

The Gray Foundation Announces New Team Science Grants for BRCA-Related Cancer Research

New strategic grant model, led by recently appointed Chief Science Advisor Dr. Chi Van Dang, aligns funding with the most promising BRCA gene-related cancer topics

Grants will bring the Gray Foundation's total BRCA-related giving to over \$100M

New York, NY, [November 14, 2018] – The Gray Foundation today announced the launch of applications for its new “Team Science” grants, which will fund collaborative teams of researchers, physicians, and engineers focused on BRCA and other gene-related cancer topics. The Foundation plans to award 2-4 Team Science grants, ranging from \$3M-\$5M, bringing its total support for BRCA-related cancer topics to over \$100M.

These grants are part of a new strategic model designed to better align funding with the most promising topics in the field. In September, the Gray Foundation hosted an inaugural Think Tank which brought together the world's leading researchers and scientists to formulate provocative questions based on the current state of BRCA cancer research. The participants determined key therapeutic, prevention and basic science topics which will underpin the direction of these Team Science grants.

The new grant process is intended to allow researchers from across the world to build on breakthroughs, identify remaining challenges and refine topics to maximize the impact of their collective work.

Overseeing this new grant process is Chi Van Dang, M.D., Ph.D., the Gray Foundation's recently appointed Chief Science Advisor. Dr. Dang is a world-renowned scientist and medical oncologist, who is Scientific Director of the Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research and Professor at The Wistar Institute. He has held leadership positions at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and the University of Pennsylvania's Abramson Cancer Center.

Dr. Dang, commented: “The Gray Foundation and I share the belief that often the most impactful discoveries happen as a result of collaboration. We are hopeful that these grants will serve as the catalysts for important discoveries or tools which will greatly impact the lives of those with BRCA mutations.”

Interested parties should first submit a Letter of Intent (LOI). After review, a select number of projects will move forward in the process to submit full project proposals. LOI and RFA documents, including the key grant topics, can be found on the Gray Foundation's website at <https://www.grayfoundation.org/team-science/>.

Commenting on the new grant process, founders Mindy and Jon Gray added: "We are thrilled to launch this new grant process which will more strategically align many of the brightest minds in cancer research. With the insight and expertise of Dr. Dang, we are incredibly optimistic about accelerating the progress in understanding, treating and, ultimately, preventing BRCA-related cancers."

The Gray Foundation is committed to supporting BRCA research. In 2012, the Grays made a transformative gift to establish the Basser Center for BRCA at Penn Medicine's Abramson Cancer Center. Additionally, the Foundation has made grants to a wide array of medical institutions through their Basser Initiative. Past Basser Initiative grantees have included the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Duke Cancer Institute, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, Well Cornell Medicine, Yale School of Medicine, and the V Foundation.

About the Gray Foundation

The Gray Foundation was founded in 2014 by Jon and Mindy Gray. The Foundation is focused on funding initiatives to advance the care of individuals living with BRCA gene mutations. In addition, the Foundation is committed to maximizing access to education, healthcare and opportunity for low-income children in New York.

Contact

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