

2009 Pennsylvania Mission Investment

In Pennsylvania, over \$3.9 million will be invested in mission programs in 2009.

Thanks to your support, the March of Dimes is investing in research and community programs aimed at giving every baby a healthy start in life.

PA Community Grants

<u>Grantee</u>	<u>Amount</u>
University of Pittsburgh – Children’s Hospital of Pgh.	\$20,000
Hamot Medical Center	\$20,000
Thomas Jefferson Hospital – MATER	\$17,452
Lancaster General Hospital	\$15,875
Mainline Health – Lankenau	\$10,000
Maternal and Child Health Consortium	\$15,000
Maternal and Family Health Services, Inc.	\$23,500
Pennsylvania Department of Health	\$24,920
The Salvation Army	\$25,000
Temple University Health Behavior Clinic	\$20,000
Titusville Area Hospital	\$21,916
Total	\$213,663

National Research Grants Active in Pennsylvania in 2009



▪ Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia	\$150,000
▪ The Wistar Institute	\$150,000
▪ Thomas Jefferson University	\$300,176
▪ University of Pennsylvania (5 grants)	\$1,381,189
▪ Magee-Womens Research Institute (University of Pittsburgh—2 grants)	\$543,407
▪ Pennsylvania State University	\$150,000
▪ Lankenau Institute for Medical Research	\$264,410
▪ Drexel University College of Medicine—St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children	\$282,000

Total **\$3,371,182**

PA Community Awards

<u>Agency Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Pinnacle Health System	\$300
Grand View Hospital	300
Allegheny General Hospital	300
Lower Bucks Hospital	300
York Hospital – Wellspan Health	200
Family Services of Montgomery County	250
Paoli Hospital	400
Somerset Tapestry of Health	200
Doylestown Hospital Birthing Center	200
Geisinger Medical Center	325
Drexel University College of Medicine	500
Total	\$3,275



Prematurity Research in Pennsylvania

Two of Seven Projects Chosen this Year

The work of seven researchers will be supported by new March of Dimes Prematurity Research Initiative (PRI) grants. The nearly \$2.7 million in new grants continues March of Dimes support for efforts to predict and prevent preterm birth.

Two of the grants were awarded to researchers in Pennsylvania:

- **Jennifer C. Condon, PhD**, assistant professor, Magee-Womens Research Institute, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA **(\$475,300)**
- **Michal Elovitz, MD**, assistant professor, University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, Philadelphia, PA **(\$523,087)**

Jennifer Condon, PhD, is seeking clues to what causes both normal labor and premature labor. “We think we’ve found a central mechanism for why the pregnant uterus usually stays quiet for nine months,” Dr. Condon says. “We hypothesize that inappropriate elimination of an enzyme, Caspase-3, from the pregnant uterus may be the cause of the onset of preterm labor.”

Michal Elovitz, MD, of the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, is looking for predictive biomarkers in maternal blood to identify mothers and babies at special risk of prematurity as a basis of optimal use of existing interventions and for exploring new ones.

Pennsylvania is proud to play a hands-on role in searching for the answers to prematurity by having two of the Prematurity Research Initiative grants. The March of Dimes Pennsylvania Chapter supports the efforts of Dr. Condon and Dr. Elovitz and we’re hopeful that in the future, mothers and babies will benefit from their research.

Mission Investment in Pennsylvania

Active Research Grants	\$3,371,182
Local Community Grants & Awards	\$216,938
NICU Family Support Program	\$95,879
Educational Programs & Collaborative Projects	\$116,997
Special Project – NICU Staff Education	\$100,000
Advocacy Initiatives	\$27,396
Total	\$3,928,392