

# GIVING

## THE WORLD'S TOP CHARITY DONORS

Welcome to City A.M.'s 11th annual Charity Index, a ranking of the world's – and of Europe's – top 20 private institutional charity donors. In a year of great upheaval and uncertainty due to the Covid-19 pandemic, many of these donors have stepped up to the plate and pulled out the stops to keep charities afloat.

Researchers: Sarah Eberhardt and Joe Saxton of nfpSynergy

The annual Charity Index is based on independent research by London-based nfpSynergy, a leading research consultancy providing insights and information for the charitable sector. Every year, the Index seeks to identify the most generous institutional private charity donors around the globe and in Europe, based on their charitable giving over the previous year.

This year's list is based on donors' financial data published for their accounting year ending during 2020.

The Index focuses on grant-making activities by private institutional donors, which derive funds from an endowment or a single private source of revenues – be it a family, an individual, a corporation or other organisation. To be eligible for inclusion, donors must also be independent of government and not directly solicit funds from the public.

As in previous years, the majority of donors on the list are therefore foundations. In addition, it includes private charity lotteries, as they receive income from a structural single source of revenue (proceeds from the sale of lottery tickets) and could also be compared to a foundation in their independent way of supporting grant-making and allocations.

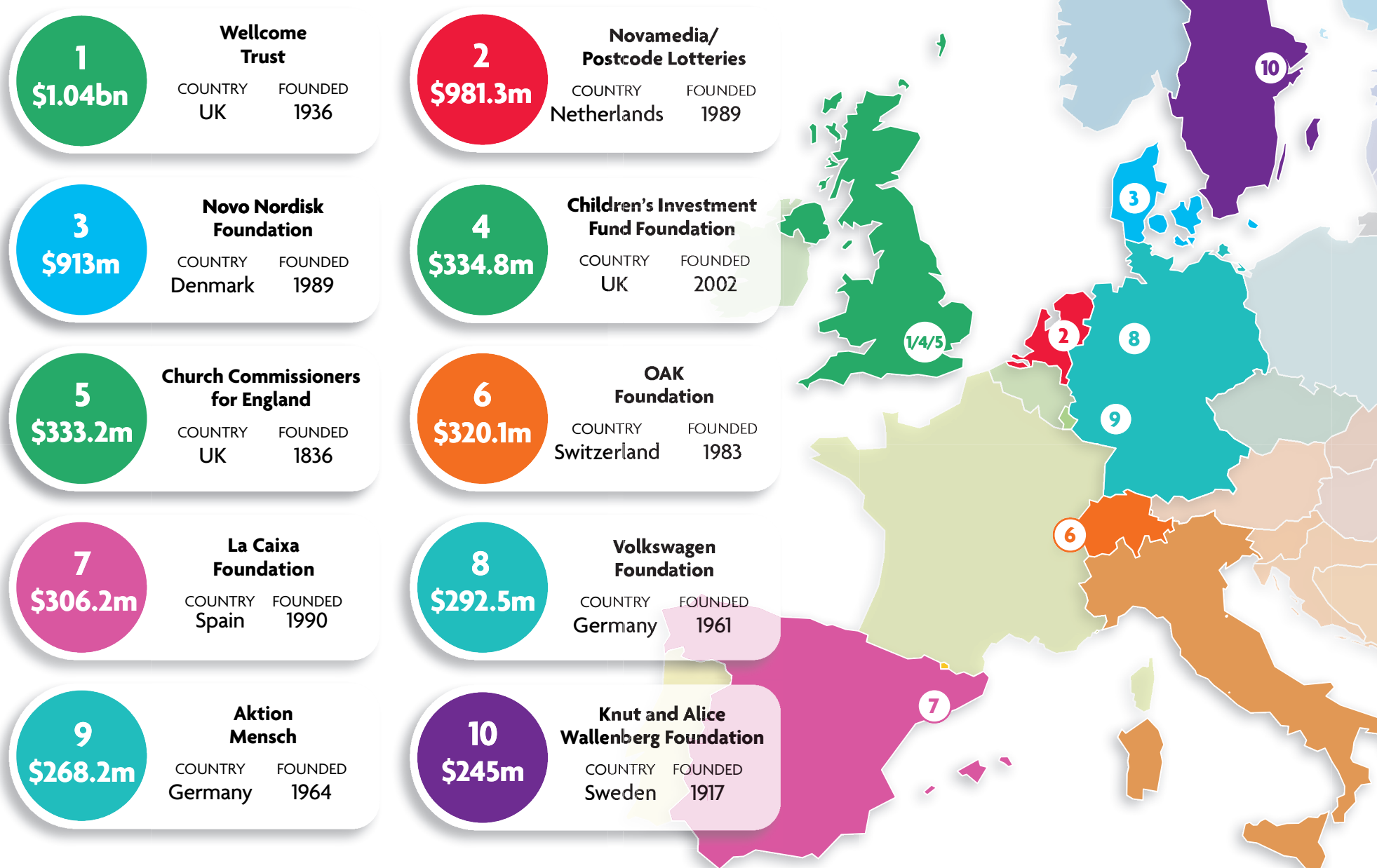
While the list of the most generous private charity donors remains fairly stable from year to year, the data suggests that the Covid-19 pandemic is having a varied impact on giving levels – leading some foundations to nearly double (the Ford Foundation) or almost triple (the Mastercard Foundation) their giving, whilst the majority saw far less change. On a positive note, there does not appear to be evidence of any dramatic decreases in giving among the biggest donors.

Turn to page 4 for nfpSynergy founder Joe Saxton's insight on how foundations and other private charity donors have risen to the challenge of the pandemic, casting a lifeline to non-profits at a time of unprecedented turmoil.

For previous years' Charity Index, go to [www.cityam.com/giving](http://www.cityam.com/giving)



# EUROPE'S TOP 20 PRIVATE CHARITY DONORS IN 2020



**1**  
**\$1.04bn**

**Wellcome Trust**

COUNTRY: UK FOUNDED: 1936

**2**  
**\$981.3m**

**Novamedia/ Postcode Lotteries**

COUNTRY: Netherlands FOUNDED: 1989

**3**  
**\$913m**

**Novo Nordisk Foundation**

COUNTRY: Denmark FOUNDED: 1989

**4**  
**\$334.8m**

**Children's Investment Fund Foundation**

COUNTRY: UK FOUNDED: 2002

**5**  
**\$333.2m**

**Church Commissioners for England**

COUNTRY: UK FOUNDED: 1836

**6**  
**\$320.1m**

**OAK Foundation**

COUNTRY: Switzerland FOUNDED: 1983

**7**  
**\$306.2m**

**La Caixa Foundation**

COUNTRY: Spain FOUNDED: 1990

**8**  
**\$292.5m**

**Volkswagen Foundation**

COUNTRY: Germany FOUNDED: 1961

**9**  
**\$268.2m**

**Aktion Mensch**

COUNTRY: Germany FOUNDED: 1964

**10**  
**\$245m**

**Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation**

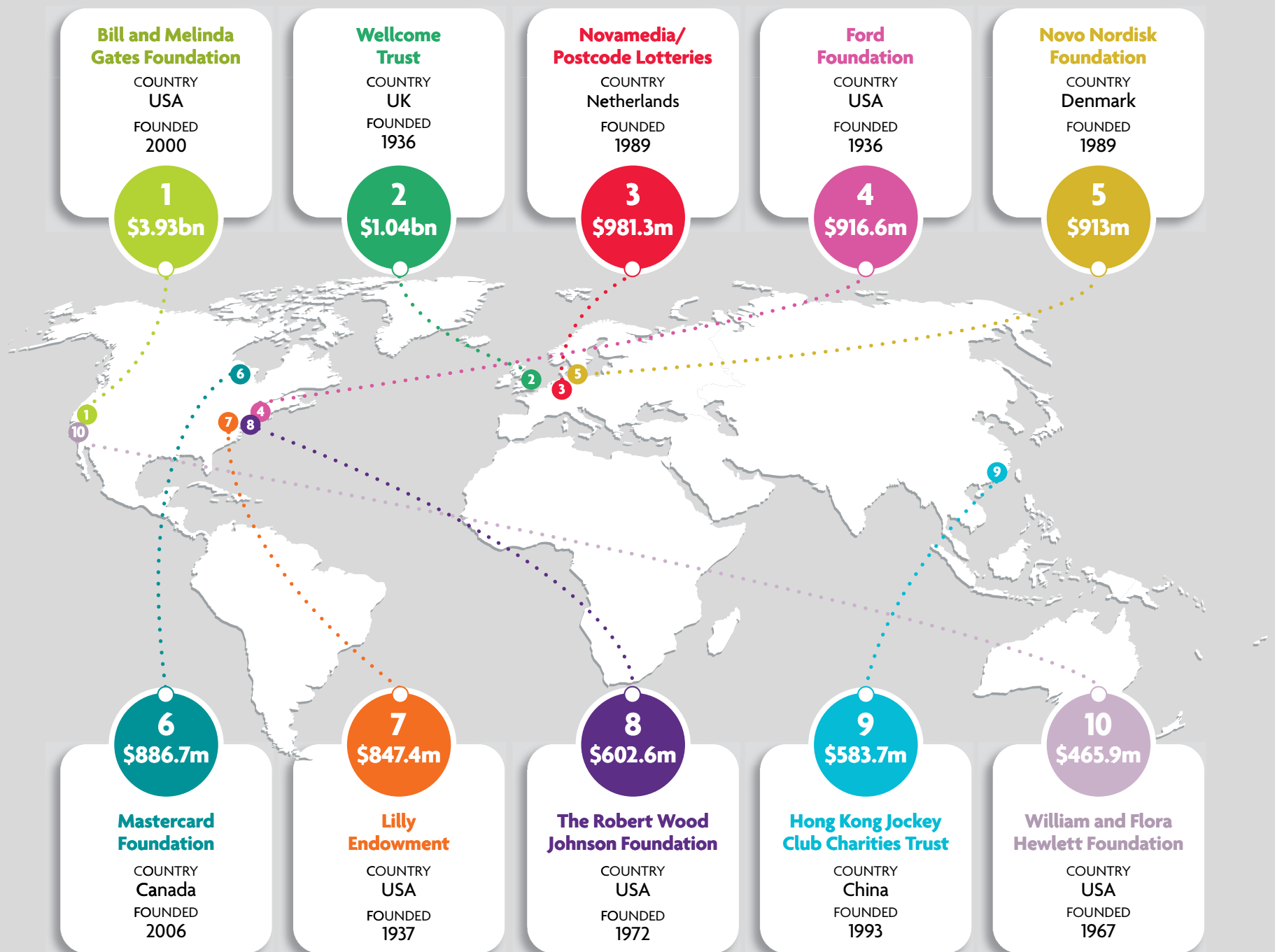
COUNTRY: Sweden FOUNDED: 1917

RANK	ORGANISATION	COUNTRY	FOUNDED	\$2020
11	<b>IKEA Foundation</b>	Netherlands	1982	\$236.9m
12	<b>Compagnia di San Paolo</b>	Italy	1563	\$206.5m
13	<b>Realdania</b>	Denmark	2000	\$154.9m
14	<b>The Leverhulme Trust</b>	UK	1925	\$125m
15	<b>Villum Fonden</b>	Denmark	1971	\$124m
16	<b>Garfield Weston Foundation</b>	UK	1958	\$121m
17	<b>Carlsberg Foundation</b>	Denmark	1876	\$117.5m
18	<b>Stichting Benevolentia</b>	Netherlands	1951	\$107.8m
19	<b>Arcadia Fund</b>	UK	2001	\$102.5m
20	<b>The Lundbeck Foundation</b>	Denmark	1983	\$94.9m

Latest giving figures are based on financial statements for the organisations' accounting year ending in 2020, as published online by 20 October 2021.

The reported amount contributed by foundations is converted to USD (\$) using the currency conversion rate as of 31 December 2020, as calculated by [www.oanda.com/currency](http://www.oanda.com/currency)

# THE WORLD'S TOP 20 PRIVATE DONORS IN 2020



RANK	ORGANISATION	COUNTRY	FOUNDED	\$2020
11	<b>Andrew W. Mellon Foundation</b>	USA	1969	\$462.7m
12	<b>David and Lucile Packard Foundation</b>	USA	1964	\$352.3m
13	<b>Children's Investment Fund Foundation</b>	UK	2002	\$334.8m
14	<b>Church Commissioners for England</b>	UK	1836	\$333.2m
15	<b>OAK Foundation</b>	Switzerland	1983	\$320.1m
16	<b>La Caixa Foundation</b>	Spain	1990	\$306.2m
17	<b>The Simons Foundation</b>	USA	1994	\$294.2m
18	<b>Volkswagen Foundation</b>	Germany	1961	\$292.5m
19	<b>Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation</b>	USA	2000	\$269.2m
20	<b>Aktion Mensch</b>	Germany	1964	\$268.2m

Latest giving figures are based on financial statements for the organisations' accounting year ending in 2020, as published online by 20 October 2021. Not listed here is the Walton Family Foundation (ranked 6th last year), which had not yet published its financial statements for 2020 by 20 October 2021.

The reported amount contributed by foundations is converted to USD (\$) using the currency conversion rate as of 31 December, as calculated by [www.oanda.com/currency](http://www.oanda.com/currency).

**Joe Saxton**Founder,  
nfpSynergy

This has been a year like no other for charities, but there are reasons to be hopeful

**C**harities have had a tough time during the Covid pandemic. They have suffered a triple whammy. Firstly, income was hit, particularly for those who ran charity shops or fundraising events such as marathons, gala dinners and fairs. In addition, nobody used cash much during 2020 (or even now), so tin-rattling and door-to-door envelope collections were all but impossible.

Secondly, the volunteers on whom charities depend so much were often the very people who were recommended to shield and not meet others. In our research at nfpSynergy, we saw volunteering among the over-45s at half to a third of its pre-pandemic levels in April of this year. So even when society has begun to open up again, younger volunteers have returned but older volunteers less so.

The third way that charities have been hit is by the services they deliver. The impact on these has been like ninepins hit by a bowling ball – they have scattered in all directions. Some charities have seen a huge increase in



**Those charities who think they can return to business as normal will be sadly disappointed**

demand – often those dealing with issues relevant to the pandemic such as asthma, mental health or online resources. Foodbanks have been in much greater demand as the economic impact of the pandemic took hold.

Meanwhile, some services had to press pause altogether until earlier this year. It is impossible to run a day centre for older people while the requirement is to abide by social distance regulations. For younger age groups, online services have been a lifeline, but for many older people a Zoom call is impossible on many levels... and no substitute for human contact.

The stats around how the charity sector has been hit are sobering. A recent Charity Commission survey found that 90% of charities have eaten into their reserves. Another estimate concluded that 190,000 charity sector employees were furloughed at the height of the pandemic.

The National Trust alone furloughed 80% of its workforce, or some 11,000 people – not surprising when you consider that all their properties had to be closed for long periods of time. Even organisations such as Cancer Research UK furloughed 60% of its workforce (around 2,400 people) and cut back on its grant programme.

Amongst all this gloom for charities in 2020, one of the bright lights was the reaction of grant-making trusts and foundations. While events and

charity shops were closed, while cash disappeared and the stock and housing markets went crazy, foundations have stepped up to the plate and responded heroically to the challenges of charities.

Foundations responded to the demands of the pandemic in three ways. In the first instance, many shortened their application turnaround time to weeks, and even days in some cases, rather than months or years. Previously, charities have often complained that foundations took too long to respond to applications – a year is not untypical.

Secondly, foundation applications are often for a specific project or activity. Yet the pandemic threw many of these projects up in the air, or made them irrelevant. Charities needed unrestricted cash to survive, and so foundations made many of their grants unrestricted rather than project-specific.

The final way that foundations stepped up was to dig deep into their own reserve funds. This is harder than it may seem, as any foundation with endowed capital is required to live off its income and leave its capital untouched.

In this respect, the Charity Commission for England and Wales was hugely

responsive and allowed foundations to de-endow their capital. I speak as a trustee of two small grant-makers where we did just that – took money out of our capital to be able to keep the funds flowing for charities in need.

It is worth setting out some specific examples of foundations who responded to the pandemic with more support in more ways to help charities get through a hugely challenging time.

The Ford Foundation nearly doubled its funding in 2020 compared to the previous year, as you'll see from the infographic on page 3. They did this



**Amongst all the gloom for charities in 2020, one of the bright lights was the reaction of grant-making trusts and foundations**

by offering a tax-effective social bond which they used to offer unrestricted, multi-year funding to new and existing grantees. They also collaborated with other major US foundations such as the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, MacArthur Foundation, W.K. Kellogg Foundation and Andrew W. Mellon Foundation in a collective effort to increase their annual grant-making

Canada-based Mastercard Foundation, which specialises in work in Africa, tripled its funding in 2020 in particular by supporting health workers and first responders, and students who found themselves in difficult situations triggered by the pandemic. It also supported programmes to help economic recovery by supporting e-learning, digital solutions and funding for small and medium-sized enterprises

People's Postcode Lottery, the British member of Novamedia's family of postcode lotteries, restructured its grant-making streams during 2020, triggered in part by regulatory reform from the UK government. The net result was to allow much more money to go to small organisations, particularly those working regionally across England and the other countries of Great Britain. People's Postcode Lottery has

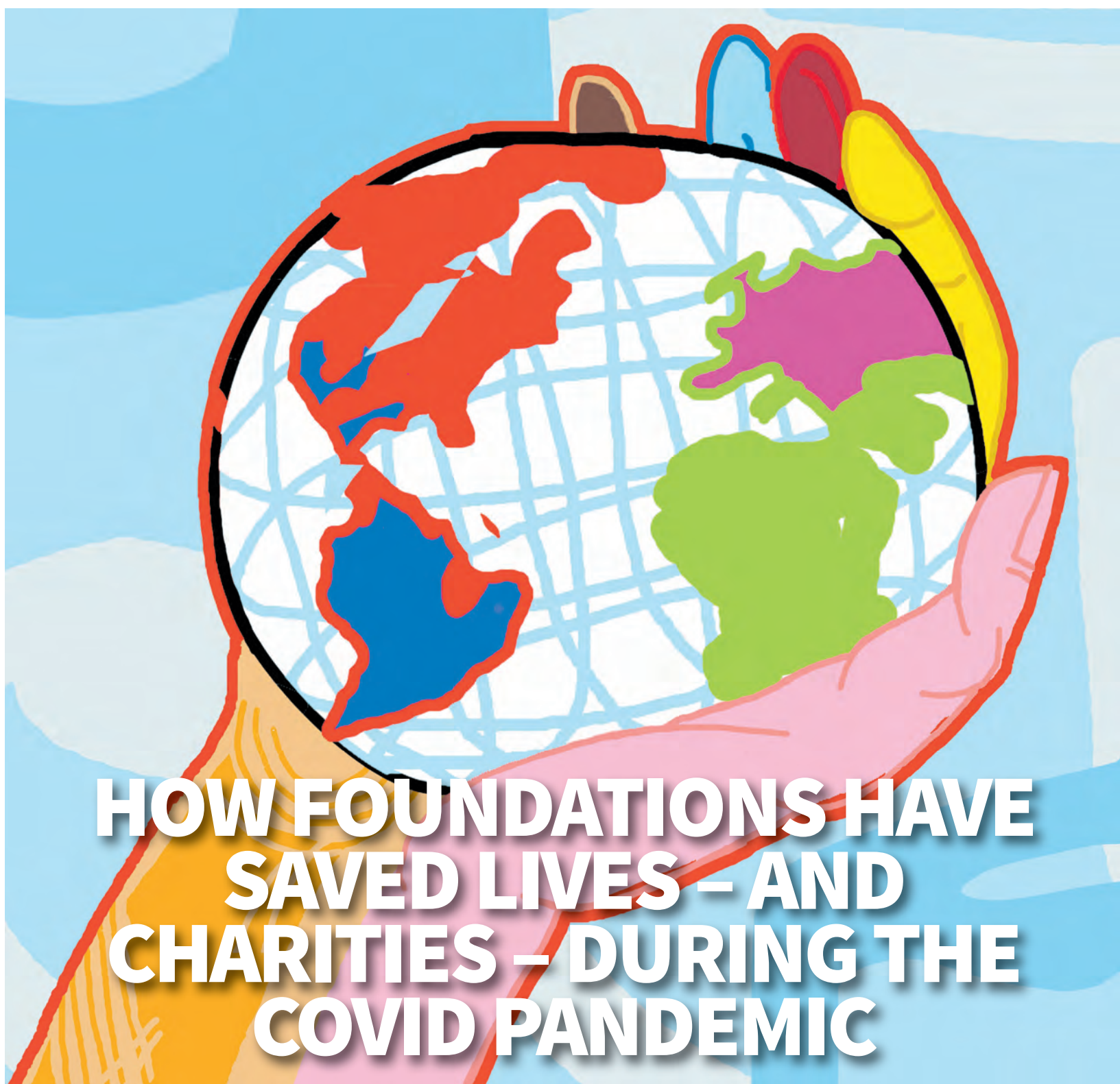
always specialised in unrestricted, multi-year funding, but during 2020 it shortened its grant approval times and supported a breadth of vulnerable organisations for the first time.

Despite all the Herculean efforts of foundations – and of course charities themselves – the non-profit sector is far from being out of the woods. Many of the ways that the sector works have been stress-tested, and it is not yet clear who or what will bounce back... and who won't.

Our prediction is that those who have shown flexibility and nimbleness in their management will thrive. We think that those who have diversified their funding streams, their thinking, and their staff and volunteers will make the most of any new opportunities. However, those charities who think they can return to business as normal will be sadly disappointed.

In 2020, foundations exhibited many of the hallmarks – innovation, nimbleness, flexibility – that charities need to succeed. The question for 2021 and beyond is which charitable organisations will follow their example.

Joe Saxton is Founder and Driver of Ideas at nfpSynergy, a leading research consultancy providing insights and information to the charitable sector



# HOW FOUNDATIONS HAVE SAVED LIVES – AND CHARITIES – DURING THE COVID PANDEMIC

# TOP 10 BIGGEST DONORS

We take a closer look at the charitable foundations helping to build a better world

**B**ill Gates' name might once have been synonymous with tech giant Microsoft, but as the co-founder of the world's biggest private foundation, it is more closely associated with philanthropy these days.

For over 20 years, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, based in Seattle, has been committed to fighting global inequality, improving healthcare and reducing extreme poverty across the world. It has provided charitable grants totalling \$53.8 billion for global initiatives tackling everything from infectious diseases such as malaria, polio and Aids, to sanitation and hunger in developing countries, and adaptation of agriculture in the face of climate change.

The foundation has topped the City A.M. Charity Index rankings every year since it was first published in 2012, though 2020 saw a 6% decline in its giving from the previous year's figure of around \$4.16 billion.

The foundation in its current form was launched in 2000 through the merger of the William H. Gates Foundation, which focused on improving global health, and the Gates Learning Foundation, which worked to expand access to technology through public libraries. In the United States, it still works to expand educational opportunities and IT access. It is currently led by CEO Mark Suzman under the direction of Bill and Melinda Gates and the billionaire investor Warren Buffett, who in 2006 pledged to give the foundation most of his fortune.

With a longstanding track record of driving forward the fight against devastating infectious diseases, the foundation has naturally thrown its substantial weight behind the global fight against Covid-19, leveraging long-standing relationships with the WHO, experts, governments and the private sector. As of January 2021, the foundation had ploughed \$1.75 billion into various aspects of pandemic response.

Most of that funding has gone toward producing and providing crucial medical supplies, and backing researchers to develop new treatments for use in the poorest parts of the world. The foundation also allocated more than \$750 million to help support responses in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia; and alleviate the social and economic impact of the pandemic.

## 1 Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

USA, FOUNDED 2000

**\$3.93bn**

The foundation had been instrumental in the creation of the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) back in 2017, and in 2020 it announced a \$20 million grant for continued research into additional vaccine candidates that would be easier and cheaper to distribute in developing countries.

It also committed funds to the worldwide vaccine alliance Gavi's COVAX Advance Market Commitment (COVAX AMC) to ensure that existing vaccines are accessible and affordable in low- and middle-income countries. Making the announcement, Melinda Gates pointed out: "Covid-19 anywhere is Covid-19 everywhere. That is why we have to ensure that everyone gets equal access to tests, drugs and vaccines when they are available – no matter where you live in the world."



Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation has been instrumental in coordinated global efforts to provide Covid-19 vaccines to developing countries

## 2

### Wellcome Trust

UNITED KINGDOM, 1936

**\$1.04bn**

**F**ounded with a bequest from pharmaceuticals magnate and philanthropist Sir Henry Wellcome, London-based Wellcome Trust is backed by a £29.1 billion investment portfolio and is among the world's largest providers of non-governmental funding for biomedical research. A consistent performer among the world's top five in the City A.M. Charity Index, the foundation's giving fell by 6% in 2020 from the previous year's figure.

Wellcome Trust's new long-term vision and strategy, published in October 2020, focuses on supporting discovery research, and on generating solutions to three urgent global challenges facing everyone this century: mental health, climate change and escalating infectious diseases – challenges which, the foundation argues, threaten to undermine efforts to improve health. It is developing long-term programmes spanning science, innovation and society to ensure new solutions work for those who most need them, and are effectively implemented decades into the future.

As the Covid-19 pandemic took hold in 2020, Wellcome Trust targeted its response in line with its core interest in biomedical research. Starting from a position that science holds the key to exiting from the crisis, it fast-tracked direct funding for urgent scientific research – vaccines, diagnostics and treatments – through a £22 million open call announced in February 2020.



A Wellcome Trust-funded project to modify mosquitoes has seen cases of dengue fever plummet in Indonesia

The foundation has also played a leading role in global research partnerships and coordinated efforts to tackle the worldwide pandemic, including CEPI (of which it was a co-founder, alongside the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation) and COVAX AMC.

Though grant-giving in other fields initially slowed at the onset of the pandemic, the foundation introduced policies to support existing grant-holders and extend funding. Researchers were seconded into Covid-19-related research or clinical activities.

With the Black Lives Matter movement also dominating the news agenda in 2020, Wellcome Trust pointed out that Covid-19 disproportionately impacts people from black, Asian and minority communities, "demonstrating once again that racism is a health issue. Our new strategy is an opportunity for Wellcome to redouble our efforts to promote diversity and inclusion in our organisation, the people we support, and the research we fund."

Wellcome Trust funding also led to some significant scientific developments, including new discoveries about the immune system from the Human Cell Atlas, the global collaborative project to map every type of cell in the human body. An ambitious project to modify mosquitoes so they can no longer transmit dengue fever and other infections is proving effective in large-scale trials. In Indonesia, this approach decreased cases of dengue by 77% over two years.

## 3

## Novamedia/ Postcode Lotteries

NETHERLANDS, FOUNDED 1989

**\$981.3m**

**N**ovamedia is a company with a social purpose, bringing together business and ideals. It grew from the belief that the world is better off with a strong civil society, and aims to help build a fairer, greener, more equal world by using its unique lottery format to raise funds for a wide range of charities and good causes.

It is best known as the creator and owner of the Postcode Lottery format, a subscription-based charity lottery with a distinctive concept at its heart – players in the same neighbourhood winning cash and non-cash prizes together, while raising vital funds for charities working close to home and around the globe.

The first Postcode Lottery started in 1989 in the Netherlands, from where its success led to the creation of two more lotteries in 2005: the Svenska PostkodLotteriet in Sweden and People's Postcode Lottery in Britain.

First piloted in the north of England, People's Postcode Lottery launched in Scotland in 2008 and has been operating throughout Britain since 2010. In 2016, the Deutsche Postcode Lotterie launched in Germany, followed by the Norsk Postkodelotteri in Norway in 2018.

Between them, to date, the Postcode Lotteries have awarded over €11 billion to hundreds of charities and social organisations working around the world, as well as thousands of smaller grants for local grassroots



**Top: Neighbours in Martock, Somerset, celebrate winning the People's Postcode Lottery Millions**

**Left: Magic Breakfast uses funds raised by players of People's Postcode Lottery to provide nutritious meals to UK schoolchildren (picture by Ginger Pixie Photography)**

initiatives in their home nations. In 2020, the lotteries' combined revenue increased once again.

Up to 40% of ticket sales – currently more than €800 million per year – goes to charities and good causes. Besides raising funds, the Postcode Lotteries also aim to

raise awareness among their 13 million or so players of their beneficiary charities' vital activities and positive impact.

The Postcode Lotteries' funding philosophy is based on a strong conviction that the charities themselves

know how best to spend the funding they're awarded. Each of the Postcode Lotteries build long-term partnerships with beneficiaries based on trust, and funding is unrestricted. This helps beneficiaries to be flexible, responsive and resilient – which has proven especially crucial during the Covid-19 pandemic. It also enables charities to be courageous and take risks while trying to meet ambitious goals.

During the Covid-19 pandemic, the five sister lotteries responded to the unprecedented challenges faced by charities and increased need within communities with a range of extra grants, in addition to providing regular non-earmarked funding. These additional funds were ploughed into food banks, volunteer organisations, support for homeless people and children living in poverty, and healthcare in refugee camps, to name but a few.

Equally high on The Postcode Lotteries' agenda is its mission to help make the world more sustainable. The annual Postcode Lotteries Green Challenge for sustainable business start-ups is one of the biggest competitions in this field, offering €1 million in prize money to boost innovation. The 2020 winner was UK-based SoluBlue, creator of a biodegradable seaweed-based alternative to plastic food packaging.

## 4

## Ford Foundation

USA, FOUNDED 1936

**\$916.6m**



**H**uman welfare and social justice are at the heart of the Ford Foundation's philanthropic purpose. Created by Edsel Ford and his father, the automobile magnate Henry Ford, it was originally funded by a \$25,000 gift from Edsel Ford. A regular among the world's top ten in the City A.M. Charity Index, the foundation nearly doubled its giving in 2020 (from the previous year's figure of \$463.4 million), thanks to an innovative sale of social bonds.

For more than 85 years, the New York-based Ford Foundation has worked with and funded charities around the world who are active in tackling inequality, strengthening democratic values, reducing poverty and injustice, and promoting international cooperation. Its assets are currently valued at \$16 billion and it is led by president Darren Walker.

In March 2020, at the onset of the worldwide Covid-19 pandemic, the foundation joined over 800 other grant-giving entities in signing the Council on Foundation's Philanthropy Pledge to loosen or remove restrictions on current grants, providing grant-holders with the flexibility to respond quickly and decisively to the

rising tide of urgent need.

As the impact of the pandemic bit, it also joined forces with other foundations for a number of collaborative philanthropic funding initiatives to support everything from rapid welfare relief to disability inclusion, small business support, and financial assistance for the arts, theatre and culture.

In June 2020, Ford Foundation decided to raise \$1 billion through the sale of a combination of 30 and 50-year social bonds, to support charities working to alleviate the widening inequalities and challenges caused by the pandemic. The social bonds sale – the first offering of its kind from a US philanthropic foundation – attracted 114 investors and allowed the foundation to nearly double its grant-making.

In particular, the proceeds of the social bond were earmarked for supporting a number of initiatives around racial justice, black arts and culture, black feminism, worldwide gender discrimination, and economic recovery in Puerto Rico in the wake of hurricane Maria and the pandemic.

Announcing the sale, the foundation's president, Darren Walker, said: "The proceeds from this offering will help build the resilience and durability of non-profits who will influence the recovery and reimagine a more just and inclusive society."

**Proceeds from Ford Foundation's bonds sale will help support black arts and culture, among other priorities**

5

## Novo Nordisk Foundation

DENMARK, FOUNDED 1989

\$913m

Funding from Novo Nordisk Foundation helped establish Denmark's Covid test centres



This independent foundation owns the holding company Novo Holdings A/S, majority shareholder in Danish pharmaceutical giant Novo Nordisk, which manufactures insulin and other diabetes treatments. The foundation's stated aim is to benefit people and society by supporting scientific, social and humanitarian causes.

Based in Hellerup, Denmark, Novo Nordisk Foundation had a net worth of \$73.1 billion (457 billion DKK) in 2020, making it the largest endowment in the world. In 2020, it increased its giving by 13% from the previous year's figure. The foundation received about 4,400 funding applications during the year and awarded grants for 750 new projects – both figures are record highs in its history.

The foundation funds projects in wide range of fields: biomedical science, natural science, biotechnology, humanities, innovation and education. Through its funding of the Steno Diabetes Centre, a research hospital in Gentofte, Denmark, it also directly supports the provision of treatment.

Though it primarily focuses on Denmark and the Nordic countries, it supports international collaboration on global issues such as climate change, health threats, social and humanitarian challenges. In 2020, the Foundation made a major award towards the development of biosustainable technology at the Technical University of Denmark, and helped more than 1.1 million people in humanitarian settings.

Another strand is nurturing research talent: in 2020, the foundation fully or partly funded 4,630 people in science, including nearly 2,200 PhD students and postdoctoral fellows.

In its Covid-19 pandemic response, the foundation committed DKK 420 million to 85 projects, including DKK 250 million for establishing test centres in its home country, and cooperating with the Carlsberg Foundation to produce emergency supplies of ethanol for use in disinfection and hand sanitisers. It has also funded trials of anti-inflammatory drugs against Covid-19.

6

## Mastercard Foundation

CANADA, FOUNDED 2006

\$886.7m



Mastercard Foundation focuses on financial inclusion, employment and learning for young people in Africa

Mastercard Foundation was created in 2006 by global financial services giant Mastercard International and is based in Toronto, Canada. Its stated mission is “to advance education and promote financial inclusion to catalyse prosperity in developing countries. The Mastercard Foundation seeks a world where all have the opportunity to learn and prosper.” In 2020, the foundation supercharged its giving, which nearly tripled from the previous year's figure of £301.9 million. With this increase, it makes its debut among the world's top ten in the City A.M. Charity Index.

Mastercard Foundation focuses on helping economically disadvantaged young people in Africa to move out of poverty. It partners with charities to improve financial inclusion and access to youth learning in 33 countries across Africa, including Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal and Uganda. This work has reached an estimated 51 million people and their families.

The foundation estimates that Africa's workforce will reach more than a billion people within the next few decades, and that by 2100, almost half of the world's youth will be African. In response, its Young Africa Works strategy aims to support 30 million young people, particularly women, in securing dignified, fulfilling work by 2030.

The initiative, launched in Nigeria and Uganda in 2020, is working with governments and the private sector to understand their economic aspirations and identify priority sectors for growth. For each country, it will develop a plan to improve relevant education and vocational training; use technology to connect employers and job seekers; and give small businesses access to financial services.

With the Covid-19 pandemic hitting already vulnerable communities and economies particularly hard, the foundation points out that “unchecked, the pandemic could erode hard-earned development gains and threaten social stability”. Its Covid-19 Recovery and Resilience Programme – focused on Africa and Canada's Indigenous communities – is helping to tackle immediate need, as well as support long-term economic recovery through provision of e-learning, digital solutions and financial services for small businesses.

7

## Lilly Endowment

USA, FOUNDED 1937

\$847.4m

J.K. Lilly Sr and his sons Eli and J.K. Jr created the Lilly Endowment through gifts of stock in their family pharmaceutical company, Eli Lilly and Co. In keeping with the founders' wishes and interests, it mainly supports causes in the fields of community development and education as well as religion (one of the few major foundations to do so).

The foundation regularly appears in the City A.M. Charity Index ranking of the world's top ten, and in 2020 its giving increased by 56% on the previous year's figure of \$542.8 million.

Although it has provided funding with a national and global reach, Lilly Endowment's main geographic focus has always been Indianapolis and the state of Indiana – it is the largest private foundation in the United States to fund mainly in its home city and state.



Lilly Endowment awarded a major grant to an initiative to improve the quality of life of Black residents in Indianapolis

It places special emphasis on projects that benefit young people and that strengthen financial self-sufficiency in the charitable sector.

With the onset of Covid-19, Lilly Endowment helped fund urgent pandemic-related relief in Indianapolis and throughout the state, while also continuing to fund causes in its three main priority areas.

Also in 2020, as the Black Lives Matter movement gained momentum, the foundation stepped up its efforts to address longstanding racial inequalities and promote economic and educational opportunities for people from communities of colour – which were also disproportionately affected by the pandemic.

This new focus included a \$100 million grant awarded in August 2020 to the National Urban League to create the Indianapolis African American Quality of Life Renewal Initiative – a place-based effort to improve the quality of life and access to opportunities for Black residents of Indianapolis.

In the area of religion, the foundation's Thriving Congregations Initiative approved more than \$117 million in grants to 115 organisations around the United States who work with congregations to help them rethink and revitalise their missions in the light of significant cultural and demographic changes.

8

## Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

USA, FOUNDED 1972

\$602.6m

The mental health of frontline healthcare workers during the Covid-19 pandemic is the focus of RWJF's First Responders First initiative



Based in Princeton, New Jersey, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) was set up by the founder of healthcare giant Johnson & Johnson, with the lofty aim of improving both the health and the healthcare of all Americans. When Johnson died in 1968, he left his 10.2 million shares in his company to the foundation.

Today, it is America's largest philanthropic funder focusing solely on public health issues, and regularly appears among the world's top ten in the City A.M. Charity Index ranking. In 2020, its giving increased by 52% on the previous year's figure of \$396.6 million.

RWJF aims to broaden the discussion about the health of the American nation beyond just healthcare systems and services, towards fostering a national culture with health and wellbeing at the centre of everyday life – in everything from housing and leisure, to education and the workplace.

In January 2020, the foundation announced a \$250 million, 10-year commitment to build a thriving health workforce through the Center for Health Worker Innovation. As the Covid-19 crisis took hold, it pledged an additional \$50 million towards pandemic response – from emergency supplies including PPE donations, training and technology, to mental health and psychosocial support for health workers.

With burn-out among frontline health workers rapidly becoming a pandemic within the pandemic, the foundation's First Responders First initiative made the mental, emotional and physical wellbeing of frontline health workers a key priority.

Globally in 2020, RWJF provided more than \$61 million dollars to over 120 healthcare partners working in nearly 50 countries, including UNICEF, UNFPA, Save the Children, AmeriCares, World Vision and Project Hope in Indonesia. Beyond Covid, it helped fund the provision of emergency relief for communities hit by disasters including earthquakes in Puerto Rico, hurricanes Eta and Iota in Latin America, and forest fires in North America.

9

## Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust

CHINA, FOUNDED 1993

\$583.7m



With a history of donating to charitable causes stretching back over a century, the Hong Kong Jockey Club formally decided in 1955 to devote its profits to charity and community projects.

Today, Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust works with the state, non-governmental organisations and community partners to improve the quality of life of the region's residents. Approximately 90% of the Club's annual operating surplus after tax is donated to the trust, making it a significant player in the development of Hong Kong's communities.

Though it funds a wide range of projects, the trust has prioritised four areas: positive ageing and elderly care; children and youth development; promoting physical and mental wellbeing; and talent and capacity building. The trust also proactively identifies and initiates projects that anticipate future social needs in Hong Kong's communities.

As the Covid-19 pandemic took hold in early 2020, it launched a range of initiatives to provide essential help for Hong Kong's vulnerable groups. It is estimated to have helped over a million people, including the elderly, the disabled and schoolchildren.

The range of vital services and support initiatives funded by the trust include care packs of basic food and hygiene supplies to housebound elderly and disabled people; free mobile internet data for underprivileged students so that they could participate in online learning; and the Jockey Club Food Assistance Programme to help feed 70,000 people who became unemployed or underemployed during the pandemic.

In addition, it set up a HK\$100 million Covid-19 Emergency Fund to provide fast-track grants for NGOs that deliver essential services to those hard-hit by the crisis: low-income families, the elderly and other vulnerable groups.

Essential help for low-income families has been a priority for Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust during the pandemic

10

## William and Flora Hewlett Foundation

USA, FOUNDED 1966

\$465.9m

William and Flora Hewlett Foundation was established by one half of the duo behind PC pioneer Hewlett Packard, and his family, to promote positive, lasting change in the areas the couple cared most about – the environment, science, children, reproductive health and their local community.

Based in Menlo Park, California, the foundation currently has assets of approximately \$10 billion and in 2020 awarded over \$465 million to organisations worldwide. Along with the foundation created by the other half of the HP duo – the David and Lucile Packard Foundation – it consistently appears among the world's top 20 private donors.

The foundation's long-standing focus is on education, environment, gender equity and

Funding for green energy initiatives is a priority for William and Flora Hewlett Foundation



governance, performing arts and effective philanthropy, as well as support for disadvantaged communities in its home patch of the San Francisco Bay Area. In addition, it funds special projects relating to modern challenges such as cybersecurity.

In 2020, the foundation awarded the largest proportion of its funding – around \$157 million – through its Environment Programme. Grants have gone to initiatives to clean up power production, improve energy efficiency, reduce oil use, tackle non-CO2 greenhouse gases and finance climate-friendly investments.

The foundation is also dedicated to preserving the vast open spaces and unique ecology of the North American West, which has been degraded through decades of mining, drilling, clear-cutting and development. With a changing climate, wildfires are posing an ever greater threat to the Western United States; in 2020, the foundation launched a three-year grant-making strategy aimed at boosting the wildfire resilience of the West.

Combating racism is another priority area for the foundation. In summer 2020, it announced the creation of a new Chief of Equity and Culture role to tackle systemic racism, along with providing \$18 million in funding for initiatives working for racial justice in everything from health and education to human rights.