

Biomedical Research Fund

A Significant Role in Research



I recently announced the 2011 recipients of state funding from the Biomedical Research Fund, and am pleased to inform you that this fund continues to play a significant role for investigators who seek new ways of preventing and treating heart disease, cancer, other smoking related illnesses, Alzheimer's and diabetes.

**Turn this card over to find out more about
Creating the Biomedical Research Fund**

State Senator

Joe Crisco

**Representing Ansonia, Beacon Falls, Bethany,
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State Senator Joe Crisco Biomedical Research Fund

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Support for New Approaches, Fundamental Questions

The Biomedical Research Fund is a critical source of funding because it enables researchers to address the kinds of projects that do not qualify for National Institute of Health (NIH) support or other federal grants—those investigations in which fundamental questions are asked or new approaches are pursued.

In this latest round **nearly \$1 million was awarded to support three exciting projects** conducted by researchers at UConn Health Center, Yale University and the University of Connecticut. The projects address colon-cancer prevention, diabetes treatment and prevention and cardiovascular disease prevention.

Preliminary data in one such project, moreover, opened the door to a successful application for larger federal funding down the road.

Major Breakthrough

The importance of providing funding for novel approaches was brought to light in 2008 when researchers at the Yale University School of Medicine announced a major breakthrough in lung cancer pathenogenesis. Their innovative investigations broke new ground in identifying smokers who are most at risk for developing lung cancer. Then, as now, the Biomedical Research Fund made possible an important project; NIH provided subsequent support.

Creating the Biomedical Research Fund

The Biomedical Research Fund was created in 2000 through legislation I introduced. Since its inception, the fund has distributed \$11 million to researchers in Connecticut hospitals, medical schools and institutions of higher learning. It is an exciting possibility that the answer to the hopes of so many patients may be found in the studies supported by this fund.

Special Funding for Bethany and Woodbridge

PUBLIC SAFETY **Small Town Economic** **Assistance Program (STEAP)**

\$500,000—Woodbridge
Police Department
improvements, enhance
public safety

Economic and Community **Development Program**

\$58,549—Bethany Town
Hall energy efficient
improvements will reduce
expensive utility costs

\$25,000—Town of
Woodbridge for
Public Works garage
construction assistance