Boston Children’s Hospital Center for Collaborative Community Research (C-CORE), announces:

Third Round of Pilot Community-Based Participatory Research Grants Request for Proposals (RFP)

Agenda

• Overview of C-CORE
• Request for Proposals (RFP)
  • Background and Requirements
  • Application Process

Overview of C-CORE

• Purpose:
  • To provide an infrastructure to build community-academic research partnerships using CBPR
  • To enhance community research capacity
• Funded by National Institutes of Health (NIH)
• Supplemental funding from Boston Children’s Hospital (BCH)
Main C-CORE Partners

- Boston Children’s Hospital (BCH)
- Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC)
- Boston Public Schools (BPS)
- Boston Conference of the Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers (MLCHC)

Priority Research Areas

- Areas identified in a 2009 BCH needs assessment of Boston communities
- Current priority areas:
  - Asthma
  - Mental health
  - Obesity
  - Sexual health

Center Leadership

- PI & Director: Mark Schuster (BCH/HMS)
- Associate Director: Laura Bogart (BCH/HMS)
- Community Research Associate: Deborah Allen (BPHC)

Center Structure

- Research Team
  - Aims to support research that serves community priorities, produces sustainable interventions, and leads to policy change
- Education Team
  - Aims to educate academic and community partners in child health and research methods
- Dissemination Team
  - Aims to use multiple approaches for broad dissemination of C-CORE findings

* HMS: Harvard Medical School
Community Engagement

• Community-Academic Advisory Board (CAAB)
  • Members span a range of public and private organizations and agencies in Boston
  • Advises and partners in C-CORE activities
• Youth stakeholders across Boston
  • Provide input on C-CORE research
  • Mayor’s Youth Council (MYC) – composed of ~40 high schoolers representing every Boston neighborhood

Request for Proposals (RFP)

Background and Requirements

Grant Funding

• BCH has made $30,000/year in funds available for the next 5 years to support CBPR projects through C-CORE
  • Up to $30,000 is available for one pilot grant
  • Awarded amounts may vary based on project scale
  • All funds go to community-based partners to support research projects
• Projects with other sources of funding can be conducted under the auspices of C-CORE

Grant Requirements

• Proposed projects must:
  • Target a significant issue in child, adolescent, or family health in Boston for which health disparities exist
  • Discuss the project’s potential to lead to the development/testing of interventions or policies that ultimately improve the health of underserved populations and reduce health disparities
  • Use appropriate CBPR principles
CBPR Principles

- Begins with a research topic that is important to community stakeholders and for which there are gaps in research
- Community and academic partners share responsibilities throughout
- May spark novel ideas and approaches and takes into account feasibility and sustainability

CBPR Principles, cont.

- Builds community capacity to be more empowered, skilled, and informed sponsors of, participants in, and consumers of, research
- Aims to provide knowledge that can be used to take action to improve community health

Grant Requirements

- Project options include identifying community needs for intervention or conducting a process evaluation of a pilot program
- Research methods can include but are not limited to surveys, focus groups, and semi-structured interviews
- Team must include a PI from a community organization in the City of Boston and a Co-PI from any accredited academic institution (post-secondary or higher education) in the City of Boston and surrounding communities

Considerations in Forming a Community-Academic Partnership

- Expectations for amount and type of work involved
  - Strengths and what each brings to the partnership
- Availability for meetings
- Division of tasks
  - Grant writing
  - IRB application
  - Data collection and analysis
  - Dissemination - reports, articles, presenting to CAAB
2011-2012 Grantees

• Development of a Stress Reduction Intervention for the Boston Public Schools (BPS)
  • Community PI: Jill Carter
  • Academic Co-PI: Kate McLaughlin

• Purpose:
  • To develop a stress-management intervention targeting high-school students in BPS based on evidence-based techniques and formative research with students and teachers
  • To pilot the intervention to examine effects on perceived stress and physical and mental health

2011-2012 Grantees (cont.)

• Ritmo en Acción Peer-Led Community Dance Program
  • Community PI: Yi Chin Chen
  • Academic Co-PI: Dawn Ericson

• Purpose:
  • To evaluate the effectiveness of a culturally relevant form of exercise (Latin dance) as a vehicle to increase the basic fitness level of participants and create long-term lifestyle changes
  • To use the evaluation results for program design refinement to more effectively promote culturally-competent interventions related to health and fitness

2011-2012 Grantees (cont.)

• True Colors: A Performing Arts-Based Intervention for Depression and Low Self-Esteem in LGBT Youth
  • Community PI: Evelyn Francis
  • Academic Co-PI: Jerel Calzo

• Purpose:
  • To evaluate True Colors for positive effects on self-esteem and depressive symptoms
  • To use the evaluation results for additional program development to meet these mental health goals

RFP Application Process
Key Dates

- RFP Released: June 12, 2013
- Full Proposal Due: September 20, 2013 by 5PM
- Proposal Review: November-December 2013
- Final Decisions Announced: December 13, 2013
- Anticipated Project Start-Date: January 2, 2014 (start-date is flexible)

Full Proposal Requirements

- Name, title, and contact info of community PI and academic co-PI
- Project Summary (200-Word Limit)
- Project Plan (2300-Word Limit):
  - Identification of Health Disparities Issue
  - Purpose and Research Questions
  - Background and Rationale for Proposed Study
  - Description of Partnership
  - Prior Relevant Activities or Research
  - Description of Proposed Research Activities
  - Evaluation Plan

Full Proposal Requirements, cont.

- Citations (Up to 20)
- Itemized Project Budget & Budget Justification (1-page)
- Resumes (or NIH biosketches) for all team members

Budget Requirements

- Budget should include only:
  - Direct costs (no indirect costs awarded)
  - Funds for the community organization or other community entities
- Budget should not include:
  - Indirect costs
  - Funds for academic partner
- Examples of appropriate budget items:
  - Salary support for community team members
  - Research supplies
  - Participant incentives
### How to Apply

- Proposals should be prepared in Microsoft Word with headings
- Email submissions to [RFP@chbcore.org](mailto:RFP@chbcore.org)
- All questions should be sent to [RFP@chbcore.org](mailto:RFP@chbcore.org)

### Review Criteria

- Full proposals will be evaluated for:
  - Soundness of study design and methods
  - Quality of the community-academic partnership
  - Adherence to CBPR principles
  - Public health significance of study topic in terms of health disparities in Boston
  - Potential of project to lead to or lay groundwork for future research that can promote community change (including program or policy change)
  - Potential of project data to be used as pilot data for larger-scale grant

### Expectations of Grantees

- Quarterly progress reports followed by phone check-ins with member of the C-CORE team
- Grantee may be asked to present to the C-CORE CAAB
- Formal report at the conclusion of the grant period
- Dissemination of findings

### Questions?

Email [RFP@chbcore.org](mailto:RFP@chbcore.org)