



PRIVATE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES: AUG 5, 2016

Please contact Corporate & Foundation Relations in the Office of Development at devcfr@mgh.harvard.edu if you wish to submit a proposal in response to any of these opportunities. Note that proposals are still routed through the standard InfoEd/Research Management process.

1. Water Sanitation and Hygiene - Lighting for Safer Sanitation Challenge, Enhancing Learning and Research for Humanitarian Assistance (ELRHA)

The Humanitarian Innovation Fund is looking to fund up to two research projects that address the gap in evidence that links sanitation and gender based violence (GBV) with lighting in emergency humanitarian camps. Proposals are invited for a study comprising desk based and field research.

The Problem

In many camp settings, communal latrines are not lit at night. The lack of adequate lighting in bathroom facilities can affect the willingness of people to use facilities because of safety concerns. Women and girls are more commonly affected by this but males are highly vulnerable too.

Research has suggested GBV can increase due to poor public services - particularly a lack of privacy and security in latrine and bathing facilities. However, there is currently a gap in evidence on the impact of lighting in reducing incidences of GBV in camp settings, and the follow on impact on usage of WASH facilities.

The Challenge

HIF wants to fund a study which addresses the gap in evidence linking increased lighting of latrines and bathing facilities to reductions in Gender Based Violence (GBV), and the knock on effect this could have in increasing WASH-related health outcomes, and community member's own perceptions of safety, cleanliness, and dignity.

There should be two primary objectives of the research:

1. To identify the relationship between increased lighting of latrine and bathing facilities with:
 - a. Changes in rates of use for these facilities;
 - b. Changes in community member end-user's own perceptions of safety, cleanliness, and dignity.

2. To compare the efficacy and impact of different lighting options in contributing to these three



Do you want to learn more about identifying external funding opportunities? See [ECOR's website](#) for information on the funding opps database, **COS Pivot** or contact Amy Robb <arobb@mgh.harvard.edu> to schedule an individual consultation or group training session.

outcomes, and the preferences of women, adolescent girls, adolescent boys, men and children in using different lighting options. Three specific lighting options will be studied:

- Moveable lighting sources - including torches, lamps, etc.
- Lighting of the latrine and bathing facilities alone (lighting should be provided both for the female and male)
- Lighting off the whole camp, including main routes through the camp and alongside the lighting of latrine and bathing facilities.

Location and Partners

The research should be conducted in at least three relevant refugee camp field site locations, and with any relevant partners. If the proposal makes a specific recommendation, HIF is interested to know the reasoning behind the selection of field site and partners. However this is not essential; HIF is willing to work with a research partner that has not yet identified suitable field sites and partners. Successful applicants will be supported by UNHCR who are a strategic partner for this challenge.

Award Amount: £200,000 GBP

Application Deadline: Aug 30, 2016

Website: <http://www.elrha.org/hif/funding/water-sanitation-hygiene-wash/challenges/lighting-safer-sanitation-challenge/>

2. Lurie Prize in the Biomedical Sciences, Foundation for the National Institutes of Health (FNIH)

In 2017, the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health (FNIH) will present the fourth annual Lurie Prize, an award recognizing outstanding achievement by a promising young scientist in biomedical research.

Award Amount: \$100,000

Nomination Deadline: Sep 14, 2016

Website: <http://www.fnih.org/what-we-do/current-lectures-awards-and-events/lurie-prize>

3. Research on Hutchinson-Gilford Progeria Syndrome (HGPS, or Progeria), Progeria Research Foundation (PRF)

PRF is the only organization in the world dedicated to discovering treatments and the cure for Progeria and its aging-related disorders. Progeria is a rare, fatal, "premature aging" disease that affects children, who die of heart disease (heart attacks or stroke) at an average age of 14 years - the same heart disease that affects millions of normal aging adults (atherosclerosis). Scientific studies have solidified biological links between Progeria, heart disease and aging. Investigation of the disease mechanism Progeria will help not only children with Progeria, but has implications for heart attacks, strokes and other aging-related conditions.

PRF encourages proposals in the areas listed below. Investigators are not limited to applications that address these priorities, but rather are encouraged to use them to better understand the needs of the field at this time.

PRF is seeking proposals that address the following priorities:

1. Discovery of biological markers of disease in HGPS that can be assessed in human and/or mouse samples. Highest priority will be given to those markers that can be assayed in easily obtainable human samples such as blood, urine, and cheek swabs. In addition, proposals that explore biomarker relevance to disease process and/or change in markers with disease treatment are encouraged.
2. Discovery and/or testing of candidate treatment compounds in both cell based and mouse models of HGPS. Of note, proposals should test compounds in a progerin-producing mouse model as the priority. Comparisons to other mouse models of disease, such as *ZMPSTE24* *-/-* and other non-progerin producing mouse models is acceptable, but only as a comparison to progerin-producing models.

Awards are given in 3 categories. Projects must have specific relevance to HGPS, and show promise for contributing to the scientific or clinical advancement in this field of study.

1. Innovator Awards: The aim of this Award is to allow an investigator to embark on new lines of investigation, and to produce enough preliminary data to be competitive for longer-term funding by NIH and/or other agencies.
2. Established Investigator Awards: These awards are designed for advanced investigations in areas critical to the goals of PRF by senior investigators established either in the field of Progeria or a field that can be directly applied to Progeria.
3. Specialty Awards: Specialty awards are for smaller, more technology-driven projects, e.g., sequencing, screening potential drugs, obtaining cell lines (including iPSCs) and preparation of antibodies.

Key Words

Progeria, progeroid, aging, genetics, Lamin A, genetic disease, heart disease, cardiovascular disease, Werner syndrome, senescence, pediatric disease, stem cell, mouse model, telomere, LMNA, chromatin, translational science, progeroid syndrome, restrictive dermopathy, mandibuloacral dysplasia, laminopathy

Award Amount: Upper \$300,000USD

Awards are given in 3 categories with varying funding levels and length of time of up to \$100,000 per year, for up to three years. Funding levels are:

1. Innovator Awards: 2-year awards of up to \$75,000 per year.
2. Established Investigator Awards: Funding is for up to 3 years and up to \$100,000 per year. Renewal for a third year will require that:

- a. The Principal Investigator demonstrate substantial progress and commitment to the field, for example by applying for at least one major grant to continue Progeria work. Examples of major grants include NIH RO1 or Ellison Senior Scholar funding.
 - b. The Principal Investigator has submitted a manuscript on the Progeria work accomplished in the first two years.
3. Specialty Awards: Funding amounts will range from \$5,000-\$50,000 and the length of the project is usually 1 year or less. Funding amount and duration may increase for a project that addresses a very high and immediate need to The Progeria Research Foundation.

Proposal Deadline: Sep 20, 2016

Website: <http://progeriaresearch.org/application-deadlines.html>