

## The Judith Jane Mason & Harold Stannett Williams Memorial Foundation

### Guidelines – National Medical Program (Alzheimer's disease & Chronic Fatigue Syndrome)

**Applications Close: 1 July**

#### Background

The Judith Jane Mason & Harold Stannett Williams Memorial Foundation (The Mason Foundation) was established as a result of a generous donation in 2003 from Judith Jane Mason (nee Williams).

The Foundation is named in honour of the benefactor and her father, Harold Stannett Williams who was born in the last years of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. While he was attending university, he studied Chinese/Japanese writing to divert his mind from the medical dissections involved in the medical studies he was undertaking. A holiday to the "Far East" intrigued him. He eventually became a silk merchant and never returned to medicine. He lived a long and fruitful life. His daughter describes him as "a most intelligent, wonderful and charitable man". The memory of his personal generosity is enhanced through this Foundation, created by Judith Mason to benefit others in perpetuity.

ANZ Trustees Limited is the sole trustee of The Judith Jane Mason and Harold Stannett Williams Memorial Foundation. The Foundation is a Private Ancillary Fund.

Through astute financial management, Judith Mason has taken an inheritance received from her father in the early 1990s and grown it into a considerable sum that is beyond her personal needs. As she has been very ill with Chronic Fatigue Syndrome, her needs are small. With the establishment of this Foundation, she wishes to make a significant social contribution to medical research in her own lifetime.

#### Areas of Focus

Two areas of need in the community have been prioritised for the Foundation's funding. The first is Alzheimer's disease. The second, which is perhaps dearer to the founder's heart, is Chronic Fatigue Syndrome. This is due to the fact that Chronic Fatigue Syndrome is such a damaging, yet poorly understood, illness and causes immense suffering. In recent years, prior to establishing this Foundation, Judith Mason donated generously and regularly to these two areas of research. Should research into these fields no longer be needed or able to be funded in Australia then the trust will provide funding for other areas of medical research; "other diseases that affect the human brain" has been nominated as the first such area.

#### Goal of The Mason Foundation

The goal of The Mason Foundation is to achieve ***enduring, positive impact in the areas of Chronic Fatigue Syndrome and Alzheimer's disease through funding medical research*** principally into the causes, prevention and/or management of these diseases.

There are two categories of grants open to applications for The Mason Foundation:

## **1. Chronic Fatigue Syndrome and related disorders**

It is understood that the sciences related to inflammation, cognition and neurosciences, all have a role to play in advancing our knowledge and understanding of Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (CFS). Therefore, in seeking to achieve the Foundation's goal with respect to CFS the Trustees recognise that support for research that is not directly targeted at people suffering from CFS may provide new insights into mechanism and treatments for this condition. Applications looking at fatigue and chronic neurological and inflammatory disorders would be welcomed.

In applying for this stream of funding, researchers must demonstrate how successful outcomes from their work could reasonably be expected to lead toward advances in understanding mechanisms, diagnosis, prevention and management of CFS.

Applications will be more highly regarded where homogenous and clinically well described cohorts are the focus of the research.

### **1.1 Early career researchers**

With a desire to develop the field of CFS Research the Trustees wish to provide support to early career researchers. Consequently, preference will be given to new researchers who have completed their PhD within the past five years and who are now positioning themselves to secure their first solo NHMRC grant.

**Individual, once-off grants of up to \$60,000 will be considered in this category. Applicants may reapply, although it is envisaged that these grants will help position researchers to attract larger funding from other competitive sources such as NHMRC within a reasonable amount of time.**

### **1.2 Proof of Principle grants**

The Trustees are keen to see CFS-related research attracting increased levels of competitive funding such as NHMRC funding. Therefore, preference will be given to 'proof of principle' projects. Researchers seeking funding through this stream will need to be able to convincingly argue how their project will reasonably position them to attract more significant competitive funding from sources such as the NHMRC.

**Individual, once-off grants of up to \$80,000 will be considered in this category.**

### **1.3 Innovation grants**

With a view to driving significant advances in our knowledge and understanding of CFS – its causes, treatment and cure – the Trustees make available Innovation Grants.

It is expected that applications for this funding will involve multi-disciplinary teams that are exploring novel concepts and innovative approaches. Furthermore, such applications will need to be considered likely to yield a dividend that couldn't otherwise be achieved and be for work that is new and distinct from other proposals previously submitted to this program for funding.

**Individual grants of up to \$250,000 over two years will be considered in this category.**

The total annual income available for the Chronic Fatigue Syndrome stream of funding is typically in the order of \$500,000 - \$600,000.

## 2. Alzheimer's disease

- Focus: Research into more effective diagnosis, treatment or cure of Alzheimer's disease.

In assessing projects, the Foundation will favourably consider applications for emerging research concepts requiring seed funding or young investigators getting established.

**Projects will be funded for one year only. Applicants may reapply, although the Trustees have a clear expectation that that these grants will be used to help position researchers to attract larger funding from other competitive sources such as NHMRC within a reasonable timeframe.**

Individual grants of up to \$60,000 will be considered, and the total annual income available for this grant category is typically in the order of \$500,000.

### **Making an Application**

1. Read all material in these Guidelines.
2. Read the "Privacy Statement and Consents" contained in the Granting FAQs document available from the ANZT website – [www.anz.com/anztrustees](http://www.anz.com/anztrustees) - in the Granting section.
3. Complete your application in the **Mason Foundation National Medical Program Application Form** available from our website - [www.anz.com/anztrustees](http://www.anz.com/anztrustees) - in the Health and Medical section (click on the National tab). If you wish to insert diagrams, charts or other graphical material as part of your application please do so in a separate document, refer to it in the body of your application and ensure you attach the document to the email to which you attach your application.
4. Grants will be made to organisations in Australia. In order to be eligible to receive funding from the Mason Foundation, organisations need to have been endorsed as Item 1 DGR (Deductible Gift Recipient) entities.

An independent panel of medical experts will review all applications, and make recommendations to the Trustees. All applications will remain confidential.

From time to time the Trustees may invite researchers to submit proposals for Special Grants.

### **Closing date (for both CFS and AD applications): 1 July each year**

Closing times are **5pm on 1 July** (even if the closing date falls on a weekend or Public Holiday). Late applications will not be accepted.

### **Notification date: mid-December**

Applicants can expect to know the outcome of their applications in December.

### **Reporting**

Successful grant recipients are required to lodge a report at the conclusion of the grant detailing the achievements and evaluating the success of the activities for which funding was given.

A proforma for these reports can be found on the ANZ Trustees website - [www.anztrustees.com/anztrustees](http://www.anztrustees.com/anztrustees) - in the Health & Medical section (click on the National tab).

### **Transferring grant funding**

Grant funding is provided to organisations and cannot be transferred to another organisation without prior approval from ANZ Trustees.

### **Additional information for higher education providers**

The Mason Foundation's medical and scientific research grants are listed as a compliant funding scheme on the Australian Competitive Grants Register (ACGR). The income higher education providers receive from such schemes listed on the ACGR is a metric used in driving the allocation of the Australian Government's Research Block Grants.