events have been evaluated through May 30, 2024, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued. There were no events that met the criteria for recognition or disclosure in the financial statements.

**3. SHORT-TERM INVESTMENTS**

BVARI, as a Nonprofit Research and Education Corporation (NPC), is legally restricted as to the management of funds. BVARI may use idle funds to purchase instruments backed by the full faith and credit of the United States Government such as U.S. Treasury bills and notes and fully insured bank certificates of deposit.

**BOSTON VA RESEARCH INSTITUTE, INC.**Notes to Financial Statements  
December 31, 2023 and 2022**3. SHORT-TERM INVESTMENTS (Continued)**

Short-term investments are presented in the accompanying financial statements at fair value. The following table presents the fair value measurements of BVARI's investments by level within the valuation framework as of December 31:

<u>Investment Type</u>	<u>2023</u>			<u>Total</u>
	<u>Level 1</u>	<u>Level 2</u>	<u>Level 3</u>	
Fixed income	\$ 14,732,268	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 14,732,268
Certificates of deposit	<u>7,112,065</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,112,065</u>
Total investments	<u>\$ 21,844,333</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 21,844,333</u>

  

<u>Investment Type</u>	<u>2022</u>			<u>Total</u>
	<u>Level 1</u>	<u>Level 2</u>	<u>Level 3</u>	
Fixed income	\$ 11,146,505	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 11,146,505
Certificates of deposit	<u>1,998,330</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,998,330</u>
Total investments	<u>\$ 13,144,835</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 13,144,835</u>

**4. LIQUIDITY AND AVAILABILITY OF FINANCIAL ASSETS**

Financial assets available for expenditure within one year consist of the following at December 31:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Financial assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 3,585,727	\$ 14,938,412
Short-term investments	21,844,333	13,144,835
Accounts receivable, net	<u>2,459,796</u>	<u>3,066,180</u>
Total financial assets available within one year	<u>27,889,856</u>	<u>31,149,427</u>
Less - amounts not available to be used within one year:		
Grant advances	(20,892,230)	(24,794,148)
Financial assets held with restrictions:		
Purpose restricted net assets	(18,000)	(18,000)
Less - amounts designated for:		
Programmatically designated for on-going research activities	(774,953)	(307,133)
Funds designated for on-going educational activities	(897,431)	(925,649)
Residual and fund balances designated for research and educational activities	(1,244,522)	(1,332,627)
Board designated - early-stage investigator	<u>(90,906)</u>	<u>(62,778)</u>
Amount available for expenditures within one year	<u>\$ 3,971,814</u>	<u>\$ 3,709,092</u>

The above table reflects donor-restricted and designated funds as unavailable because it is BVARI's intention to maintain those resources for the long-term support of BVARI's research and educational activities.

As part of BVARI's liquidity management plan, BVARI invests cash in excess of daily requirements in short-term investments.

## BOSTON VA RESEARCH INSTITUTE, INC.

Notes to Financial Statements  
December 31, 2023 and 2022

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### 5. PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

Property and equipment consist of the following at December 31:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Furniture and equipment	\$ 138,555	\$ 99,943
Less - accumulated depreciation	<u>33,154</u>	<u>59,489</u>
Net property and equipment	<u>\$ 105,401</u>	<u>\$ 40,454</u>

### 6. RESTITUTION DUE TO VA BOSTON VA HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

BVARI was established in 1990 to conduct, promote and support the medical research and educational activities of the VA Boston Healthcare System (VABHS), and to advance the wellbeing of veterans and the general public through these endeavors. As such, BVARI engages in collaborative arrangements with the VA and other governmental agencies, universities, for-profit companies, hospitals, charitable foundations, professional societies, and other nonprofit entities.

In order to further these activities, BVARI has for many years entered into agreements with VABHS whereby BVARI assigns some of its employees to work at VABHS. These arrangements, common throughout the Federal government, are authorized by the Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA), 5 U.S.C. Sections 3371, through 3375. The increasing administrative costs of employing individuals assigned to VABHS and managing the IPA agreements became of concern to BVARI a number of years ago. BVARI therefore sought reimbursement for some of those costs through the establishment of an IPA Rate. Pursuant to the IPA Agreements with VABHS, the VA agreed to reimburse BVARI for the employees' salary and benefits, and beginning in 2014, to also pay an "IPA Rate" of 3.9% to 4.4% (varying by year) of the compensation as reimbursement for administrative costs BVARI incurred in connection with employing these individuals, and administering the IPA Agreements.

Pursuant to Federal Regulation, 2 CFR Part 200, BVARI's cognizant agency for indirect costs negotiates and signs agreements with BVARI for all indirect cost rates. The cognizant agency for indirect costs is the Federal agency responsible for reviewing, negotiating, and approving indirect cost proposals on behalf of all Federal agencies. ONR (Office of Naval Research), BVARI's cognizant agency for indirect costs, negotiated the IPA Rate with BVARI, as reflected in our 2014 through 2017 Negotiation Agreements.

BVARI negotiated in good faith and agreed upon the IPA Agreements with the VA. The IPA Rate was expressly and consistently contained in each agreement and the Agreements are only a few pages in length.

The Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970, 5 USC Sec. 3371-3375, does not prohibit processing fees or administrative rates, nor does the regulations governing the IPA, found at 5 CFR Part 334, or any other law. Nonetheless, the VA asserts that the IPA Rates and any IPA processing fees were improper because they are prohibited by the VA Handbook 5005 and not affirmatively or explicitly authorized by the IPA Act.



**BOSTON VA RESEARCH INSTITUTE, INC.**Notes to Financial Statements  
December 31, 2023 and 2022**6. RESTITUTION DUE TO VA BOSTON VA HEALTHCARE SYSTEM (Continued)**

From January 2014 through April 2017, BVARI charged and VABHS paid the IPA Rate agreed to in the IPA Agreements and the Negotiation Agreements with ONR. In April 2017, the VA's Nonprofit Program Office (NPPO) conducted a routine triennial on-site limited review of BVARI's financial policies and procedures, internal controls, operations, and finances. On April 28, 2017, NPPO issued a written report on its review that stated that payment of an IPA Rate, a rate that was being used by the VA to reimburse BVARI for employee salaries and benefits, was improper and in violation of VA Handbook 5005. Even though the charges were a clear and unambiguous term of the IPA Agreements, the report stated that BVARI would be required to make restitution to the VA for all such costs, totaling \$684,652. This restitution was paid in monthly payments of \$19,018 from April 2019 through March 2022.

In addition to the IPA Rate matter discussed above, the VA questioned the use of specific IPA's for three of BVARI's employees and also for a Board Designated retirement contribution reimbursed to BVARI for employees who participated in the IPA program during 2013 and 2014. The VA had informally suggested that these amounts may also be subject to reimbursement by BVARI. During 2020, the VA determined that BVARI must also make restitution for these other matters and has offered to settle these matters for an additional amount of \$667,000. Payment on this restitution was delayed until the first restitution is paid off. This restitution is due in monthly payments of \$18,528 from April 2022 through March 2025. During 2023 and 2022, BVARI paid \$222,334 and \$166,752, respectively, to the VA towards this restitution.

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Restitution - Tier II retirement contribution and administrative IPAs	\$ 277,916	\$ 500,250
Less - current portion	<u>222,333</u>	<u>222,333</u>
Net restitution due to VABHS	<u>\$ 55,583</u>	<u>\$ 277,917</u>

In accordance with FASB ASC 450-20, *Contingencies*, BVARI has not recorded any other liabilities as a result of the NPPO review. Although BVARI may be ultimately liable for additional reimbursements to the VA, these amounts, if any, are not determinable as of the date of this report. BVARI is aware of a range of potential claims made by the VA, but these are subject to final determination by the VA and to negotiation by BVARI and the VA based on other matters that have not yet been clarified.

**7. ADVANCES**

BVARI receives advances of funds from various Federal and Non-Federal agreements, as well as through agreements with the VA for participation in governmental Interagency Agreements (IAA's). IAA's are written agreements entered into between two Federal agencies, or major organizational units within an agency, which specifies the goods to be furnished or tasks to be accomplished by one agency (the servicing agency) in support of the other (the requesting agency). Advances consist of the following at December 31:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Governmental Interagency Agreements	\$ 8,814,270	\$ 12,774,069
Cooperative Research and Development Agreements (CRADA)	9,411,342	10,180,721
Federal advances	457,038	748,254
Non-Federal advances	<u>2,209,580</u>	<u>1,091,104</u>
Total advances	<u>\$ 20,892,230</u>	<u>\$ 24,794,148</u>

## BOSTON VA RESEARCH INSTITUTE, INC.

Notes to Financial Statements  
December 31, 2023 and 2022

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### 8. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

In 1988, Congress passed Public Law 100-322 (now codified at Section 7361-66 of Title 38, United States Code) that allowed VA medical centers to establish nonprofit corporations (NPCs). NPCs exist to provide VA medical centers with flexible funding mechanisms for the conduct of, and to facilitate functions related to the conduct of, approved research and education at one or more VA medical centers. NPCs are not owned or controlled by the Federal government, nor are they an agency or instrumentality of the Federal government. However, as stipulated by statute, the persons holding the positions of Director, Chief of Staff, Associate Chief of Staff for Research and Development, and Associate Chief of Staff for Education of VABHS are statutory Board members of BVARI and the majority of BVARI's Board of Directors are employed or affiliated with the VA.

BVARI reimburses the VA for various services:

- Reimbursements for salaries and wages to the VA were \$1,866,943 and \$1,875,430 for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively. These costs are reflected as payments to affiliate in the accompanying statements of functional expenses.
- Reimbursements for other expenses to the VA were \$15,836 and \$9,423 for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively. These costs are included in lab supplies in the accompanying statements of functional expenses.
- As of December 31, 2023 and 2022, BVARI owed the VA \$623,715 and \$941,680, respectively, for these services, which are included in accounts payable and accrued expenses in the accompanying statements of financial position.

Additionally, BVARI charges the VA for some personnel and related costs via IPA. Reimbursements for these costs were \$20,799 and \$374,898 for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively. The VA was indebted to BVARI in the amounts of \$20,799 and \$71,317, respectively, which are included in the accounts receivable balances as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively.

The VA provides office space utilities to BVARI which are imputed as \$127,436 for the year ended December 31, 2022. For the majority of 2023, BVARI employees worked remotely and no office space from the VA was utilized. In November 2023, the VA allocated BVARI office space again. The donated office space for November and December 2023 was not recorded as management has determined the amount is not material to the accompanying financial statements.

Also, see Note 6 for the restitution due to the VA.

### 9. CONCENTRATION

BVARI maintains its cash in bank deposit accounts, and utilizes a sweep account to keep balances within the Federally insured limit. BVARI has not experienced any losses in such accounts. BVARI believes it is not exposed to any significant credit risk on cash and cash equivalents.

BVARI derives its revenues from research and educational activities associated with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and related collaborative research projects sponsored by a variety of organizations in support of the VABHS.

During 2023 and 2022, three and two Federal agencies provided 63% and 58%, respectively, of BVARI's total operating support and revenue.

At December 31, 2023, 61% of accounts receivable is due from two Federal agencies. At December 31, 2022, 71% of accounts receivable is due from two Federal agencies and one grantor.

## BOSTON VA RESEARCH INSTITUTE, INC.

Notes to Financial Statements  
December 31, 2023 and 2022

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### 10. RETIREMENT PLAN

BVARI implemented a Section 403(b) retirement plan in 2008 that covers substantially all employees who have completed one year of service and are at least 21 years old. BVARI may make discretionary contributions to the plan as determined by the Board of Directors annually. Retirement benefit expense totaled \$111,637 and \$204,420 for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively.

### 11. CONTINGENCIES

Readers are referred to Note 6 for contingencies relating to claims made by the VA for BVARI's participation in Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA) payments.

BVARI participates in a number of Federal award programs. Although BVARI's programs have been audited in accordance with the provisions of the Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, these programs are still subject to financial and compliance audits. The amounts, if any, of expenditures or overhead allowances which may be disallowed or changed by the granting agencies cannot be determined at this time, although BVARI expects such amounts, if any, to be immaterial. In addition to its Federal award programs, BVARI is subject to the oversight of the Veterans' Health Administration of the Department of Veterans' Affairs (VHA). The VHA is responsible for the development and monitoring of compliance standards associated with the research projects administered by BVARI. As such, these projects are still subject to compliance audits by the VHA.

### 12. CONDITIONAL GRANTS

BVARI receives grants and contributions that contain donor-imposed conditions that represent a barrier that must be overcome as well as a right of return of assets or release from obligations. BVARI recognizes these grants and contributions when donor-imposed conditions are met. Conditional promises to give consist of the following at December 31, 2023:

Incurring qualifying expenses	\$ 8,225,166
Milestone based barriers	<u>4,647,757</u>
Total conditional promises to give	<u>\$ 12,872,923</u>

**BOSTON VA RESEARCH INSTITUTE, INC.**Supplementary Schedules of Revenue  
For the Years Ended December 31, 2023 and 2022

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
<b>Program Revenue:</b>		
Federal:		
DOD revenue	\$ 1,979,069	\$ 2,651,936
DHHS revenue	10,017,540	5,327,289
Other Federal revenue	141,195	199,819
Federal awards - subrecipient	803,322	1,571,834
Total Federal revenue	<u>12,941,126</u>	<u>9,750,878</u>
Non-Federal:		
CRADA revenue	1,700,259	1,211,105
Research revenue	825,226	1,156,576
Other research revenue	244,732	262,408
Total non-Federal revenue	<u>2,770,217</u>	<u>2,630,089</u>
Total program revenue	<u>15,711,343</u>	<u>12,380,967</u>
<b>Support Services:</b>		
IPA reimbursements	20,799	373,715
Other research support	-	10,200
Total support services	<u>20,799</u>	<u>383,915</u>
Other support:		
Donated services - office space	-	127,436
<b>Education Revenue:</b>		
Other education revenue	<u>515,011</u>	<u>346,081</u>
<b>Interest Income</b>	<u>677,314</u>	<u>166,198</u>
Total revenue	<u>\$ 16,924,467</u>	<u>\$ 13,404,597</u>

**BOSTON VA RESEARCH INSTITUTE, INC.**

Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Federal Grantor/ Pass-Through Grantor/ Program or Cluster Title	Assistance Listing Number	Pass-Through Entity Identifying Number	Federal Expenditures	Expenditures to Subrecipients
<b>Research and Development Cluster:</b>				
<b>U.S. Department of Defense:</b>				
<b>Military Health Services Research</b>	12.007			
Direct Federal Funds		N/A	\$ 105,369	\$ 48,551
<b>Military Medical Research and Development</b>	12.420			
Direct Federal Funds		N/A	1,521,139	382,436
Pass-through Funds:				
Boston Children's Hospital		GENFD0001678711	193,637	-
Dartmouth-Hitchcock Clinic		GC10110-00-01	12,471	-
University of Kansas		FY2023-098	6,195	-
Oregon Health & Science University		1021397	5,803	-
The Regents of the University of California (UC Davis)		A19-2831-S001	52,177	-
Total Assistance Listing Number 12.420			1,791,422	382,436
<b>Uniformed Services University Medical Research Projects</b>	12.750			
Pass-through Funds:				
The Henry M. Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of Military Medicine, Inc.		5515	116,332	-
<b>Total U.S. Department of Defense</b>			<u>2,013,123</u>	<u>430,987</u>
<b>National Science Foundation:</b>				
<b>Engineering</b>	47.041			
Pass-through funds:				
University of Rhode Island		0008544/090623	25,109	-
<b>Computer and Information Science and Engineering</b>	47.070			
Direct Federal Funds		N/A	8,732	-
<b>Total National Science Foundation</b>			<u>33,841</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>U.S. Department of Health and Human Services:</b>				
<b>Preventive Medicine Residency</b>	93.117			
Pass-through Funds:				
Griffin Hospital		D33HP31664-VA-01	864	-
<b>U.S. Department of Health and Human Services - National Institutes of Health (NIH)</b>				
<b>Human Genome Research</b>	93.172			
Direct Federal Funds		N/A	593,442	20,378
<b>Mental Health Research Grants</b>	93.242			
Direct Federal Funds		N/A	1,018,734	511,428
<b>Drug Abuse and Addiction Research Programs</b>	93.279			
Pass-through funds				
Wayne State University		WSU22179-A1	8,953	-

BOSTON VA RESEARCH INSTITUTE, INC.

Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Federal Grantor/ Pass-Through Grantor/ Program or Cluster Title	Assistance Listing Number	Pass-Through Entity Identifying Number	Federal Expenditures	Expenditures to Subrecipients
<b>Research and Development Cluster (Continued):</b>				
<b>U.S. Department of Health and Human Services - National Institutes of Health (NIH) (Continued):</b>				
<b>Cancer Detection and Diagnosis Research</b>	93.394			
Pass-through funds MIT		S5748	11,906	-
<b>Cancer Biology Research</b>	93.396			
Pass-through funds The Ohio State University		GR129660	10,864	-
<b>Cancer Centers Support Grants</b>	93.397			
Pass-through funds The Regents of the University of California		A19-0791-S011	178,000	-
<b>Cardiovascular Diseases Research</b>	93.837			
Direct Federal Funds		N/A	166,320	119,584
Pass-through Funds: The Brigham & Women's Hospital Daxor Corporation		127674 0122FEDSo	14,697 3,416	- -
Total Assistance Listing Number 93.837			184,433	119,584
<b>Lung Diseases Research</b>	93.838			
Pass-through Funds: University of Alabama at Birmingham		000530409-SC002	43,210	-
<b>Diabetes, Digestive and Kidney Diseases Extramural Research</b>	93.847			
Direct Federal Funds		N/A	419,448	200,198
<b>Extramural Research Programs in the Neurosciences and Neurological Disorders</b>	93.853			
Direct Federal Funds		N/A	292,879	-
<b>Aging Research</b>	93.866			
Direct Federal Funds		N/A	1,036,927	332,707
Pass-through Funds: Duke University Wake Forest University Trustees of Boston University		A032814 1568-33664-11000000253 4500003696	12,795 9,085 15,202	- - -
Total Assistance Listing Number 93.866			1,074,009	332,707
<b>Vision Research</b>	93.867			
Direct Federal Funds		N/A	332,329	123,940
<b>Total U.S. Department of Health and Human Services</b>			4,169,071	1,308,235
<b>Total Expenditures of Federal Awards (Total Research and Development Cluster)</b>			<u>\$ 6,216,035</u>	<u>\$ 1,739,222</u>

**BOSTON VA RESEARCH INSTITUTE, INC.**

Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

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**Note 1. Basis of Presentation**

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards includes the Federal assistance activity of BVARI and is presented on the accrual basis of accounting. The information in this schedule is presented in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*.

**Note 2. Indirect Cost Rate**

BVARI has elected not to use the 10% de minimis cost rate for its Federal programs.

**Note 3. Governmental Interagency Agreement Activities**

As mentioned in Note 9 to the financial statements, BVARI provides services to the VA Boston Healthcare System under a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Funding used under this MOU is provided through Interagency Agreements between the National Institute of Health (NIH), the Department of Defense (DoD) or Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Department of Veterans Affairs. BVARI provides support to the VA Precision Medicine Initiative Cohort Program (PMI-CP) for administrative, data management, extraction and storage of specimens, as well as health records and survey data, collected from Veterans who enroll into the Precision Medicine Program. BVARI provides support on the "NCI and VA Interagency Group to Accelerate Trials Enrollment" (NAVIGATE) program between NIH and the VA. Spending under the PMI-CP MOU amounted to approximately \$5,816,632 for the year ended December 31, 2023. Spending under the PMI-CP (DoD) MOU amounted to approximately \$440,460 for the year ended December 31, 2023. Spending under the NAVIGATE (NIH) MOU amounted to approximately \$278,645 for the year ended December 31, 2023. Spending under the FDA MOU amounted to approximately \$127,119 for the year ended December 31, 2023. Although these funds are sourced from the Federal government, they are not considered expenditures of Federal Grant Awards for the purpose of the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards and are therefore not included on that schedule.

**Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters  
Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance  
With Government Auditing Standards**

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board of Directors of  
Boston VA Research Institute, Inc.:

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of Boston VA Research Institute, Inc. (BVARI), which comprise the statement of financial position as of December 31, 2023, and the related statements of activities and changes in net assets, cash flows and functional expenses for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated May 30, 2024.

**Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered BVARI's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of BVARI's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of BVARI's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

**Report on Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether BVARI's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.



## Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of BVARI's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering BVARI's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

AAFCPAs, Inc.

Boston, Massachusetts  
May 30, 2024

**Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program and Report on Internal Control  
Over Compliance Required by the Uniform Guidance**

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board of Directors of  
Boston VA Research Institute, Inc.:

**Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program**

***Opinion on Each Major Federal Program***

We have audited Boston VA Research Institute, Inc.'s (BVARI) compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the *OMB Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on BVARI's major Federal program for the year ended December 31, 2023. BVARI's major Federal program is identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

In our opinion, BVARI complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on its major Federal program for the year ended December 31, 2023.

***Basis for Opinion on Each Major Federal Program***

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS); the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*); and the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Our responsibilities under those standards and the Uniform Guidance are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

We are required to be independent of BVARI and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion on compliance for the major Federal program. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of BVARI's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

***Responsibilities of Management for Compliance***

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements referred to above and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, statutes, regulations, rules, and provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to BVARI's Federal program.

### ***Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance***

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to on the previous page occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on BVARI's compliance based on our audit. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with (GAAS), *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance will always detect material noncompliance when it exists. The risk of not detecting material noncompliance resulting from fraud is higher than for that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to on the previous page is considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about BVARI's compliance with the requirements of the major Federal program as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding BVARI's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.
- Obtain an understanding of BVARI's internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of BVARI's internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over compliance that we identified during the audit.

### **Report on Internal Control Over Compliance**

*A deficiency in internal control over compliance* exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a Federal program on a timely basis. *A material weakness in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a Federal program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. *A significant deficiency in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a Federal program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance may exist that were not identified.

Our audit was not designed for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

*AAFCPA, Inc.*

Boston, Massachusetts  
May 30, 2024

**BOSTON VA RESEARCH INSTITUTE, INC.**

Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs  
December 31, 2023

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**1. SUMMARY OF AUDITOR’S RESULTS**

**Financial Statements**

Type of auditor’s report issued on whether the financial statements audited were prepared in accordance with U.S. GAAP: Unmodified

Is a “going concern” emphasis-of-matter paragraph included in the auditor’s report?             Yes        X   No

Internal control over financial reporting:

- Material weakness(es) disclosed?             Yes        X   No
- Significant deficiency(ies) disclosed?             Yes        X   No

Noncompliance material to financial statements disclosed?             Yes        X   No

**Federal Awards**

Internal control over the major Federal program:

- Material weakness(es) disclosed?             Yes        X   No
- Significant deficiency(ies) disclosed?             Yes        X   No

Type of auditor’s report issued on compliance for the major Federal program: Unmodified

Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with 2 CFR 200.516(a)?             Yes        X   No

Identification of the major Federal program:

<u>Name of Federal Program or Cluster</u>	<u>Assistance Listing (AL) Number</u>
Research and Development Cluster	12.007/12.420/ 12.750/47.041/ 47.070 93.117/ 93.172/93.242/ 93.279/93.394/ 93.396/ 93.397/ 93.837/ 93.838/ 93.847/ 93.853/ 93.866/ 93.867

Dollar threshold used to distinguish between Type A and Type B programs: \$750,000.

Auditee qualified as low-risk auditee?        X   Yes             No

**BOSTON VA RESEARCH INSTITUTE, INC.**

Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs  
December 31, 2023

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**2. FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS**

None

**3. FEDERAL AWARD FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS**

None