



FRANCIS FAMILY
FOUNDATION

Brighter futures for all generations



2023 ANNUAL REPORT

VISION

The Francis Family Foundation envisions current and future generations of well-rounded individuals who are creative, lifelong learners, striving to achieve their fullest potential within their communities.

Since 1913, when Parker Browne Francis II first launched the Oxygen Gas Company in Kansas City, Missouri, the Francis family has continued to be an inspirational and influential force in the Kansas City metropolitan area. In 1950, as the company grew and developed into a major national manufacturer and supplier of industrial and medical gases, Parker B. Francis II established a foundation bearing his name to help promote education and research in the fields of anesthesiology and related pulmonary sciences. Parker B. Francis III also established a foundation to fund his interests in education, and arts and culture.

Since the two foundations merged in 1989 to become the Francis Family Foundation, the pattern of grantmaking made today still reflects the interests of the founding donors. For more information about the history of the Foundation, please visit francisfoundation.org.

Today, thanks to the vision of Parker B. Francis and his son John B. Francis, the Francis Family Foundation celebrates 73 years of philanthropy, including the funding of the Parker B. Francis Pulmonary Fellowship Program and support of educational and arts programs located within the Kansas City metropolitan area.

It is in the context of this history that the 2023 Annual Report honors the accomplishments of 284 grants representing a social investment of more than \$5.5 million. While John B. Francis and his wife Mary Harris Francis are both deceased, stewardship of the Foundation was passed to their children – Ann F. Barhoum, David V. Francis, J. Scott Francis, and Susan Neves, who has since retired from the Board.

GRANTMAKING PRIORITIES

For 73 years, the Francis family has been involved in philanthropy and made large investments in the Greater Kansas City area in education and arts and culture, and across the country, pulmonary research. The Francis Family Foundation has been honored to partner with all the dedicated nonprofit organizations that serve our community.

In 2022, the Foundation structure transitioned from a community board to a family board, and the granting priorities and strategies of the Foundation changed with this transition. Francis family members invest in a wide variety of areas, but grants to the pulmonary fellowship program and the small arts fund continue. The family values their long relationship with our grantee partners. 2022 was the final year of the three years of bridge funding provided for current grantees during the transition.

RACISM

The Francis Family and Board of Directors of the Francis Family Foundation condemn racism in all its forms and call for our community to address the systemic racism affecting minority communities. Our Foundation has always been against racism and bigotry wherever, and however, it manifests itself in our community and in our country.

We are steadfast in our support of equal opportunity and better education for those who are at risk of being left behind. We believe in creating better futures for everyone, especially minorities who have faced many disadvantages in the past and today. These core beliefs have guided our philanthropy for decades and will continue to do so in the future.

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

In 2022, the Foundation continued its use of the Strategic Framework approved in 2013, which serves as a path to making this vision a reality. It is built upon strategies that target talented individuals and organizations that strive to provide excellent programs and services within their communities. Specifically, the Foundation focuses its strategies on the areas of pulmonary research, and arts and culture. By focusing support in these areas, the Foundation is committed to making a difference in improving the quality of life through our grantmaking.

The following stories from our grantees illustrate some of their successes in the three focus areas of our Strategic Framework. The stories begin with Arts & Culture and Family Giving, and then Pulmonary Research Fellows in the United States and Canada.

SUPPORTING ARTS & CULTURE IN KANSAS CITY



ARTS & CULTURE

DESIRED RESULTS

An excellent ecology of the arts grows and is sustained regionally; well-rounded children, youth and adults who can thrive in the 21st Century.

MEASUREMENT

- Arts and culture organizations and artists using effective and innovative strategies for audience development
- Schools with meaningful Arts in Education experiences integrated in school curricula and aligned with the common core standards
- Establish local public funding streams in the region to support arts and culture organizations and artists

OVERALL GRANTMAKING STRATEGY 2023

Support and advocate for development of the greater Kansas City area as a creative regional hub for excellence in arts and culture, rich with expression of diverse cultures and affording access to all levels of creative participation. The Foundation continues to support the Small Arts Grants Program, which seeds both new and emerging organizations, and expands access for children and underserved populations throughout the community.

Highlights from a list of 32 one-year grants (made to large and midsize arts and culture organizations for \$885,000) using a continued emphasis on effective and innovative strategies for audience development are reflected by the following:

- KCUR FM 89.3 received a \$25,000 grant to provide a consistent balance of arts stories and hard news, including the local talk

show "Up to Date," which holds vibrant conversations around the local arts scene with local artists and arts organizations. In addition, KCUR's full-time classical music station, Classical KC, offers innovative ways to bring access to those who appreciate classical music.

- Charlotte Street Foundation was granted \$40,000 to provide public arts programs, including visual art exhibitions, live performances, new media arts events (such as installations), artist panels, workshops, community gatherings, cross-disciplinary collaborations and more. In particular, the Studio Residency Program, which supports 32 outstanding visual and performing artists and writers, as well as the highly popular Open Studios event, which invites the public to visit the artists' studios in person, are especially successful.

Francis Family Foundation funding promotes the principle that arts and culture are fundamentally important for all people.

SMALL ARTS GRANTS FUND

The Foundation continued the annual Small Arts Grant Fund supporting small arts groups and community-based arts programs. After review by the Small Arts Committee, the Board approved 41 grants totaling \$250,000, contributing toward a diverse and vibrant arts scene in the region. Some examples include Traditional Music Society, Westport Center for the Arts, Guild It, Interurban Art House, and Youth Chorus of Kansas City. Non-arts organizations with an arts & culture program are also encouraged to apply and the 2023 grantees include the Community Housing of Wyandotte County, Gordon Parks Elementary School, and Synergy Services, Inc.



GORDON PARKS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ACCESS TO THE ARTS FOR LOW-INCOME ELEMENTARY CHILDREN IN KANSAS CITY GRANT AMOUNT: \$7,500 GRANT AWARDED: 2023

Gordon Parks Elementary School opened in 2000 and serves 150 children in kindergarten through fourth grade, providing a nurturing educational environment and holistic needs of low-income children living in the urban core.

The Francis Family Foundation grant helps sustain the valuable art, music and theater programs at GPES, including the growth of the INSPIRE! Program which engages students in a year-round project-based arts program.

Nearly 90 percent of GPES students have experienced at least one traumatic event in their life. They face significant poverty-related issues, such as broken families, food and housing insecurity, parental job loss, substance abuse, and limited access to healthcare. Art, music and theater classes are an integral part in creating a school environment that provides school-based trauma-informed care.

Often, expression through art, theater and music is the most fluid way for children to share feelings or communicate something they have experienced. Within particularly non-directive play therapy modalities, play functions are used to engage children in the process of learning and healing so they can move forward. Art as an educational and therapeutic tool is a powerful, non-threatening way to encourage children to share their thoughts and feelings.

With the efforts of Resilience Coaches, theater and music are offered to every GPES student. The Resilience Team utilizes art, music and theater as therapeutic tools.

ARTS & CULTURE GRANTS LIST

The following section includes a list of 2023 grantees, beginning with Arts & Culture and Family Giving, followed by PBF Fellows in the United States and Canada.

SMALL ARTS GRANTS FUND

Arts & Culture Organizations

ALLEGRO COMMUNITY CHILDREN'S CHOIR

General operating support
Grant amount: \$6,000

ART AS MENTORSHIP

Mattie Rhodes Center
Program/Initiative
Grant amount: \$10,000

ARTS ASYLUM

General operating support
Grant amount: \$6,000

ARTS IN PRISON

General operating support
Grant amount: \$1,000

BAND OF ANGELS, CORP.

General operating support
Grant amount: \$10,000

BASE ACADEMY OF MUSIC

General operating support
Grant amount: \$5,000

BLACK REPERTORY THEATRE OF KC

General operating support
Grant amount: \$8,000

CHILDREN'S PLACE

Expressive Arts Therapy
Grant amount: \$5,000

CITY IN MOTION DANCE THEATER

General operating support
Grant amount: \$2,500

COMMUNITY HOUSING of WYANDOTTE COUNTY

CHWC Community Arts Programming
Grant Amount: \$10,000

COMPREHENSIVE ARTS INSTITUTE

Sustaining African American Heritage
through Music (SAAH Music)
Grant Amount: \$5,000

EAST OF RED ARTHOUSE

RhymeHouse
Grant amount: \$7,500

GORDON PARKS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Access to the Arts for Low-Income
Elementary Children in Kansas City
Grant Amount: \$7,500

GUILD-IT

General operating support
Grant amount: \$5,000

HEARTLAND CHAMBER MUSIC

General operating support
Grant amount: \$4,000

INTERURBAN ART HOUSE

General operating support
Grant amount: \$10,000

KANSAS ACADEMY OF THEATRICAL ARTS

General operating support
Grant amount: \$8,500

KANSAS CITY AREA YOUTH JAZZ

General Operating Support
Grant amount: \$4,000

KANSAS CITY ARTISTS COALITION

Exhibition & program support
Grant amount: \$8,000

KANSAS CITY JAZZ ALIVE

General operating support
Grant amount: \$8,000

KANSAS CITY PUBLIC THEATRE

General operating support
Grant amount: \$4,000

KANSAS CITY WOMEN'S CHORUS

General operating support
Grant amount: \$2,500

LIBERTY COMMUNITY CHORUS

General operating support
Grant amount: \$2,500

LITERACY KANSAS CITY

Creative Writing Series & Anthology
Adult Education & Literacy Programs
Grant Amount: \$6,000

LYRIK'S INSTITUTION

Internship in the Now
Grant Amount: \$5,000

NILES HOME for CHILDREN

General Operating Support
Grant Amount: \$7,500

NO DIVIDE KC

General operating support
Grant amount: \$8,000

OWEN-COX DANCE GROUP

General operating support
Grant amount: \$5,000

ARTS & CULTURE GRANTS LIST

SPINNING TREE THEATRE

General operating support
Grant amount: \$7,000

SPIRE CHAMBER ENSEMBLE

General operating support
Grant amount: \$6,000

STONE LION PUPPETS

General operating support
Grant amount: \$10,000

STORLING DANCE THEATER

General operating support
Grant amount: \$10,000

THE STUDIOS, INC.

General Operating Support
Grant Amount: \$4,000

SUGAR CREEK FAIR & FESTIVAL BOARD

General operating support
Grant amount: 1,500

SYNERGY SERVICES

Youth Resiliency Center (YRC)
Arts Program
Grant Amount: \$6,000

TRADITIONAL MUSIC SOCIETY

General operating support
Grant amount: \$10,000

WESTPORT CENTER FOR THE ARTS

General operating support
Grant amount: \$8,500

WESTWOOD ENSEMBLE

General operating support
Grant amount: \$2,500

WONDERSCOPE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

Wonder Arts at Wonderscope
Grant amount: \$2,500

YOUTH AMBASSADORS

General Operating Support
Grant amount: \$7,000

YOUTH SYMPHONY OF KANSAS CITY

General operating support
Grant amount: \$4,000

FAMILY GIVING



FAMILY GIVING

In 2022, when the Francis Family Foundation transitioned from a community board to a family board, each of the three Francis family members were free to pursue investments in areas uniquely suited to their individual visions for enhancing the quality of life for individuals in the Kansas City metropolitan area and beyond.

Ms. Ann F. Barhoum, an immigration lawyer living in the San Francisco Bay area, passionately supports programs which benefit underserved communities within the city. In 2023, she invested nearly \$400,000 in organizations fighting to build safe neighborhoods, provide resources to help end hunger and poverty, and organize around equity in education, healthcare and criminal justice.

This approach to focused, proactive grantmaking helped fund the AdHoc Group Against Crime, which provides support to families who are victims of murder or other crimes, dealing with missing family members, or facing the emotional stress of living in high crime areas.

Mr. David V. Francis, a commercial airline pilot, is a tireless supporter of lifelong learning in the Kansas City metropolitan area. In 2023, he invested more than \$500,000 in lifelong learning organizations promoting access for individuals and families to participate fully in educational, cultural and social activities.

This effort to embrace and promote a strong sense of community has strengthened the efforts of notable institutions advocating for the importance of education and engagement throughout the region. Many of the city's keystone organizations, such as the National WWI Museum and Memorial, a nationally recognized monument dedicated to remembering and understanding the Great War, have benefited from the investment of Mr. Francis and the Francis Family Foundation.

Mr. J. Scott Francis, a well-known artist and highly regarded philanthropist, passionately advocates for the development of the Kansas City metropolitan area as a creative regional hub for excellence in arts and culture. In 2023, he invested more than \$450,000 in arts organizations promoting the creative process among people of all ages and backgrounds. This approach to excellence and innovation in grantmaking has invigorated so many



*The National Museum of Toys and Miniatures
Kansas City, Missouri
founded by Mary Harris Francis*

organizations within the arts community, ranging from the iconic Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art and Kansas City Ballet to the community-centric Englewood Arts Center. The EAC specializes in visual, performing, and culinary arts classes that recently expanded their efforts to create an affordable housing program, boosting both artists and the community.

SPOTLIGHT ON THE FUTURE OF GRANTMAKING

**ENGLEWOOD ARTS CENTER
GENERAL OPERATING SUPPORT
GRANT AMOUNT: \$50,000**

NOTE: As the Foundation transitions to Francis family grantmaking, family members invest in a wide variety of organizations and programs. The following blurb outlines one such success story.

The Englewood Arts Center specializes in visual, performing, and culinary arts classes. Located in Independence, Missouri, along Kansas City's historic streetcar route connecting Kansas City to Independence, the EAC offers weekend classes, performances and gallery exhibitions appropriate for all ages. They also recently expanded their efforts to create an affordable housing program, boosting both artists and the community.

In 2019, the Englewood Arts District purchased an unoccupied medical building and converted it into housing opportunities and studio space for artists. The building also houses the Glass Lab, a studio for blown glass. Anyone can dive into a single-session, hands-on journey where expert glass blowers guide participants through the mesmerizing process of crafting a glass masterpiece. Classes in ceramics, life drawing, fiber and music are also available.

This multi-purpose center is home to the Puppetry Arts Institute which includes the Hazelle Rollins Puppet Museum and uses the remaining inventory of the world's largest puppet factory in puppet painting and marionette construction workshops. The EAC also has a stage for musicians and other performing artists.

Englewood offers great opportunities that would provide permanent affordable housing and a diverse inclusive neighborhood with lots of amenities including close proximity to the Independence Square and downtown Kansas City.





**FUNDING PULMONARY RESEARCH
IN NORTH AMERICA**

PULMONARY RESEARCH

Francis Family Foundation funding enables breakthrough solutions in pulmonary medicine leading to the development of enhanced treatments and cures for pulmonary diseases.

DESIRED RESULTS

New scientists who serve patients with lung diseases through innovative research are supported at a key transition point in their career.

MEASUREMENT

Increase the number of researchers entering and remaining in the pulmonary research field.

OVERALL GRANTMAKING STRATEGY

Attract, develop and retain the best researchers in the field of pulmonary research through the Parker B. Francis (PBF) Pulmonary Research Fellows Program.

The Foundation created the Parker B. Francis Fellowship Program, a national postdoctoral study in pulmonary research, in 1975. Since then, the Foundation has contributed nearly \$72 million in support of more than 940 Fellows. For more information, visit francisfellowships.org.



Visit our newly designed website at francisfoundation.org



**UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS MEDICAL CENTER
PBF SUMMER FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM
DR. NAVNEET DHILLON, MENTOR
GRANT AMOUNT: \$50,977
GRANT RENEWED: \$135,000 FOR 2023-2025**

The PBF Summer Fellowship Program provides valuable and unique medical research opportunities for Kansas City area undergraduate students pursuing careers in medicine and medical research. The program grant was renewed in 2023 for \$135,000 covering the years 2023 to 2025.

Since 2012, promising full-time graduate students were matched with faculty mentors at the University of Kansas Medical Center for 8-10 weeks of intensive research. Summer Fellows receive a weekly stipend and are mentored by Navneet Dhillon, PhD, Professor in the Department of Medicine and a former PBF Fellow. In addition to their research and bio-weekly meetings with Dr. Dhillon, they participate in eight one-hour training sessions with medical students on a variety of topics. At summer's end, each student presents their research work at a special PB Research Presentation Day. In 2023, six Summer Fellows successfully completed the program.



*Melanie Bassham, Program Coordinator and
Navneet Dhillon, PhD, Program Director*

PARKER B. FRANCIS LECTURERS

Awarded to former PBF Fellows who are internationally recognized for their outstanding contributions to scientific research and teaching.

Thomas L. Petty Lung Conference

DAVID J. ERLE, MD – University of California San Francisco

International Thoracic Society Meeting

FRANCESCA POLVERINO, MD, PhD – The Baylor College of Medicine, Houston



JO RAE WRIGHT AWARD FOR SCIENTIFIC EXCELLENCE

**KARTHIK S. SURESH, MD
JOHNS HOPKINS SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
GRANT AMOUNT: \$5,000**

In 2012, we lost a great researcher, mentor, and friend. Jo Rae Wright, Ph.D. was a creative and tireless educator who was a role model for researchers, educators, and women in science. She will be greatly missed. To honor her spirit, the Foundation established the Jo Rae Wright Award for Excellence in Science given to the top graduating fellow who best exemplifies the values of Dr. Wright. The award celebrates excellence in science and is given to the research home of the fellow for lab supplies to further support their research.

In 2023, the Jo Rae Wright Award for Excellence in Science was awarded to Karthik S. Suresh, MD, at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine.

PULMONARY RESEARCH GRANTS LIST

AMERICAN THORACIC SOCIETY

General operating support
Grant amount: \$14,000
Awarded: \$38,000 in 2021

THOMAS L. PETTY ASPEN LUNG CONFERENCE

PROJECT: The Parker B. Francis Lectureship
Description: To support the PBF Lectureship, where lectures are delivered by established, world renowned leaders in the chosen topic related to lung disease, while the abstract presenters usually are young investigators in training.
Grant amount: \$3,500
Awarded: \$10,500 in 2022

BOSTON UNIVERSITY

Professional Development
Dr. Darrell N. Kotton, Mentor
Dr. Michael Herges, Fellow
PROJECT: Pluripotent stem cell-derived cell therapy for lung disease
Grant Amount: \$75,000
Awarded: \$225,000 in 2023

BOSTON UNIVERSITY

Professional Development
Dr. Renda Wiener, Mentor
Dr. Kari Gillmeyer, Fellow
PROJECT: Characterizing care coordination in pulmonary hypertension: A missed methods study
Grant amount: 75,000
Awarded: \$225,000 in 2021

CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY

Professional Development
Dr. Alison L. Marsden, Mentor
Dr. Jason M. Szafron, Fellow
PROJECT: Discovering mechanobiological mechanisms driving pulmonary arterial hypertension
Grant Amount: \$37,500
Awarded: \$225,000 in 2022

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL of PHILADELPHIA

Professional Development
Dr. Hakon Hakonarson, Mentor
Dr. Jelte Kelchtermans, Fellow
PROJECT: The genetic basis of ambient air pollution sensitivity in pediatric asthma
Grant Amount: \$75,000
Awarded: \$225,000 in 2023

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL of PHILADELPHIA

Professional Development
Dr. Edward E. Morrisey, Mentor
Dr. Danielle A. Callaway, Fellow
PROJECT: Type 1 alveolar cells control lung development via matrisome remodeling by TGFB
Grant Amount: \$75,000
Awarded: \$225,000 in 2023

CINCINNATI CHILDRENS HOSPITAL MEDICAL CENTER

Professional Development
Dr. Punam Malik, Mentor
Dr. Oluwabukola T. Gbotosho, Fellow
PROJECT: Regulation of ET-1 expression by lcnRNA and development of pH in SCD
Grant Amount: \$75,000
Awarded: \$225,000 in 2022

CINCINNATI CHILDRENS HOSPITAL MEDICAL CENTER

Professional Development
Dr. Jason C. Woods, Mentor
Dr. Nara S. Higano, Fellow
PROJECT: Neonatal pulmonary ventilation in bronchopulmonary dysplasia by quantitative MRI
Grant amount: \$75,000
Awarded: \$225,000 in 2021

DUKE UNIVERSITY

Professional Development
Dr. Loretta G. Que, Mentor
Dr. Neelima Navuluri, Fellow
PROJECT: Post-tuberculosis lung disease: Clinical phenotypes and barriers to treatment
Grant Amount: \$75,000
Awarded: \$225,000 in 2023

HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL

Professional Development
Dr. Mercedes C. Becerra, Mentor
Dr. Meredith Brooks, Fellow
PROJECT: Geospatial signals in adolescent tuberculosis transmission
Grant amount: \$75,000
Awarded: \$225,000 in 2021

LOS ANGELES BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE @ HARBOR-UCLA MEDICAL CENTER

Professional Development
Dr. Denis Al Alam, Mentor
Dr. Soula Danopoulos, Fellow
PROJECT: Type 1 IFN signaling during lung development in down syndrome
Grant amount: \$37,500
Awarded: \$225,000 in 2021

PULMONARY RESEARCH GRANTS LIST

MASSACHUSETTES GENERAL HOSPITAL

Professional Development
Dr. Vamsi K. Mootha, Mentor
Dr. Robert S. Rogers, Fellow
PROJECT: Circulating protein mediators of mitochondrial dysfunction in septic shock
Grant amount: \$75,000
Awarded: \$225,000 in 2021

MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY

Professional Development
Dr. Agnieszka Rynda-Apple, Mentor
Dr. Kelly Shepardson, Fellow
PROJECT: The role of IFNAR2 in regulation of damage during *A. fumigatus* lung infection
Grant amount: \$20,000
Awarded: \$225,000 in 2020

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

Professional Development
Dr. Scott Budinger, Mentor
Dr. Luis Morales-Nebreda, Fellow
PROJECT: Mechanisms of regulatory T cell mediated endothelial repair following viral pneumonia in aged hosts
Grant amount: \$37,500
Awarded: \$225,000 in 2021

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

Professional Development
Dr. Chad A. Rappleye, Mentor
Dr. Landon W. Locke, Fellow
PROJECT: Microbial infection and immunity
Grant amount: \$75,000
Awarded: \$225,000 in 2021

RHODE ISLAND HOSPITAL – BROWN

Professional Development
Dr. Corey E. Ventetuolo, Mentor
Dr. Adeel A. Abbasi, Fellow
PROJECT: Hemorrhage and thrombosis in patients treated with extracorporeal life support
Grant Amount: 75,000
Awarded: \$225,000 in 2022

SEATTLE CHILDREN'S RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Professional Development
Dr. Jason S. Debley, MD, MPH, Mentor
Dr. Weston T. Powell, MD, PhD, Fellow
PROJECT: Airway epithelial circadian rhythms in pediatric asthma and viral infections
Grant Amount: \$75,000
Awarded: \$225,000 in 2023

STANFORD UNIVERSITY

Professional Development
Dr. David Cornfield, Mentor
Dr. Lea C. Steffes, Fellow
PROJECT: Defining the cellular and molecular basis of neointimal expansion in pulmonary hypertension
Grant amount: \$75,000
Awarded: \$225,000 in 2021

STANFORD UNIVERSITY

Professional Development
Dr. Edda F. Spiekerkoetter, Mentor
Dr. Adam M. Andruska, Fellow
PROJECT: Identifying T-cell vascular signaling as a driver of pulmonary hypertension
Grant Amount: \$75,000
Awarded: \$225,000 in 2022

STANFORD UNIVERSITY

Professional Development
Dr. Edda F. Spiekerkoetter, Mentor
Dr. Katharina Schimmel, Fellow
PROJECT: Arteriovenous malformations in hereditary hemorrhagic telangiectasia
Grant Amount: \$57,500
Awarded: \$225,000 in 2023

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AT SAN FRANCISCO

Professional Development
Dr. Alexander Marson, Mentor
Dr. Sagar Bapat, Fellow
PROJECT: Precision immunology of asthma, understanding immune responses in obesity
Grant Amount: \$75,000
Awarded: \$225,000 in 2022

UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI

Professional Development
Dr. Francis X. McCormack, Mentor
Dr. Arun Jose, Fellow
PROJECT: Biomarker discovery in portopulmonary hypertension
Grant amount: \$37,500
Awarded: \$225,000 in 2021

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Professional Development
Dr. Nicholas Lukacs, Mentor
Dr. Wendy Fonseca, Fellow
PROJECT: Long-term alteration of airway epithelial cells after early life RSV infection
Grant amount: \$75,000
Awarded: \$225,000 in 2021

PULMONARY RESEARCH GRANTS LIST

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL

Professional Development
Dr. Jim Hagood, Mentor
Dr. Elizabeth Corteselli, Fellow
PROJECT: Oxidative inactivation of cathepsin B, disruption of airway epithelial cell plasticity and pulmonary fibrosis
Grant Amount: \$75,000
Awarded: \$225,000 in 2022

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

Professional Development
Dr. Anuradha Ray, Mentor
Dr. Richard P. Ramonell, Fellow
PROJECT: The role of T effector memory cells re-expressing CD45RA in severe asthma
Grant Amount: \$75,000
Awarded: \$225,000 in 2023

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Professional Development
Dr. Charles Dela Cruz, Mentor
Dr. Alicia N. Rizzo, Fellow
PROJECT: Alveolar epithelial glycocalyx degradation causes surfactant dysfunction in ARDS
Grant Amount: \$75,000
Awarded: \$225,000 in 2023

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

Professional Development
Dr. Teal S. Hallstrand, Mentor
Dr. Ryan C. Murphy, Fellow
PROJECT: Identification and regulation of intraepithelial eosinophils in asthma
Grant Amount: \$75,000
Awarded: \$225,000 in 2023

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER

Professional Development
Dr. Jonathan A. Kropski, Mentor
Dr. Jason J. Gokey, Fellow
PROJECT: Hippo/YAP regulation of adaptive and fibrotic alveolar repair
Grant Amount: \$75,000
Awarded: \$225,000 in 2023

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER

Professional Development
Dr. Lorraine B. Ware, Mentor
Dr. Jamie E. Meegan, Fellow
PROJECT: Oxidation of LDL by CFH and lung microvascular hyperpermeability during sepsis
Grant Amount: \$75,000
Awarded: \$225,000 in 2022

WEILL MEDICAL COLLEGE OF CORNELL UNIVERSITY

Professional Development
Dr. Augustine MK Choi, Mentor
Dr. David R. Price, Fellow
PROJECT: Necrotic cell death and vascular injury in acute respiratory distress syndrome
GRANT AMOUNT: \$37,500
Awarded: \$225,000 in 2022

WEILL MEDICAL COLLEGE OF CORNELL UNIVERSITY

Professional Development
Dr. Fernando J. Martinez, Mentor
Dr. William Z. Zhang, Fellow
PROJECT: Alveolar macrophage iron-induced dysfunction in COPD pathogenesis
Grant Amount: \$57,500
Awarded: \$225,000 in 2022

WEILL MEDICAL COLLEGE OF CORNELL UNIVERSITY

Professional Development
Dr. Augustine MK Choi, Mentor
Dr. David R. Price, Fellow
PROJECT: Necrotic cell death and vascular injury in acute respiratory distress syndrome
Grant Amount: \$20,000
Awarded: \$225,000 in 2022

YALE UNIVERSITY

Professional Development
Dr. Charles D. Dela Cruz, Mentor
Dr. Samir Gautam, Fellow
PROJECT: Chitinase 3-like regulates neutrophil cell fate in bacterial pneumonia
Grant amount: \$20,000
Awarded: \$225,000 in 2021

YALE UNIVERSITY

Professional Development
Dr. Lauren Ferrante, Mentor
Dr. Snigdha Jain, Fellow
PROJECT: Socioeconomic disadvantage and post-ICU disability, the role of rehabilitation
Grant Amount: \$37,500
Awarded: \$225,000 in 2022

MISSION

The Francis Family Foundation is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for individuals, families and communities with commitment to the greater Kansas City metropolitan area. Through the vision, history, interests and values of the Francis Family, we strive to accomplish effective and innovative grantmaking in three main areas: Pulmonary Research, Arts & Culture, and Family Giving.

To achieve our mission, we will:

- implement best research and best practices;
- focus on community-based initiatives and collaborations;
- support programs that address unmet community needs; and,
- practice focused, proactive grantmaking

VALUES

ACCESSIBILITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSIVENESS

Everyone in our communities should have the opportunity to participate fully in educational, cultural and social activities. We seek ways to improve access to these activities for individuals and families of all ages, religions, races, ethnicities, financial abilities and physical and mental abilities. We believe in the rich diversity of the greater Kansas City area and promote inclusiveness in our grant making activities. We seek to celebrate common experiences and concerns through the investments we make.

COLLABORATION

We encourage and model collaboration among funders and community organizations.

COMMUNITY

We embrace and promote a strong sense of community and seek opportunities with great potential for strengthening community life and the urban fabric.

EXCELLENCE

We are committed to standards of excellence in the results of our grant making.

INNOVATION & CREATIVITY

We value the creative process among people of all ages and backgrounds, and we encourage excellence and innovation in our grant making activities.

INTEGRITY & SUSTAINABILITY

We maintain and promote fiscal and program integrity in our operations and grant making activities to ensure the sustainability of organizations that enrich community life.

PASSION FOR LEARNING

We promote a lifelong passion for learning as a key factor in developing active, well-rounded and contributing individuals in our communities.

PLANNING & EVALUATION

We believe in planning and evaluation as critical methods to assess the effectiveness of our grant making so we can make a difference.