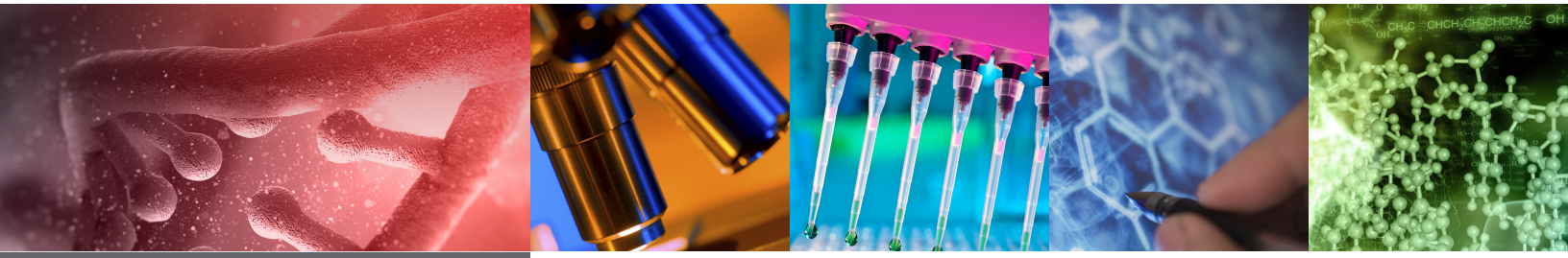

- PROGRAM OVERVIEW
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- RESOURCE ACCESS AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

NIH Common Fund Gabriella Miller Kids First Pediatric Research Program

Program Overview

Birth defects and childhood cancers, if not fatal, have profound, lifelong effects on patients and their families. Society as a whole ultimately shares in the social and economic costs of these pediatric conditions. The role of genetics in these areas is not yet fully understood, and prior to her death from cancer in 2013, 10 year-old Gabriella Miller called on Congress to increase support for pediatric research. In 2014, the Gabriella Miller Kids First Research Act was signed into law, authorizing $12.6 million each year for 10 years to support pediatric research within the NIH Common Fund. In early 2015, the NIH launched the Gabriella Miller Kids First Pediatric Research (Kids First) program to build a pediatric data resource that combines genetic sequencing data with clinical data from multiple pediatric cohorts, focusing on structural birth defects and childhood cancers.

Program Goal

To develop a data resource for the pediatric research community of well-curated clinical and genetic sequence data that will allow scientists to identify genetic pathways that underlie specific pediatric conditions but that may also be shared between apparently disparate conditions.

By integrating data from many conditions, the NIH expects entirely new ways of understanding childhood development and disease to emerge, which should, in turn, stimulate research toward more effective preventions and therapies for diverse conditions.

Program Initiatives

- Identify cohorts of children with birth defects for genetic sequencing.
- Identify cohorts of children with childhood cancer for genetic sequencing.
- Develop an online data resource that combines genetic sequencing and clinical data.
- Support pilot projects in data mining, aggregation, and bioinformatics tools for the data resource.
- Make the data resource available to the biomedical research community to use in their own studies to stimulate research toward more effective preventions and therapies for birth defects and childhood cancers.

Resource Access and Funding Opportunities

All Funding Opportunity Announcements (FOAs) related to the Kids First program can be found online: commonfund.nih.gov/kidsfirst/grants. **Future year activities depend upon the availability of funds.**

- In fiscal year 2015, the NIH issued a call for applications for researchers with structural birth defect and childhood cancer research cohorts to obtain access to NIH-supported genomic sequencing centers. See FOA **PAR-15-259**, "Discovery of the Genetic Basis of Structural Birth Defects and of Childhood Cancers: Gabriella Miller Kids First Pediatric Research Program (X01)."
- The NIH plans to **reissue the call for applications to sequence structural birth defect and childhood cancer research cohorts** in future years.
- The NIH plans to issue an FOA in fiscal year 2016 for a dedicated DNA sequencing center for Kids First cohort samples.
- The NIH plans to issue an FOA in fiscal year 2016 or 2017 to build the pediatric data resource.

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QR Code for Kids First Program

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