

**THE MCKNIGHT ENDOWMENT FUND  
FOR NEUROSCIENCE**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014**

**THE MCKNIGHT ENDOWMENT FUND FOR NEUROSCIENCE  
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## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Board of Directors  
The McKnight Endowment Fund  
for Neuroscience  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of The McKnight Endowment Fund for Neuroscience (a nonprofit organization), which comprise the statements of assets and unrestricted net assets resulting from cash transactions – cash basis of The McKnight Endowment Fund for Neuroscience (the Fund) as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, and the related statements of revenues collected, expenses paid and changes in unrestricted net assets – cash basis for the years then ended and the related notes to the financial statements.

### ***Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements***

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the cash basis of accounting described in Note 1; determining that the cash basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for the preparation of the financial statements in the circumstances. Management is also responsible 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.

### ***Auditors' Responsibility***

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditors' judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements 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 the Fund's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Board of Directors  
The McKnight Endowment Fund  
for Neuroscience

***Opinion***

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, assets and unrestricted net assets of The McKnight Endowment Fund for Neuroscience as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, and its revenue collected, expenses paid and changes in unrestricted net assets for the years then ended in conformity with the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

***Basis of Accounting***

We draw attention to Note 1 of the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared on the cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinion is not modified with respect to that matter.

*CliftonLarsonAllen LLP*

**CliftonLarsonAllen LLP**

Minneapolis, Minnesota  
April 26, 2016

**THE MCKNIGHT ENDOWMENT FUND FOR NEUROSCIENCE  
STATEMENTS OF ASSETS AND UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS  
RESULTING FROM CASH TRANSACTIONS – CASH BASIS  
DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014**

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
<b>ASSETS, CASH</b>	<u>\$ 17,505</u>	<u>\$ 7,243</u>
<b>UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS</b>	<u>\$ 17,505</u>	<u>\$ 7,243</u>

*See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.*

**THE MCKNIGHT ENDOWMENT FUND FOR NEUROSCIENCE  
STATEMENTS OF REVENUES COLLECTED, EXPENSES PAID AND  
CHANGES IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS – CASH BASIS  
YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014**

	2015	2014
<b>REVENUES COLLECTED</b>		
Grants Received	\$ 3,721,000	\$ 3,704,000
<b>EXPENSES PAID</b>		
Program:		
Memory and Cognitive Disorders Awards	1,198,754	1,200,000
Scholars Awards	1,350,000	1,350,000
Technological Innovations in Neuroscience Awards	599,925	599,931
Neuroscience Conference	311,812	298,691
Total Program Expenses Paid	3,460,491	3,448,622
Administrative Expenses	250,247	264,558
Total Expenses Paid	3,710,738	3,713,180
<b>REVENUES COLLECTED IN EXCESS (DEFICIT) OF EXPENSES PAID</b>	10,262	(9,180)
Unrestricted Net Assets – Beginning of Year	7,243	16,423
<b>UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS – END OF YEAR</b>	\$ 17,505	\$ 7,243

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

**THE MCKNIGHT ENDOWMENT FUND FOR NEUROSCIENCE**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014**

**NOTE 1 NATURE OF BUSINESS AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Nature of Business**

The McKnight Endowment Fund for Neuroscience (the Fund) is a private foundation incorporated under the laws of Minnesota. The Fund is an independent charitable organization established by The McKnight Foundation (the Foundation) to support innovative research in neuroscience through three competitive annual awards and an annual conference.

**Basis of Accounting**

The financial statements of the Fund are maintained on a cash basis, and the statements of revenues collected, expenses paid and changes in unrestricted net assets and the statements of assets and unrestricted net assets resulting from cash transactions reflect only cash received and disbursed. Therefore, grants receivable and payable, accounts payable, and accrued income and expenses, which may be material in amount, are not reflected in the accompanying financial statements, which are not intended to present financial position and results of activities in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

**Financial Statement Presentation**

Net assets and revenues, gains, and losses are classified based on donor imposed restrictions. There are no donor imposed restrictions, and the board of directors has discretionary control over the resources. Accordingly, net assets of the Fund and changes therein are classified and reported as unrestricted.

**Tax Exempt Status**

The Fund is exempt from federal income taxes under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The Fund is classified as a private foundation as defined in Section 509(a) and 4940 of the Internal Revenue Code and as such is subject to certain minimum distribution requirements. No taxes were paid during the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014.

The Fund follows a policy that clarifies the accounting for uncertainty in income taxes recognized in an organization's financial statements. The policy prescribes a recognition threshold and measurement principles for the financial statement recognition and measurement of tax positions taken or expected to be taken on a tax return that are not certain to be realized. The implementation of this policy had no impact on the Fund's financial statements.

**Functional Allocation of Expenses**

The costs of providing programs and services have been summarized on a functional basis. Accordingly, certain costs have been allocated between program and the administrative services.

**THE MCKNIGHT ENDOWMENT FUND FOR NEUROSCIENCE**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014**

**NOTE 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

**Subsequent Events**

In preparing these financial statements, the Fund has evaluated events and transactions for potential recognition of disclosure through April 26, 2016, the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

**NOTE 2 CASH BALANCE**

At December 31, 2015 and 2014, cash was maintained in a checking account that, at times, exceeded federally insured limits. The Fund has not experienced any losses in such accounts.

**NOTE 3 RELATED-PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

The Foundation has agreed to provide grants to the Fund annually through 2023 for the purposes of funding and administering neuroscience awards. During 2015 and 2014, \$3,721,000 and \$3,704,000, respectively, of grants were received from the Foundation. The Foundation, which the Fund relies upon for grant funding, has the ability to appoint 2 of the 10 members of the Fund's board of directors.

Included within administrative expenses, the Fund reimbursed the Foundation \$100,000 for each of the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014 for administrative services pursuant to an administrative services agreement with the Foundation.

**NOTE 4 GRANT COMMITMENTS**

At both December 31, 2015 and 2014, the Fund's board of directors had approved grants of \$4,050,000 to be paid through 2018 and 2017, respectively. Payments of approved grants are expected to be funded by proceeds of grants from the Foundation. Grant payments, net of returned grant funds, during the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014 were \$3,148,679 and \$3,149,931, respectively.