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A Guide To Corporate GIVING STRATEGIES

**EDITOR: NICHOLAS KING** 

# Research shows 2022 corporate giving continued post-pandemic decline

fter a robust response to the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic that saw cash and non-cash corporate giving surge in 2020, new research shows that corporate philanthropic giving has continued to drop off, with 2022 total community investment—which includes cash, product and pro bono giving—down 14% from 2020. That's according to the latest Giving in Numbers report from Chief Executives for Corporate Purpose—formerly the Committee Encouraging Corporate Philanthropy. The report looks at the full spectrum of corporate community investments, including cash, in-kind and employee volunteerism for 2022.

But while that might seem like a huge drop, some context here is helpful. Digging into the data, you'll find that the overall drop was due to a massive decrease in non-cash giving.

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- **Corporate Profiles:** A look at the giving programs of Texas Instruments, WestRock, Zions Bancorporation, TransDigm Group, PulteGroup, Public Service Enterprise Group, Lamb Weston and Paychex.
- Grant Alerts: Open funding opportunities offered by corporate and foundation sources, including the Morris Animal Foundation, the Walmart Foundation, the American Kidney Fund and the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society

When looking just at cash giving, the sector logged a slight increase from 2021 to 2022.

Corporate Philanthropy Report recently spoke with Saara Kaudeyr, manager of corporate research at the CECP to get some clarity and a better understanding of the state of corporate community investment in the aftermath of COVID-19.

Q: The data show an overall drop in giving between 2020 and continued on page 11

## **Cummins water initiative helps** business, community health

or some companies, environmental-related giving is outwardly focused—for example, providing grant funding for stream cleanups or environmental education programming in local schools.

For others, it involves more internal goals, such as curbing emissions related to climate change, or reducing the amount of plastic or other materials that end up in a landfill.

If they are lucky, though, a company's environmental-related philanthropic investments touch on both—helping it achieve an important internal improvement while also directly benefiting their community or local nonprofit partner.

Such is the case with the Cummins Water Works Program, a global program to address water security in Cummins Inc. operating communities, under which the company recently awarded two major grants—one to The Nature Conservancy and other to WaterAid, which will support programs that improve water quality in the Mississippi River Basin and Nigeria, respectively.

The grant to The Nature Conservancy is a continuation of Cummins' efforts to improve the Mississippi River Basin, which date back to 2022 with another large-scale grant to the continued on page 12

### **NEWS BRIEFS**

# Salesforce awards more than \$20 million for education, workforce development.

Salesforce has awarded more than \$20 million in grants to U.S. school districts, along with education and workforce development nonprofits preparing students for success. According to the company, these grants come at a critical time when schools, educators and employers are navigating a rapidly changing world. Generative AI is transforming the classroom and the jobs that will be available in the future. With this funding, students will have more opportunities to take advanced courses, gain in-demand skills and explore potential new careers, the company said. Funding will also support efforts from nonprofits to expand pathways into technology jobs, including AI, helping usher in a more equitable future. More than half of the funding will go to schools and nonprofits in the San Francisco Bay Area, as part of a continuing commitment the company made in 2012 to help support its hometown.

# TD Charitable Foundation makes \$5 million Mission Related Investment for small business growth fund.

The TD Charitable Foundation, the charitable giving arm of TD Bank, today announced its first-ever Mission Related Investment of \$5 million to Innovate Capital Growth Fund, a new nonprofit-sponsored small business investment company focused on providing growth equity to minority- and women-owned businesses in the Mid-Atlantic, with a focus on the Greater Philadelphia area. According to the foundation,

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the ICGF provides growth-oriented capital in minority- and women-owned lower-middle market businesses along with expertise in operations, while also providing bridging capital throughout the development stages of a company's portfolio. Proceeds earned from this investment will be redirected for other charitable purposes by the foundation, the company said.

# Chemours awards \$90,000 for local STEM programming.

Specialty chemical company Chemours has awarded a \$90,000 grant to the Ingleside Independent School District near Corpus Christie, Texas, to advance science, technology, engineering and math education throughout the district. The grant, funded through Chemours' Vibrant Communities initiative, will support four robotics teams at schools of every age level from elementary/primary to high school and new curriculum for high school robotics and engineering pathways, the company said. In addition to the cash grant, Chemours employees will engage with the students to provide hands-on and real-world learning opportunities, the company said.

# Bayer Fund awards more than \$7 million in first half of 2023.

The Bayer Fund, the U.S.-based philanthropic arm of pharmaceutical firm Bayer, awarded a total of \$7.4 million in grant funding to 1,800 nonprofit organizations during the first half of 2023. Each Bayer Fund grant awarded goes toward

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programs that are tackling some of the country's most pressing challenges, such as combatting malnutrition; enhancing science, technology, engineering and math education in schools; and providing support services for patients and families managing cardiovascular disease and cancer, the company said. For example, the Alameda County Food Bank in California received a grant of \$125,000 to support its work distributing millions of meals every year—enough food to serve 60,000 people a day. As another example, the Bayer Fund awarded a \$50,000 grant to Sustainable Jersey, a New Jersey nonprofit organization that provides best practice solutions and guidance to municipalities and schools to advance local sustainability projects. The latest round of funding brings the Bayer Fund's total giving to over \$95 million since 2017.

# Georgia-Pacific golf tournament raises over \$500,000 for City of Hope.

Paper products company Georgia-Pacific, along with its employees and suppliers, helped to raise over \$500,000 for City of Hope to help the organization in its mission to fight against cancer and other life-threatening illnesses. The funds were raised through Georgia-Pacific's annual charity golf tournament, held at the Atlanta Athletic Club in Johns Creek, GA. For two decades the tournament has helped communities all over the U.S., raising some \$4.3 million. Those funds enable City of Hope, one of only 54 National Cancer Institute-designated comprehensive cancer centers in the U.S., to expand and further its mission of advancing research and saving lives, the company said.

# BMO Financial awards \$1 million for gang intervention program.

BMO Financial Group has awarded a \$1 million grant to Homeboy Industries, a world-renowned gang intervention, rehabilitation and re-entry program that has been serving the Los Angeles area for over 35 years. BMO's donation will support the organization's programs and the regional expansion of its workforce development and training hub, including programs at its new Youth Re-entry Center in the Boyle Heights neighborhood in Los Angeles, the company said. The funding will also support Homeboy Industries' Global Homeboy Network, a program that provides a blueprint for nearly 400 organizations and social enterprises around the world that are working to create therapeutic communities through job skills training, cost-free programs and services, and social enterprise employment. In addition to the financial donation, BMO employees will volunteer their time to provide financial literacy education, job skills training and mentorship, and they will also provide academic, career and college readiness support at the Youth Re-entry Center, BMO said.

## IKEA Foundation commits \$20 million for energy transition initiative.

The IKEA Foundation has partnered with the Climate-Works Foundation to launch a new philanthropic initiative to support workers and communities in the Global South who are impacted by the transition to renewable energy. The initiative will support a just, fair and equitable energy transition with an initial focus on Indonesia, South Africa and Vietnam, the groups said. The IKEA Foundation's \$20 million seed funding over four years will champion these "Just Transition" plans co-created with community voices to encourage local climate action and facilitate a transition beneficial to all. According to the foundations, addressing the climate crisis requires swift and meaningful action to reduce global emissions, making the transition to renewable energy imperative. The renewable energy sector is expanding rapidly worldwide, with more funding, employment opportunities and energy production. However, this shift is also affecting the roughly 32 million individuals who work in high-carbon industries. The Just Transition initiative will focus on developing clear and comprehensive plans to reskill these workers and offer alternative sources of livelihood—crucial to facilitating the transition process and minimizing economic, social and political challenges, they said.

# Wells Fargo Foundation awards \$11 million for housing, small business growth and Native American support services.

The Wells Fargo Foundation has awarded nearly \$11 million in grants to 28 organizations across six states as part of its Invest Native program, a \$20 million philanthropic initiative to strengthen housing access and affordability, small business growth and sustainability in Native communities. Launched earlier this year, the program focuses on collaborating with Native organizations and communities in Arizona, Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wyoming. It is designed to support a more equitable and prosperous future for Native Americans and builds on Wells Fargo's history of philanthropic endeavors with Native American communities, the foundation said. The program supports Native led and Native serving organizations, including community development financial institutions, nonprofits, Tribally Designated Housing Entities and Native collaboratives, which comprise two or more organizations working together to achieve common goals within the six state territory. Within this round of grants, five organizations are located in Arizona, six in Montana, eight in New Mexico, two in North Dakota, six in South Dakota and one in Wyoming, the foundation said.

## **CORPORATE PROFILES**

#### **Texas Instruments Inc.**

12500 Ti Blvd. Dallas, TX 75243 https://www.ti.com, (972) 995-3773

#### **OVERVIEW**

Texas Instruments is one of the world's largest semiconductor manufacturers in the world. The company's product line includes microprocessors, digital signal processors, logic chips and micro-controllers, among other digital components, which can be found in a wide range of consumer products, including cell phones, computers, modems, calculators, automotive electronics and industrial machinery. In 2022, the company reported sales of about \$20 billion, and employed some 33,000 workers worldwide.

#### **GIVING**

Texas Instruments conducts its philanthropy mainly through the TI Foundation, which was established with the goal to support efforts to enhance the quality of life in communities around the globe where TI operates. The foundation provides financial support—combine where possible with employee volunteerism—to groups and initiatives in the following core program areas:

• Education. The bulk of the foundation's support goes to this area, most of which is focused specifically on improving access to science, technology, engineering and math education. Since 2010, the TI Foundation has awarded more than \$73 million in support for STEM programming aimed at improve math and science learning outcomes and opportunities for black, Latino and female students and others who have been historically underserved in this field.

Most recently, TI and the TI Foundation made \$14 million in education grants, continuing a 10-year commitment in this area, including some \$4.7 million to support public school districts in southern Dallas County.

 Arts and culture. The company and its foundation support arts and cultural groups and programs that make the company's operating communities more culturally inclusive and vibrant.

As a recent example, the foundation awarded \$1.3 million to Dallas arts organizations, with recipients ranging from new, experimental arts organizations to long-established cultural institutions that present a variety of

programming that reflects the community's diversity.

 Racial equity. TI supports a range of programs that seek to dismantle barriers to racial equity, with an emphasis on improving police training and accountability.

For example, the foundation made a two-year, \$250,000 grant to Project Unity for programs that aim to remove racial divides in the company's operating communities in North Texas. Programs supported by the grant focus on dialogue and trust-building between area law enforcement, youth and communities.

Human services. In this area, the company and its foundation support programs and services for critical needs among racially and economically underserved populations. This includes support humanitarian relief organizations responding to natural or human-caused disasters.

For example, the foundation made a \$300,000 grant to the North Texas Food Bank, helping provide approximately 1 million meals for those in need in communities such as Dallas, Collin and Grayson counties, where the company has major operations. Other recent support in this area included more than \$230,000 to help the American Red Cross and other agencies provide humanitarian relief in Ukraine, as well as \$150,000 in support provided to the China Youth Development Foundation in response to a 6.8 magnitude earthquake that struck the southwestern Chinese province of Sichuan.

In addition, TI engages its employees around the world in community service and volunteerism activities. TI has more than 20 global community involvement teams and other civic-minded employees who work hard to solve local needs. Together, they mentor students, coach robotics competitions, volunteer at food banks and homeless shelters, clean up neighborhoods, plant trees and give valuable time to serve their communities in other ways.

In 2022, the company's active global workforce and retiree network contributed more than 257,000 hours of volunteer service, valued of roughly \$7.7 million. For example:

- The company's employees collected donations to local food banks and took part in other similar activities in Dallas, Taiwan, Japan and Maine to address food insecurity in local populations.
- Employee volunteers in Dallas and Santa Clara, CA, helped build bikes for impoverished children.
- Employees in Lehi, UT, distributed refurbished computers to area students through an e-waste recycling program.
- Employee volunteers in China, Malaysia and the

- Philippines volunteered with children and local schools, donated groceries to low-income families and helped mentor and tutor students in math and science.
- In the U.S., the TI Foundation matches the value of employees' volunteer hours under a dollars-for-doers-type program, up to \$1,000 per year. In total, nearly \$400,000 in donations were awarded to their favorite causes.

For more information, visit the company's website.

#### WestRock Co.

1000 Abernathy Rd. Atlanta, GA 30328 https://www.westrock.com, (770) 448-2193

#### **OVERVIEW**

WestRock is a leading global producer of fiber-based paper and packaging for food, hardware, apparel and other consumer goods. The company manufactures a full range of recycled and bleached paperboard, containerboard and consumer and corrugated packaging products used by customers throughout North America, South America, Europe and Asia. In 2022, the company reported sales of about \$21.2 billion and employed about 50,500 workers worldwide.

#### **GIVING**

WestRock's charitable giving is focused mainly on groups and projects benefitting the various communities in the United States and around the world where it has operations. The company encourages employees at each facility to identify local groups and initiatives for financial contributions and employee volunteer support. The company's core giving areas are as follows:

• Environmental sustainability. WestRock focuses its efforts in this area on forest, water and wildlife conservation projects in communities where it has operations.

The company supports the American Forest Foundation and The Center for Heirs' Property Preservation, both of which provide resources and education that help family landowners manage their land more sustainably. It also works with environmental organizations such as the Arbor Day Foundation, the Nature Conservancy and The Trust for Public Land, supporting the conservation of various tree species across the country.

For example, WestRock partnered with the Arbor Day Foundation and Trees Atlanta on a multiyear project aimed at mitigating Atlanta's tree loss, protecting its forests and increasing its tree canopy. WestRock provided funding for the program and its employees participated

- in a planting project at the Flowering Forest, which will eventually include the planting of thousands of flowering trees, shrubs and daffodils along much of the 1.5 mile John Lewis Freedom Parkway.
- Education and workforce development. WestRock aims to help develop a skilled manufacturing workforce by supporting education and hands-on skills training programs offered through a number of nonprofit partners. The company works with the Manufacturing Institute to support programs such as Heroes MAKE America, which provides certification and career readiness training for members of the military community. As part of this program, military veterans at WestRock work directly with transitioning military members, veterans and military spouses to help them manage the return to civilian life and explore career opportunities in manufacturing.

Similarly, WestRock supports Women MAKE America, formerly known as the STEP Women's Initiative, aimed at closing the gender gap in manufacturing through recognition, research and mentoring.

• Supporting its employees. WestRock supports its employees facing difficult financial circumstances through the WestRock Employee Relief Fund. The Fund—established as an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization—provides financial assistance to the company's employees around the world who suffer financial hardship due to a natural or man-made disaster. Since its inception in 2005, the Fund has provided more than 1,170 grants totaling more than \$2.67 million to WestRock employees.

Additional information is available on the company's website.

#### **Zions Bancorporation**

1 S Main St., Floor 15 Salt Lake City, UT 84133 https://zionsbancorporation.com, (800) 974-8800

#### **OVERVIEW**

Zions is a leading regional financial services company with more than \$90 billion of total assets under management. Zions operates under its namesake brand as well as via several other brands and subsidiaries in 11 western states: Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Texas, Utah, Washington and Wyoming. The company provides the full range of retail and commercial banking services, including retail savings and checking, commercial and residential lending, wealth management, financial investment products and services, residential mortgage lending, municipal finance

advisory and underwriting, and more. In 2022, Zions reported sales of \$3 billion and employed around 10,000 workers.

#### **GIVING**

Zions' charitable giving includes cash and employee volunteer support for nonprofit groups around the country that serve communities where the bank or one of its affiliates and subsidiaries has operations. The company's individual subsidiaries and branches are empowered to identify grantees within their local service areas for support, and that is often augmented by financial contributions made by the Zions Bancorporation Foundation, to which the company recently directly a substantive increase in funding as part of its programming during the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic. More specifically, Zions directed some \$40 million in fees it made through administration of Paycheck Protection Plan loans to its foundation to support long-term charitable giving.

This local grantmaking goes to a wide variety of groups and programs, including:

- Affordable housing.
- Arts and culture.
- Community service groups.
- Programs focused on developing more inclusive communities.
- Economic development.
- Education.
- Health and human services.

In 2021, nearly \$8.5 million in grants were made to more than 1,000 charitable groups.

More broadly, the company provides a range of support for financial literacy initiatives nationwide through its various subsidiaries.

For more than 20 years, the company and its employees have worked with local schools to teach K–12 students about smart money management during National Financial Literacy Month and throughout the school year with the Young Americans Center for Financial Education.

In 2019, its Amegy Bank affiliate launched a financial education program that engages bankers, consumers, schools and nonprofit organizations to address the most crucial needs for financial literacy in the community. The goal of the program is to help individuals to reach their goals as savers, consumers, homebuyers or small business owners, working with partners such as the United Way, Catholic Charities, refugee organizations, Junior Achievement, the Chinese Community Center, the Fifth Ward Community Redevelopment Corporation and others.

In addition, since 2002, Zions Bank employees have volunteered for the American Bankers Association's National Teach Children to Save program. In 2022, they taught the basics of savings to nearly 2,000 K–6 students in Utah and Idaho.

And employees throughout its service areas volunteer with the Internal Revenue Service's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program, providing free income tax assistance to those in need. In addition to helping with tax preparation, employee volunteers assist with budgeting and overall financial literacy.

In addition to these efforts, the company encourages its employees to support their communities through volunteer service. Employees are encouraged to be involved in local non-profit organizations, volunteering their time and serving on boards and helping with fundraising and collection drives.

Many of its subsidiaries and affiliates offer paid time for employees to volunteer during business hours without having to use vacation time. Some recent examples include:

- Employees in its Enterprise Technology and Operations team donated their 2021 holiday celebration budget to support resources for the homeless in Utah and Texas. In addition, they coordinated blood and platelet, clothing, food and holiday toy drives.
- More than 1,700 Zions Bank employees and family members took part in the annual Paint-a-Thon in 2022, painting and beautifying homes in Idaho and Utah. Through the years, Zions employees have painted and fixed up 1,251 homes for seniors, people with disabilities and veterans who needed help maintaining their residences.
- California Bank & Trust and Vectra Bank Colorado held their first Give Days with employees participating in in-person volunteer events in each of the subsidiaries' major markets, including builds with Habitat for Humanity, food bank donations and deliveries, blood drives and other projects.

Visit the company's website for more information.

#### **TransDigm Group Inc.**

1301 E. 9th St., Suite 3000 Cleveland, OH, 44114 https://www.transdigm.com, (216) 706-2960

#### **OVERVIEW**

TransDigm is a leading designer, producer and supplier of engineered aircraft components used in most commercial and military aircraft in the air today. Operating through several subsidiaries, the company produces parts and equipment such as ignition systems, specialized pumps and valves, power conditioning devices, specialized electric motors and generators, engineered latching and locking devices, cockpit security components and systems, cargo loading and handling and delivery systems, among others. In 2022, the company posted sales of about \$5.4 billion and employed roughly 14,400 workers.

#### **GIVING**

TransDigm's philanthropy is focused on efforts to enhance the quality of life in the various communities in which it operates, with an emphasis on programs that benefit underserved and disadvantaged populations within those communities. In support of that goal, the company supports the following programs and initiatives:

- Protecting the public from the risks of fires. TransDigm supports the Red Cross of Northeast Ohio's efforts to distribute and install smoke alarms in underserved communities. The program also educates children, families and the elderly on home fire preparedness and fire safety.
- Supporting hometown athletics. TransDigm is the title sponsor of the annual Tri CLE Rock Roll Run in the heart of downtown Cleveland. Through its sponsorship, the company supports Tri CLE's nonprofit, the Kids that Tri Program, which was created to give under-resourced children of the greater Cleveland area a chance to learn how to swim, bike and run, as well as participate in a competitive triathlon.
- Bolstering the Cleveland manufacturing industry. To support manufacturing growth in the region, TransDigm made a three-year financial commitment of financial support to Manufacturing Advocacy and Growth Network (MAGNET). The organization helps small and medium-sized manufacturing firms in the region thrive by taking better advantage of robotics, computer-driven cutting machines, 3-D printers and other advanced technologies. MAGNET also creates pathways to careers in high-tech manufacturing by training the next generation of workers.
- Honoring Cleveland's historic ties to the U.S. military. TransDigm has long provided financial support to the USS Cleveland Legacy Foundation's efforts to help coordinate the commissioning of the USS Cleveland, a new Navy ship named in honor of TransDigm's hometown. The foundation will support the USS Cleveland's crew during its service life and the planned return of the ship to Cleveland after its retirement to serve as a memorial and museum.
- Supporting cancer research. In 2022, TransDigm contributed to VeloSano, the Cleveland Clinic's premier fundraising initiative that supports lifesaving cancer research at Cleveland Clinic and Cleveland Clinic Children's. Since VeloSano's inception in 2014, more than \$37 million has been raised, supporting over 200 cancer research projects.
- Helping provide at-risk children with critical vision care. In 2022, TransDigm committed \$1 million to the Cleveland Clinic's Vision First program, a community outreach initiative that provides free comprehensive vision screenings and eye examinations to local elementary students from a mobile optometry van. The five-year funding

- commitment will allow the clinic to reach children in underserved communities throughout Northeast Ohio.
- Expanding access to STEM programming. The company recently provided support for the Cleveland-based Great Lakes Science Center, a museum and educational facility dedicated to hosting exhibits that support science, technology, engineering and math curriculum, and provides year-round educational classes, workshops and other events to families and children. TransDigm sponsored a special Group Learning Center that will support the STEM educational programming for under-resourced and underrepresented youth in Cleveland and its surrounding communities.
- Support for local community groups. The company encourages each of its 48 operating units to engage with their local communities and to give back through various charitable activities and organizations throughout the year. Each operating unit decides which charitable activities to support with donations. In 2022, some of the organizations our operating units supported include:
  - The United Way.
- The Saint Martin De Porres High School.
- The Phoenix Rescue Mission.
- St. Mary's Food Bank Alliance.
- The West Valley Mavericks Foundation.
- Wenatchee Valley College.
- The Cristo Rey Network.
- The ALS Ride for Life.
- The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.
- Toys for Tots.

For further information, visit the company's website.

#### PulteGroup Inc.

3350 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 1500 Atlanta, GA 30326 https://www.pultegroupinc.com, (404) 978-6400

#### **OVERVIEW**

PulteGroup is one of America's largest homebuilders, with operations in more than 40 markets throughout the country. The company's brand portfolio includes its flagship Pulte Homes, as well as Del Webb, DiVosta Homes, American West, Centex and John Wieland Homes and Neighborhoods. Through these subsidiaries, the company offers housing options for just about budget, making it one of the country's most versatile homebuilders. In 2022, Pulte posted sales of about \$16.2 billion and directly employed about 6,500 workers.

#### **GIVING**

Pulte conducts its philanthropy mainly through the Pulte-Group Charitable Foundation, a separate nonprofit founded in 2022 with an initial contribution of \$3 million in funding to begin carrying out its mission. The foundation is governed by a nine-member board consisting of PulteGroup employees from across the company's locations. And each division is allocated funds to support charities in their local communities.

In 2022, the foundation awarded a total of \$1.8 in grants to nearly 300 charities in the following core program areas:

- Supporting military veterans and families. The company and its foundation provide an array of support to the nation's military through the PulteGroup Built To Honor Program, including providing mortgage-free homes to returning veterans in need. It provides grant funding for groups providing services for military members transitioning to civilian life, as well as community groups that honor veterans for the service and sacrifices in defending our country.
- Meeting housing needs. Recognizing that the country has a critical shortage of housing for people in need, the foundation supports efforts throughout its operating communities to combat homelessness, house children and families with medical needs and shelter families at risk. The foundation also supports programming aimed at expanding access to homeownership to those who have not historically had equal access.
- Education and workforce development. Pulte and its foundation work to educate people in all aspects of the housing industry. This includes supporting education in the skilled construction trades, real estate and finance, and helping graduates find careers in the homebuilding and mortgage finance sectors.

Within these general areas, the foundation awards direct grant funding and also provides funds associated with employee giving and volunteerism, through the following:

- Matching gifts. The foundation's Matching Gifts program provides dollar-for-dollar matching funds to charitable organizations that are personally supported by Pulte employees, to maximize their impact.
- **Dollars-for-doers grants.** The foundation awards grants under a dollars-for-doers-style program that rewards employee volunteer service with a 501(c)(3) charity. The grants equal \$25 per volunteer hour, for up to 40 hours per year per employee.
- Employee Assistance Fund. The company awards emergency financial support through its Making Lives Better—Employee Emergency Assistance Fund, which was established to assist Pulte employees facing financial hardship immediately after a natural disaster or unforeseen medical event.

PulteGroup employees also receive time off each year to volunteer with the charities of their choice, including taking part in a wide variety of community support activities. In recent years, the company's workers have helped rebuild and refresh homes, schools and shelters in their communities, and provide other needed support. For example, PulteGroup employees have volunteered with Habitat for Humanity on a homebuilding project benefiting local families in need. They have also donated food during the holiday season to local food banks, and took part in clothing drives for underserved school districts. Additionally, Pulte employee volunteers contributed other services and financial support for Rebuilding Together Oakland and Homeaid, supporting projects that included building transitional housing for battered women, remodeling teen addiction rehabilitation centers and improving senior housing.

Additional information is available on the company's website.  $\blacksquare$ 

#### **Public Service Enterprise Group Inc.**

80 Park Plaza Newark, NJ 07102 https://corporate.pseg.com, (800) 436-7734

#### **OVERVIEW**

Public Service Enterprise Group (PSEG) is a diversified energy company headquartered in Newark, NJ, and serving customers throughout the Mid-Atlantic. Established in 1903, PSEG provides gas and electrical services to millions of customers through two principal operating subsidiaries—Public Service Electric and Gas Co. and PSEG Long Island. Its PSEG Power subsidiary operates power plants and sells the electricity to PSEG and other utilities. In 2022, the company posted revenues of \$9.8 billion and employed around 12,500 workers.

#### **GIVING**

PSEG conducts its philanthropy mainly through the PSEG Foundation, which the company founded with the mission to improve the quality of life in the various communities where its employees live and work.

The foundation's core giving areas are as follows:

- Local neighborhood support. Through its Neighborhood Partners Program, the foundation makes small grants to local nonprofits to support projects and initiatives in three categories:
- Environmental sustainability—this includes funding for programs that promote environmental sustainability, facilitate clean energy innovation, preserve ecosystems, and encourage conservation and foster environmental

justice.

- Social justice—which includes support for programs that empower diverse and inclusive communities, focusing on addressing inequities; elevating prosperity in communities through strategic initiatives aimed at closing the wealth inequality gap; promoting diversity, equity and inclusion, as well as racial and cultural awareness; and inequity studies and research.
- Equity and economic empowerment—this includes funding for programs that increase awareness of science, technology, engineering and math education and workforce readiness; expand educational opportunities; and support neighborhood revitalization through economic development and build healthy, safe and resilient communities.
- Community safety and well-being. Working with a number of partner organizations, the PSEG Foundation seeks to educate and prepare families to weather natural and manmade disasters, as well as strengthen the capacity of emergency response organizations and staff. For example:
- The foundation works with the American Red Cross to provide support activities in advance of a disaster, including training volunteers, securing shelter locations, stocking warehouses and maintaining disaster-relief vehicles.
- Through a partnership with the Council of New Jersey Grantmakers and the Center for Disaster Philanthropy, the foundation worked with other funders to create a Playbook for Philanthropic Response When Disaster Hits, which collates and distributes best practices and strategies employed by funders nationwide in response to disasters.
- The foundation also supports various hospitals and trauma centers that provide critical care in the company's operating communities in New Jersey, Connecticut and New York. In partnership with the hospitals, the foundation develops and delivers certified trainings in burn and trauma safety education and prevention.
- The company and its foundation help PSEG employees and customers in need through NJ Shares, a separate 501(c)(3) charity that provides grants to pay energy and utility bills of households in need through the support of donors and community organizations. PSEG matches both its employee and customer gifts made to the program.
- Sustainable neighborhoods. The foundation supports a range of organizations that promote environmental sustainability in PSEG communities. This includes support for public parks and open spaces used by community residents, as well as grants to environmental organizations

that protect and preserve natural resources, address climate change and build sustainable communities.

The foundation also supports community centers that provide a variety of programs and services for the whole family unit, including childcare services that enable parents to work full-time, mortgage and financial counseling, job placement and skills training, healthcare resources and information, and housing stability.

• Nonprofit and small business capacity building. The foundation encourages nonprofit and small business innovation and growth through capacity-building programs that give them the skills and tools they need to be successful. This includes support for such organizations as the Support Center: Partnership in Philanthropy, the Center for Nonprofits and The Women's Center for Entrepreneurship Corp., which help nonprofits and small business with strategy development, financial planning, marketing and fundraising, and staff development, among other services.

In addition, PSEG's employees volunteer in the communities where they live and work, making a positive difference by serving as athletics coaches, volunteer firefighters and ambulance corps members; serving on local educational and environmental boards; and volunteering with community-based nonprofits throughout the company's service areas, among other activities.

For more information, visit the company's website.

#### **Lamb Weston Holdings Inc.**

599 S. Rivershore Lane Eagle, ID 83616 https://www.lambweston.com, (800) 766-7783

#### **OVERVIEW**

Lamb Weston is a leading manufacturer of frozen potato, sweet potato, appetizer and vegetable products used in restaurants and retailers around the world. The company makes a wide variety of similar potato products, including french fries, tater tots, hash browns and potato skins, as well as non-potato appetizers such as breaded mushrooms, onion rings and mozzarella sticks. Its products are sold under the Lamb Weston, LW Private Reserve, CrispyCoat, Tavern Traditions and Stealth Fries brand names, among others. In 2023, the company reported sales of about \$5.3 billion and employed around 10,300 workers.

#### **GIVING**

Lamb Weston focuses its philanthropy on efforts to improve the quality of life in communities where it has operations. The company provides a mix of cash and in-kind contributions on the corporate level, as well as grantmaking through the Lamb Weston Foundation.

On the corporate level, Lamb Weston's giving has a major focus on alleviating hunger. To that end, it has established partnerships with numerous nonprofit organizations that provide food to those in need, as well as information and training on healthy eating. These partners primarily include food banks in its service areas, such as:

- Feeding America.
- The Food Bank of Northeast Louisiana.
- The Idaho Foodbank.
- The North Country Food Bank.
- The Oregon Food Bank.
- Second Harvest Inland Valley.
- The Taber Food Society.
- The Washington State University System Food Pantries.

In addition, individual Lamb Weston facilities support hunger relief agencies in their own local communities, often in coordination with employee volunteer service activities.

Meanwhile, the Lamb Weston Foundation provides cash grants to a wider range of groups and projects that aim to make the company's operating communities more equitable and vibrant places to live. As an example, the foundation recently awarded a \$125,000 grant to the James Beard Foundation's Food and Beverage Investment Fund for Black and Indigenous Americans to provide financial resources to food and beverage businesses that are majority-owned by black or Indigenous individuals.

It also donated \$75,000 to the Boardman Industry Learning Center in Boardman, Oregon, to help the facility expand its childcare services.

Lamb Weston also provided support for the people of Ukraine in the aftermath of Russia's invasion in February 2022. The Lamb Weston Foundation donated \$50,000 to World Central Kitchen, which provided meals to displaced Ukrainians.

Augmenting these efforts are numerous programs that encourage and reward giving and volunteerism among the company's employee ranks, including:

- Matching gifts. Since 2018, the company has offered a year-round matching gifts program to employees. Through the program, the Lamb Weston Foundation will provide a dollar-for-dollar match of any donations made by U.S. employees to eligible 501(c)(3) charities, up to \$1,000 per year.
- Pay It Forward. The company's Pay It Forward program aims to give its employees a role in directing the Lamb

Weston Foundation's grants. Through the program, every eligible employee in the U.S. and Canada receives \$50 in a special account, which they can then direct to the eligible charity of their choice.

- **Volunteer time off.** Lamb Weston offers all of its U.S.-based salaried employees eight hours of paid volunteer time off per year to volunteer with any eligible charity of their choice.
- **Board service grants.** The company encourages its employees to serve on the boards of local nonprofit groups by providing grants of \$2,500 to eligible 501(c)(3) organizations after an employee has served on their board for at least one year.

For further information, visit the company's website.

#### Paychex Inc.

911 Panorama Trail S.

Rochester, NY 14625

https://www.paychex.com, (844) 754-1453

#### **OVERVIEW**

Paychex is a leading provider of human capital management solutions for human resources, payroll, benefits and insurance services. Through its SurePayroll online portal, the company provides comprehensive payroll services for organizations of all types and sizes. Meanwhile, its Paychex Flex platform helps organizations integrate payroll with broader human resources management functions, including performance management and employee benefits administration. The company serves some 740,000 payroll clients across, mostly in the U.S. and Europe. In 2023, the company reported revenues of about \$5 billion and employed about 16,600 workers.

#### **GIVING**

Paychex conducts its philanthropy through the Paychex Charitable Foundation, which it established in 2014 to support economic development and enhance the quality of line in the communities where the company has operations.

The foundation's core giving areas include:

- Health and wellness.
- Entrepreneurship and education.
- Economic prosperity.

Within these areas, the foundation has established partnership with numerous leading national nonprofits, including:

 Mental Health America, a group that promotes mental health as a critical part of overall wellness, including prevention services, early identification and intervention for those at risk.

- Feeding America, the nation's largest hunger-relief organization, which provided 5.2 billion meals to people experiencing hunger in 2022 alone.
- Junior Achievement, which—through more than 100 local affiliates across the U.S.—reaches more than 3 million students per year in about 127,000 classrooms and after-school locations with core program content focused on work readiness, entrepreneurship and financial literacy.
- The National Urban League, which operates more than 90 local affiliates across the U.S., providing a mix of services that improve the lives of more than 3 million people annually through program areas that include education and job training, workforce development, entrepreneurship and more.

In 2022, the foundation launched a special program that directed \$5,000 grants to nonprofit organization aligned with each of the company's major DEI focus areas. Grantees include:

- The Martin Luther King, Jr., Center for Nonviolent Social Change, a national resource dedicated to empowering people to create a just, humane, equitable and peaceful world.
- Fisher House, which provides a home away from home for families of patients receiving medical care at major military and veteran medical centers.
- Girls Who Code Girls, which works to inspire, educate and equip girls with computing skills.
- The Trevor Project, a leading suicide prevention and mental health organization for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and questioning young people.
- Autism Speaks, which is dedicated to serving the needs of individuals with autism and their families.
- The Anti-Defamation League, which works to stop the defamation of the Jewish people and to secure justice and

fair treatment for all.

 The Wounded Warrior Project, which works to honor and empower severely injured service men and women by raising awareness for their needs and providing direct service.

In addition, the foundation recently launched a strategic giving initiative in response to the COVID-19 pandemic that specifically focuses on worker well-being and more specifically, Paychex workers' mental health, physical health, financial health and professional skills development. The initiative included a commitment of \$1 million over the course of four years to each of those four components. Grants will be awarded in up to 10 locations where a high concentration of Paychex employees live and work, including Albuquerque, NM; Baton Rouge, LA; Chicago, IL; Lehigh Valley, PA; Los Angeles, CA; Phoenix, AZ; Rochester, NY; San Diego, CA; Tampa, FL; and West Palm Beach, FL.

The company also offers an annual workplace giving campaign to raise funds for the United Way. Individual Paychex offices run fundraising events throughout the year, raising nearly \$900,000 in 2022 through employee pledges and fundraisers. The Paychex Charitable Foundation awarded a \$350,000 grant as well as a partial match for the employee pledges, bringing the campaign total to \$1.25 million.

Additionally, the company encourages and rewards volunteer service among its employee ranks through the annual Caring Spirit Award, which is awarded to a Paychex employee team that goes above and beyond in demonstrating their commitment to charitable service. The Award is awarded based on the teams' collective support of the annual United Way campaign; whether they've secured funding from the Paychex Charitable Foundation to support their activities; and the breadth and depth of grass-roots charitable initiatives they undertake throughout the year.

Visit the company's website for further information.

#### **RESEARCH**

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2022, but most of that was due to a drop in non-cash giving. Is it all related to the pandemic and the surge in non-cash giving that followed? Or is something else causing a pause in non-cash?

A: Yes, the primary driver for the overall drop in giving is related to the pandemic and the surge of non-cash giving during that time with companies donating items such as personal protective equipment (PPE). The amount of noncash giving in the Consumer Staples and Health Care industries was particularly high because they were supporting basic needs such as aid and medications. Most of the time, companies donate what they can when they can, and if there is no stock to contribute or donate due to economic constraints, then there are no noncash donations to go out.

**Q:** After the big drop in 2021, the sector eked out a small increase in overall 2022 giving, less than pre-pandemic annual increases. What are the reasons for this lower than usual increase?

A: Total community investments were 14% lower in 2022 than in 2020, and disaster relief decreased 39%, reflecting a decline in COVID-19-related community investment spending. But between 2021 and 2022, there was a slight increase in spending of 1%, yet with a slower growth rate than was seen annually pre-pandemic, which was 3% from 2018 to 2019. While a lot of it was companies reaffirming commitments, the reason for the minor increase may be that they are also focused on establishing a new normal following the pandemic. And of course, economic factors such as inflation make a significant impact on what the overall number is.

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#### **RESEARCH**

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**Q:** Giving related to environmental concerns appears to have seen higher growth than other program areas. What is driving this? And what types of programs, specifically, are being funded in this area?

**A:** A lot of the environmental drivers are both regulatory and cultural, as a lot of companies are currently ramping up sustainability efforts. Part of this includes EU regulations such as the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD), as well as Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC)-proposed mandates around Climate Related Disclosures. These regulations are creating new cultural and investor expectations about a company's strategies for offsetting emissions, for example, and these strategies might also include funding non-profits related to climate change mitigation or biodiversity and conservation.

**Q:** The data shows that employee volunteerism rates have been slow to return to pre-pandemic levels. Why is that?

**A:** The change in employee volunteerism rates may be because the workforce looks different than it did before the pandemic, which includes working from home and the introduction of hybrid work. In turn, this change in where employees work has altered workplace volunteer opportunities and created a proliferation of virtual volunteering. In 2022, 86% of companies offered domestic employees virtual volunteering opportunities,

the same amount as in the previous year, and 55% of companies offered them to international employees, an increase of 6% from 2021. Companies want volunteering to remain an essential component of their employee engagement strategies and are pivoting to encourage volunteering with organizations that feel of value to employees, such as skills-based volunteering programs. The median number of volunteered hours for companies with skills-based volunteering programs in 2022 amounted to 65,560 hours, a 31% increase from 2020's 50,000 hours. Companies are investing in the types of programs that have a high impact, and those where employees feel trust and value.

**Q:** The level of giving via matching gifts seems to have changed very little since the CECP has been tracking it. Why has there been so little growth in this area? Is this an opportunity for companies to expand their efforts?

**A:** Two reasons that there may have been little growth in matching gifts are that people are giving outside of their company's giving platform, and because of economic factors like high inflation making it more difficult. Giving USA found that overall individual giving in 2023 was down, and that's not unique to the corporate space at all. Companies can take action to make contributions more attractive to employees though, like for example, having a more open matching gift policy, as opposed to providing a limited set of organizations that employees can donate towards.

For more information, visit http://cecp.co.

#### **INITIATIVE**

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organization with a focus on its programming in Indiana and the Gulf of Mexico. By expanding resources into Minnesota—near Cummins' plant in Fridley, Minnesota—the project will help improve water quality in that area by reducing nutrient and sediment pollution entering the rivers and streams within the basin, the company said.

More specifically, it will improve about 25,000 acres of farmland through conservation practices by restoring an estimated 200 wetlands that filter and store groundwater, restoring wild rice populations and increasing their abundance to support native tribes.

Funds will also be used to enhance a stretch of river habitat, and distribute 250 soil health kits, which will be provided to agronomists, farm advisors and influential farmers, the company said.

In addition to the overall, community-wide environmental benefits of the program, it is expected to result in the preservation/protection of fresh water exceeding the entire annual water consumption at Cummins facilities in the area.

Meanwhile, in Nigeria, the grant to WaterAid will help expand access to safe and sustainable water, sanitation and

hygiene in an area where some 33% of the people lack access to basic drinking water, 55% lack access to basic sanitation and over 80% lack access to basic hygiene services.

Cummins has a significant business presence and employee base in the area, and reliable and clean water is critical for its operations.

The grant to WaterAid will support Nigeria's National Action Plan to reverse the national state of emergency related to water, sanitation and hygiene. The program aims to help state governments make potable water available and accessible, while promoting good hygiene practices in schools and communities. In addition, WaterAid will build capacity to operate and manage the water, sanitation and hygiene facilities after construction, sustainably addressing operations and maintenance.

Both grants will help Cummins achieve its PLANET 2050 sustainability goal of producing net water benefits that exceed its annual water use in all Cummins regions by 2030.

So while the investments do have a tangible and substantive benefit for the company's operating communities, they also have a direct, bottom-line benefit for the company as well—a definite win—win.

For more information, visit https://www.cummins.com.

## **GRANT ALERTS**

#### **Aging**

## **Grants for aging-related research**

Scope: The Glenn Foundation for Medical Research and the American Federation for Aging Research jointly established the Glenn/AFAR Grants for Junior Faculty to support preliminary research that will serve as the basis for longer term research efforts on the biology of aging. The goal of this program is to assist in the development of the careers of junior investigators committed to pursuing careers in the field of aging research. Research projects should be concerned with understanding the basic mechanisms of aging rather than disease-specific research. Projects investigating age-related diseases are supported if approached from the point of view of how basic aging processes may lead to these outcomes.

**Deadline:** Letters of Intent are due by Dec. 18.

Funds: Grants range up to \$150,000 each.

Eligibility: Applicants must be an independent investigator and must be no more than 10 years beyond the start of postdoctoral research training as of July 1, 2024. Preference will be given to investigators who are in the first three years of a faculty appointment.

**Areas:** A wide variety of research topics can be supported through this program. Examples of potentially fundable areas of research include, but are not limited to:

- Aging and immune function.
- Stem cell aging.
- Inflammation.
- Genetic control of longevity.
- Neurobiology and neuropathology of aging.
- Invertebrate or vertebrate animal models.
- Cardiovascular aging.
- Aging and cellular stress response.
- Metabolic and endocrine changes.

The American Federation for Aging Research, 55 W. 39th St., 16th Floor, New York, NY 10018; (212) 703-9977.

https://www.afar.org.

#### **Animal Welfare**

## **Morris Animal Foundation genome** research grants

Scope: The Morris Animal Foundation was established with the mission to bridge science and resources to advance the health of animals. To achieve this aim, the foundation funds hypothesis-driven, humane research projects with high scientific merit and the potential for significant impact. The

foundation is currently accepting applications for funding under its Equine Behavior Relating to Health and Welfare grant program, which will support research that results in impactful animal health achievements and benefits both scientific and non-scientific stakeholders, including veterinarians, horse owners, communities and the environment.

Deadline: Dec. 13.

Funds: Grants range up to \$20,000.

Eligibility: The program is open to scientific researchers with applicable knowledge and experience in the field of equine health and behavior.

Areas: This program specifically funds pilot studies of equine behavior/welfare. The focus should be on improving the lives of horses by increasing our understanding of the behavioral domain. This includes areas such as cognition, learning, stereotypies, separation anxiety, affiliative behavior toward (bonding with) humans, the effects of equine temperament on welfare and equine psychopharmacology. Projects using behavioral measurements simply as a tool to address non-behavioral hypotheses are not of interest. The project may involve domesticated or wild horses.

The Morris Animal Foundation, 720 S. Colorado Blvd, Suite 174A, Denver, CO 80246; (800) 243-2345.

https://www.morrisanimalfoundation.org.

#### **Arts and Culture**

## **Classics for Kids Foundation grants** for stringed instruments

Scope: The Classics for Kids Foundation works to empower young people to shape positive futures through music. In support of that mission, the foundation awards grants to build sustainable stringed instrument music programs in schools and help them purchase high-quality instruments for students served by those programs.

**Deadline:** Dec. 31.

Funds: Grants range as high as \$5,000 but are typically around \$2,000 or less.

Eligibility: The program is open to public and private schools or nonprofit organizations with relevant programming.

Areas: Funds can be used for the purchase of any type of stringed instrument to be used in a music program that serves children in kindergarten through grade 12.

The Classics for Kids Foundation, P. O. Box 5977, Holliston, MA 01746; (508) 740-8331.

https://www.classicsforkids.org.

# Shakespeare performance and outreach grants

**Scope:** Shakespeare in American Communities is a theater program of the National Endowment for the Arts in cooperation with Arts Midwest. The program brings performances and educational activities to audiences across the country by supporting high-quality productions of Shakespeare's plays in middle schools, high schools, and juvenile justice facilities throughout the United States.

**Deadline:** An Intent to Apply form must be submitted by Jan. 25, 2024.

Funds: Grants range up to \$25,000 each.

**Eligibility:** Applicants must be 501(c)(3) nonprofit professional theater companies located in the U.S.—or the Native Nations that share this geography—with a minimum of two years' experience providing professional performances and related educational activities to middle and/or high schools.

Areas: Grants are awarded under two program categories:

- Shakespeare in American Communities: Juvenile Justice. This category is open to 501(c)(3) theater companies or organizations across the nation that have two years' experience partnering with the justice system and engaging young people in theater education programs that illuminate the works of Shakespeare and addresses his work in a modern context. Activities must take place between August 1, 2024, and July 31, 2025. Grant awards of \$15,000–\$25,000 will be awarded to 6–10 applicants this cycle.
- Shakespeare in American Communities: Schools. This category is open to eligible 501(c)(3) professional theater companies that have produced Shakespeare or classically based repertoire within the last five years and have a minimum of two years' experience providing performances and related educational activities for middle and/or high school students. Grants of up to \$25,000 will be awarded to up to 50 theater companies to support performances and related educational activities for students from five or more schools. These awards require a 1-to-1 nonfederal funding match.

Arts Midwest, 3033 Excelsior Blvd., Suite 380, Minneapolis, MN 55416; (612) 341-0755.

➤ https://bit.ly/343HD2Y.

#### **Children and Youth**

# American Academy of Dermatology's shade structure grants

**Scope:** Founded in 1938, the American Academy of Dermatology is the largest and most representative dermatology group in the United States. With a membership of more than 20,000, it represents virtually all practicing dermatologists in

the United States, as well as a growing number of international dermatologists.

The organization is currently accepting applications for funding under its Shade Structure Program, which provides funds for the purchase of permanent shade structures designed to provide shade and ultraviolet ray protection for outdoor areas utilized by children and youth that are not protected from the sun, such as playgrounds, pools or recreation spaces.

Deadline: Dec. 23.

**Funds:** Grants range up to \$8,000 each.

**Eligibility:** The program is open to nonprofit organizations or public schools that primarily serve children and teens aged 18 years and younger. Applicants must demonstrate an ongoing commitment to sun safety and skin cancer awareness by having an active sun-safety/skin cancer awareness program for at least one year prior to application. Applicants must also obtain sponsorship by an AAD member dermatologist in their area.

Areas: Grants are intended to support the construction of a permanent shade structure with a roof constructed of shade cloth, metal or wood and provide significant protection from ultraviolet radiation. Funds can be used for the cost of the structure's materials as well as installation. The AAD also provides a permanent sign to be displayed near the shade structure that promotes the importance of sun safety. Examples of outdoor locations that are eligible for grant funds can include, but are not limited to, playgrounds, pool decks, ballfield dugouts and eating areas.

The American Academy of Dermatology, 1201 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W., Suite 540, Washington, D.C. 20004; (888) 462-3376.

➤ http://bit.ly/2cR6i3O.

#### **Community Improvement and Development**

## **Walmart Foundation local grants**

**Scope:** The Walmart Foundation established its Local Grant Program to support nonprofit organizations operating within the service areas of individual U.S.-based Walmart stores, Sam's Clubs and logistics facilities. These grants are smaller and more locally focused than the foundation's national programs, which tend to fund a broader range of program areas.

Deadline: Dec. 31.

Funds: Grants range from \$500 up to \$5,000 each.

**Eligibility:** The program is open to nonprofit organizations that operate on the local level (or are an affiliate/chapter of a larger organization that operates locally) and directly benefit the service area of the facility from which they are requesting funding.

Areas: Funds are awarded for the following project

categories:

- Community and economic development. Improving local communities for the benefit of low-income individuals and families in the local service area
- Diversity and inclusion. Fostering the building of relationships and understanding among diverse groups in the local service area.
- Education. Providing afterschool enrichment, tutoring or vocational training for low-income individuals and families in the local service area.
- Environmental sustainability. Preventing waste, increasing recycling, or supporting other programs that work to improve the environment in the local service area.
- Health and human services. Providing medical screening, treatment, social services or shelters for low-income individuals and families in the local service area.
- Hunger relief and healthy eating. Providing Federal or charitable meals/snacks for low-income individuals and families in the local service area.
- Public safety. Supporting public safety programs through training programs or equipment in the local service area.
- Quality of life. Improving access to recreation, arts or cultural experiences for low-income individuals and families in the local service area.
  - https://bit.ly/35N1lnt.

#### **Environment**

## **Chesapeake Bay Trust Restoration** Research grants

Scope: The Chesapeake Bay Trust, in partnership with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, the Maryland Department of Transportation's State Highway Administration, Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection and other partners, is currently accepting funding proposals under its Restoration Research award program. The goal of the program is to shine some light on several key restoration questions, which will ultimately lead to increased confidence in proposed restoration project outcomes, clarification of the optimal site conditions in which to apply particular restoration techniques, information useful to regulatory agencies in project permitting and information that will help guide monitoring programs.

**Deadline:** The deadline had not been announced at press time but typically falls around the last week of January.

Funds: Grants of up to \$50,000 will be awarded for literature reviews, while there is no cap for research projects.

Eligibility: The program is open to not-for-profit entities, such as academic institutions and nonprofit organizations, and for-profit entities.

**Areas:** Proposals should address one or more of the following core research topics:

- The effectiveness of stormwater and stream restoration programs at the watershed/catchment scale.
- The effectiveness of restoration practices at the project scale.
- The trade-offs in resource improvements incurred by restoration practices and the resulting net ecological change as measured by a common "currency."

The Chesapeake Bay Trust, 108 Severn Ave., Annapolis, MD 21403; (410) 974-2941.

➤ https://bit.ly/3kMgDwI.

#### **Medical Research**

## Kidney disease research grants

Scope: The American Kidney Fund works to fight kidney disease by providing financial support to patients in need, and by supporting health education initiatives and prevention and treatment programs.

In support of that mission, the organization is accepting applications for funding under its Clinical Scientist in Nephrology Program, which supports clinical research projects focused on one or more aspects of nephrology.

Deadline: Dec. 18.

Funds: Grants range up to \$90,000 per year for up to two

Eligibility: Applicants must be a citizen or permanent resident of the United States, have completed a residency in internal medicine or pediatric medicine, be qualified to sit for the American Board of Internal Medicine or Pediatric Medicine, be in the process of completing or have completed at least one year of training in clinical nephrology and intend to pursue a professional career with emphasis on the provision of care to patients with kidney disease.

**Areas:** Funding is provided for research fellowships in a variety of subjects relevant to clinical nephrology, including disciplines in public health and preventive medicine, in the humanities and in the social and behavioral sciences. Examples of relevant research topics include bioethics, biostatistics, epidemiology, health economics, health policy and administration, health services research, medical decision science and patient oriented research. The AKF will give special consideration to projects relating to clinical ethics, quality of care and quality of life. The organization encourages the exploration of new fields of study that bear on the improvement of clinical care in nephrology.

➤ https://bit.ly/1UxByTW.

## Physical therapy research grants

**Scope:** The American Physical Therapy Association established its Academy of Leadership & Innovation division with the aim to inspire physical therapy professional transformation beyond clinical excellence to improve the human experience.

In support of that goal, the ALI is accepting applications for funding for community focused projects and research studies that investigate a question or questions of importance to health policy or clinical administration.

Deadline: Dec. 31.

Funds: Grants range up to \$15,000 each.

**Eligibility:** All APTA ALI members are eligible to apply. Additional requirements apply depending on grant category.

**Areas:** Two types of grant proposals will be considered under this program:

- Research grants. The purpose of the ALI Research Grant Program is to stimulate, encourage and support research studies by ALI members that enhance the body of knowledge related to one or more of ALI's mission and areas of focus to optimize the value of physical therapy and progress equity in health. The ALI Research Grant is intended to support emerging investigators or senior investigators embarking on a new research agenda.
- Community grants. The purpose of the ALI Community Grant Program is to stimulate, encourage and support activities by ALI members that improve the health of their clients and communities by funding programs that address unmet needs in the community related to the APTA and ALI missions. ALI Community Grant recipients must work in partnership with at least one community organization or public agency.

The American Physical Therapy Association Academy of Leadership & Innovation, 1818 Parmenter St., Suite 300, Middleton, WI 53562; (608) 360-6420.

➤ https://www.aptaali.org.

# Leukemia and Lymphoma Society research grants

**Scope:** The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society funds new and innovative research that shows high promise for translating basic biomedical knowledge to clinical application in the search for treatment and cures for leukemia, lymphoma and myeloma. The organization is currently accepting applications for funding under its Specialized Center of Research grant program, which is intended to bring together established investigators from one or several institutions to develop a focused research program, foster new interactions and cooperation, and enhance interdisciplinary research among the participants. The overall goal is to enhance the development of innovative strategies for the treatment, diagnosis or prevention

of hematological malignancies.

**Deadline:** Letters of intent are due Dec. 7.

Funds: Up to \$1 million a year for up to five years.

**Eligibility:** Applicants must applicants must hold an MD or equivalent degree and must be affiliated with a nonprofit institution at the time funding commences and for the duration of the award. The program welcomes applications worldwide from appropriate academic institutions and investigators of any nationality.

**Areas:** A major emphasis in the SCOR grant program is on clinical translation of scientific results. Ideally, a SCOR application will propose a combination of basic and translational laboratory research that will lead to eventual clinical translation. There should be clear and direct "bench to bedside" translational trajectory from one or more of the projects proposed.

The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, 3 International Drive, Suite 200, Rye Brook, NY, 10573; (888) 557-7177.

➤ https://bit.ly/46SBnv8.

#### **Science and Technology**

# **Grants for optics, photonics education**

**Scope:** SPIE—formerly the Society of Photo-Optical Instrumentation Engineers—is an international society advancing an interdisciplinary approach to the science and application of light. The society advances emerging technologies through interdisciplinary information exchange, continuing education, publications, patent precedent and career and professional growth. In support of that mission, the organization is accepting funding proposals under its Education Outreach grant program.

Deadline: Dec. 1.

**Funds:** Grants range up to \$5,000 each.

**Eligibility:** Applications are accepted from nonprofit organizations and educational institutions such as universities, optics centers, science centers, primary or secondary schools, youth clubs, industry associations or international optical societies, so long as the applicant is a member of SPIE.

**Areas:** Funds are awarded to support optics- and photonics-related education outreach activities, including science, technology, engineering and math activities so long as they have an optics or photonics component. Funding typically covers expenses such as outreach kits and materials, snacks, refreshments and event-related expenses, and promotional materials.

➤ https://www.spie.org.