BLU PRINT FILMS

IN THE END,
WE'LL ALL BECOME
STORIES

"WE LIVE IN A WORLD WHERE PEOPLE WILL SOON BE CURED OF CANCER BUT DIE OF INFECTION."

–DR. MARTHA CLOKIE

Antibiotics, once hailed as miracle drugs, are losing their power.

After decades of overuse in people, plants, and animals, antibiotics have become a major threat to human health and food security. The rise of **Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)** and "superbug" infections is now one of the biggest global health threats to humanity.

THE PROBLEM

Resistance in Health & Medicine

According to the World Health Organization, the number of human deaths directly linked to antimicrobial resistance has risen to more than 1.2 million in 2019.

By 2050, drug resistant infections will kill an extra 10 million people a year worldwide, more than currently die from cancer, unless action is taken.

Resistance in Food & Agriculture

More than two-thirds of antibiotics are used in farm animals. Antibiotic overuse in animals and plants threatens our food security and safety, and contaminates the environment.

The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization estimates antimicrobial resistance will force 24 million more farmers into extreme poverty in just 10 years.

THE CURE FOR ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE IS ALL AROUND US—

CAN WE UNLEASH IT IN TIME?

FEATURE DOCUMENTARY

TINY REVOLUTION

Phage therapy's life-or-death fight against antibiotic resistance, pioneered by women scientists defying the status quo.

A TINY REVOLUTION is a feature-length documentary that follows pioneering scientists and clinicians as they lead the urgent global quest to solve the crisis of antimicrobial resistance. This real-time medical thriller exposes the complex world of cures—and the profits and regulations that often stand in their way.

In a growing global network of clinics and labs, a tiny revolution is brewing. Researchers are reviving a once forgotten medicine called **phage therapy**, an alternative to antibiotics that uses naturally occurring viruses to treat bacterial infections.

The film is a testament to the human ingenuity, collaboration, and creativity of these changemakers, as they roll up their sleeves and solve one of society's most pressing health and environmental challenges.

"DIRTY WATER. SORT OF THE BEST."
PHAGE HUNTER BEN CHAN FROM YALE UNIVERSITY COLLECTS WATER SAMPLES IN THE HOPES OF DISCOVERING NEW PHAGES

WATCH THE TEASER
(8 minutes)

The Science of Phage Therapy

Bacteriophages, or simply phages, are naturally occurring viruses that evolved to only target certain bacteria. In phage therapy, viruses tailored to specific bacteria are found in the field, characterized in the lab, and delivered to the patient, plant, or animal, where they then infect and kill the bacteria without harming any other cells. The practice has been around for over a century, first developed a decade before the discovery of penicillin.

Phage therapy can used as an alternative or a supplement to antibiotic treatments. Because they work differently than antibiotics, phages can treat multidrug-resistant bacteria while producing fewer side effects and environmental pollutants. **It's an evidence-based, equitable, and sustainable solution with the potential to save millions of lives worldwide.**

BACTERIOPHAGES (YELLOW) ATTACKING A BACTERIUM (RED).

The Power of Phage

HUMAN HEALTH

Revolutionary Bacterial Defense

Researchers are using phages to address a wide range of bacterial conditions, including pneumonia, cystic fibrosis, UTI's, food poisoning, wound infections, and outbreaks of diseases like cholera or diphtheria. Phages can also be used to decontaminate surfaces and tools in hospitals, where sepsis is the third most common cause of death.

ANIMAL HEALTH

Sustainable Livestock Wellness

Biotech companies are developing phages to reduce and ultimately replace the use of antibiotics for illness prevention and growth enhancement in livestock.

AGRICULTURAL HEALTH

Antibiotic-Free Disease Prevention

Phages help prevent the onset and spread of disease across farmland, without introducing antibiotics into the food chain or the environment.

MEDIUM

Why a Documentary?

Using visual stories to build a more scientifically-engaged society.

The way people consume news and media has evolved, making visual stories more powerful than ever. Science and health documentaries on Netflix attract millions of viewers. "Kiss the Ground," a film on regenerative agriculture's potential to combat climate change, engaged over 10 million viewers worldwide.

Beyond viewership, science documentaries increase interest in science, appreciation for scientists, and public support for scientific endeavors. Films can also drive policy change and philanthropic support. For instance, "Kiss the Ground" prompted the USDA to allocate $20 billion for soil health initiatives.

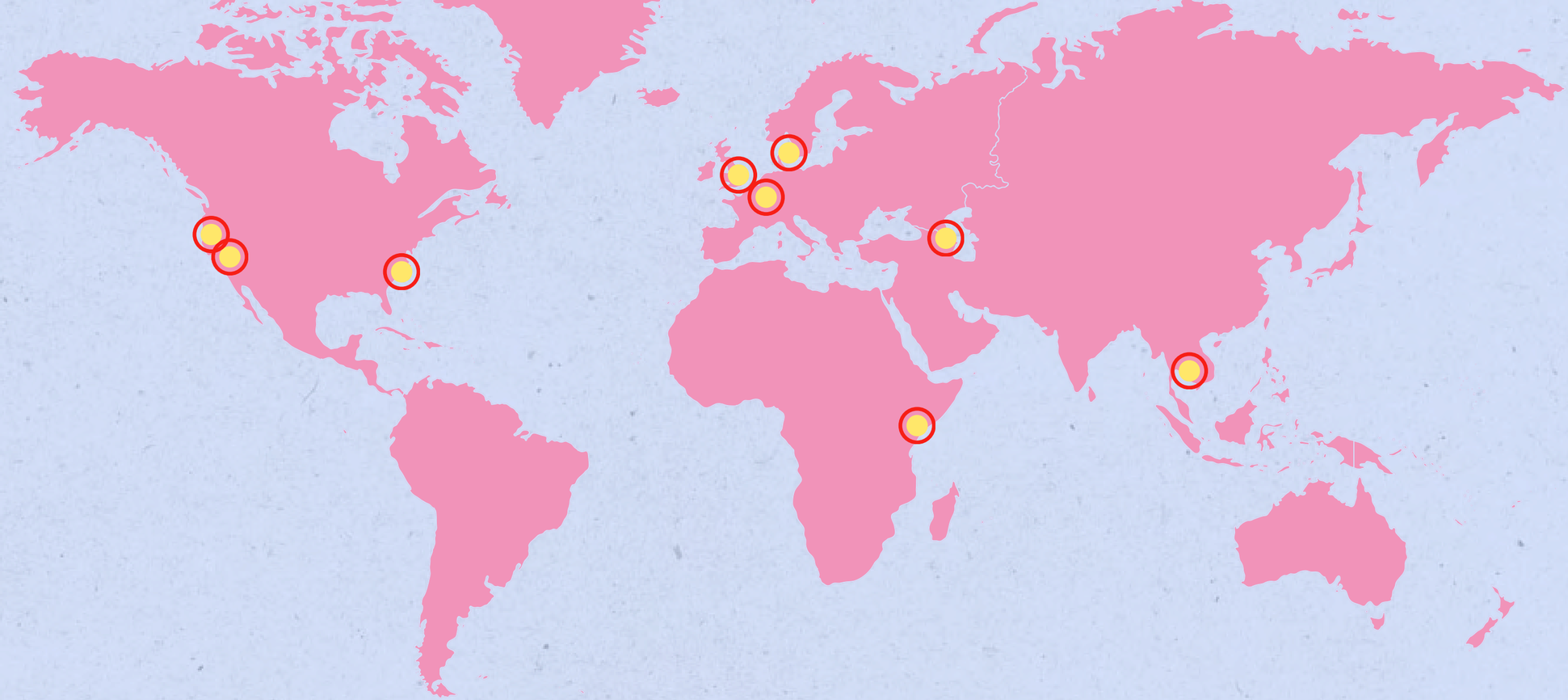
By telling the compelling story of phage therapy and the inspiring scientists behind it, we hope to educate the public, drive support for this research, and bring all of us closer to life-saving medicine and agriculture.

COMPARABLES

The “Chef’s Table” of Science

We rarely go beyond the white coat and get to know the intellects behind medical advancements. There is a veil between what is being administered and where the actual discoveries are happening. Similar to Netflix’s “Chef’s Table,” we intend to provide an intimate glimpse from the experts’ and change-maker’s perspectives.

Mirroring the visual elegance and cinematic depth of “Chef’s Table,” A TINY REVOLUTION reveals the artistry behind life-saving advancements and the individuals shaping our healthier future.



SETTINGS

A Global Story

From research labs at the world's most respected universities to clinics in the developing world, this global story takes viewers on a captivating journey across different countries and cultures.

Dr. Martha Clokie
University of Leceister
Leicester, UK

Dr. Mzia Kutateladze
Eliava Institute
Tbilisi, Georgia

Dr. Tobi Nagel
Malacca, Malaysia
Kenya, East Africa

Dr. Steffanie Strathdee
University of California San Diego
San Diego, CA, USA

Dr. Jessica Sacher
Stanford University
Palo Alto, CA, USA

Valeria Ruffo
University of Copenhagen
Copenhagen, Denmark

Dr. Sabrina Green
KU Leuven
Brussels, Belgium

Dr. Ana Sanchez
Duke University
Durham, NC, USA

Dr. Tanja Mijatovic
RED Labs
Zellick, Belgium

CHARACTERS

Women at the Forefront

In a field where female representation is often lacking, these women are pioneering breakthroughs in phage therapy.

LEICESTER, UK

Dr. Martha Clokie
Our Guide

Martha Clokie, Professor of Microbiology and phage researcher, will be our window into this international story about the tension between industry, regulators, and researchers, each with a unique vision for the future of phage.

Widely connected and quietly brilliant, Clokie is leading the fight against antibiotic resistant bacterial infections. Her work has already inspired several novel therapeutics for UTIs.

She will also lead us through phage's applications in industrial agriculture, taking a "sleeves-rolled-up" approach through active partnerships with local farmers treating their livestock in the English countryside.

TBILISI, GEORGIA

Dr. Mzia Kutateladze

The OG

A good-humored and blunt Eastern European, Dr. Mzia Kutateladze jokes that the U.S. believes it invented phage therapy. While the antibiotic boom of the 1950s led researchers to abandon phage research in the West, phage research never ended in the USSR and its successor states—resulting in a more practical approach to phage medical use than the “cutting-edge” status it currently has in the West.

SAN DIEGO, CA

Dr. Steffanie Strathdee

Phage in the USA

When her husband faced a deadly antibiotic-resistant infection, infectious disease epidemiologist Dr. Steffanie Strathdee turned to an unconventional solution: phage therapy, a virus-based treatment popular in the former Soviet Union. Her quick thinking led to the first U.S. use of intravenous phage therapy from a top-secret Navy bank, saving his life. Today, Dr. Stathdee leads a biotech company pioneering new treatments for the world's most dangerous bacterial infections.

Dr. Jessica Sacher

Emergency Phage

PALO ALTO, CA

As co-founder of Phage Directory, Dr. Jessica Sacher facilitates global collaborations in phage research. She’s coordinating phage hunts, managing emergency phage requests, and providing resources to advance clinical applications —all critical steps in getting phage therapy from the lab to the patients.

Dr. Tobi Nagel
The Teacher

KENYA, AFRICA

MALACCA, MALAYSIA

Fullbright Scholar Dr. Tobi Nagel, a pivotal figure in the pharmaceutical industry, has contributed to over 80 clinical trials and is now on a mission to democratize healthcare in Kenya and Malaysia. As founder of Phages for Global Health, she works tirelessly with local scientists to establish community phage banks, making phage therapy accessible worldwide.

Dr. Nagel's grassroots approach is evident as she navigates policymakers through intricate regulatory processes that often impede approval and use of phages. Her commitment is unwavering as she seeks to dismantle the barriers that prevent timely, phage-based medical innovations.

A STUDENT OF DR. NAGEL STUDYING PHAGES DURING A WORKSHOP IN KENYA

BRUSSELLS, BELGIUM

Dr. Sabrina Green
Rebel Disrupter

Dr. Sabrina Green pushes for phage treatments to evolve past its scaled-down, home-spun origins and the drug development status-quo. Instead, she envisions a future where phage research is conducted by AI. But before progress can be made, the political status of phage must be fought in the Belgian courts.

THE STORY

Rediscovering Phage Therapy

Our documentary explores phage's rich historical trajectory, showcasing its unique origins, its Soviet-era development, its potential resurgence as a modern medical solution, and the remaining obstacles to overcome.

We are first introduced to the world of phages through **Dr. Steffanie Strathdee, an epidemiologist whose love story took an unexpected turn when her husband fell gravely ill to a bacterial infection.** In a desperate bid for salvation, she turned to a forgotten remedy: phage therapy. This brought a miraculous resurgence of attention to the ancient cure.

Discovered by Frederick Twort and Félix d'Hérelle in the early 20th century, phage therapy became a potent tool in the early fight against cholera. **The Soviet Union enthusiastically adopted the method** when Cold War rivalries led Western nations to keep penicillin production methods a secret.

Soviet doctors used phages extensively to treat soldiers and civilians, keeping the practice alive while the West focused on antibiotics. But, in the 1940s, **the discovery of methods to produce penicillin at an industrial scale led to a global "antibiotic era,"** in part because antibiotics fit the mold of capitalist society.

In the bustling streets of Tbilisi, Georgia, where phage research has continued since 1923, **Dr. Mzia Kutateladze of the Eliava Institute fights a different battle—one against exploitation, greed, and an imminent Russian invasion.** Her research has flourished in spite of a shoestring budget, but renewed interest in phage therapy now has other scientists flocking to her doorstep, eager to plunder the fruits of her labor. Exacerbated by outdated EU regulations and constant military threats, these challenges now threaten the institute's very existence, and the decades of knowledge it holds.

THE STORY

A Quest for Effective, Equitable, Personalized Medicine

A TINY REVOLUTION offers an intimate look at a scientific breakthrough in progress, highlighting the resilience of the human spirit and our relentless quest for knowledge and healing. We witness the highs and lows, the eureka moments, and the agonizing setbacks, as these pioneers search for a life-saving solution. The film brings audiences into the heart of the scientific process, where the stakes are high, and the line between success and failure is razor-thin.

"The prevalence of antibiotic resistance is concerning, and the need for more effective therapeutics for vulnerable populations, such as people with cystic fibrosis, is especially urgent.

-DR. ANTHONY FAUCI

CYSTIC FIBROSIS: At UC San Diego, Drs. Stephanie Strathdee and Chip Schooley lead the first NIH-funded trials for cystic fibrosis using phages from BiomX. Their patients' struggles highlight the urgent need for novel treatments of infectious diseases.

TREATING UTI: Dr. Ana Sanchez at Duke University enters the fray, using CRISPR-enhanced phages to eradicate chronic UTIs in a Phase 3 clinical trial. Her work at Locus Biosciences represents the cutting edge of genetic engineering, where phages and bacteria are engaged in an evolutionary arms race.

WORKING TOGETHER: Dr. Jessica Sacher at Stanford is curating a global network of university researchers, biotech companies, and phage-therapy centers to accelerate the study and use of phages. The network is becoming a game changer for patients, like 7-year-old Dhanvi in Sydney, whose leg amputation was prevented in 2019 thanks to a global collaboration of labs providing and purifying phages.

HEALTH EQUITY: While these groundbreaking efforts unfold in wealthier countries, Dr. Tobi Nagel is establishing community phage banks in Kenya and Malaysia. Her pioneering project, Phages for Global Health, leads local doctors and researchers on phage hunts in their own backyard. This grassroots approach ensures that phage therapy reaches the most vulnerable—bridging the gap between healthcare "haves and have-nots."

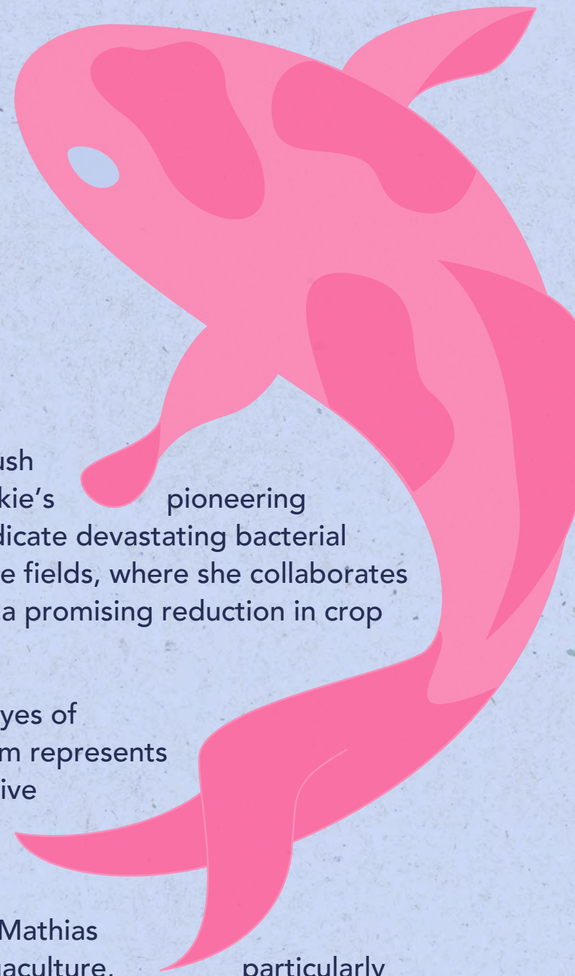
CAPITAL PRESSURES: The pharmaceutical industry thrives off of one-size-fits-all approaches. Because phage therapy requires a level of personalization (matching each patient with a specific phage for their particular pathogen) it's more difficult to quickly commercialize. We now stand at a crossroads: will the industry turn phage therapy into a bespoke treatment only accessible to the one percent? Or can we set a new precedent in drug development and create a personalized medicine accessible to all?

THE STORY

Securing our Food's Future with Phage

Human health relies on farms as much as it does pharma. A TINY REVOLUTION teaches audiences about the risks of overusing antibiotics in crops, livestock, and water supplies. By replacing harmful chemicals and antibiotics with nature's own viral predators, we ensure the next generation inherits a world where food and water are abundant and safe.

Through smart, groundbreaking journalism and provocative personal stories, A TINY REVOLUTION captures the fight to protect our food and water supply.



PLANT DOCTOR: Dr. Martha Clokie stands amid the lush fields of the UK, her eyes scanning the horizon. Dr. Clokie's pioneering research has identified phages that can target and eradicate devastating bacterial pathogens in crops. Her work moves from the lab to the fields, where she collaborates with farmers to implement phage treatments, showing a promising reduction in crop diseases as an eco-friendly and sustainable solution.

HEALTHY SOIL: In a European laboratory, the bright eyes of Dr. Elisa Schaum sparkle with determination. Dr. Schaum represents the next generation of phage researchers. Her innovative approaches and fresh perspective are breaking new ground in using phages to build nutrient-dense soil.

FISH FOOD: Across the waters in Denmark, Professor Mathias Middelboe leads a crucial collaboration focused on aquaculture, particularly trout farming, where Danish and UK partners apply phage-based products to treat bacterial infections in fish. This research is pivotal, addressing the dual challenge of feeding a growing population while protecting natural resources.

CLEAN WATER: In our changing climate, clean water is the next most valuable resource. Infections spread in storms and floods, in displaced sewage, in droughts and drinking water. Researchers are now developing phage therapies to target and eliminate harmful bacteria in water sources, offering a sustainable solution to water contamination that protects us and our ecosystems.

CROWDSOURCING PLATFORM

WE MAKE MEDICINE GOOD

A Platform to Support Clinical Studies

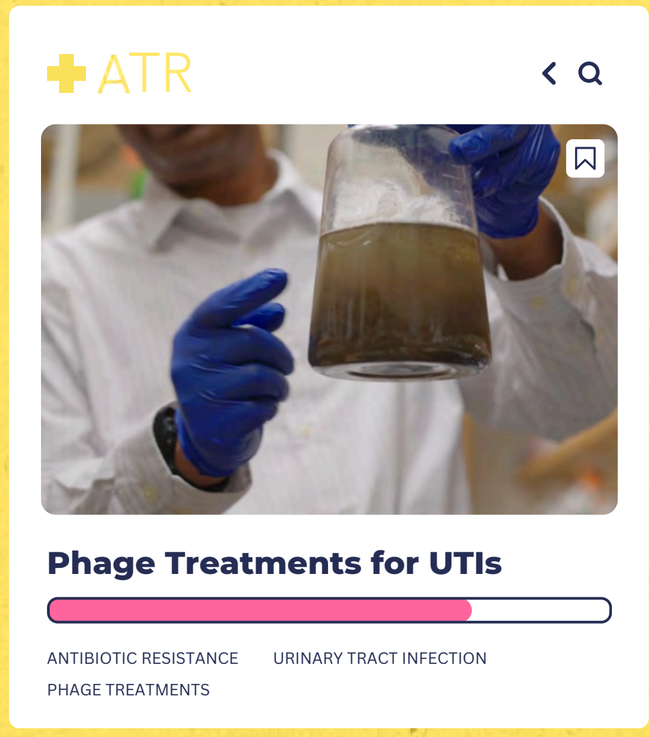
Providing a simple way for viewers to engage with phage science by micro-funding clinical studies

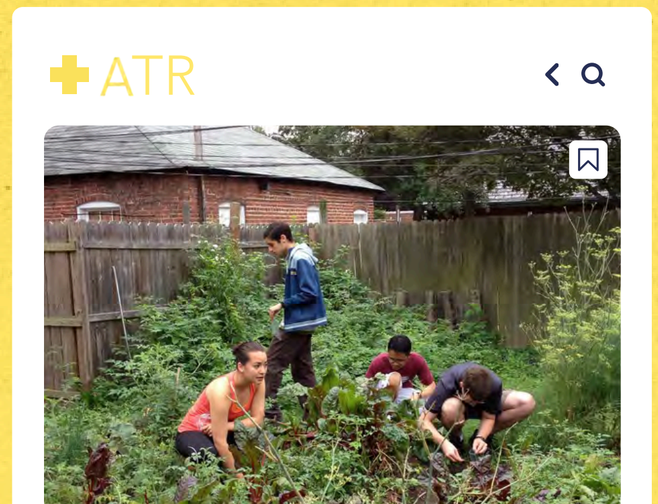
A TINY REVOLUTION FUND is an exciting and accessible crowdfunding platform designed to revolutionize phage therapy for the future of our health and food.

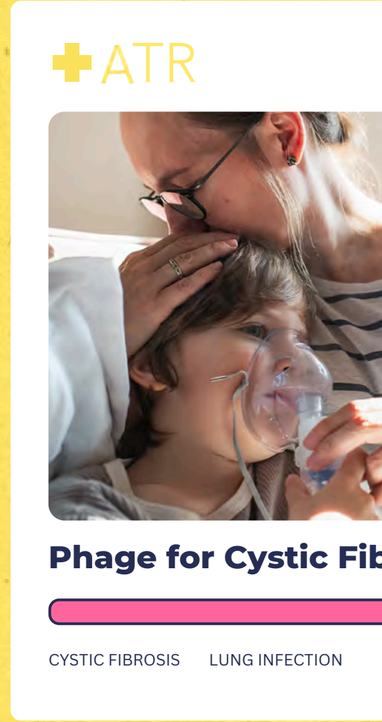
The fight against antimicrobial resistance can feel out of one's control when the pace of medical research is determined by federal and philanthropic funding. So, let's accelerate the journey from treatment discovery to patient application by empowering everyone to donate to clinical studies that directly impact their lives.

By launching the platform in conjunction with the film, we will bring a new audience to the topic of antimicrobial resistance and give them an easy way to be part of the solution. Every donation, big or small, contributes to groundbreaking research that can lead to healthier lives and a more sustainable food supply.

Join us in this revolution. Together, we can drive the future of health and food forward, one micro-fund at a time.







FUND THE ‘A TINY REVOLUTION’ DOCUMENTARY

Be a part of scientific history in the making

Investing in a science documentary is one of the easiest and most impactful ways to support the research depicted in the film.

It also ensures the highest production quality, which is crucial for accessing top-tier scientists and accurately conveying complex scientific concepts to a broad audience. The film will leverage cutting-edge visuals and expert storytelling to capture viewer interest, making the science accessible, engaging, and memorable.

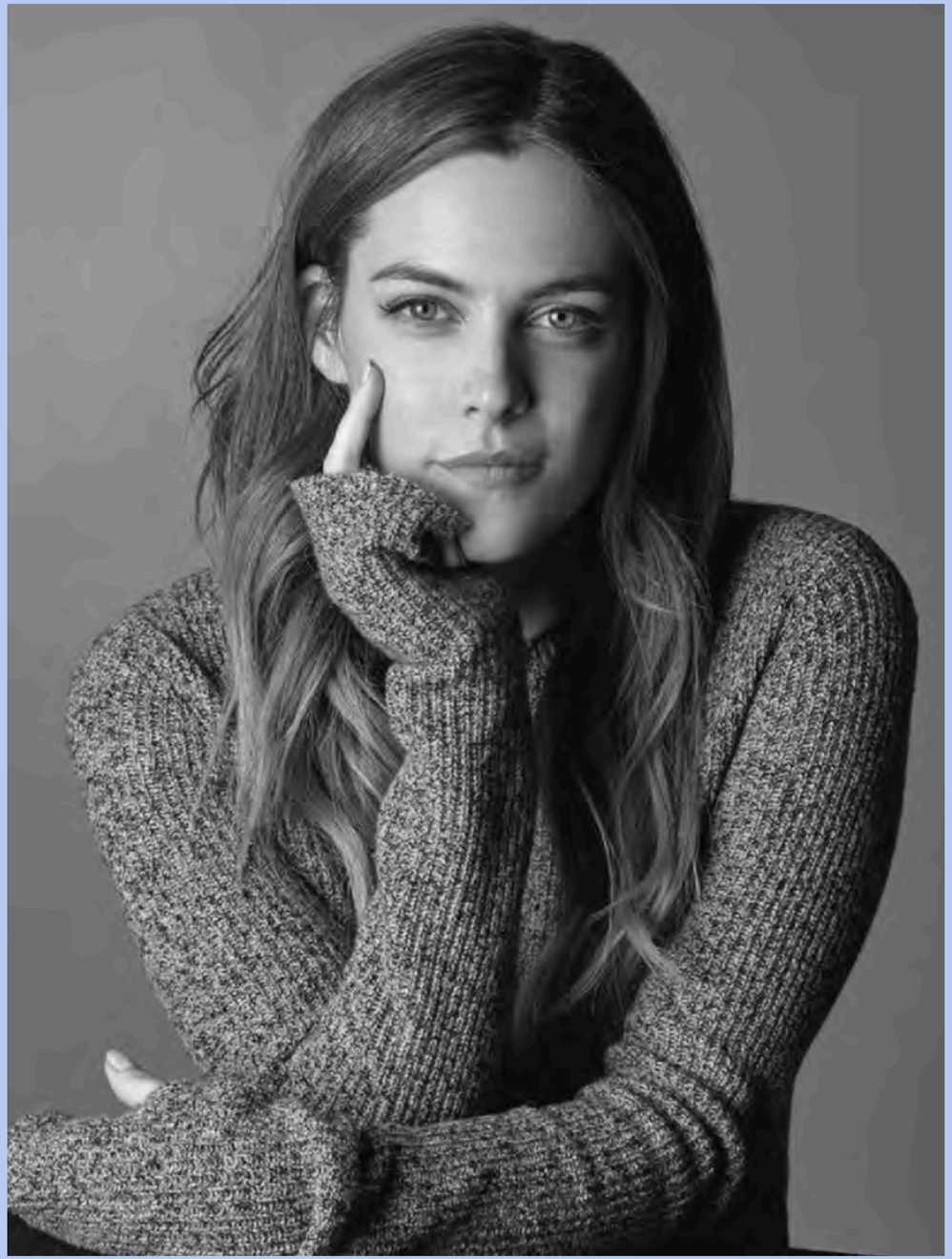
The Impact Campaign budget allows for targeted marketing campaigns, educational partnerships, and widespread distribution, maximizing the documentary's impact. By reaching diverse demographics through various platforms, we can inspire future generations of scientists and informed citizens, driving societal progress and innovation.

Stage	Duration	Cost
Development & Prep	**In Process**	**$300,000**
Production	**2 Years**	**$2,700,000**
Post Production	**4 Months**	**$400,000**
Impact Campaign PR / Festivals / Science Education Teaching Guides/Medical schools, FDA, and Congressional Screenings	**18 months**	**$1,500,000**
	Total:	**$4.9 million**

Knowledge is power.

Help us share this knowledge and bring humanity closer to a healthy future.

While direct funding of research is critical, most major public health organizations have emphasized the need to fund Antimicrobial Resistance Awareness Campaigns.



EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

Riley Keough

Riley Keough is a renowned actress, producer, and director known for her versatile roles and dedication to impactful storytelling. She is also a public health advocate, bravely bringing awareness to the complexities of chronic illness and infectious disease.

Keough is the eldest grandchild of Elvis and Priscilla Presley, and this musical legacy echoes through many of her creative projects. She first gained widespread recognition for her performances in films such as “The Runaways,” where she played singer-songwriter Marie Currie, "Mad Max: Fury Road," where she played Capable, and "American Honey," which earned her an Independent Spirit Award nomination. Keough further showcased her acting prowess in the critically acclaimed film "Logan Lucky" and the psychological horror "The Lodge." She’s captivated audiences with her performances in TV series like "The Girlfriend Experience," for which she received a Golden Globe nomination, and the miniseries "Daisy Jones & The Six," where she starred as the lead character, a talented frontwoman of a popular 1970s band. In addition to her acting career, Keough made her directorial debut with the film "War Pony," which premiered at the Cannes Film Festival, showcasing her expanding talents in the film industry.

Riley Keough's work behind the camera demonstrates her commitment to storytelling that pushes boundaries and explores complex themes. Her dynamic presence in both film and television has established her as a multifaceted talent with a keen eye for projects that resonate with audiences and critics alike.

DIRECTOR

Libby Spears

Newsweek named Libby as one of 150 Women Who Shake the World, along with Michelle Obama and Oprah Winfrey. She was recently honored by Mosaic with the Champion of Human Rights Award, which recognizes the extraordinary dedication of individuals who strive to ensure the protection of the basic human rights and fundamental freedoms to which all human beings are entitled. She has also been honored with the ProtectHer Community Award for leading Nest's sexual exploitation prevention education efforts.

Her 2009 documentary film, PLAYGROUND, produced by Abigail Disney, George Clooney, and Steven Soderbergh, illuminates the underground epidemic of child sexual exploitation in America. Since its premiere at Tribeca, it has been screened around the world and was distributed by Netflix. Most importantly, it has contributed to measurable policy change, including the Trafficking Deterrence and Victim Support Act, a bill created out of congressional viewing PLAYGROUND.

Libby was commissioned by Gucci to direct Jessica's Story, a film for their high-profile campaign, CHIME FOR CHANGE, hosted by Beyoncé and Salma Hayek, that was screened in front of an audience of 75,000 at Twickenham Stadium and broadcast on BBC.

Her current documentary, THE ART OF REBELLION, Produced by Abigail Disney, just won best film at the LA International Film Festival and best director at the Melbourne International Film Festival.. Libby is currently developing a narrative TV Series: KILL ME FAST and directing a TV doc series: A GOOD MEDICINE. Her past films have premiered at Sundance, Tribeca, SXSW, and Berlin and have aired on Showtime, Amazon, Netflix, HBO, BBC and other platforms across the globe.

SCIENTIFIC ADVISOR & COMMUNICATIONS

Nicole Mlynaryk

Nicole Mlynaryk is a distinguished professional in science communications, known for her ability to translate complex concepts into engaging narratives that foster public appreciation of science. She is also an active advocate for equity, diversity, and inclusion in science, academia, and health care.

Following a decade-long research career in biology and neuroscience, Nicole has held key science communications roles at UC San Diego and the Salk Institute for Biological Studies. She has also written for science organizations like the Simons Foundation, the Diabetes Research Institute Foundation, the La Jolla Institute for Immunology, and more.

Nicole has co-hosted two science podcasts, served as editor of several award-winning institutional science magazines, and managed numerous TV and film productions, including a CNN documentary with Dr. Sanjay Gupta. As a media relations manager, she's had scientists featured in the The New York Times, The Washington Post, NPR, Scientific American, TIME, TODAY, WIRED, STAT, and more. Her own science writing was even featured in Stephen Colbert's opening monologue on The Late Show. As a grant writer, Nicole has a proven track record in securing grants from major federal funders like the National Institutes of Health, as well as private funders and foundations interested in supporting the sciences. Her extensive research experience informs all of her work and helps her identify projects worthy of support.

Nicole has volunteered extensively with the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History, the Fleet Science Center, and other science outreach organizations. She also recently served as President of the San Diego Science Writers Association, and mentors other scientists and science communicators looking to share important discoveries with the world.

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