

## The Mustela Foundation Celebrates 40 Years of Action

### *Promoting childhood and parenting since 1982*



Founded in 1982 under the aegis of the Fondation de France, the Mustela Foundation has been faithful for 40 years to its primary purpose: promoting childhood and parenting. To do this, the Foundation has gradually enlarged the scope of its activities, from support for research to assistance for projects in the field, by way of heightening public health awareness.

#### **Support for research, the historical mission**

Thirty years after the first grants for childhood research were awarded in 1982 to pediatricians, psychologists, child care workers and psychiatrists, maieutics grants for midwives were added, and, in 2018, grants for research on sensorial awakening, which are also open to psychomotor and speech therapists.

Over a forty-year period, 213 healthcare professionals have received grants in various domains: pregnancy; perinatality; midwifery; psychology; cognitive, sensory or motor development in children; family environment; and socioeconomic context.

In this way, the Mustela Foundation has often supported, and even anticipated, the development of major topics concerning childhood, such as the role of resiliency, support for parenting and the prevention of risks due to the increasing presence of screens.

Winners are chosen by healthcare and early childhood specialists who meet each year in three scientific committees.

In parallel, the Mustela Foundation has extended its activity to support research in several European countries, including Belgium, Spain and Turkey.

#### **Varied support for preventive awareness**

Forty years ago, the Mustela Foundation contributed to prevention in the public health area through posters and booklets on topics such as hygiene during pregnancy, access for the disabled and the prevention of domestic accidents. The Foundation currently carries out this type of awareness action online, in particular through videos dedicated to research work by Foundation grant winners in areas like Caesarian births and the diagnosis of physical mistreatment. These videos keep healthcare

professionals up to date on progress in research, while offering a larger audience information that is precise and understandable.

The “Accouche” podcast invites listeners to sit in on a conversation between a former Mustela Foundation grant winner and another expert in perinatal (midwife, obstetrician, psychologist or gynecologist) on topics related to birth and delivery, including pain management, maternal posture and the empowerment of mothers-to-be. Ten episodes are now available on the usual podcast platforms (Ausha, Apple Podcasts, etc.), as well as on the Foundation’s website.

### Emergencies and vulnerabilities in the field

For many years, the Mustela Foundation has supported field initiatives designed to support children and families in difficult situations, in France and elsewhere. At certain times, the Foundation has also provided specific assistance to meet emergency situations, such as the explosions in the Bayreuth harbor in 2020, by contributing to the relocation of victims. In February 2022, it provided support for Ukrainian orphans in Romania. Faced with the explosion of precariousness following two years of health crisis, the Mustela Foundation has recently increased its assistance to associations that provide shelter, enable social reinsertion and combat poverty and social inequality. In 2020, the Foundation donated to several bodies that commit to providing care for infant, maternal and family vulnerabilities, including parents worn out by confinement conditions, women with mental issues, women seeking refuge, young mothers with babies, children who are victims of violence, and families living in a very precarious situation. In 2021, the Mustela Foundation supported MaMaMa, a recently created association that supports mothers and children in distress in the Ile de France area by providing personalized packages (food, clothing, etc.).

*We are celebrating the 40th anniversary of our Foundation with heartfelt emotion! In 1982, the father of Jean-Paul Berthomé, who is the current President of Laboratoires Expanscience, created the Mustela Foundation to give a social dimension to his company and its flagship brand. Today, we are prouder than ever to continue supporting research in areas that have difficulty obtaining funds, raising healthcare awareness in the public at large by making high-quality information available to them, and supporting associations that work firsthand with the most vulnerable. This would not be possible without our scientific committees, who have devoted their time for many years to choosing and supporting in the best possible way the projects for promoting child welfare that are submitted to the Mustela Foundation. Emmanuelle Dumas, Director of Communication and Corporate Philanthropy for Laboratoires Expanscience*



### About the Mustela Foundation

Under the aegis of the Fondation de France since its creation in 1982, the Mustela Foundation encourages research work or projects on child development and parenting throughout the world. For further information: [www.fondationmustela.com](http://www.fondationmustela.com)

### Press Contact

JIN Agency

Camille Billiemaz – [cbilliemaz@jin.fr](mailto:cbilliemaz@jin.fr) +33 6 31 58 82 37