

University of South Carolina — April 2025 New Grant Awards Report

PI's College	PI's Department	PI Name	Award Title	Sponsoring Agency	Award Total
Arnold School of Public Health					
	Applied Research & Evaluation (CARE)				
		Pope, Holly	South Carolina Integration Demonstration (SCID) Project	SC Department of Public Health (DPH)	\$ 168,000
			Advancing Oral Health in South Carolina	SC Department of Public Health (SCDPH)	\$ 102,000
	Communication Sci & Disorders				
		Bonilha, Heather	Brain Networks Supporting Oral and Pharyngeal Swallow Function after Stroke	Medical University of South Carolina/NINDS/NIH	\$ 667,971
	Epidemiology & Biostatistics				
		Cai, Bo	SC Muscular Dystrophy Surveillance, Tracking, and Research Network (SC MD STARnet) (Subcontract to DHEC) Comp A	SC Department Public Health (SCDPH)/CDC	\$ 330,000
	Exercise Science				
		Arent, Shawn	A Randomized, Double-Blind, Parallel-Group, Placebo-Controlled Clinical Trial Of A Mushroom Blend To Evaluate Its Impacts On Gastrointestinal and Overall Quality Of Life and Microbiome Makeup In Healthy Adults	Substantiation Sciences LLC	\$ 187,835
		Weaver, Glenn	(PI - Olivia Finnegan) Leveraging Embedded Mobile Device Sensors for Detection of Children's Mobile Screen Use: Examining Feasibility and Performance	National Institute of Child Health & Human Development (NICHD)/NIH	\$ 125,706
	Health Prom., Educ. & Behavior				
		Draper, Carrie	Share Our Strength's No Kid Hungry Campaign	Share Our Strength	\$ 50,000
		Larson, Leila	The impacts of mild to moderate iodine deficiency in pregnancy on IQ loss in young children	Iodine Global Network	\$ 5,000
	Public Health - Dean's Office				
		Kilpatrick, Daniel	EJ Strong PREP: Practicing Risk Reduction Education through Partnership in South Carolina	SC Department of Environmental Sciences (SCDES)/EPA	\$ 497,352
College of Education					
	Leadership, Learning Design, & Inquiry				
		Shah, Payal	Creating Culturally Responsive and Expansive Girls' Education Ecosystems in India: A Community-Driven Approach	Texas A&M University/The Spencer Foundation	\$ 9,500
	Research, Eval., & Measurement				
		Ene, Mihaela	Evaluation of the Supporting Teachers with AI Resources (STAR) Pilot Project	Merlyn Mind Inc./SCDE	\$ 30,000
			Evaluation of Florence County School District Three's School-Based Mental Health Project	Florence County School District Three/USDE	\$ 200,000

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		Leighton, Elizabeth	Evaluation of Spartanburg County School District One's Innovation Grant Program: AI Tools for Teachers	Spartanburg School District One/SCDE	\$ 30,000
College of Nursing					
	Office of Research - Nursing				
		Dail, Robin	Neonatal autonomic nervous system dysfunction as a predictor of autism spectrum disorder in preterm infants	National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH)/NIH	\$ 3,397,499
College of Pharmacy					
	Drug Discovery & Biomed Sci.				
		Porcu, Alessandra	Neurobiological responses of somatostatin neuronal circuits to environmental light disruptions during pubertal development	National Center for Complementary & Integrative Health (NCCIH)/NIH	\$ 2,497,402
Darla Moore School of Business					
	Moore Sch - Div. of Research				
		Ozturk, Orgul	Economic/Fiscal Impact Study for New Morning's Choose Well Program	New Morning Foundation	\$ 39,814
		Von Nessen, Joseph	Children's Trust of South Carolina: Economic Impact Analysis	Children's Trust of South Carolina	\$ 45,000
McCausland College of Arts and Sciences					
	Biological Sciences				
		Kalinski, Ashley	Elucidating the cell-autonomy of SARM1 for injury induced axon regeneration, nerve inflammation, and Schwann cell reprogramming	Johns Hopkins University/Merkin Family Foundation	\$ 75,000
			Regulation of Neuroinflammation after Peripheral Nerve Injury	Ball State University/NINDS/NIH	\$ 194,882
		Richardson, Tammi	(PI: Jared Rose) - Slocum Lunz - Investigating the Effects of Spectral Quality on Cryptophytes of Potential Economic Importance	Slocum Lunz Foundation	\$ 1,500
	Psychology				
		Weist, Mark	Staying the Course: Building ECHO Networks for Effective School Behavioral Health (SBH)	Council for Exceptional Children (Private Donations)	\$ 83,000
Molinaroli College of Engineering & Computing					
	Mechanical Engineering				
		Besmann, Theodore	Completion of the Molten Salt Thermal Properties Database-Thermochemical	UT-Battelle, LLC/ORNL/DOE	\$ 255,000
		De Backer, Wout	South Carolinas First Cubesat for Event Detection and Additive Manufacturing	Space Dynamics Laboratory (SDL) - Utah State University/AFRL-RV/NASA	\$ 50,000
		Downey, Austin	Development of an Extended Progressive Damage Dataset	HII Mission Technologies Corporation (HII)/AFRL/DOD	\$ 47,498

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School of Medicine					
	Internal Medicine				
		Albrecht, Helmut	Nanopore-Based HIV Self-Test for Ultrasensitive p24 Quantification in FingerPrick Blood	University of Massachusetts Amherst/NIH	\$ 23,134
	MDC Office of Dean				
		Rahemtullah, Omme-Sa	NeighborShare (CDBG)	SC Research Foundation (SCRF)/Richland County	\$ 35,770
	Neuropsychiatry				
		Narasimhan, Meera	Access Improvement/rural Outreach Initiatives in Partnership with SC Office of Rural Health Contract #1599 SC DHHS Services for Purchase and Provision of Rural Outreach Program	SC Department of Health and Human Services	\$ 4,379,304
	Pediatrics				
		Stephenson, Kathryn	Parents as Teachers	Prisma Health-Midlands/Children's Trust Fund of South Carolina/HRSA	\$ 104,743
	Pharm., Physiology & Neuroscience				
		Hollis, Fiona	Psychosocial stress-induced neurometabolic dysfunction as a mediator of postpartum cardiovascular disease	National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI)/NIH	\$ 2,881,214
		Pocivavsek, Ana	SAM WALTHER - SRSF Small Research Grant -The Effects of Prenatal Kynurenic Acid Exposure on Sleep Quality Across Early Development	Sleep Research Society Foundation	\$ 2,006