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History:

More than sixty years ago, Henry H. Kessler, MD, PhD, founded Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation, where he established a comprehensive program of rehabilitation medicine aimed at providing the opportunity for people with disabilities to lead full and productive lives. For Dr. Kessler, rehabilitation encompassed patient care, education, research, vocational research, and specially trained personnel. Dr. Kessler's legacy is apparent today in the institutions that bear his name. In the mid-1980's Kessler Foundation was created to support rehabilitation research and the efforts of other organizations that serve people with disabilities. In 2003, Kessler Foundation sold Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation to Select Medical Corporation, a national for-profit provider of rehabilitation services.

Today:

Kessler Foundation maintains its charitable role as supporter of the non-profit Kessler Foundation Research Center and other entities dedicated to improving the quality of life for people with disabilities. Kessler Foundation Research Center's laboratories collaborate closely with Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation, ensuring that research projects prioritize the needs of people undergoing rehabilitation.

Vision - To be a leader in rehabilitation research and grantmaking to improve independence and productivity for people with disabilities.

Mission - To improve quality of life for people with disabilities through discovery, innovation, demonstration, application, and dissemination.

Offices:

Kessler Foundation has two locations in West Orange, New Jersey: Kessler Foundation Research Center, which adjoins Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation at 1199 Pleasant Valley Way, is devoted to advanced rehabilitation research and Kessler Foundation Program Center, located at corporate headquarters at 300 Executive Drive, is responsible for providing grants that support rehabilitation research and advance employment opportunities for people with disabilities. One of the six research laboratories—Neuropsychology & Neuroscience—is also located at 300 Executive Drive.

Kessler Foundation Research Center:

Kessler Foundation Research Center improves the quality of life for people with **physical** and **cognitive** disabilities through rehabilitation research in its six specialized laboratories under the leadership of noted research directors--Human Performance & Engineering Research, Neuropsychology & Neuroscience, Outcomes & Assessment Research, Spinal Cord Injury Research, Stroke Rehabilitation Research, and Traumatic Brain Injury Research. While the staff of each laboratory has expertise in a particular area, collaboration often enhances progress toward finding ways to overcome the obstacles faced by people with disabilities caused by brain injury, spinal cord injury, multiple sclerosis, stroke, arthritis, and other chronic neurological and orthopedic conditions.

Kessler Foundation Program Center:

Kessler Foundation Program Center provides assistance to community organizations that create employment programs or integration opportunities for people with disabilities. Grant recipients include national and local organizations whose missions complement that of Kessler Foundation.

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