

## **Fifteen of Our Many Fabulous Funders**

The Foundation for the NIH recently celebrated its 15-year anniversary! Since its formation in June of 1996, the Foundation has raised more than \$600 million in private sector funds to stimulate and support life-saving medical research priorities at all 27 institutes and centers of the NIH.

In short, the Foundation helps the NIH go farther, faster.

In honor of our anniversary, for the next few months, the Foundation will take a look back at the many faces, programs, and partners behind our success and take a look forward at what's next in the months ahead.

First up – Fifteen of Our Many Fabulous Funders. This list is a diverse sampling and we thank each and every funder who has supported us in the last 15 years.

1) Pfizer Inc

Among our first corporate partners, Pfizer has supported the FNIH steadily since 1998. The company has provided core support to the NIH Clinical Research Training Program (CRTP) for 14 years. CRTP is a fellowship program that gives medical and dental students the tools they need to become the next generation of leading clinical researchers. Pfizer's support also extends to 17 biomedical research efforts, including an ambitious program to genotype existing research studies in six major common diseases, and combine the results with clinical data to create a significant new resource for genetic researchers.

2) Merck

Merck has provided monetary support to the FNIH over the past 15 years, supporting projects ranging from the Edmond J. Safra Family Lodge—a home-away-from-home for families and caregivers of patients being treated at the NIH Clinical Center—to research initiatives seeking new discoveries in Alzheimer's disease, osteoarthritis, asthma and environmental allergies, schizophrenia, and other devastating diseases.

3) GlaxoSmithKline

A partner since 1999, GSK's gifts have supported research projects in osteoarthritis, Alzheimer's disease, human papillomavirus, and genetic sequencing, among others.

4) Novartis

For the past eight years, Novartis has contributed to the FNIH for biomedical research efforts seeking discoveries in many areas including chronic obstructive pulmonary disorder, drug safety, Alzheimer's disease, and osteoarthritis, as well as providing much needed pharmaceuticals for patient care at the NIH Clinical Center.

5) Burkitt Lymphoma Genome Sequencing Project

The FNIH created a partnership with the Foundation for Burkitt Lymphoma Research and the National Cancer Institute to support the Burkitt Lymphoma Genome Sequencing

Project that will aid in the fight against Burkitt Lymphoma, a rare form of cancer. Rare diseases, no matter how debilitating, usually attract less funding and research than those that affect many.

6) Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

FNIH established its first partnership with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) in 2003, when the Grand Challenges in Global Health (GCGH) initiative was launched. Under this groundbreaking effort, the FNIH managed more than 20 programs seeking scientific breakthroughs against diseases that kill millions of people each year in the world's poorest countries. More recently, FNIH's role within GCGH has focused largely on development of new control methods for malaria and dengue. Additional global health collaborations with BMGF have rapidly expanded, with the addition of several grants on AIDS vaccine discovery, a major program on the interaction between enteric diseases and malnutrition, and a project to discover new tuberculosis drugs.

7) Janice Hautt Weymouth

When Jan Weymouth, the first Executive Director of the Edmond J. Safra Family Lodge passed away, her family graciously asked that donations be made to the FNIH for the Family Lodge in lieu of flowers. Described in her obituary as a "real people person and great friend" Jan understood the value of estate planning and how individual donations make a lasting impact.

8) Mrs. Lily Safra

"We know that when illness afflicts one person, an entire family can suffer. The mission of the Edmond J. Safra Family Lodge is to give those families a place to remain resilient and together," says Mrs. Safra, Chairman, Edmond J. Safra Philanthropic Foundation. This foundation contributed funds to ensure construction of the Safra Lodge, which opened its doors in 2005.

9) Sanofi

This global pharmaceutical leader provided pharmaceutical therapies for ongoing use in clinical trials and other therapeutic treatments at the NIH Clinical Center, the largest hospital in the U.S. entirely devoted to clinical research. This drug donation project extended the Clinical Center's resources, ensuring groundbreaking research would continue.

10) Avon Foundation for Women

In 2007 the Avon Foundation funded the first "Collaborative Summit on Breast Cancer Research". The Summit brought together researchers, advocates, industry representatives, regulators, and social scientists – who all share the common goal of ending breast cancer.

11) Paula and Bill Bradley

"Our brother received the best care possible at the NIH Clinical Center. The Foundation for the NIH makes it possible for us to [donate to] lymphoma research in appreciation for his care and so that others may benefit. Being able to do this means a lot to us."

12) Susanne O'Neill

“[M]y husband was diagnosed with renal cell cancer, [and] was given a few months to live... Thanks in great part to the treatments... of Dr. Richards Childs at the NIH, [my husband] survived the disease for several years. In memory of my husband, my family and I established a fund through the FNIH to support a post-doctoral fellowship... [as well as] bring awareness to the disease through events and fundraisers such as the Boo! Run for Life race. We are very grateful that the Foundation can enable us to be involved in such a meaningful and impactful initiative.”

13) Alzheimer's Association

The Alzheimer's Association is a major supporter of the Alzheimer's Disease Neuroimaging Initiative (ADNI), for which the FNIH has raised millions in private-sector funds. This National Institute on Aging-led project aims to provide better tools for carrying out effective clinical trials and identifying biomarkers (or predictors) for the disease. ADNI has already led to improved understanding of cerebrospinal fluid biomarkers and researchers have begun using ADNI methodologies in other clinical trials.

14) The McKnight Brain Research Foundation

The McKnight Brain Research Foundation funded research in the field of age-related changes in the brain influencing cognition and memory loss associated with normal aging. Of particular interest is gaining a better understanding of how people think, learn and remember with age, and developing interventions to maintain cognitive health as people grow older.

15) Adriana Tremoulet, MD, a CRTP fellow in 1997 and now an assistant adjunct professor at the University of California, San Diego, is also a donor to the FNIH. In making her first gift to support the CRTP program, Tremoulet said, “CRTP has been the cornerstone to my clinical research career.”