

For Immediate Release

Contact:

Kristin Roth-Schrefer
Doris Duke Charitable Foundation
212.974.7003
kschrefer@ddcf.org



DORIS DUKE
CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

**Doris Duke Charitable Foundation Announces New
Grants to Support Clinical Research Experiences for High School Students from Underrepresented Minorities**

New York, N.Y., Dec. 13, 2011 – The Doris Duke Charitable Foundation today announced the recipients of more than \$1.5 million in grants that will establish *Clinical Research Experiences for High School Students (CREHSS)* at universities, hospitals and research institutes across the country.

Nine institutions were selected to receive three-year grants of \$194,400 each to provide high school students from underrepresented minorities in medicine the opportunity to participate in mentored, clinical research activities (see page 2 for a list of the institutions). Each institution will select up to 10 students per year to take part in the program.

“The ultimate goal of the *Clinical Research Experiences for High School Students* program is to increase the diversity of the biomedical research workforce,” said Betsy Myers, Program Director of the Medical Research Program at DDCF. “While they are the fastest growing segment of the US population, minorities remain underrepresented in medical research careers. For example, almost 13% of the population is black and about 16% is Hispanic, yet among medical students, only 7% and 8% are black and Hispanic, respectively. We hope that early engagement in the scientific process will motivate students to pursue a career in clinical research or a related field.”

For the purposes of this award program, the foundation considers underrepresented minorities as individuals from underrepresented racial and ethnic groups, which includes Native Americans or Alaska Natives, blacks or African Americans, Hispanics or Latinos, Native Hawaiians or other Pacific Islanders; individuals with disabilities; and individuals from socially, culturally, economically or educationally disadvantaged backgrounds that may have inhibited their ability to pursue a career in health-related research.

A key feature of the program is the opportunity for students to work with researchers who have agreed to serve as mentors. Students will participate in research projects focusing in various areas, such as health disparities, childhood diseases (including sickle cell disease) and surgical research.

For the inaugural CREHSS competition, the Medical Research Program received 63 proposals from institutions in 27 states, a response that exceeded expectations. The proposals were reviewed by 12 experts in education, community outreach, and clinical research, which led to the identification of the nine programs recommended for funding.

Since 1998, the foundation’s Medical Research Program has sought to advance the prevention, prediction, diagnosis and treatment of human disease by strengthening and supporting clinical research. To learn more about the program or to sign up to receive competition announcements, visit www.ddcf.org/mrp.

The mission of the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation is to improve the quality of people's lives through grants supporting the performing arts, environmental conservation, medical research and the prevention of child abuse and neglect, and through preservation of the cultural and environmental legacy of Doris Duke's properties.

* * * * *

2011 Doris Duke Clinical Research Experiences for High School Students Award Recipients
(listed alphabetically by institution)

Health Science Academy

Arthur Ashe Institute for Urban Health Inc
Director: Ruth Browne, ScD

Building Excellent Scientists for Tomorrow (BEST): Developing Medical Researchers through Bradley University's Summer Clinical Research Internships for High School Students

Bradley University
Director: Kelly McConaughay, PhD

Project STRIDE (Student Training in Research Involving Disparity Elimination)

Charles Drew University of Medicine & Science
Director: Keith Norris
Co-Director: Dolores Caffey-Fleming, MS, MPH

Latino & African American High School Internship Program at the Saban Research Institute of Children's Hospital Los Angeles

Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Director: Emil Bogenmann, PhD, EdD

CHORI Summer Research Program for High School Students

Children's Hospital & Research Center Oakland
Director: Vasanthi Narayanaswami, PhD
Co-Director: Bertram Lubin, MD

Stanford Institutes of Medicine Summer Research Program (SIMR)- Clinical Research Experiences

Stanford University
Director: PJ Utz, MD

Building Health Career Skills (BHCS)

Temple University
Director: Raul DeLa Cadena, MD

The Doris Duke Foundation Academy for Clinical Research (DDF-ACR)

University of Pittsburgh
Director: Michael Lotze, MD
Co-Director: Wishwa Kapoor, MD, MPH

Surgery Clinical Research Experiences for High School Students

University of Wisconsin Foundation
Director: Herbert Chen, MD