The Stewart Trust completed its 70th year of support for research and treatment of cancer and childhood medical afflictions. In 2018, the Trust awarded $4.5 million in grants to 44 non-profit organizations. The Trust supported:

- Cancer programs for underserved populations in D.C.,
- Cancer research scholar’s program in collaboration with The Pew Charitable Trusts,
- D.C. Community health clinics all Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) focusing on primary care services and other youth health services, and
- D.C early childhood education centers that provide therapeutic interventions for young children.

For cancer care, the efforts of these organization ranged from hospital care (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), to a unique children’s camp (Special Love) and home food service provided by volunteers (Food & Friends).

For childhood medical afflictions, the Stewart Trust supported organizations focused on community health (Community of Hope, La Clínica del Pueblo, Mary’s Center, Unity Health Care), therapeutic services for young children in pre-school settings (Bright Beginnings, Chattering Children, Educare, House of Ruth, Rosemont Center, Easter Seals Child Development Center), treatment of physical disabilities (National Rehabilitation Center), education for children with emotional disabilities (Reginald S. Lourie Center), and a volunteer U.S. surgical team performing orthopedic operations in Mexico (Kids First). These organizations are featured on the Trust’s website

For Pew-Stewart Scholars for Cancer Research, this program marked a significant milestone with the “graduation” of the inaugural class of five scholars (starting 2014). This highly competitive program awards four years of funding to the most promising and creative post-graduate cancer researchers in the U.S., five of whom are selected annually by a committee of preeminent cancer scientists. The Scholars have broad discretion to innovate in approaches that range from genetics, structural biology,
pharmacology, and informatics among others. Annually, the 20 Pew-Stewart Cancer Scholars meet with Pew Biomedical Scholars to collaborate and exchange ideas.

The graduating scholars credited the program for providing them with critical resources—flexible, early-career funding, and a community of peers and advisors—to refine their research and launch their scientific careers. Although they have completed the program, the 2018, graduated Scholars and each subsequent class of the Pew-Stewart Scholars program will continue to be members of a thriving community of nearly 1,000 Pew and Stewart-supported biomedical scientists from an array of disciplines. As a part of the larger biomedical scholars network, the scholars will continue to participate in formal and informal gatherings where they can share insights and discoveries and build new projects through initiatives like the Alumni Meeting, which occurs every five years, and the Innovation Award, which funds new collaborations between Pew and Pew-Stewart program alumni.

In 2018, on the initiative of the Trust in collaboration with other foundations/non-profits, a “DC Family Planning Needs Assessment” was produced by the George Washington University School of Public Health under the direction of Washington Area Women’s Foundation. This Assessment reviews the need and potential for more innovative approaches to prevent teen pregnancy in Washington, D.C. The report was widely disseminated so that all interested organizations can engage in a community-wide effort to further progress in reducing teen pregnancy in the District. The report can be found on the website of the Washington Area Women’s Foundation.


For 2019, in addition to the programs mentioned above, two 2018 Stewart Trust grants are being implemented to support pediatric mental health will provide much needed coordination and strengthening of social emotional services for children in the District.

First, the Trust made a strategic grant at the end of 2018 to Children’s National Medical Center with the goal of increasing the scope and impact of Children’s National’s community-based mental health activities. A specific focus is on expanding and leveraging community partnerships to improve access to quality care and create transformative sustainable systems changes to improve child mental health in Washington, D.C. This initiative will increase access to early/quality services, streamline processes, improving outcomes for children and families.

Second, the Trust allocated funding to study the capacity of schools to support the mental, emotional, and behavioral health for children in Washington, D.C. The Trust provided a grant to The George Washington University’s School of Public Health, Center for Health and Health Care in Schools leader Dr. Olga Price. The Trust anticipates the
report issued from this will strengthen schools’ ability to provide school-wide social emotional and behavioral health frameworks for all students.

In 2019, The Trust will also review opportunities to expand its strategies for advancing pediatric care to help ensure childhood health for long-term fulfillment.

Operationally, in 2019, the Trust will:

➢ Publish a new website, which will substantially increase the amount of information about the Trust, its grantees, and the Trust’s grant-making policies and procedures,
➢ Complete implementation of a trial program of multi-year grants. Seven grantees, each with a long history of support from the Trust, have been invited to participate.
➢ Initiate a process to award all grants/funding electronically.

The Stewart Trust congratulates and thanks the dynamic, highly-capable organizations and researchers supported by the Trust for their ongoing dedication and excellence in addressing cancer and childhood medical afflictions for those most in need. Best wishes for continued success in 2019!