

## **Stewart Trust Annual Report for Calendar Year 2016**

The Stewart Trust completed its 67<sup>th</sup> year of support for research and treatment of cancer and childhood medical afflictions. Stewart grantees are achieving a standard of excellence and caring that is both highly effective and inspiring. This success is continuing in the face of potentially significant changes in Federal funding for support of cancer research and health care in the District of Columbia.

For cancer research and treatment, the Trust continues its partnership with The Pew Charitable Trusts for the annual competitive selection of five top Cancer Research Scholars (four-year grants for each Scholar) from outstanding research institutions across the U.S. Stewart and Pew are actively considering an extension of this program beyond the current pilot phase. In addition, Stewart continues funding cancer care for underserved populations in the District of Columbia, from hospital care (Providence Hospital, Washington Hospital Center), to early diagnosis programs for the Latina community (Nueva Vida), to end-of-life care for the homeless (Christ House and Joseph's House)

For childhood medical afflictions, the Stewart Trust focuses on the most vulnerable, mostly in the Nation's Capitol. Grantee programs include community health centers (such as Community of Hope, La Clinica del Pueblo, Unity Health Care), occupational/speech therapy (Bright Beginnings, House of Ruth, Rosemont Center, Easter Seals Child Development Center), education for kids with emotional disabilities (Reginald S. Lourie Center), neonatal care (Providence Hospital), and a volunteer surgical team that travels annually to Mexico to perform hundreds of orthopedic operations (Kids First). Since 2000, the Trust has participated in a broad community effort at prevention of teen pregnancy, led by its grantee D.C. Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy. The Campaign reports that since 1999, the DC teen pregnancy rate has fallen a remarkable 75 percent, yet reductions in some communities were not significant. Thus, in late 2016, the Stewart Trust – in collaboration with other funders and providers – called for a needs assessment to address this and related issues. As the result of an open competition, the Trust - working with the Washington Area Women's Foundation – selected George Washington University's Milken Institute School of Public Health to conduct the assessment in 2017.

For cancer research in 2017, the Trust's anticipated extension of the Pew-Stewart Cancer Research Scholars Program will increase support for a strategic program designed to leverage resources and target assistance to the most promising and creative young researchers. The Scholars are post-doctoral scientists – brimming with ideas to attack cancer - starting their own labs at the best research institutions across the U.S. For pediatric health care in 2017, the Trust will be reassessing its strategies in light of potential changes in federal requirements and funding for D.C. based non-profits focused on pediatric care. Over the past 10-15 years, many of the excellent non-profits

supported by the Trust – in particular, health clinics and hospitals - have received increased federal support to expand medical care for underserved populations in the National Capital region. The Trust will be assessing ways to help its grantees navigate the changing environment and leverage resources to support and sustain their missions of compassionate care.

The Stewart Trust congratulates and thanks its grantees for their ongoing dedication and excellence, and for their collaborative efforts with the Trust, including adaptation to the Foundant grant-making software that was fully implemented by the Trust in 2016, and welcoming of Stewart trustee site visits that are so important to effective grant management. Best wishes for continued success in 2017!