## CIVITAN INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH CENTER

The Civitan International Research Center (CIRC) was created in 1989 with a \$20 million pledge from Civitan International. Since opening in 1992, the CIRC has emerged as a world leader in the research and treatment of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (I/DD) and other brain-related conditions which impact the lives of one in six people worldwide.



## **GROUNDBREAKING DISCOVERIES**

Civitan-funded scientists have discovered dietary supplements of an essential amino acid can reduce seizure events and improve memory in patients after seizures. This study is currently seeking approval for human trials. Memory loss is common after seizures. Additionally, 30% of patients with Autism suffer seizure events.

Civitan-funded scientists discovered a drug composed of scorpion venom could be used to deliver treatment to inoperable brain tumors without harming nearby healthy cells.

Civitan-funded scientists have discovered a drug treatment which may improve breathing and brain function in Rett syndrome. Rett patients commonly go long periods of time holding their breath which can disrupt nutrition and heart function.

Civitan-funded researchers have identified treatment modifications for glioblastoma, the most devastating form of human brain cancer.

## LIFE CHANGING RESEARCH

Civitan scientists are using MRI scans and driving simulators to study the brain activity of autism patients and how they react to stress or distractions while driving a car.

Civitan scientists are studying how adults with Alzheimer's conditions withstand the onset of dementia. This can help target ways to delay or prevent dementia in patients who develop the disease.

Civitan researchers are studying visual cues and nervous system processing in relation to the development of nearsightedness.

Civitan researchers are studying how inflammation in the nervous system relates to the development of glioblastoma (brain tumors), ALS, and strokes.

## IMPACTFUL TOOLS

The Civitan International Neuroimaging Laboratory features the fastest MRI scanner currently available for human use. It provides clearer images for study while the higher speeds allow researchers to capture brain activity more accurately.

Civitan researchers are using robot technology to help patients with autism maintain eye contact in conversations, improve social skills, and interpret facial expressions more accurately.



To learn more about Civitan International's flagship program, visit

WWW.CIVITAN.ORG/CIRC