



Andy Hill CARE Fund

Washington's Cancer Research Endowment

Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2024

(July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024)



2024

The Andy Hill Cancer Research Endowment (CARE) Fund, Washington's cancer research endowment, invests in public and private entities to promote cancer research in Washington. Through research grants and strategic partnerships, CARE Fund aims to improve health outcomes by advancing transformational research in the prevention and treatment of cancer.

The Washington State Legislature created the CARE Fund in 2015 and this public investment in cancer research is maximized by private and other non-state matching funds.

The work of the CARE Fund would not be possible without the support from Washington State donors and contributing partners.





Year in Review:

Letter from our Board Chair

Elizabeth Lawlor, MD, PhD

Chair, CARE Fund Board of Directors

Dear friends, colleagues, and leaders,

July 2023 through June 2024 was a time of significant growth in the evolution of the Andy Hill CARE Fund as a publicly supported grantmaker charged with the promotion of cancer research in Washington.

CARE Fund continued to work with grantees who received awards through the state's historic additional investment of \$30 million in cancer research. We are thrilled that many of these grantees are first-time awardees through CARE Fund! These CARE Fund-supported projects, representing statewide investments east and west of the Cascades, are highlighted in this report.

CARE Fund also established a new partnership with the Rivkin Center for Ovarian Cancer Research. This resulted in the launch of the Rivkin Center/CARE Fund Award which aims to invest \$1 million in ovarian cancer research led by Washington researchers. In 2024, \$400,000 in cancer research grants were awarded. Together, CARE Fund and the Rivkin Center are anticipating awards totaling \$600,000 next year. With each organization committed to provide half of the grant funding, public and private funds are fully matched. CARE Fund is proud to share profiles of the 2024 Rivkin Center/CARE Fund Awards for ovarian cancer research in this report.

To reduce barriers to applying for CARE Fund grants, the CARE Board designed a new twice-yearly funding cycle. Grant opportunities are anticipated to be released each January and June. This cadence will help provide potential applicants longer lead times to plan, build teams, and establish collaborations, as they develop proposals. The CARE Board looks forward to continuing to receive proposals from a wide range of eligible applicants conducting innovative and impactful cancer research across Washington.

In addition, in Fiscal Year 2024, CARE Fund:

- Welcomed new Governor-appointed Board members, maintaining representation from cancer advocates and researchers.
- Established a new three-year strategic plan.
- Developed a partnership plan with Public Health – Seattle & King County to better understand youth vaping and tobacco use and interventions.
- Produced a comprehensive statewide cancer research needs and assets assessment, to identify gaps and opportunities in Washington.
- Commissioned an economic impact assessment of CARE Fund's impact on Washington's economy. Some highlights from the assessment appear in this report.

Finally, the CARE Board prepared for the next chapter in CARE Fund's evolution. After several years of service, several founding Board members completed their board terms. We are indebted to these founders who brought vision and expertise to shape the CARE Fund's principles and programs. Their work continues to show itself every day for the benefit of all. We are also grateful to new Board members, who will bring their own perspectives and lived experiences to the CARE Board in the coming years.

In recognition of all those who have invested so much of their hearts and lives to cancer research, we thank you for joining us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'ELIZABETH LAWLOR'.

Elizabeth Lawlor, MD, PhD

Chair, CARE Fund Board of Directors

All Grants and Cancer Research Partnership Investments Made, Cumulative Years

Below are the number and dollar amounts of grants awarded (per RCW 43.348.050(5)).

CARE Fund grants and other investments to promote cancer research, from inception through June 30, 2024, total over \$58.263M, in a broad spectrum of investment categories, listed in the table below. A detailed breakdown of grants made in the two most recent fiscal years follows on the next pages.

Total grant awards and cancer research partnership investments by year and program

Fiscal Year	Grant Program	Number of Awards	Total Amount
2024	Rivkin Center/CARE Fund Awards	2	\$ 200,000
	Total	2	\$ 200,000
2023	Breakthrough Research	continued funding	\$ 3,421,555
	Breakthrough Seed Funding	6	\$ 2,277,936
	Distinguished Researchers	3	\$ 1,497,519
	Emergent Issues in Public Health	1	\$ 249,993
	Inclusion & Diversity in Cancer Clinical Trials	6	\$ 5,423,443
	Life Science Start-Up & Development	16	\$ 16,591,772
	Population Health	5	\$ 2,246,908
	Shared Resources & Infrastructure	8	\$ 7,670,750
	Total	45	\$ 39,379,876
2022	Breakthrough Research	continued funding	\$ 3,000,000
	Distinguished Researchers	4	\$ 1,845,000
	Total	4	\$ 4,845,000
2021	Breakthrough Research	continued funding	\$ 3,000,000
	Emergent Issues in Public Health (COVID-19 Response)	3	\$ 299,907
	Population Health	2	\$ 397,370
	Total	5	\$ 3,697,277
2020	Breakthrough Research	continued funding	\$ 3,491,714
	Emergent Issues in Public Health (COVID-19 Response)	5	\$ 499,981
	Distinguished Researchers	1	\$ 500,000
	Total	6	\$ 4,491,695
2019	Breakthrough Research	2	\$ 1,150,000
	Distinguished Researchers	5	\$ 2,500,000
	Total	7	\$ 3,650,000
2018	Distinguished Researchers	4	\$ 2,000,000
	Total	4	\$ 2,000,000
Total Grants and Cancer Research Partnership Investments Made to Date: 6/30/2024		73	\$ 58,263,848

Grantees and Cancer Research Partner Investments, Current and Prior Fiscal Years

Below and on the following page are the number and dollar amounts of grants as well as grantees for the prior year (per RCW 43.348.050(5)). Grants and awards for FY2023 are also included.

Building on its history of investment in innovation across the cancer research continuum, in FY2023 and FY2024 CARE Fund made its most significant number of grants and other investments in the greatest number of categories. In addition to grants made, CARE Fund partnered with Rivkin Center to co-invest in ovarian cancer research through the Rivkin Center/CARE Fund Awards, administered by the Rivkin Center. CARE Fund Co-Funding Partnerships & Collaborations investments are made in collaboration with grantmakers and other entities that leverage non-state funds for cancer research. Please note some grantees have received awards for multiple projects.

Cancer Research Partnership Investments, Fiscal Year 2024

Grant Program, Grantee Organization, and Principal Investigator	Amount Awarded	Date Awarded
RIVKIN CENTER/CARE FUND AWARD, ADMINISTERED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE RIVKIN CENTER		
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center (Holly Harris, MPH, ScD)	\$ 100,000	Mar 2024
University of Washington (Elizabeth Swisher, MD)	\$ 100,000	Mar 2024
TOTAL OTHER INVESTMENTS IN FISCAL YEAR 2024	\$ 200,000	

Grants Awarded, Fiscal Year 2023

Grant Program, Grantee Organization, and Principal Investigator	Amount Awarded	Date Awarded
POPULATION HEALTH CYCLE 3		
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center (Eric Chow, MD, MPH)	\$ 250,000	Sep 2022
University of Washington (Yaw Nyame, MD, MS, MBA)	\$ 500,000	Sep 2022
Washington State University (Dedra Buchwald, MD; Patrik Johansson, MD, MPH)	\$ 499,873	Sep 2022
DISTINGUISHED RESEARCHERS CYCLE 6		
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center (Christina Termini, PhD, MM)	\$ 500,000	Nov 2022
Seattle Children's Research Institute (Jay Sarthy, MD, PhD)	\$ 497,519	Nov 2022
Seattle Children's Research Institute (Molly Taylor, MD, MS)	\$ 500,000	Nov 2022
EMERGENT ISSUES IN PUBLIC HEALTH CYCLE 3		
University of Washington (Linda Ko, MPH, PhD)	\$ 249,993	Nov 2022
BREAKTHROUGH RESEARCH		
Institute for Systems Biology (James Heath, PhD)	\$ 3,000,000	Feb 2023
University of Washington (André Lieber, MD, PhD)	\$ 421,555	Feb 2023
BREAKTHROUGH SEED FUNDING		
Institute for Systems Biology (Wei Wei, PhD)	\$ 500,000	May 2023
Phase Genomics Inc (Steve Eacker, PhD)	\$ 500,000	May 2023
Seattle Children's Research Institute (Shannon Oda, PhD)	\$ 246,125	May 2023
University of Washington (Christopher Blosser, MD; Shreeram Akilesh, MD, PhD)	\$ 381,803	May 2023
University of Washington (Jennifer Nemhauser, PhD)	\$ 150,008	May 2023
University of Washington (Wesley Van Voorhis, MD, PhD)	\$ 500,000	May 2023
INCLUSION & DIVERSITY IN CANCER CLINICAL TRIALS		
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center (Jason Mendoza, MD, MPH)	\$ 999,993	May 2023

Grantees and Cancer Research Partner Investments, Current and Prior Fiscal Years (continued)

Below and on the following page are the number and dollar amounts of grantees for the prior year (per RCW 43.348.050(5)). Grants and awards for FY2023 are also included.

Grants Awarded, Fiscal Year 2023 (continued)		
Grant Program, Grantee Organization, and Principal Investigator	Amount Awarded	Date Awarded
INCLUSION & DIVERSITY IN CANCER CLINICAL TRIALS (continued)		
University of Washington (Shaveta Vinayak, MD)	\$ 1,000,000	May 2023
Seattle Children's Research Institute (Sarah Leary, MD)	\$ 999,946	May 2023
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center (Joseph Unger, PhD)	\$ 999,559	May 2023
MultiCare Health System (Deana Williams, PhD)	\$ 949,091	May 2023
MultiCare Health System (Deana Williams, PhD)	\$ 474,854	May 2023
LIFE SCIENCE START-UP & DEVELOPMENT		
University of Washington (John Gore, MD)	\$ 251,492	May 2023
ConnectMyVariant (Brian Shirts, MD, PhD)	\$ 300,000	May 2023
Benaroya Research Institute (Ninomiya Kazushige, PhD)	\$ 299,850	May 2023
University of Washington (Dayong Gao, PhD)	\$ 299,998	May 2023
KayoThera, Inc. (Mark Esposito, PhD)	\$ 2,000,000	May 2023
Sygnomics, Inc. (Nitin Baliga, PhD)	\$ 2,000,000	May 2023
University of Washington (Raymond Yeung, MD)	\$ 251,492	May 2023
Sigma Genetics, Inc. (Zach Rapp)	\$ 1,676,540	May 2023
Alpenglow Biosciences, Inc. (Nicholas Reder, MD, MPH)	\$ 1,636,764	May 2023
Proteios Technology, Inc. (Bob Snyder, PhD)	\$ 1,676,612	May 2023
Talus Bioscience, Inc. (Alex Federation, PhD)	\$ 1,995,337	May 2023
Talus Bioscience, Inc. (Lindsay Pino, PD)	\$ 298,973	May 2023
University of Washington (John Liao, MD, PhD)	\$ 251,491	May 2023
Deverra Therapeutics (Colleen Delaney, MD)	\$ 1,676,611	May 2023
Deverra Therapeutics (Colleen Delaney, MD)	\$ 1,676,612	May 2023
University of Washington (Daniel Leotta, PhD)	\$ 300,000	May 2023
POPULATION HEALTH CYCLE 2		
Washington State University (Ofer Amram, PhD)	\$ 497,037	May 2023
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center (Scott Ramsey, MD, PhD)	\$ 499,998	May 2023
SHARED RESOURCES & INFRASTRUCTURE		
Washington State University (Anjali Sharma, PhD)	\$ 1,303,525	May 2023
Bloodworks Northwest (José López, MD)	\$ 299,110	May 2023
University of Washington (Allison Webel, RN, PhD, FAAN)	\$ 300,000	May 2023
Seattle Children's Research Institute (Mignon Loh, MD)	\$ 875,467	May 2023
Bloodworks Northwest (David Lin, MD)	\$ 1,877,480	May 2023
Bloodworks Northwest (Tim Waters, MS)	\$ 756,800	May 2023
Bloodworks Northwest (Aaron Posey, MBA)	\$ 737,736	May 2023
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center (Eric Holland, MD, PhD)	\$ 1,520,632	May 2023
TOTAL AWARDED IN FISCAL YEAR 2023	\$ 39,379,875	

CARE Fund Impact

Below is a report on the benefits to Washington of the CARE Fund's programs to date (per RCW 43.348.050(5)).

The CARE Fund benefits Washington State, its people and communities through strategic investments in cancer research. Since its inception in 2015, the CARE Fund awarded \$58,263,848 in grants and other investments, including:

Over
\$16.5M

Awarded to support early-stage companies and innovative researchers to translate promising research into the development of tools, devices, or therapeutics related to cancer.

2

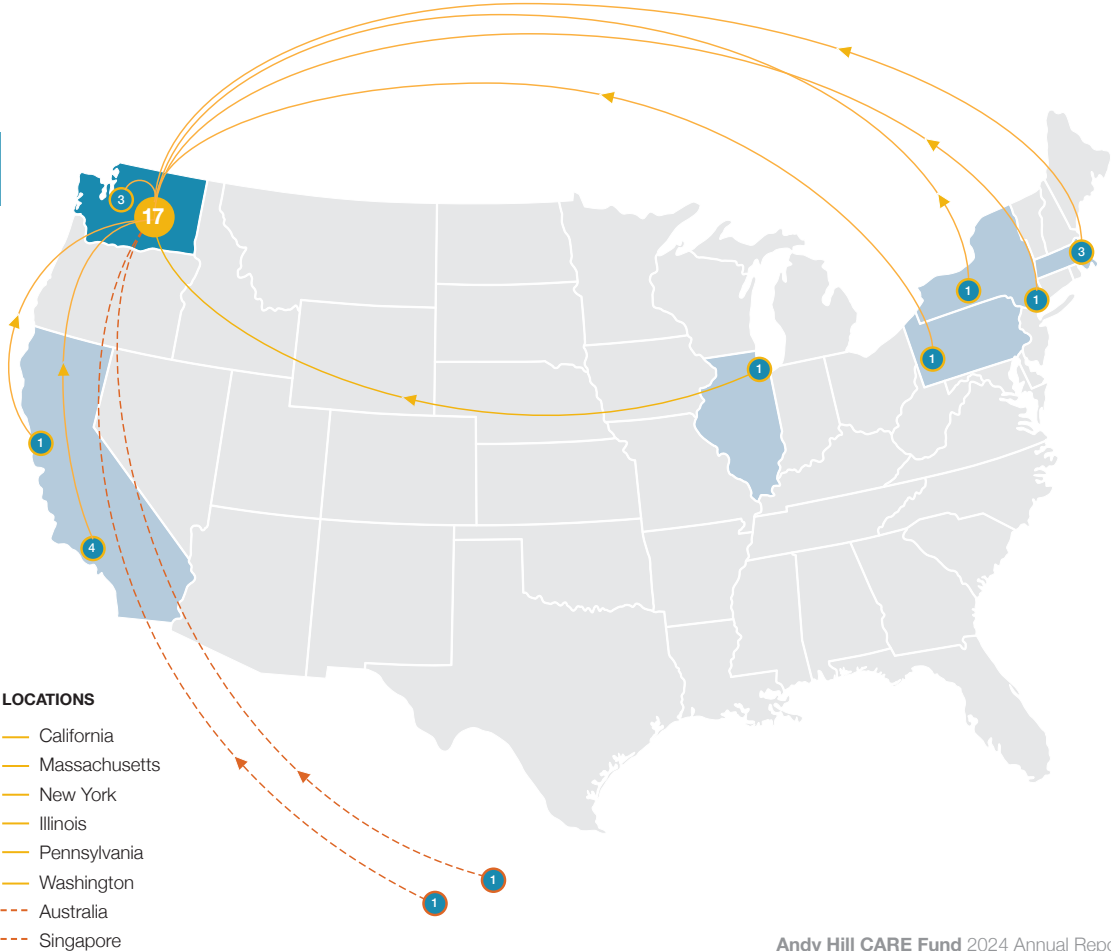
New investments made in new partnerships, one with the Rivkin Center focused on ovarian cancer and one newly launched effort with Public Health – Seattle & King County to better understand youth vaping and tobacco use and interventions.

6

Grants totaling more than \$5M to increase diversity in clinical trials to support projects that enhance clinical trial site capacity or infrastructure to conduct cancer clinical trials or address patients' barriers to participation.

17

Distinguished Researchers grants to support recruitments and start-up packages. Researchers, nationally and internationally, bring their best in-class talent to research organizations and companies in Washington.



CARE Fund Impact

(continued)

Below is a report on the benefits to Washington of the CARE Fund's programs to date (per RCW 43.348.050(5)).

CARE Fund's impact contributes to Washington's economy as well as scientific knowledge and the health of Washingtonians. An independent third-party Economic Impact Assessment in FY2024 assessed the depth of CARE Fund's economic impact, including the following key findings:

\$113.5M

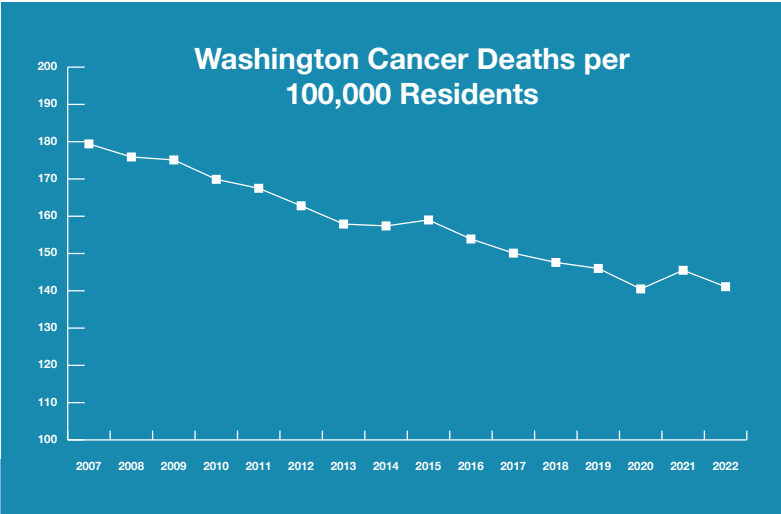
...is the impact to the economy resulting from CARE Fund's grants. Every dollar awarded by CARE Fund generates 1.95 dollars to the economy of the state of Washington.

Over 50%

...of CARE Fund's total economic impact is directed towards the life sciences industry, followed by real estate, healthcare, nondurable goods manufacturing, and retail.

459

...jobs by the end of FY2026 within the state of Washington will be attributable to CARE Fund grant-initiated economic activity.



The greatest impact CARE Fund and many other health grantmakers ultimately intend to have is to improve the health and well-being of individuals and communities. **The National Institutes of Health National Cancer Institute reports that, in Washington, mortality for all cancers, for all races, has fallen from 179.4 deaths per 100,000 residents in 2007 to 141.1 in 2022.** Although no single effort is responsible for this change, CARE Fund is proud to be among those investing in research to improve health and well-being.

To expand our impact for the people of Washington, CARE Fund is a founding partner of the Cancer Action Plan of Washington, a statewide coalition organized through the Washington Department of Health to develop and monitor Washington's 5-Year Comprehensive Cancer Plan for 2025 – 2030. The Plan will address cancer burden throughout the state by prioritizing nine cancer focus areas and cancer related disparities throughout Washington.



“

At age 20, I was diagnosed with Hodgkin's Lymphoma. A battery of tests revealed I had two tumors above my collarbone the size of golf balls. Another baseball-sized tumor was found in my chest. You can imagine the shock and fear of hearing “You have cancer.” But I had access to the most current treatment available at that time. As a result, I've been in remission since July 2001.

Detection and treatment since then have only improved, thanks to innovative research. That's why I am among the 15.5 million cancer survivors nationwide. Yes, 15.5 million in the U.S. alone. That's a sea change in survivorship from just a generation ago.

In the 20+ years since I had cancer, new research has improved the treatments, cure rates, and long-term side effects for many types of cancer. Improving the quality of life for patients and helping ease the burden for families and caregivers when someone is diagnosed with cancer — that's amazing! But there is still so much more research to do.

Serving on the CARE Board gives me the chance to make a difference and honor those touched by cancer by promoting groundbreaking research in Washington. I personally know the impact of this research, and I also know the importance of using our precious time to serve the greater good.

CARE Fund grants aren't just investments in our state economy, they are investments in the lives of people like you and me, in Washington and beyond.

”

Libby Mongue-Wymore, CARE Board Member
Vancouver, Washington

Grant and Other Cancer Research Investment Highlights

Below are grants awarded, grant-funded work in progress, research accomplishments, prevention, and care activities; and a summary of research, prevention, and care-related findings, including promising new areas for investment (per RCW 43.348.050(5)).



In 2024, CARE Fund in partnership with the Rivkin Center issued the Rivkin Center/CARE Fund awards, investing up to \$1 million in ovarian cancer research in Washington state over two years. These grants, administered by the Rivkin Center, mark CARE Fund's first investments under its new Co-Funding Partnerships & Collaborations strategy.

Ovarian cancer is most often diagnosed at advanced stages because it presents with vague symptoms and there is no test to catch it in its earliest, most treatable and most survivable stages. While survival rates for ovarian cancer have improved over the last 40 years, less than half of women diagnosed are still alive five years later.

RIVKIN CENTER / CARE FUND 2024 Awardee



FRED HUTCHINSON CANCER CENTER

Principal Investigator:
Holly Harris, MPH, ScD

IDENTIFYING OVARIAN CANCER RISK FACTORS AMONG WOMEN WITH ENDOMETRIOSIS

Although we know endometriosis increases ovarian cancer risk, we do not know how to identify which individuals with endometriosis will develop ovarian cancer. Dr. Harris will conduct the first large-scale analysis of women with endometriosis to identify the characteristics that may be most important for ovarian cancer development. She will combine data from 10 studies that followed patients with endometriosis for up to 35 years. This work will identify a subset of high-risk individuals based on risk factors (such as medication use, prior surgeries, personal factors, health factors) who may substantially benefit from closer monitoring or more aggressive endometriosis treatment to prevent the progression to ovarian cancer.

Grant and Other Cancer Research Investment Highlights

Below are grants awarded, grant-funded work in progress, research accomplishments, prevention, and care activities; and a summary of research, prevention, and care-related findings, including promising new areas for investment (per RCW 43.348.050(5)).



CARE Fund Co-Funding Partnerships & Collaborations investments, like the Rivkin Center/ CARE Fund Awards are made in collaboration with grantmakers and other entities that leverage non-state funds for cancer research.

For more information about partnerships, grantmakers and other entities investing non-state funds in cancer research in Washington should please contact CARE Fund.

CARE Fund Co-Funding Partnerships & Collaborations:

- **Expand Reach** of both partners to potential grantees by leveraging each partner's networks
- **Build Capacity** for all partners by equitably distributing commitment of resources
- **Increase Awareness** of each partner, building public will and broadening support
- **Facilitate Access** for applicants by mitigating barriers, including CARE Fund required non-state match

RIVKIN CENTER / CARE FUND 2024 AWARDEE



UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

Principal Investigator:
Elizabeth Swisher, MD

OVERCOMING BARRIERS TO GENETIC TESTING FOR HEREDITARY OVARIAN CANCER RISK, A KEY STEP TOWARD PREVENTION

As genetic testing for cancer risk becomes increasingly accessible, the goal of eradicating hereditary ovarian cancer through comprehensive genetic testing and effective prevention is tantalizingly close. However, several large studies have revealed that a large minority of people get partway through the genetic testing process, then change their mind and do not complete testing. Dr. Swisher will discover reasons for non-completion of genetic testing by interviewing people from a previous trial and analyzing data on potential factors. Improved understanding of genetic testing barriers will then be used to design supportive strategies to broaden access to cancer genetic testing and ultimately eliminate hereditary ovarian cancer.

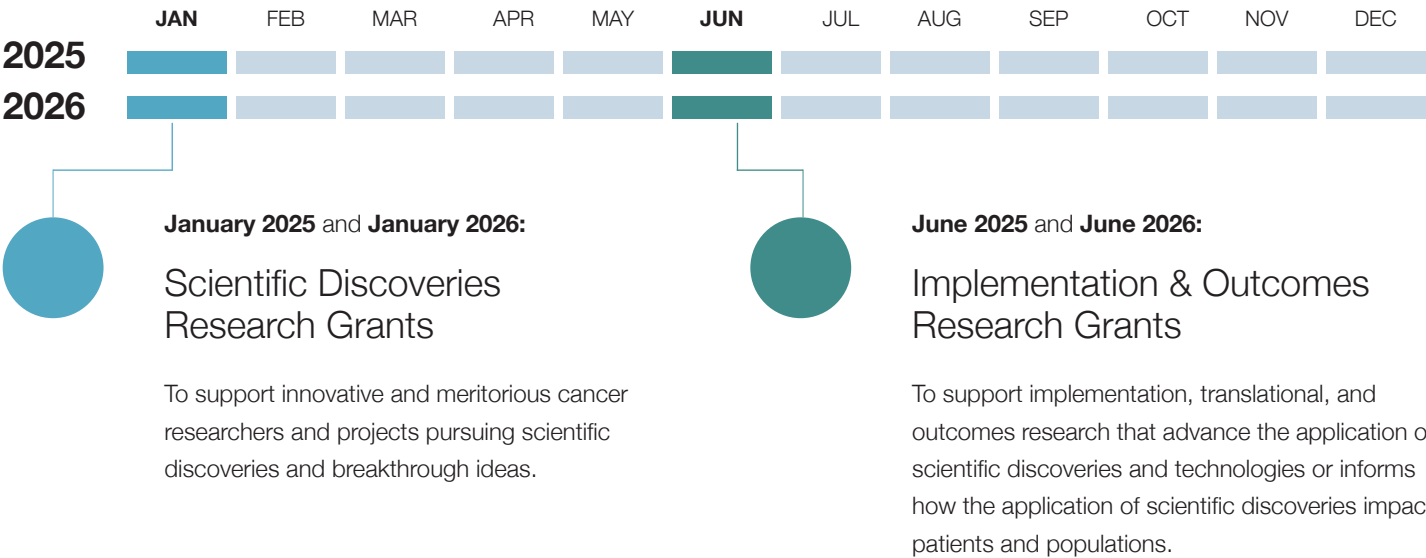
Future Program Directions

Below are the CARE Fund's future program directions with respect to cancer research, prevention, and care (per RCW 43.348.050(5)).

In FY2024, the CARE Board developed a plan to release Requests for Proposals (RFPs) in new funding categories on a new regular cadence. The CARE Board designed this plan to provide potential applicants more time to plan, build teams and establish collaborations, as they develop proposals. The CARE Board looks forward to continuing to receive a diversity of proposals from across Washington State.

Over the next two years, the CARE Board anticipates supporting four grant cycles. Generally, RFPs will be issued in January and June each year. Partnerships, including co-funding with other grantmakers, will be considered on a rolling basis.

CARE Fund anticipates the following cancer research grant cycles:



Co-Funding partnerships and collaborations will be considered year-round on a rolling basis, as available. Funding opportunities will seek to invest/co-invest in innovative and equity-centered partnerships and initiatives for the promotion of cancer research or delivery and evaluation of interventions, but which may not be addressed in CARE Fund's regular grant opportunities. (See the Rivkin Center/CARE Fund Awards in this report as an example.)

Grant proposals are evaluated by independent, expert, scientific review committees. All grants and partnerships must promote cancer research to benefit the people of Washington State.

The CARE Board may announce new grant opportunities or invest in new partnerships in response to emergent issues, high-impact investments, or strategic priorities.

Financial Summary

(unaudited)

Below is information that shows the endowment's administrative expenses and provides an assessment of the availability of funding for cancer research, prevention, and care from sources other than the endowment (per RCW 43.348.050(5)).

From CARE Fund's inception, the state Legislature has consistently appropriated and grown investment in the CARE Fund, making an additional one-time investment of \$30M in FY2023.

CARE Fund has grown its grantmaking over time to reflect the CARE Board's strategic response to anticipated needs and opportunities in Washington, creating new categories and reaching new applicants across the state.

Tables on pages 2, 3 and 4 provide detailed lists of grants awarded throughout CARE Fund's history, including this last fiscal year.

CARE Fund maximizes efficiencies in infrastructure with its program administrator, Evergreen Social Impact.

- In FY2024, the cost of the CARE Fund Program Administrator was \$1,946,657 for expenses including operations, investment management, and peer review services.

- Costs paid to the Washington State Department of Commerce in FY2024 (as reported by the Washington State Department of Commerce, Office of Economic Development) total \$295,826, for expenses including \$151,956 for contract administration, \$135,000 for a program performance audit, and \$8,869 for Assistant Attorney General costs.

Two-year totals of CARE Fund grants and investments made, the costs of Program Administration, and expenses paid to the Washington State Department of Commerce appear below.

In FY2024, CARE Fund was able to leverage funding from resources other than the endowment totaling \$30,445. In FY2024, \$200,000 was leveraged for cancer research through a new partnership co-funding peer-reviewed scientific research grants.

The combined grants and other investments awarded in fiscal years 2023 and 2024 grants totaled:

\$39,579,875



Grants and Other Investments Made to Cost of Program Administration and Washington State Department of Commerce

Combined FY2023 and FY2024



Board of Directors*

(As of June 30, 2024)

The work of the CARE Fund would not be possible without the vision and expertise of the CARE Board of Directors.

J. Elaine Albert, MD, MHA

Seattle Children's Hospital

Cliff Berkman, PhD

Washington State University

Thomas Brown, MD, MBA

Syapse

David R. Byrd, MD, Board Chair

University of Washington

Carol Coram, EdD

American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network

Marc Cummings, Board Secretary

Life Science Washington

Nancy Davidson, MD

Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center

Steven Harr, MD, Board Treasurer

Sana Biotechnology

Gary Kaplan, MD

(Formerly) Virginia Mason Franciscan Health

Elizabeth Lawlor, MD, PhD, Board Vice Chair

Seattle Children's Research Institute

Maura Little

Echo Health Ventures

Libby Mongue-Wymore

American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network

Bobbie-Jo Webb-Robertson, PhD

Pacific Northwest National Laboratory

**Organizational affiliations are for identification purposes only.*



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(As of June 30, 2024)

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The Andy Hill Cancer Research Endowment (CARE) Fund is named in honor of State Senator Andy Hill who was a dedicated legislator and public champion of cancer research. In 2009, he lost his battle with lung cancer at the age of 54. The CARE Fund is proud to be a part of carrying his legacy of promoting cancer research and ensuring access to scientific advancements for all Washingtonians.

Evergreen Social Impact is the contracted program administrator to CARE Fund.





Andy Hill CARE Fund
Washington's Cancer Research Endowment

Andy Hill CARE Fund
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