

- **Research Seed Grants**

The **Basic** program of research seed grants have been awarded. Proposals from **Drs. Jones, Mallet and Forster** were chosen from 20 pre- and 19 full proposals, which were each reviewed by three internal reviewers. Three programs remain. The **Applied** program received 22 pre-proposals and full proposals were due May 14<sup>th</sup> and are currently under review. Letters of intent for **Phase 0 SBIR** proposals were due by May 10<sup>th</sup>, will full proposals due soon. The final program **Digital Healthcare Prototypes** will launch in June. All together \$300,000 – from a combination of designated funds and Division of Research & Innovation F&A dollars – will fund up to 14 projects through these four programs in two rounds of funding.

- **Launch of UNTHSC/NTERI mobile vision screening van**

Dr. Abbot (Abe) Clark received a “Health Hero” award from the Fort Worth Press for his leadership in community-based vision screening programs which have touched over 1400 FWISD preK students, 509 elementary students (with 450 receiving free optometric exams and glasses) at FWISD Kids Vision Fest and another 100 kids (6 months to 3 years) in community day care centers Head start programs. Dr. Clark accepted the award on behalf of all the UNTHSC faculty, staff and students who worked to make the project possible.

- **Fifth Annual Impact Showcase.**

TechFW’s celebrated 20 years in operation at the June 5th reception, which presented 30+ inspirational and exciting client startups at The 4 Eleven. Together the nearly 400 attendees shared ideas and tapped into the social system in an effort to speed up innovation and development.

- **13<sup>th</sup> Annual Texas Conference on Health Disparities**

The conference focusing on diversity in the era of precision Medicine was held June 7 & 8<sup>th</sup> at UNTHSC. As an emerging clinical approach, Precision medicine is where healthcare and treatment are personalized based on the patient’s history, environment, lifestyle, socio-demographic characteristics, and genetic risks. However, racial/ethnic minority populations, socioeconomically disadvantaged populations and rural populations continue to share the burden of adverse health conditions. Therefore, action must be taken to ensure that health benefits from precision-based care are realized for every individual.