

Over the Christmas break we all had an opportunity to focus our attention on the spirit of giving. Individuals, philanthropists, professional advisors and businesses supported health and medical research in a myriad of ways. In the New Year, we need to be mindful that it is important to continue giving to health research, to enrich the lives of the Australian community.

Research Australia has achieved a great deal since launching our Linkage Program, services and resources including the philanthropy toolkit, Giving to Health and Medical Research in September 2009.

The Research Australia Philanthropy Linkage Program has supported a number of health research organisations and foundations medical grant making processes. With the assistance of Research Australia's expert scientific review panel, applications for PhD scholarships and funding to health research projects have been granted. The support of this medical research will inevitably change the lives of others. The Research Register has been heavily populated with fundable research projects and will assist in identifying research opportunities that match the selection criteria provided by philanthropists. Research Australia Philanthropy Toolkits have been disseminated to 100 medical research institutes, universities, service providers and philanthropic peak bodies Australia wide.

Research Australia is well aware of the ongoing commitment to make giving to health and medical research a higher national priority. The Philanthropy initiative will continue to support the health researcher and philanthropic sector via the Linkage Program, grant making forums, collaborative events and the development of a health and medical research affinity group.

We invite Research Australia members and supporters to order a copy of our Research Australia Philanthropy Toolkit. The resource can make giving to health research easier, promote improved understanding and encourage mutually beneficial, collaborative and lasting philanthropic relationships.

A single complimentary copy of the Toolkit is available to Research Australia members (plus \$14.95 P&H). To receive your complimentary copy or to purchase a toolkit, please send a completed Order Form to Research Australia available from www.researchaustraliaphilanthropy.org

Jessica Gilbert

Since preparing the introduction for this newsletter Jess has relocated to Canada. We would like to sincerely thank Jess for her hard work, dedication and enthusiasm over the past few years in helping get the philanthropy initiative (and Youth Ambassador program) to where it is now.

Monday, 15 February 2010

THE DIRECTORS CUT



Dr. Noel Chambers

'Making a difference' is the common goal for those giving to philanthropic causes.

We are observing an increase in grant makers asking the question "How has the community benefited" and seeking our assistance to better understand benefits arising from their support.

Delivering better health through research implies that there is evidence to support the innovation or clinical intervention.

Research projects may be founded on the identification of a problem and form only part of a systematic study investigating many potential causes and solutions. Where a cause or solution to a problem is confirmed it is easier to connect research with success. It must however be remembered that very significant contributions are made by disproving the cause of a problem or the effectiveness of a solution as future research activities, clinical outcomes and the community may all benefit, sometimes by maintaining the 'status quo'.

Please contact us with information about how your research is 'making a difference'.

Invited articles

The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute



Philanthropy has a fundamental role in supporting research

Philanthropy directed at the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute helps us financially support our scientists, purchase the most advanced research technologies and establish long-term, ambitious experiments that might not meet the funding criteria of Australia's two key granting bodies, the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) and the Australian Research Council (ARC).

NHMRC and ARC grants typically provide money for researcher salaries and experimental consumables. The type of research that is often funded is 'safe' research, with a proven track record. Donations, bequests and other philanthropy allows Walter and Eliza Hall Institute to support scientists taking a new and unconventional path, a path that may lead to the type of discovery of the calibre and impact of Don Metcalf's colony stimulating factors that have led to improved outcomes for more than nine million cancer patients worldwide.

Philanthropy allows the institute to retain the best young researchers by supplementing their salaries, providing them with additional lab support, and with the most up-to-date technology.

Philanthropy also supports large-scale experiments that will extend past the three or five-year shelf life of standard ARC or NHMRC grants.

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Helen Macpherson Smith Trust & L E W Carty Charitable Fund



It is becoming increasingly evident that the costs of research are increasing and research bodies are seeking a greater level of support from philanthropic organisations. In addition, there is a perception that philanthropic organisations are just another quasi NHMRC or ARC grant scheme.

Generally philanthropic organisations, like the Trust and the Carty Fund, are looking at ways to reduce the burden on researchers preparing applications which have little or no chance of success. The Trust, late in 2008, determined to limit the number of applications from Universities to a maximum of two applications per round and we provide advice to research offices on which two the Trust would be most interested in receiving full applications.

We believe that our niche, where we can have the best impact in the research process and community outcomes is:

- being part of a collaboration of funding partners
- piloting new initiatives or fields of research
- supporting an add-on component to an existing major research grant
- providing funding for pre-NHMRC/ARC grant applications to allow the development of sufficient evidence to support a future application.

In addition, research proposals which involve partners, especially community organisations, are also highly regarded.

For more information please go to our websites and/or contact:

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Feature

beyondblue: the national depression initiative is a not-for-profit organisation which aims to raise awareness of depression, anxiety and related disorders.

While this is a large priority of beyondblue, the organisation funds a significant bank of research. Since 2000, beyondblue has invested more than \$50 million in practical, applied and partnership research.

The beyondblue Victorian Centre of Excellence (bbVCoE) in depression and related disorders is a joint initiative of beyondblue and the Victorian Government. Since 2002, bbVCoE has allocated \$12.1 million to research projects that examine depression, anxiety and related disorders across the lifespan and using a public health settings approach. The 2010 beyondblue VCoE Grants Round will be advertised nationally in April.

This research often results in tangible improvements in primary mental health care. The following are some examples of beyondblue-funded research which have resulted in programs and initiatives.

Indigenous First Aid guidelines

In 2007, Professor Anthony Jorm and his team at the ORYGEN Research Centre conducted research to develop appropriate depression first aid standards for Indigenous Australians that cover how to help a person who:

- is developing a depressive disorder
- is suicidal
- has recently experienced a traumatic experience
- is having a panic attack.

The guidelines, which are now considered best practice by health professionals, can be downloaded or ordered from www.beyondblue.org.au at no charge.

Towards Parenthood

In 2004, Professor Jeannette Milgrom led a research project titled Delivering an antenatal self-help intervention, with telephone support, for depression, anxiety and parenting difficulties. This research resulted in the development of a parenting program that provides parents with the skills to meet the challenges ahead.

It also led to the publication of a book: Towards



Parenthood, for expecting and new parents. The book covers topics that are sometimes overlooked in antenatal classes, such as the emotional, social and psychological issues that may arise during pregnancy and early parenthood. The book can be purchased through ACER Press (call 1800 338 402).

The National Perinatal Depression Initiative

From 2001 to 2005, beyondblue invested \$3.7 million into a five-year national postnatal depression screening study which involved 40,000 pregnant women and 12,000 new mothers, across 43 health services. The results showed 9 per cent of women in Australia experience depression antenatally and this increases to almost 16 per cent postnatally .

As a result of recommendations from beyondblue, in November 2008, the Commonwealth Government contributed \$55 million to a National Perinatal Depression Initiative (NPDI) to run over five years, with an additional \$30 million contributed by state and territory governments.

The initiative is being implemented across the country and will ensure every woman giving birth in Australia is screened for perinatal depression and if necessary, provided with access to high quality care.

beyondblue has also led the development of the Australian-first National Health and Medical Research Council endorsed Perinatal Clinical Practice Guidelines designed to guide health professionals in the assessment, treatment and management of depression and related disorders in women, pre and postnatally. These draft guidelines are scheduled for release for public consultation on March 13, 2010 and a series of public meetings will be held during March and April.

For more information about beyondblue's research or depression, anxiety and related disorders, visit www.beyondblue.org.au or call 1300 22 4636.

Philanthropy Profile

Clive Berghofer

Recipient of the 2009 Macquarie Group Foundation

Great Australian Philanthropy Award



Clive Berghofer AM is undoubtedly an extraordinary Australian – born and bred in the Toowoomba Queensland, his rags to riches story epitomises what can be achieved by a lot of hard work. Clive’s work ethic and integrity have seen him rise, from leaving school with little education and starting his working life in a saw mill, to being listed among the richest 200 individuals in Australia.

Clive epitomises all that we are proud of in the Australian spirit – a “can-do” attitude, mateship and helping those in need.

When Clive committed \$10 million over ten years to the Queensland Institute of Medical Research (QIMR) in 2002, he was the largest individual financial contributor to assist cancer research in Queensland. His ongoing gift to QIMR has facilitated the faster development of a new cancer immunotherapy treatment as well as other new and superior methods to fight cancer and related diseases.

He has also made sizable contributions to the University of Queensland, Red Cross, St Vincent’s Hospital and the Toowoomba Hospice, helping to provide better health across the community. He is a self made man who deserves recognition for his extraordinary generosity and for inspiring others to make a positive difference to the world.

Clive has strived to improve the lives of others by donating to organisations, such as the Queensland Institute of Medical Research (QIMR), that can improve the health of all Australians. His donations have boosted both the current levels of healthcare by donating to hospitals and hospices, and also investing in future healthcare through medical research.

In recognition of his generous philanthropic support, QIMR named one of its buildings the Clive Berghofer Cancer Research Centre (CBCRC) in his honour. At the time, CBCRC was the only centre of its kind in Australia, where scientists could conduct bench to bedside research. The new building provided not only more space for research to be conducted, but more importantly, additional facilities that positioned QIMR at the interface between discovery and translation of that discovery into new treatments and diagnostics.

QIMR strives towards better diagnostics and treatments for cancer thanks to Clive’s ongoing generosity.

Clive Berghofer AM is an extraordinary Australian who deserves recognition for his selfless generosity and the significant role his philanthropy plays in sustaining and encouraging a vibrant medical research sector in Australia. The major health improvements that will result from his philanthropy have and will offer a better quality of life for thousands of people for generations to come.

From the words of Queensland poet Rupert McCall (from his poem “Just call me Clive”)

*Standing over every scientist with inspiration pure
Getting closer to that one day soon when cancer has a cure
And I’m sure they’d like to thank the man that keeps their hope alive*

News in Brief

Research Australia has established a new group at 'Linkedin'. We hope this will create a new opportunity for our members and supporters to connect online and discuss issues relevant to the health and medical research community.

www.linkedin.com

The Hon. Nicola Roxon MP, Minister for Health and Ageing has offered Research Australia a new grant to continue our efforts to support philanthropy in health and medical research in Australia.

In 2007, an initial grant from the Department of Health and Ageing was provided to establish Research Australia's philanthropy initiative. This additional support will assist us to expand and improve our linkage program as we strive for the philanthropy initiative to become self sustainable.

On the 4th January 2010, Senator Kim Carr, Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research announced that commercialisation Australia is now accepting applications for funding.

"There is no deadline for submitting an application to Commercialisation Australia. Innovators can now access assistance when they need it.

The pre-application checklist, details on eligibility and merit criteria can be found at www.commercialisationaustralia.gov.au or by calling the Commercialisation Australia Hotline on 13 22 56.

February 13, 2010 -- The Health and Medical Research Fund, established by ahm Health Insurance, has awarded a \$753,884 grant to Professor Kim Bennell, Professor of Physiotherapy at Melbourne University, to conduct new research into osteoarthritis.

The research project, "Addressing pain in knee osteoarthritis: physiotherapist-delivered exercise and cognitive behavioural therapy", will be carried out over two years and hopes to determine optimal treatment and management of the disease.

Professor Bennell said, "the results of this research have the potential to change the clinical management of knee osteoarthritis and the manner in which treatment is delivered." He will be recruiting 222 patients from June 2010

Research Australia invites members to submit news articles for future editions of our newsletter.

Please contact;

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Events

Detail

Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month - Nationwide - Ovarian Cancer Australia **Mon, 15 Feb 2010**
Month of February
www.ovariancancer.net.au

Australian Organ Donor Awareness Week - Nationwide - Australian Transplant Authority **Sun, 21 Feb 2010**
www.donatelife.gov.au

Benalla Walk - Victoria - Motor Neuron Disease Australia **Sun, 28 Feb 2010**
www.mndaust.asn.au

Funding Opportunities

Summary

Closing Date

Commercialisation Australia

Applications are now being invited for support through the newly established Commercialisation Australian initiative. This initiative aims to help researchers, entrepreneurs and innovative firms turn the best ideas into internationally competitive commercial realities, and support the ability for innovative companies to attract people with the skills necessary to meet their commercial objectives. www.commercialisationaustralia.gov.au

Queensland Health - Senior Clinical Research Fellowships

Mon, 1 Mar 2010

Funding of up to \$850,000 pa for five years is available to retain and attract researchers to Queensland who are international leaders in their field. Round two of the Senior Clinical Research Fellowships are scheduled to open soon. For more information see:
http://www.health.qld.gov.au/ohmr/html/rpu/sen_clin_res_fel.asp

Grants-in-Aid

Wed, 17 Mar 2010

The Heart Foundation awards Grants-in-Aid to support biomedical, clinical or public health (including health services) research in the cardiovascular field. Project grants of up to two years duration will be awarded.

For more information, please visit www.heartfoundation.org.au

Channel 7 - Children's Research Foundation

Thu, 29 Apr 2010

Grants of up to \$75,000 available to help find answers to serious conditions that affect children, such as cerebral palsy, asthma and muscular dystrophy

Researchers interested in applying for the grants can find details at www.crf.org.au

Want to make a difference to health and medical research?

Research Australia provides strategic guidance, tools and resources to support effective partnerships between health & medical research and philanthropy.

We can help you:

- Develop effective giving strategies that make a difference.
- Find quality research projects that meet your giving needs.
- Review research projects using our expert advisory panel services including scientific review.

For further information please contact Dr. Noel Chambers (03) 9662 9366

www.researchaustralia.org



Research Australia's proprietary tools, experience and expertise can help you identify, review and maintain research projects that meet your giving needs. Our personal advisory service, offers confidential, independent and transparent governance procedures linking you with Australia's leading scientists.

Our suite of linkage services can help you by:

- Developing effective giving strategies that make a difference.
- Identifying quality research projects that meet your giving needs.
- Reviewing research projects using our advisory panel whose considerations include scientific merit and community benefit.
- Providing recommendations against alternative research options to assist decision making.
- Assisting with your acquittal processes.
- Delivering administrative efficiencies to grant making programs conducted by established Trusts and Foundations.
- Providing independent and transparent processes to assist in delivering best practice solutions.
- Expanding your networks.

Our services

RAP Linkage Program

Our RAP linkage program is operated through a centrally co-ordinated unit within Research Australia preserving anonymity for philanthropists and researchers.

Advisory Panel

Research Australia has established an advisory panel to provide expert review of research projects including scientific merit and community benefit. This service is part of the linkage program but may be accessed separately where a grant maker has independently identified a short list of projects for potential funding.

Research Register

The Research Register is managed by Research Australia to facilitate linkages between grant seekers, grant makers and philanthropic service providers. The register is not publically available and assists Research Australia to identify potential research programs that match the criteria provided by grant makers.

Administration

Research Australia can assist organisations with the management of their grant making administration by undertaking this role in a contractual capacity. In particular, this service provides cost savings to smaller organisations where the size of gifts may not justify the resources to manage them in-house.

Toolkit

The Research Australia Philanthropy Toolkit: Giving to Health & Medical Research is an educational resource for grant makers, grant seekers, service providers, corporate entities and the community. Copies will be available for purchase by non members. A free copy of this toolkit is available to our members upon request.

Membership

Research Australia's Medallion members and above are entitled to a discount on our linkage program services. They have access to a member's only area on the Research Australia website and receive invitations to participate in Health & Medical Research Philanthropic roundtables.

For further information please visit our website www.researchaustralia.org or call 03 9662 9366.

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Ms. Jessica Gilbert: Project Manager