Medical charities once advised on coping with a disease. Now they try to cure it.

Medical and disease charities once focused almost entirely on raising awareness and encouraging prevention, leaving the search for cures to the imperfect and often serendipitous interplay among government agencies, university researchers and drug companies. Now, propelled by genome sequencing and social media, thousands of charities have sprung up to finance, coordinate and oversee research for cures. The new organizations, known as venture philanthropies, have transformed basic medical research, drug discovery and the medicine approval process. >>Read more

Moore Foundation announces inaugural Moore Inventor Fellows

The Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation has announced the inaugural recipients of a new fellowship program that recognizes early-career innovators at U.S. universities with great potential to accelerate progress in scientific research, environmental conservation, and patient care. The Moore Inventor Fellows program will support 50 fellows over 10 years with an investment of nearly $34 million. Through the program, each fellow will receive a total of $825,000 over three years, including $90,000 a year from his or her home institution. >>Read more

Templeton Religion Trust funds Global Religion Research Initiative at Notre Dame

The Templeton Religion Trust has recently awarded $4.9 million to the University of Notre Dame to launch the Global Religion Research Initiative (GRRI). The GRRI will use $3.1 million to fund more than 150 research proposals in global religion over the next three years. >>Read more

Pittsburgh law firm creates $10 million endowment to study artificial intelligence

One of Pittsburgh’s largest law firms has made a $10 million gift to establish the K&L Gates Endowment for Ethics and Computational Technologies at Carnegie Mellon University. K&L Gates recently announced the endowment to study ethical issues posed by artificial intelligence. The gift will be used to create new faculty positions and doctoral fellowships, two funds for undergraduate students, and a biennial international conference to share new research and scholarship and to provide a forum on critical issues. >>Read more

Siemens USA awards $357M in-kind software grant to train engineers at Clemson University

Siemens USA, a subsidiary of the German energy and manufacturing giant, recently announced a $357 million software grant for engineering programs at Clemson University. Siemens is providing Clemson with its Product Lifecycle Management platform, which is used by BMW, Boeing and more than 140,000 manufacturing customers worldwide to manage product development, inventory and other operations. >>Read more

Gates Foundation awards $30 million grant to three universities for study on household air pollution

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, in collaboration with the National Institutes of Health, has announced a five-year, $30 million grant to the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, the Rollins School of Public Health at Emory University, and Colorado State University to conduct a field study of household air pollution. The study will examine how cleaner-burning cooking fuel affects household air pollution levels and family health in India, Guatemala, Peru and Rwanda. >>Read more

Gates Foundation announces Grand Challenges Explorations grant recipients

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation recently announced the latest Grand Challenges Explorations (GCE) grant recipients. The Grand Challenges Explorations grant program funds discovery research, awarding initial grants of $100,000 and potential follow-on grants of up to $1 million. Grants target an expanding set of topics. >>Read more

Upcoming RFP Deadlines

Art History

The Kress Foundation History of Art Grants Program provides $6,000–$30,000 to support scholarly projects that will enhance the understanding and appreciation of European art and architecture. Grants are awarded to projects that create and disseminate specialized knowledge, including archival projects, development and dissemination of scholarly
databases, documentation projects, museum exhibitions and publications, photographic campaigns, scholarly catalogues and publications, and technical and scientific studies. The deadline for applications is Jan. 15. >> Read more

Neuroscience
The McKnight Foundation Scholar Awards provide $225,000 over three years to encourage emerging neuroscientists to focus on disorders of learning and memory. Applicants for the McKnight Scholar Awards must demonstrate interest in solving important problems in relevant areas of neuroscience, including the translation of basic research to clinical neuroscience. Awards are given to exceptional young scientists who are in the early stages of establishing an independent laboratory and research career. The deadline for applications is Jan. 9. >> Read more

The Whitehall Foundation, through its programs of research grants and grants-in-aid, assists scholarly research in neuroscience. Research grants offer between $90,000-$225,000 for up to three years, and grants-in-aid offer $30,000 over a one-year period. The foundation emphasizes the support of young scientists at the beginning of their careers and productive senior scientists who wish to move into new fields of interest. The deadline for LOIs for both grants is Jan. 15. >> Read more

Social Sciences
The Russell Sage Foundation Project Awards provide a maximum of $150,000 over two years to support innovative projects that collect or analyze new data to illuminate issues that are highly relevant to the foundation’s program goals of Behavioral Economics; the Future of Work; Race, Ethnicity, and Immigration; and Social Inequality. The foundation encourages projects that are interdisciplinary and combine both quantitative and qualitative research. The deadline for LOIs is Jan. 9. >> Read more

The William T. Grant Foundation Research Grants program supports theory-building and empirical research projects on reducing inequality or improving the use of research evidence. Research grants on reducing inequality typically range from $100,000 to $600,000 and cover two to three years of support. Improving the use of research evidence grants will range from $100,000 to $1 million and cover two to four years of support. The deadline for LOIs is Jan. 11. >> Read more

View more upcoming RFPs on our RFP calendar.