The Role of the Foundation for the NIH in GAIN

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The Foundation for NIH is an independent, non-profit organization authorized by Congress to support the mission of the National Institutes of Health (NIH)—improving health through scientific discovery—through the creation and facilitation of public-private partnerships to advance collaboration with biomedical researchers from universities, industry, and nonprofit organizations.
What is a Public-Private Partnership?

- A collaborative venture between national, state and/or local government and one or more private sector entities
- Built on the expertise of each partner
- Effectively meets clearly-defined public needs
- Governed by formal agreement

Each partner agrees to share its assets in order to deliver an outcome that will benefit the general public
Examples of Key FNIH Partnerships

Global Health
  • Grand Challenges in Global Health (GCGH)
    ▪ Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, CIHR, Wellcome Trust
    ▪ $450 million in private funds, 43 grants

Genomics
  • Genetic Association Information Network (GAIN)
    ▪ Pfizer, Affymetrix, Perlegen, Broad Institute, Abbott, others
    ▪ $24 million in private funds to date
  • Mouse Sequencing Consortium
    ▪ Merck, Affymetrix, GlaxoSmithKline
    ▪ $18 million in private funds of $ 58 million initiative

Biomarker research
  • Alzheimer’s Disease Neuroimaging Initiative (ADNI)
    ▪ 10 pharmaceutical and biotech companies, 2 non-profits
    ▪ $23 million in private funds of $60 million initiative
  • The Biomarker Consortium
    ▪ FNIH, NIH, FDA, PhRMA launch major public-private biomedical partnership in October 2006 to find and validate new biomarkers and tools
    ▪ 12+ Industry Contributing Members currently signed on
The FNIH’s Role in GAIN

- Fundraising and funds management
  - ~ $26 million raised to date

- Governance and policy management
  - Staff support for GAIN Executive, Steering Committees
  - FNIH Board provides final approval for GAIN awards
  - FNIH Board administers COI & Confidentiality Policies; approves additional policies (co-developed with NIH)

- Project management: A partnership with NHGRI and NCBI
  - GAIN selection process (peer review, TAG, Steering Committee) & awards
  - Genotyping contracts & support
  - Analysis workshops
  - Database
  - Media relations, website, etc.
Benefits of Working with FNIH

- Leverages funding/expertise from additional partners and/or stakeholders
- Enables dialogue among all partners including researchers, funders, regulators, and industry
- Accelerates high priority projects by packaging and procuring services in new ways;
- Creates specialized management capacity based on efficient private business practices for large and complex programs;
- Facilitates the delivery of new technology developed by private entities;
- Acquires private sector expertise in accessing and organizing the widest range of financial resources; and
- Brings entrepreneurial development, ownership, and operation of assets
- Ensures private funds received for partnerships are spent appropriately; align with donors’ intentions
The Foundation for NIH

- Ten years new and evolving
- NIH priorities are Foundation’s points of reference
- Public-private partnerships are key feature of NIH Road Map
- Programs specially configured, no rigid template for partnership arrangements, not formulaic
- Flexible, agile
- Leap extraneous obstacles
- Access to $ and other resources