

# Science and Health Fund



This is a time of unprecedented scientific discovery and innovation. Scientific breakthroughs are leading to solutions for a complex array of issues affecting our environment, health, and wellbeing. Boston is a leader in medical, biotech, and life sciences research and development, contributing to countless innovations that have shaped the global scientific and public health landscape.

Now, this work is under threat. Federal funding for scientific and medical research is being cut. Lifesaving treatments are being delayed, studies suspended, and facts are being questioned. Science itself is under attack. Never has there been a more important time for the public to be aware of and take part in debate and discussion about the industries and institutions at the forefront of the discoveries that affect our society and our health. GBH is committed to delivering information and providing insight into new developments in the medical, health, life science and biotech fields. We are establishing the *GBH Science and Health Fund* to provide essential resources to support this work.

## Relevance

GBH is a trusted source of information, reaching 28 million people each week. From local reporting on 89.7 on medical and technological breakthroughs, to NOVA's nationally broadcast and deeply researched explorations of scientific discoveries, GBH is uniquely positioned to bring audiences unbiased, thoughtful, and deeply researched coverage of timely science, health, and medical issues .

Our location allows us access to storied academic institutions like MIT, Harvard, and Tufts, alongside the best medical research facilities including Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, the Broad Institute, and Massachusetts General Hospital, to name just a few. Massachusetts is also a leader in biotechnology, with a high concentration of companies, research institutions, and venture capital investment. This means our region is ground zero for the current attack on science and academic research. With our home base in Boston and sister stations across Massachusetts, GBH is poised to cover all aspects of the region's contributions to and innovations in the areas of health, life sciences and biotech, and the current efforts to defund this critical work.

## Impact

GBH's local reporting, national productions, and digital-first media prompt discussion, debate, and exploration. The *GBH Science and Health Fund* will support programming dedicated to reporting on science and health news, explore scientific discoveries and provide context and real-life application for new medical and scientific breakthroughs. The following are examples of the impact and potential for this type of coverage:

- [NOVA](#) is the most popular primetime science series on American television, demystifying the scientific and technological concepts that shape and define our lives, our planet, and our universe. NOVA reaches more

than 55 million Americans every year on TV and across digital platforms, including YouTube. The series covers timely and relevant topics related to science and health from the solar system to string theory to the body's microbiome to the emergence and treatment of COVID-19.

- [FRONTLINE](#)'s investigative journalism delves into every corner of life, including science and health. One example is FRONTLINE's [Endgame: AIDS in Black America](#), a groundbreaking exploration of one of the country's most urgent, preventable health crises, and its disproportionate and devastating effects on the Black community.
- [Salud](#) is a Spanish-language health and wellness podcast, largely focused on communities of color and underserved populations. Topics include healthcare access and disparities, mental health, and the cultural factors that influence well-being. Through personal stories, expert interviews, and community perspectives, [Salud](#) aims to raise awareness and empower listeners with knowledge and resources.
- [GBH News](#) draws on the talents of a multiplatform newsroom with original, in-depth reporting on major local and national issues of the moment and lesser-known stories that warrant attention. GBH will establish a *Science and Health Desk* to expand coverage of these areas in the newsroom, and to inform a national conversation on the future of research. The Desk will go beyond the limited focus of existing media coverage to provide in-depth analysis. Reporting will offer multiple perspectives from business leaders, innovators, researchers, medical experts and community advocates and will cover a range of news in life sciences, biotech and medical research.

## Vision

GBH provides trustworthy, factual programming, journalism and educational content to local and national audiences. Despite the exciting and inspiring work happening in science, biotech and medicine, and the threat it currently faces, media coverage of these sectors is limited at best. GBH is committed to changing that, locally and nationally, providing the facts and context to help the public understand the most important scientific and medical breakthroughs of our time.

## Goals

- Contribute to and inform both the local and national conversation on the future of health and medical research, and educate the community on issues of critical importance.
- Create programming across a variety of media platforms that inspires wonder, curiosity and questions about the role of science and technology in our daily lives.
- Serve as a catalyst and convener for discourse about scientific and medical innovations and discoveries.
- Reach a broad and diverse audience by approaching issues from an inclusive perspective.

## How you can help

A gift to the *GBH Science and Health Fund* supports programs, reporting, and educational resources that contribute to public understanding of science, health, and technology and inform audiences about the issues that affect their lives.

Contributors to the fund will receive an annual report highlighting and reporting on key initiatives and successes during the year, along with periodic content updates and invitations to special events, screenings and convenings around relevant issues.

### For more information contact

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