



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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NFL CHARITIES AWARDS \$1.5 MILLION IN SPORTS MEDICAL RESEARCH GRANTS TO FOUNDATIONS, UNIVERSITIES AND MEDICAL FACILITIES NATIONWIDE

NFL Charities, the charitable foundation of the National Football League, has awarded \$1.5 million in grants to support sports-related medical research at 17 organizations, the NFL announced today.

Grant recipients will use the funds to further study sports-related medical issues such as ACL injury prevention and repair, joint stability and biomechanics, cardiovascular risk factors, cartilage repair, bone grafting, and mild traumatic brain injury research.

A four-member panel of medical experts and professionals evaluate and recommend grantees each year that are then approved by the NFL Charities board.

“NFL Charities Medical Research Grants strive to make the game of football and all athletics safer by supporting a broad range of the best sports-related medical research proposals,” said Vanderbilt University Head Team Physician **DR. KURT SPINDLER**, who is also the chairman of the NFL Medical Grant Committee. “The goal is to look at some of the many risk factors that exist not only for football players, but in all athletics and among citizens with active lifestyles.”

The NFL has long supported sports-related medical research and through NFL Charities’ Medical Research Grants has awarded more than \$11 million in recent years.

Formed in 1973, NFL Charities is a nonprofit organization that enables NFL teams and their players to contribute collectively to charitable causes on a national level. NFL Charities, which has approved more than \$110 million in grants to more than 300 different organizations since its inception, donates more than \$10 million in grants annually to support causes such as sports-related medical research, youth health programs and the charitable work of current and former NFL players.

2008 NFL Medical Grant Recipients

Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center; Duke University; Hospital for Special Surgery; National Athletic Trainers Association; National Football League Physicians Society; Ohio State University Research Foundation; Professional Football Athletic Trainers Society; Regents of the University of California-UCLA; Regents of the University of Minnesota; Rhode Island Hospital; University of Houston; University of Iowa; University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; University of Pittsburgh; University of South Carolina; Vanderbilt University; and Washington University School of Medicine

NFL Charities Board

Commissioner Roger Goodell; Former Commissioner Paul Tagliabue; Charlotte Jones Anderson, Dallas Cowboys Executive Vice President/Director of Charities; Michael Bidwill, Arizona Cardinals President; Jack Kemp, Former MVP quarterback, Congressman and Vice Presidential candidate; Mary Owen, Buffalo Bills Vice President of Strategic Planning; Alan Page, Minnesota Supreme Court Justice and Pro Football Hall of Fame Member; Delores Barr Weaver, Jacksonville Jaguars Foundation CEO

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