**Objective:**  
The Lion Hearts are committed to finding a cure for cancer, and breast cancer in particular. In keeping with this mission, they understand the value of funding bright young minds – providing them with pilot funding to kick-start high potential research projects, and/or supporting innovative work requiring bridge funding. The Yale Cancer Center/Smilow Cancer Hospital, and particularly The Breast Center, are solid partners of the Lion Hearts and have a wealth of scientists and clinicians who are working hard towards the same goal. The Lion Heart Fund for Cancer Research was developed in order to move this shared vision forward.

**The Mechanism:**  
Yale investigators are encouraged to submit proposals of innovative, high-potential projects requiring pilot funding. Projects may be in any area of breast cancer research – basic, translational, clinical, outcomes and population science are all welcomed from any discipline or group of disciplines. A committee, comprised of scientific/medical experts from Yale Cancer Center and dedicated Lion Hearts, will review the proposals and choose those to be funded. Funding will be $50,000 for a one-year project. Funds may be used for salary support, equipment, materials etc. It is expected that funds will be expended over one year; however, a one-time no-cost six month extension will be considered. The number of projects funded will depend on the amount of funds raised the preceding year but is estimated at two (2) projects for the 2023 cycle. Once the pilot ends, any remaining funds will be recouped and returned to the Lion Heart Fund at YNHH.

**The Timeline:**  
November 8, 2022: Deadline for proposals  
December 2022: Committee review of proposals; decision for funding  
January 1, 2023: Funding starts  
August 1, 2023: Progress Reports due  
February 20, 2024: Deadline for final report

**The Application:**  
Submit the following materials in a single pdf document to df.stern@yale.edu (cc Janine.hoffmann@yale.edu) by 11:59 pm EST November 8, 2022. Please write “Lion Heart Application” in the subject line. **Note:** late applications will not be considered.  
  a) Title page with title of project, PI, and co-investigators; along with contact information for PI  
  b) A lay and technical abstract (250 words max each)  
  c) An NIH-style biosketch (5 page max)  
  d) Proposal (4 page single space max, excluding references, 11 point Arial font, 1” margins); including discussion of future directions, and how this funding will help to achieve your career goals  
  e) Letters of support (if any)  
  f) Budget with budget justification (please note funding limit of $50,000)

**The Criteria:** Applications will be judged based on:  
  a) Significance, and potential impact  
  b) Innovation  
  c) Candidate  
  d) Degree to which the proposal is aligned with Lion Heart goals