Major Psychedelic Science Funders and Philanthropists (2025)

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The Tangled Web

The field of psychedelic science has long been funded by overlapping networks of philanthropists with deep pockets.

This overlapping web of financial influence on the psychedelic research landscape includes a range of eccentric donors: From New York Mets owner Steve Cohen, to hippie soap CEO David Bronner, to the Silicon Valley millionaires of the Psychedelic Science Funders Collaborative, and more.

These funders have been a driving force behind university research; lobbying efforts; and the general psychedelic nonprofit sector.

All Roads Lead to Lykos

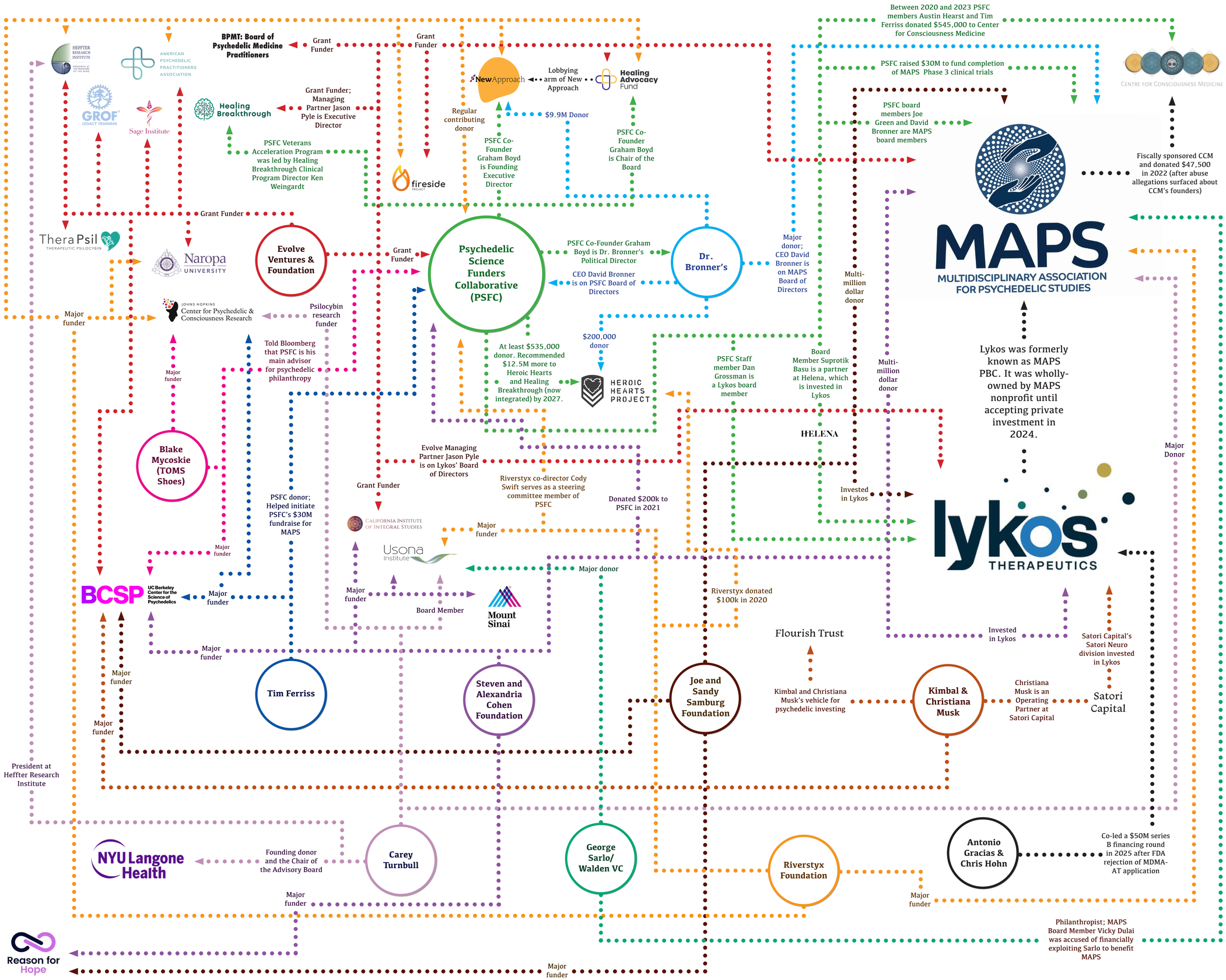
Every major funder on this map has some connections to the Multidisciplinary Association for Psychedelic Studies (MAPS) or Lykos Therapeutics — which was spun off from MAPS.

Most psychedelic funders share the viewpoint that MAPS / Lykos receiving FDA approval of MDMA-Assisted Therapy could act as a catalyst to kickstart a mainstream psychedelic medical industry. Many large-scale fundraising efforts have been coordinated between this network of philanthropists to help MAPS / Lykos complete clinical trials.

Some of the major funders of the psychedelic field — including Evolve, PSFC, and Dr. Bronner's — share executive leadership and board membership with MAPS and Lykos.

Other notable funder overlaps occur with organizations influencing state-level legislation like New Approach PAC and Healing Advocacy Fund, and with psychedelic research initiatives at universities like UC Berkeley, Johns Hopkins, and Naropa University.

Note on Sources

While this map is extensive, it is not complete. It draws informations from 990 tax filings, information on funders' web pages, and publicly available reporting in the media. Created in 2025.

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