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The Center for International Blood and Marrow Transplant Research Named Recipient of 2021 Amazon Web Services Imagine Grant for Nonprofits

The Center for International Blood and Marrow Transplant Research will work with Amazon's cloud computing arm to deliver a new platform that will accelerate the transformation of patient data into knowledge to improve patient survival rates and experiences.

Minneapolis, MN; Milwaukee, WI (November 30, 2021) — *The Center for International Blood and Marrow Transplant Research (CIBMTR)* today announced it has been selected as a recipient of the 2021 Amazon Web Services (AWS) Imagine Grant, a public grant opportunity open to registered 501(c) nonprofit organizations in the United States (U.S.) who use technology to solve the world's most pressing challenges. The grant will support the CIBMTR's efforts to leverage technology advances to better acquire data and more quickly apply research and learning to accelerate the transformation of patient data into improved patient outcomes.

In its fourth year, the AWS Imagine Grant program provides vital resources to nonprofit organizations looking to deploy cloud technology as a central tool to achieve mission goals. As part of the program, AWS seeks proposals for big ideas on how to leverage technology in new and innovative ways to accelerate impact in local and global communities.

The CIBMTR is a long-standing research collaboration between the National Marrow Donor Program® (NMDP)/Be The Match® and the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW), dedicated to improving survival, treatment, and quality of life for transplant and cellular therapy patients.

"We are honored to receive this ASW Imagine Grant. This will allow us to ensure that patient data can more quickly and effectively translate into improved and more equitable outcomes for blood and marrow transplant patients," said Mike McCullough, NMDP- Be the Match, Chief Information Officer.

The CIBMTR collaborates with the global scientific community to advance hematopoietic cell transplantation (HCT) and cellular therapy worldwide to increase survival and enrich the quality of life for transplant patients. The CIBMTR has millions of data points from more than 585,000 patients. The AWS Imagine Grant allows the CIBMTR to more efficiently translate that data into knowledge that will improve patient outcomes, in a secure and compliant way. AWS services will power advanced data analytics and machine learning - tools that will put data, research and learning into the hands of clinicians and researchers more rapidly and efficiently.

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The CIBMTR was named a recipient in the *Go Further, Faster* category which recognizes highly innovative projects using advanced cloud services. The CIBMTR will receive up to \$150,000 in unrestricted funding, up to \$100,000 in AWS Promotional Credits, and engagement with AWS technical specialists. Proposals were judged on several factors including the innovative and unique nature of the project, impact on mission-critical goals, and clearly defined outcomes and milestones.

Since the launch of the Imagine Grant program in 2018, AWS has awarded more than \$4.5 million in unrestricted funds, AWS Promotional Credits, and AWS training support to 46 nonprofit organizations in support of their technology-driven goals. Previous winners are currently using AWS services to tackle critical challenges such as finding a cure for Type 1 Diabetes by leveraging the power of data, tackling conservation issues at scale with machine learning, helping the military and Veteran community access resources faster and more reliably, and more.

“AWS was incredibly inspired by the innovative thinking we saw in the applications received this year. All of the nonprofits share a commitment to solving some of our world’s biggest challenges,” said Dave Levy, Vice President of Nonprofits, Health, and U.S. Government at AWS. “We look forward to collaborating with our winners to help them build and reinvent new and existing cloud-based solutions that will make a meaningful impact on communities worldwide.”

More than 35,000 nonprofit organizations worldwide use AWS to increase their impact and advance mission goals. Through multiple programs tailored specifically to the nonprofit community, AWS can enable nonprofits of all sizes to overcome barriers to technology adoption, while enhancing the scale, performance, and capabilities of mission operations.

For more information on the AWS Imagine Grant, visit aws.amazon.com/imagine-grant

About Center for International Blood and Marrow Transplant Research

The Center for International Blood and Marrow Transplant Research (CIBMTR) is a nonprofit research collaboration between the National Marrow Donor Program (NMDP)/Be The Match, in Minneapolis; and the Medical College of Wisconsin, in Milwaukee. The CIBMTR collaborates with the global scientific community to increase survival and enrich quality of life for patients. The CIBMTR facilitates critical observational and interventional research through scientific and statistical expertise, a large network of centers, and a unique database of long-term clinical data for more than 585,000 people who have received hematopoietic cell transplantation and other cellular therapies.

For more information on the CIBMTR, please visit www.cibmtr.org or follow the CIBMTR on [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), or Twitter at [@CIBMTR](#).

About the National Marrow Donor Program/Be The Match

The National Marrow Donor Program® (NMDP)/Be The Match® is the global leader in providing a cure to patients with life-threatening blood and marrow cancers like leukemia and lymphoma, as well as other diseases. The NMDP/Be The Match manages the world’s largest registry of potential blood stem cell donors and cord blood units, connects patients to their donor match for a life-saving marrow or umbilical cord blood transplant and educates health care professionals and patients. In 2016, the NMDP/Be The Match established [Be The Match BioTherapies](#)® to accelerate patient access to life-saving therapies, by providing proven services and support to companies developing and delivering cell and gene therapies.

Learn more at BeTheMatchClinical.org.

About the Medical College of Wisconsin

With a history dating back to 1893, The Medical College of Wisconsin is dedicated to leadership and excellence in education, patient care, research and community engagement. More than 1,500 students are enrolled in MCW's medical school and graduate school programs in Milwaukee, Green Bay, and Central Wisconsin in. MCW's School of Pharmacy opened in 2017. A major national research center, MCW is the largest research institution in the Milwaukee metro area and second largest in Wisconsin. In the last ten years, faculty received more than \$1.5 billion in external support for research, teaching, training and related purposes. This total includes highly competitive research and training awards from the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Annually, MCW faculty direct or collaborate on more than 3,100 research studies, including clinical trials. Additionally, more than 1,650 physicians provide care in virtually every specialty of medicine for more than 2.8 million patients annually. Learn more at mcw.edu.

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