

Toolkit to bridge funding gap between community and medical research

From today, help is at hand to build new philanthropic bridges between the community and medical research sector.

The Giving to Health and Medical Research: Research Australia Philanthropy Toolkit launched by Hon. Mark Butler MP, Parliamentary Secretary for Health aims to make it easier to support health and medical research.

“This toolkit will address gaps in knowledge and help build new long term partnerships between the community and research organizations, to tackle major health challenges,” Ms James said.

It includes information and resources, for individuals, trusts and foundations, companies, professional advisers and researchers, to guide and promote giving to health research.

The toolkit is part of Research Australia’s vision to have four out of five Australians giving regularly to health and medical research by 2025. The new toolkit has been developed to:

- Help researchers understand and engage with the philanthropic sector
- Assist trusts, foundations, individuals and companies to identify suitable projects to support and develop sustainable philanthropic relationships
- Guide professional advisers to assist their clients to include a philanthropic cause to fund
- Guide successful partnerships along with evaluation tools and strategies to support sustainable relationships.

The toolkit complements Research Australia’s database of health research projects available for support.

In 2005 the *Giving Australia Report* showed philanthropic support for health and medical research was low by international standards, especially compared to the USA, and also low compared to giving to other causes.

The *Research Australia Philanthropy Toolkit* is available through Research Australia.

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About Research Australia

Research Australia is the peak not for profit body for health and medical research. It is a national alliance of more than 180 member and supporting organisations working together to promote health and medical research in Australia.

For more information please visit www.researchaustralia.org.