

CENTER FOR PUBLIC HEALTH INITIATIVES (CPHI)

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND RESEARCH (CEAR) CORE of the CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCE AWARD (CTSA)

Call for Proposals in Interdisciplinary Public Health and Community-Based Research February 2016

Overview

The Center for Public Health Initiatives (CPHI) and the Community Engagement and Research (CEAR) core of the Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA) at the University of Pennsylvania are collaborating on a pilot grant program to fund research with public and community health relevance. The mission and goals of each of these entities are aligned and the Calls for Proposals (CFP) are similar, so researchers can apply simultaneously to both programs if they meet the criteria of each entity (see below for criteria).

- If your application meets the criteria of both the CPHI and CTSA, indicate on the cover sheet that you would like to be considered for funding by both entities.
- If you feel that your proposal only meets the criteria of one of the funding organizations, please indicate on the cover sheet which organization should consider your proposal.
- Note that the CPHI and CTSA will use the same review team to rate proposals submitted in response to this call.
- The Principal Investigator (PI) for the grant must be a Penn faculty member.

CPHI, through this mechanism, will support interdisciplinary, innovative research in public health that has the potential to improve public health interventions in the field and/or inform policy that shapes public health endeavors.

The CEAR Core of the CTSA will fund proposals that foster community-based research, especially studies that use a participatory framework. This includes research conducted in community settings or using a participatory research framework and actively involving community stakeholders in the conceptualization, design, implementation, and/or evaluation. “Community” is defined broadly to include populations in neighborhoods and organizations, including health care settings.

Pilot programs for both CPHI and the CEAR Core are defined for these purposes as research programs that use qualitative and/or quantitative methods to collect initial data, analyze secondary data, and/or test research methodologies as a means to attract the support of larger, external funding sources. Most grants awarded will be in the range of \$2,000 to \$20,000.

Criteria Shared by the CPHI and CEAR Core

This call for proposals is open to faculty with significant public and community health-related experience at Penn and is intended to:

- Foster interdisciplinary research in public health at Penn that will have meaningful results at the community level.
- Assist in garnering external support for large-scale studies in the field of public health.
- Encourage additional faculty and staff at Penn to become involved in public health research.

- Identify innovative methodologies in the field of public health that have the potential of informing local, state and national policy and programming.

High priority research projects will be projects that:

- Demonstrate how the research will be used in the development of a larger grant seeking external support.
- Present clear, relevant research aims.
- Demonstrate how research outcomes and priorities will be relevant to public and community health.
- Describe innovative methodologies that are feasible and can be completed within a one-year period of time.
- Include community partners on the research team or in an advisory capacity.
- Explain how research results will be disseminated to community partners (if relevant).

CPHI-Specific Criteria

Additional CPHI Requirements:

- The research team must represent at least two different schools at Penn through faculty/senior staff affiliation (one of the PIs on the grant must be a faculty member), thus promoting the interdisciplinary nature of this program.
- Include a CPHI Senior Fellow or Associate on the research team. Applications to become a Senior Fellow or Associate can be found here <http://www.cphi.upenn.edu/announcements.shtml>.
- At least one researcher on the team must be a junior faculty member. If a PI on the proposal is a post-doctoral Fellow or RWJ Clinical or Health and Society Scholar, the applicant must have a standing faculty sponsor listed as a part of the research team.
- Help advance the mission of the Center for Public Health Initiatives as the University of Pennsylvania (<http://www.cphi.upenn.edu>).

CEAR Core-Specific Criteria

Priority will be given to applications that:

- Use a participatory research framework and/or comparative effectiveness approaches
- Are designed to address the gap between pediatric and adult health/disease.
- Applicants are encouraged to become members of the Institute for Translational Medicine and Therapeutics (ITMAT), home of the CTSA. Details and the membership form are available at: www.itmat.upenn.edu/membership.shtml

Who is Eligible to Apply?

The PI for the grant must be a Penn faculty member. More than one grant can be submitted by any one team and/or PI. If you want your application to be considered by CPHI, one of the researchers on the team must be a CPHI Senior Fellow or Associate.

Key Dates and Administrative Requirements

- **Applications are due on May 6th, 2016 by 5:00 PM.**
- Awards will be announced by June 3rd, 2016.
- The funding period for each award will be from July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017.
- All funds must be expended by June 30, 2017 unless an extension is granted.
- Final reports for each funded project will be due on June 30, 2017.
- Manuscripts and presentations from research supported through this award should acknowledge either the CPHI or the CEAR Core of the Penn/CHOP CTSA (depending on who is the funder).
- All grantees are required to present research results at the close of the project period at a symposium or other related event that includes public health faculty, fellows, students, community partners and other relevant stakeholders.

How to Apply

Proposed applications should be no more than five pages in length (Arial or Times New Roman, 11pt font, 0.5" margins) and must include:

- **Statement of Purpose.** This statement should include background research as well as a clearly defined set of research aims with relevance to current public health challenges.
- **A Conceptual Approach.** This section should describe the proposed research plan (including a data collection and analysis plan), methodology, any underlying theoretical frameworks on which the program is based, and the expected significance of potential findings.
- **Description of Deliverables.** Key deliverables expected at the completion of the project time period should be described and a timeline for key activities and deliverables should be included in table format.

Required Items that do not count towards the five-page limit:

- Cover sheet (see required form attached)
- References/Literature Cited
- Project Budget and Justification (not to exceed one page)
- Principal Investigator and Co-Investigator biosketches (not to exceed 2 pages each)

All applications should be submitted electronically to Sarah Green (shgreen@upenn.edu).

Questions can be addressed to Sarah Green (shgreen@upenn.edu) or Sara Solomon (sarasol@upenn.edu).

As a condition of funding, all proposals must receive IRB approval from the Office of Research Administration before data collection begins.

Use of Grant Funds

Funds may be used to pay for project staff salary and benefits, consultant fees, supplies and other direct expenses related to program activities (e.g. travel, incentives for community participants, etc.). Funds may not be used to support the salary or benefits of faculty. The purchase of equipment will only be supported if it is demonstrated that there is no other way for the research team to access necessary equipment other than direct purchase.

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Call for Proposals in Interdisciplinary Public Health and Community-Based Research

COVER SHEET

Principal Investigator

Name: _____

Department: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Address: _____

Mechanism of support you are applying for (select all that apply):

Center for Public Health Initiatives

CTSA Community Engagement and Research Core

Title of Proposal: _____

Amount Requested: _____

Brief description of proposed research (100 words or less):

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Business Administrator

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Signature

Principal Investigator: _____

Date: _____