Our 2021 Annual Report celebrates the Ariadne Labs community for furthering our work to transform health care and public health.
Letter from Asaf

As we reflect on 2021, we are filled with gratitude for all those who have enabled Ariadne Labs to further our work developing innovative solutions to transform health care and public health. In a year filled with both new and familiar challenges, we remained focused on developing innovative models of care that promote integration, ensure health care equity, and make the experience of health care safer and more responsive.

We live in a time when medical and technological breakthroughs are happening at a record pace, yet so many around the world continue to suffer due to breakdowns in the systems that deliver care. We call these systemic breakdowns “know-do” gaps—the gaps between what we know should be done, and what actually occurs in our health care systems.

The impact of even the best breakthrough innovations gets lost in these gaps—the COVID-19 vaccine that never makes it into someone’s arm, the primary care doctor unable to access or interpret genomic information to help their patient, or the person who lives too far from a hospital to receive adequate treatment, to name a few.

We have the breakthroughs to save countless lives around the world. Ariadne Labs delivers needed follow-through solutions to close the gaps that are preventing these innovations from reaching every patient, everywhere.

In the following pages you can see our 2021 highlights, from improving communication and teamwork in childbirth, to bringing the promise of precision medicine to primary care. Visit https://www.ariadnelabs.org/2021annualreport/ to view our full report.

Breakthroughs make headlines. But without follow-through, their potential for impact falters.

Asaf Bitton
Executive Director, Ariadne Labs
Impact metrics

88.8 MILLION
Lives touched in 2021

105 TOOLS
Developed and disseminated

132 COUNTRIES
Accessed Ariadne’s work

83 PEER
Reviewed publications

400 HEALTH SYSTEMS
reached, along with more than
27,000 HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS

HIGHLIGHTS

In 2021, we welcomed new board members Elliot Cohen, MBA, and Karin S. Leschly, MD, FAAFP.

Ariadne Labs co-founder, Atul Gawande, MD, MPH was nominated by President Biden to serve as Assistant Administrator for USAID. Dr. Gawande was confirmed in 2022.

Our programs gained new leadership, with Amber Weiseth, DNP, MSN, RNC-OB, being named Director of the Delivery Decisions Initiative, and Namita Seth Mohta, MD, being named Director of the Serious Illness Care Program.
We continued to design, test, and spread follow-through innovations to close gaps in health care systems around the world.
Meeting People Where They Are

- The **Home Hospital Program** launched a randomized control trial to test their rural home hospital model in three health systems: Blessing Health System in Illinois, Appalachian Regional Healthcare in Kentucky and West Virginia, and Wetaskiwin Community Health Centre in Alberta, Canada.

- The **Better Evidence Program** reached 23 new countries, facilitated access to UpToDate for 28,000 clinicians and added 11 medical schools to the Better Evidence for Training Program.

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Restoring Human-Centered Care

- **TeamBirth**, a care process to inform teamwork and communication in labor and delivery, launched in health systems in Tulsa, Oklahoma and Worcester, Massachusetts.

- The **Serious Illness Care Program** and **The Conversation Project** launched the **What Matters to Me Workbook** to help people with a serious illness talk to their health care team about what is most important to them.

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Innovating Health Care Delivery

- Ariadne Labs and the Schmidt Institute released a report identifying **system-level barriers** and solutions to health care access for rural Washington County, Maine.
- The BetterBirth Program continued to study opportunities to improve the **nutrition and care of low birthweight infants** in Malawi, Tanzania, and India through the Low Birthweight Infant Feeding Exploration (LIFE) study.
- The Safe Surgery/Safe Systems expanded evidence on the use of mobile health technology to **track surgical recovery**.

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Building Responsive Systems

- The Pathway to Accountability, Compassion and Transparency (PACT) Collaborative launched to bring together 20 health systems leading the way in **consistently responding to harm events** with integrity, empathy, and learning.
- Ariadne Labs with Boston Children’s Hospital and Google launched the **Vaccine Equity Planner** to highlight vaccine deserts and potential locations for new sites.

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Charting New Primary Care Frontiers

- **The Primary Health Care Performance Initiative** released a capstone report highlighting the impact of the Vital Signs Profiles in measuring and improving primary health care systems in 23 countries.

- The **Precision Population Health initiative** partnered with Beaumont Health in Michigan to assess their capabilities to integrate genomics with primary care to support equitable access to precision medicine for all patients.

- Ariadne Labs faculty co-authored a new report from the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine that drew significant attention and is catalyzing policy action around the need for payers, providers, and government to change the way primary care is paid for and delivered.

Read more online >

Sparking Innovation

- Ariadne Labs awarded **nine Spark Grants** to fund new and early-stage ideas focused on addressing gaps in health care, including five projects funded by Harvard Medical School Dean’s Innovation Grants.

Read more online >
Our Donors

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This list includes donors with gifts and pledges totaling $50,000 or more during our 2021 fiscal year (October 1, 2020 and September 30, 2021)

- Abt Associates
- Abundance Foundation
- Anonymous (multiple)
- Ann and John Doerr
- Atul A. Gawande, MD, MPH, and Kathleen Hobson
- Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
- Blue Shield of California
- The Boston Foundation
- The Charina Endowment Fund
- Constellation
- CRICO
- George Kaiser Family Foundation
- Greg and Laura Spivy
- Gwill E. York and Paul A. Maeder
- Eeling Lim and W. Yen Liow
- John and Christine Maraganore
- Laura and Scott Malkin
- Liberty Mutual
- Merck for Mothers
- Michele and Howard Kessler
- Novartis
- One8 Foundation
- Peterson Center on Healthcare
- Star Legacy Foundation
- Surgo Foundation
- Susan and Digger Donahue
- Reid Hoffman
- Rita & Alex Hillman Foundation

Ariadne Labs is a joint center for health systems innovation at Brigham and Women’s Hospital and the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health.