10TH ANNIVERSARY

PARASITES WITHOUT BORDERS



10-YEAR (2016-2026) IMPACT REPORT

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A Letter from Dr. Daniel Griffin

Parasites Without Borders was founded ten years ago, in 2016. It started as a conversation between myself and the late Dickson Despommier. With the help of Chuck Knirsch, we created this organizaiton. We were later joined by Peter Hotez and Vincent Racaniello. We are a disseminator of information throughout the world, our motto being, getting knowledge to the people and places that need it most. We've grown, and we've spread this information, sending textbooks from Venezuela to Zambia and even universities throughout the world. We have textbooks, children's books, videos, and, through our partnership with MicrobeTV, informational podcasts and videos.

Right now, there are 1.5 billion people in the world suffering from parasitic diseases. In some tropical areas, it's as high as 50%. We're trying to change that.

Thank you for all of your support over the last ten years and we're looking forward to another ten years with your help.

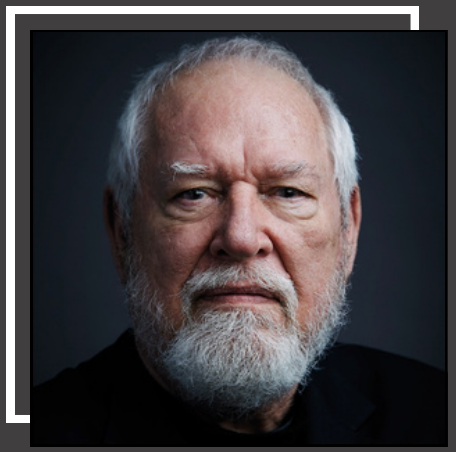
Our Mission

To help bring the latest medical and basic biological information pertaining to diseases caused by eukaryotic parasites to all those in a position to apply medical knowledge directly to populations most in need of solutions **to alleviate the burden of parasitic diseases**.

Board of Directors



Daniel Griffin, MD, Ph.D, C TropMed CTH



Dickson Despommier, Ph.D
June 5, 1940 - Feb. 7, 2025



Peter J. Hotez, MD, Ph.D, FAAP, FASTMH



Charles Knirsch, MD, MPH



Vincent Racaniello, Ph.D



Dickson Despommier

June 5, 1940 - February 7, 2025

In 2025, Parasites Without Borders lost a dear friend, Dr. Dickson D. Despommier. Dickson was a scientist, innovator, author, and beloved professor of microbiology and public health in environmental sciences at Columbia University. He received the Best Teacher Award six times.

Dickson popularized the concept of vertical farming as a way to combat climate change and feed more people. His expertise was sought by top media outlets, international agencies, foreign governments, universities, colleges, conferences, and more.

The world lost a great mentor, friend, and scientist, but his memory inspires our passion to continue using education to fight the burden of disease.

Parasites Without Borders

2016–2026

2016

PWB is founded

2017

Parasitic Diseases 6th Edition is published

2018

Parasitic Diseases Lecture Series goes live on YouTube

2019

Parasitic Diseases 7th Edition, Medical Handbook for Limited Resource Setting V1 and Clinical Appendix for the 7th Edition Parasitic Diseases are published

2020

Dr. Griffin's TWiV Weekly Clinical Updates begin

2021

PWB partners with MicrobeTV to open The Incubator

PWB hosts virtual booth at ASTMH Annual Meeting

2022

Infectious Disease Puscast debuts

Medical Handbook for Limited Resource Settings V2 is published

PWB attends ASTMH Annual Meeting

2023

TWiV celebrates 1,000th episode

PWB attends ASTMH Annual Meeting

2025

Despommier's Parasitic Diseases 8th Edition is published

PWB attends ASTMH Annual Meeting

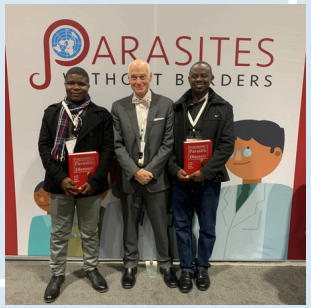
Tropical Medicine Curriculum is released

2026

PWB attends ASTMH Annual Meeting

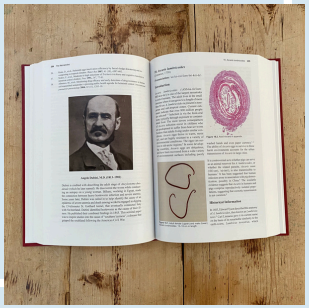
New lessons added to Tropical Medicine Curriculum

Organizational Pillars



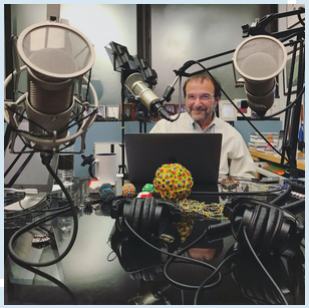
Our primary objective is to effect change through education

There are people who are in a position to make great change. We support their endeavors through free educational resources.



We create evidence-based educational resources

Our materials are all created using evidence-based scientific information and best medical practices.



We keep current by providing timely medical updates through podcasts

The practice of medicine evolves. This is why we provide weekly updates, case studies, and more through podcasts on MicrobeTV.



We provide resources to those who can put knowledge into action

Our goal is to supply accurate and comprehensive medical literature, videos, podcasts, and more to doctors, clinicians, and other medical professionals.



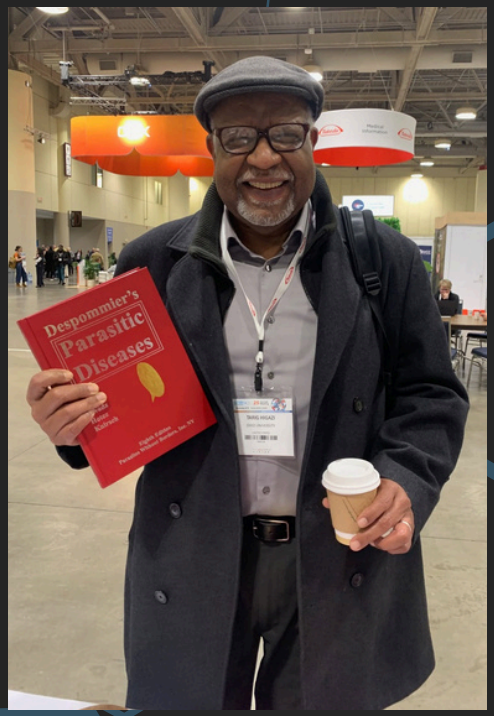
We innovate to keep our resources accessible to all

With a team of diverse professionals, PWB continues to produce new methods of disseminating information to those in need.

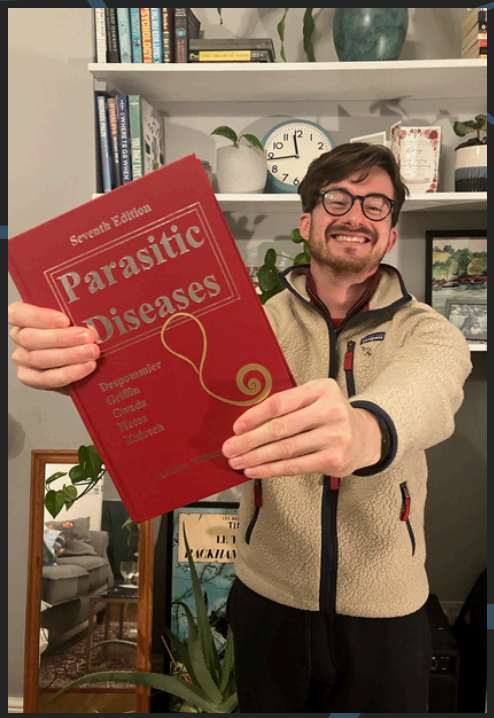


Our commitment to ending parasitic disease is backed by action

Our doctors are working physicians who conduct research, practice, and visit endemic areas to provide free services to those suffering from parasitic infections.









Our Resources

Books

Our books are required reading for physicians planning to practice abroad, to help them better understand the common infections they will likely see and treat.

- Despommier's Parasitic Diseases, Eighth Edition
- Enfermedades Parasitarias
- Medical Handbook for Limited Resource Settings
- Clinical Appendix for the Seventh Edition
- Paul Has Measles
- Paul Stays Home

Certification Exams

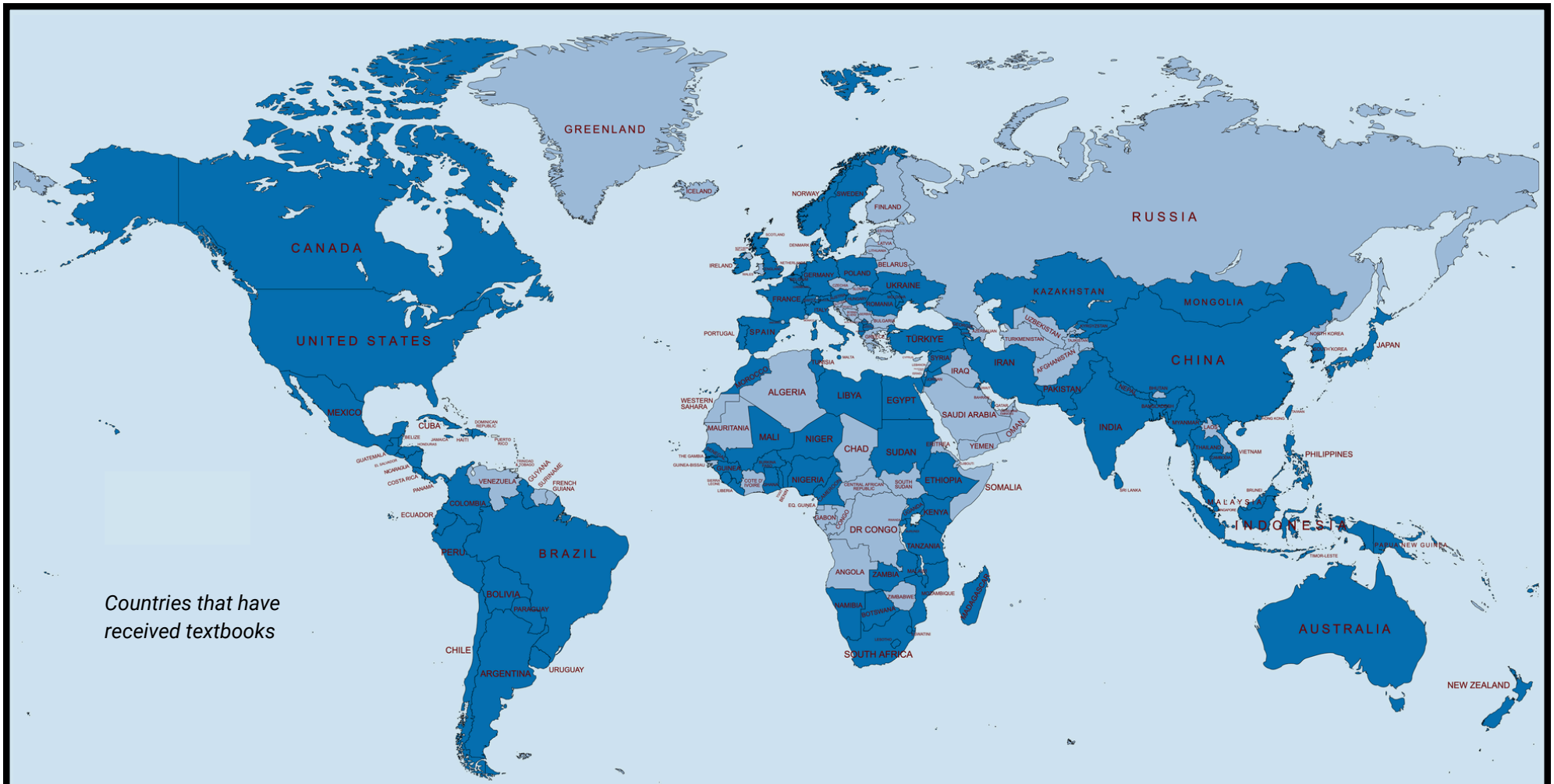
Our certification exams were created by a team of physicians and may be used for continuing education credits.

Video Lecture Series

Parasitic Diseases Lectures is a 47-part video series that explores the biology and pathogenesis of protozoan and helminth parasites.

Tropical Medicine Curriculum

An open-access self-study curriculum covering parasitic, infectious, and tropical diseases.



Countries that have received textbooks

Change Through Education

Since 2016, Parasites Without Borders has sent copies of its seminal textbook *Parasitic Diseases* to 127 countries on six continents, **completely free of charge**.



Microbe.TV

Mission

MicrobeTV was founded by Dr. Vincent Racaniello in 2008, and creates accessible life science-based podcasts, providing free science education to everyone. It currently produces ten podcasts covering topics including parasitic infections, virology, neuroscience, infectious diseases, microbiology, and evolution. It aims to inform the public and combat misinformation with scientific facts.

Parasites Without Borders Partnership

MicrobeTV's first podcast, This Week in Virology (TWiV), premiered September 2008 with hosts Dr. Racaniello and Dr. Dickson Despommier. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Dr. Daniel Griffin started providing weekly clinical updates on the TWiV podcast in 2020. Dr. Racaniello and Dr. Despommier started This Week in Parasitism on November 13, 2009. Co-hosts Dr. Griffin and Dr. Christine Naula joined the team in 2015. In 2022, the Infectious Disease Puscast began with hosts Dr. Griffin and Dr. Sara Dong. The TWiV team recorded its 1,000th episode on April 15, 2023 live at New York's Helen Mills Theater.

Ten for Ten

Reopening FIMRC's Project Bududa, Uganda Site



During the COVID-19 pandemic, our partners at Foundation for International Medical Relief of Children (FIMRC) had to stop in-person volunteer opportunities at their Bududa project site in Uganda due to a lack of funding, leaving many patients without critical medical care. PWB raised $50,000 for Project Bududa, which allowed FIMRC to reopen the site. "After closing for May and June and seeing zero patients during that time, thanks to the generosity of Parasites Without Borders, FIMRC restarted operations in July and cared for 1,345 patients, including 243 malaria cases," explained Brian Park, Project Bududa Strategic Advisor. "We delivered 19 babies in July, and 647 of the patients we saw were children under the age of 5."

Hitting the Airwaves



PWB is a proud partner of MicrobeTV, an independent podcast network for people who are interested in the life sciences. Our team contributes to three MicrobeTV podcasts, which are available on streaming platforms and YouTube. Dr. Daniel Griffin and Dr. Sara Dong host the Infectious Disease Puscast, a review of current infectious disease literature. Dr. Daniel Griffin, Dr. Christina Naula, and Dr. Vincent Racaniello host This Week in Parasitism (TWiP), a podcast about the tiny creatures that live on and inside us. Dr. Daniel Griffin also hosts Clinical Updates, a weekly review of trending topics in virology, on the show This Week in Virology (TWiV), a podcast about the viruses that make us sick.

Ten for Ten

The Textbook That Started It All



PWB's philanthropy is built on distributing free medical resources to clinicians, healthcare workers, and researchers who can make a difference. That means sending Despommier's Parasitic Diseases to people from around the globe, absolutely free of charge. We've now sent our seminal textbook to 127 countries and six continents (Antarctica, here we come!). Some deliveries are as simple as a few stamps on a box, while others go on quite the journey. The free PDF version of our textbook, available in both English and Spanish, has been downloaded thousands of times.

Getting the Right Information to the Right People...No Matter What



In late 2022, we received an email from Shawgi H. Almugadam, PhD, an Assistant Professor of Parasitology at the University of Khartoum in Sudan. They had one of our textbooks, but with over 600 undergraduate students plus faculty, they needed more. That started a month-long journey of 700 textbooks from the United States to Sudan. Shipping 2,490 pounds of textbooks required an international freight service to Khartoum Airport, associated costs, a relationship with a customs broker, and Dr. Almugadam physically picking up the books from the airport in an open-air truck.

Ten for Ten

COVID-19 Response on the Frontlines



When the COVID-19 pandemic began making headlines worldwide in early 2020, Dr. Daniel Griffin did what he does best: research and education. As one of the first front-line doctors in New York's challenging pandemic response, Dr. Griffin treated more than 1,000 COVID patients in the first few weeks. This led him to start a weekly clinical update on the COVID-19 pandemic for MicrobeTV's "This Week in Virology" podcast, keeping thousands of practicing clinicians and staff up to date on the latest findings and treatments. Dr. Griffin also began studying Postacute Sequelae of SARS-CoV-2 Infections (PASC), or long COVID, early on.

Philanthropy With a Purpose



The only way to eradicate the effects of parasites and tropical diseases is to work together. From the very start, we've hosted fundraisers for partner organizations that align with our values. We're proud to have worked with the following organizations:

- American Society of Tropical Medicine & Hygiene (ASTMH)
- Floating Doctors
- Foundation for International Medical Relief of Children (FIMRC)
- MicrobeTV
- Peace Corps' Health and HIV/AIDS Fund

Ten for Ten

ASTMH Conference - Connecting With Our Community



The American Society of Tropical Medicine & Hygiene (ASTMH) annual conference brings together the global health community dedicated to reducing the worldwide burden of tropical infectious diseases and improving global health. PWB was honored to attend the 2022 Annual Meeting in Seattle, Washington; the 2023 Annual Meeting in Chicago, Illinois; the 2025 Annual Meeting in Toronto, Ontario; and the 2026 Annual Meeting in National Harbor, Maryland. Each year PWB has attended the meeting, we have sponsored travel awards to help qualified female early-career investigators and trainees from low- and lower-middle-income countries attend. We're proud to have sponsored nine awards in total.

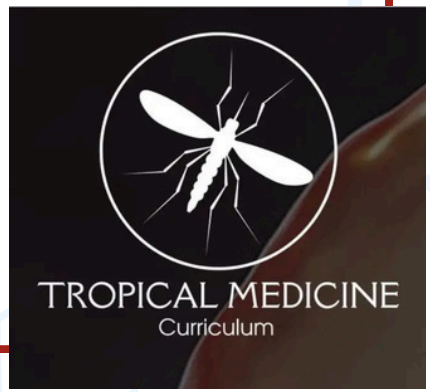
PWB in Action



PWB's President, Dr. Daniel Griffin, does more than support our nonprofit partners. He puts boots on the ground and regularly volunteers on the frontlines. He has volunteered with the Foundation for International Medical Relief of Children (FIMRC) at their Project Bududa site in Uganda; traveled to Panama to assist Floating Doctors in setting up mobile clinics and providing medical training; and visited Ghana to treat patients, teach, and strategize with colleagues at the University Teaching Hospital and the University of Ghana Medical School.

Ten for Ten

Introducing the Trop Med Course



Our new Tropical Medicine Curriculum was developed by Parasites Without Borders in conjunction with a team of fellows and medical educators at Columbia University Irving Medical Center and was revised by a panel of expert clinicians and researchers from all around the world. It addresses a variety of parasitic and tropical diseases. The series is a free, self-study educational tool designed for new learners and scholars. It was released with over 30 lessons, but it is an evolving work, with additional sessions planned.

A Labor of Love - Parasitic Disease Lectures



PWB Co-Founders Dr. Daniel Griffin, Dr. Dickson Despommier, and Dr. Vincent Racaniello filmed Parasitic Diseases Lectures, a comprehensive 47-part video series exploring the biology and pathogenesis of eukaryotic parasites. With parasitic infection courses reduced and marginalized in medical schools, the videos were designed to fill these gaps and bring the Parasitic Diseases textbook to life through the perspectives of clinicians and educators. The videos are available on the PWB YouTube channel, making them free and accessible to all. Uploaded in February 2018, the videos have been viewed more than 1.5 million times.

How You've Helped

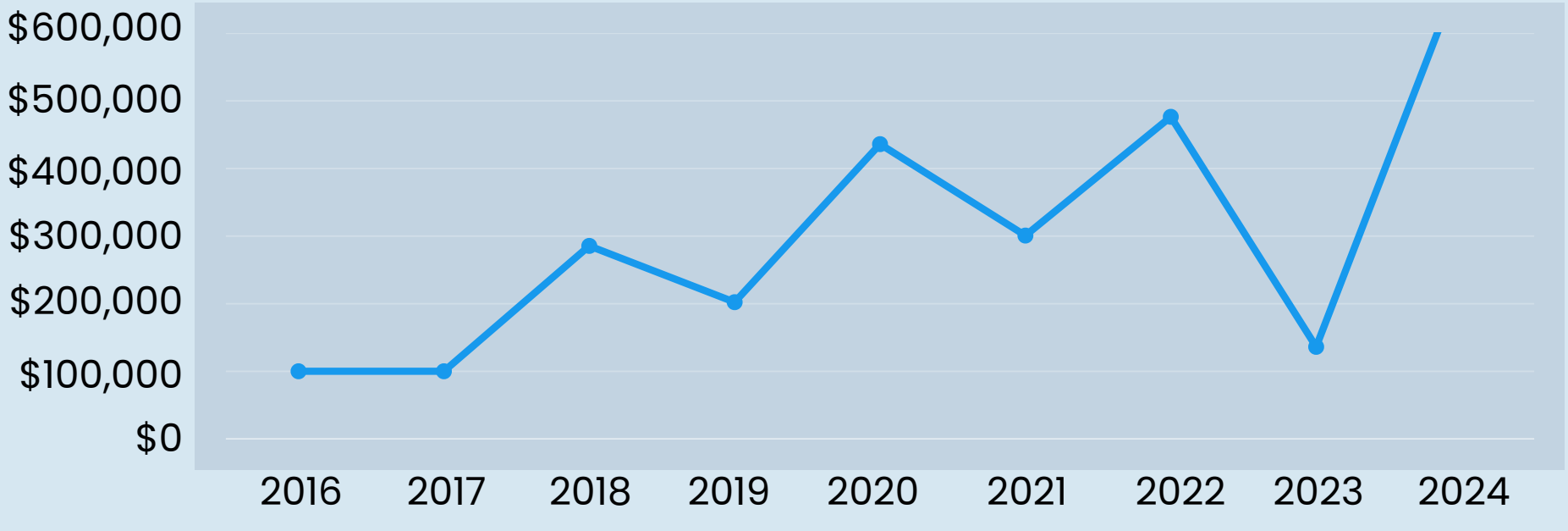
Since 2016, our donors have contributed $2,730,414 USD

With the support provided by our donors and fund matching, Parasites Without Borders was able to:

Since 2016, we've donated $693,199 USD to our partner non-profit organizations:

- American Society of Tropical Medicine & Hygiene (ASTMH)
- Foundation for International Medical Relief of Children (FIMRC)
- Floating Doctors
- MicrobeTV
- Peace Corps' HIV/AIDS Fund

Contributions to PWB since Fiscal Year 2016



Looking Forward

As we celebrate a decade of working towards our mission, we look forward to the work yet to be done. Our Board of Directors will continue to promote the importance of education and create accessible resources for all.

This includes our upcoming **Despommier's One Health Lecture Series**, presented in partnership with the Association of Tropical Medicine & Hygiene, and scheduled for release in 2027.