Dear Partners, Sponsors, Donors, Friends and Family,

We embarked on a new year with the 5th OpenMinds annual gala at Seaside Arena on February 22, 2018, inspired by Disney's magical "It's a Small World" theme. It was an enchanting evening filled with warmth, profound support, and great hope. Since our last issue, we are pleased to announce that OpenMinds has assisted hundreds of families at the AUBMC Special Kids Clinic: The need continues to rise drastically, and we are proud we are able to help out, thanks to your generous donations and contributions.

On the research front, exciting work continues on eight projects, with one drug patent licensed to treat a rare genetic disease, and another in the works. Our integration and awareness efforts witnessed assistance to four more schools in Lebanon, as well as the presentation of an extremely successful workshop on "Maximizing Student Progress" by a world-renowned behavioral specialist. OpenMinds continues to engage in the community and region by participating in various awareness initiatives, and collaborating with other NGOs and centers to maximize benefits: ONE FOR ALL AND ALL FOR ONE!

It has been a frenetic and successful year!

None of this would have been remotely possible without your constant and generous support. On behalf of all OpenMinds board members and the AUBMC Special Kids Clinic, a heartfelt thank you!

## Mrs. Ghida Rabbat

**President, OpenMinds** 

## Rose-Mary Boustany, MD

Professor of Pediatrics/Adolescent Medicine & Biochemistry/Molecular Genetics Director, Neurogenetics Program/AUBMC Special Kids Clinic, AUB Adjunct Professor, Pediatrics, DUMC/Duke

