5 Strategic Areas of Support

**Care-for-Rare Alliance**
The Care-for-Rare Alliance comprises a large network of physicians and scientists. They work at academic pediatric centers or basic science institutes supporting the foundation’s mission, treating children with rare diseases, deciphering the causes of diseases and developing novel therapies.

**Care-for-Rare Awareness**
The Care-for-Rare Awareness initiative recognizes the need to increase attention, understanding and appreciation of the public towards the special situation of children with rare diseases. A special focus is placed on educational aspects and early diagnosis programs.

**Care-for-Rare Awards**
The Care-for-Rare Foundation offers two prestigious awards: The Dr. Holger Müller Prize, endowed with 5,000 Euro, honors an investigator for a recent scientific accomplishment. The Care-for-Rare Science Award provides a seed grant of up to 50,000 Euro to allow junior researchers to initiate a research project on rare diseases.

**Care-for-Rare Academy**
The Care-for-Rare Academy program supports fellows from all over the world to learn about diagnosis and therapy of rare diseases. Furthermore, the Care-for-Rare Academy program sponsors a special translational research school at Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich.

**Care-for-Rare Aid**
The Care-for-Rare Aid initiative grants allow individual patients to get access to modern genomic medicine – throughout the world. Even if support of patients is not the cornerstone of the foundation’s strategy, there is an urgent need to provide help for patients in less privileged circumstances.

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The Care-for-Rare Foundation is a legally recognised foundation constituted under German civil law. Donations are tax deductible. Tax receipts will be issued upon request.
Children with rare diseases, the orphans of medicine, are disadvantaged in many respects: endless odysseys from doctor to doctor, wrong diagnoses and clinical mismanagement determine their lives. Many rare diseases remain incurable up to date. Only through enhanced research activities and international cooperation we can change the fortune of many children.

The Care-for-Rare Foundation is the first and only foundation of its kind, it supports children cross-borders in order to give them hope for treatment – no matter what nationality, ethnic origins and financial background they present. Prominent personalities, including two Nobel Laureates, support the activities of the Care-for-Rare Foundation.

More than 7,000 rare diseases have been recognized up to date – and the number continues to grow. Even though each disease in itself is rare by definition, in sum they represent a considerable socioeconomic burden. Current estimates indicate that 350 million people are affected worldwide.

Importance of cross-border research activities

Understanding the basis of rare diseases bears important implications for the development of novel diagnostic and therapeutic tools – not only for rare diseases, but also for common diseases.