Improving Research Through Community-Academic Partnerships

CCTSI Community Engagement Pilot Grant Program

Colorado Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute (CCTSI)
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO DENVER | ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS
WHO WE ARE

The CCTSI CE &R Core was created by the University of Colorado Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute (CCTSI) to transform the way communities and researchers work together to design and conduct research by building bridges between health research, clinical practice, public health, and community-based health initiatives to improve the health and health equity of people in Colorado and the Rocky Mountain Region.
How it Works

CCTSI
Provides funding & training/TA

PACT Pilot Grant Committee
Establishes funding priorities

CFPHE
Administers the program and provides TA
The Community Engagement Pilot Grant Program builds on best practices in community engagement and Community Based Participatory Research (CBPR) to provide a pipeline of training and funding opportunities that engage community members and researchers in a collaborative journey that begins with partnership development, advances to the identification of shared health and research interests, and culminates in a pilot research project.
PROGAM GOALS

• Support pilot studies that will strengthen community-academic relationships and produce preliminary data for future competitive grant applications.

• Build capacity in community-academic partnerships to conduct translational (T3/T4) research using community-based participatory research (CBPR) principles to translate established efficacy into effective implementation at the community or clinic level.

• Address health disparities related to: (1) childhood chronic conditions, (2) social-emotional health; or (3) cardiovascular disease (applications addressing hypertension are strongly encouraged).
It can take years or even decades for scientific discoveries to reach everyday people, communities and clinical practice.

we start with a problem...

we study it...
we develop a treatment...
we test it in animals...
and then in healthy humans...
and next in patients...
and finally into every day practice...
and the general population
Partnership Development

• Intended to support **new or potential partnerships**.

• Two-year commitment: Year 1 - dedicated to relationship building, identification of a specific research collaboration, and the development of a proposal for a Joint Pilot Project. Year 2- (pending an acceptable Joint Pilot Project application) dedicated to implementing the proposed research project.

• At the end of year 2, partnerships will be prepared to submit competitive grant proposals to governmental, nonprofit, and private funding sources.

Joint Pilot

• Intended to support **established community-academic partnerships** who are seeking funds for a well-defined joint research project that produces preliminary data for future competitive grant applications.

• Pilot Projects must be completed within one year and an extramural grant submission submitted at that time.

• Ideally, collaborative proposals will be based upon partnerships that have demonstrated working success in the past.
Acceptable Partnership Development Activities

Partnership Development Awardees are required to participate in technical assistance, training and evaluation activities.

• Building relationships between partners (e.g. facilitating formal and informal meetings for partners to learn more about each other).

• Exploring shared research interests and identifying capacity building needs (e.g. identifying partnership research priorities, determining nature of collaborative research approach that will be used, participating in trainings).

• Developing an Advisory Committee and/or other appropriate partnership infrastructure mechanisms (e.g. developing communication and decision-making mechanisms, policies and procedures).

• Developing a set of collaborative participatory research principles to guide decisions regarding various aspects of the research process.

• Evaluating the partnership process (e.g., collecting data to assess how and to what extent the partnership is achieving its goals, and the challenges and facilitating factors associated with developing, maintaining and sustaining the partnership).

• Developing a research plan for a Joint Pilot Project.
Acceptable Joint Pilot Activities

Applications should focus on Translational Research (T3/T4), which includes research evaluating the translation of evidence-based interventions or practices into real-world, clinical and community sites.

The focus may be clinical, and/or focused on health promotion and disease prevention strategies.

Must be conducted within a CBPR framework.

- Studies that explore whether one intervention or treatment is more effective than another when translated into real-world settings.
- Studies that explore the barriers to using a particular intervention or treatment.
- Studies examining the effectiveness of different community-based dissemination modalities or policies on the use of interventions or practices.
- Data collection and/or analysis of community-specific information or other quantitative and qualitative data.
- Disseminating and translating research findings (e.g. development and implementation of appropriate dissemination tools, such as, fact sheets and policy briefs).
- Studies of the community translation process, including studies of dissemination methods.
All projects must have a community partner and an academic partner identified at the time the application is submitted. Either is eligible to serve as the Principle Investigator.

- **Community Researchers:** Researchers or other professionals who work primarily in community-based organizations, state or local government, faith-based organizations, community health clinics, private practice, etc. Community researchers may also be independent contractors who are not attached to any one organization.
Who Can Apply?

ACADEMIC RESEARCHERS

• Researchers who are housed at or working on behalf of the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus or any CCTSI Affiliate Organization.

• Researchers who are employed at other institutions of higher education or at other research centers may also be considered “academic researchers” for the purposes of this grant program.
Who Can Apply?

COMMUNITY MEMBERS & ORGANIZATIONS

• Researchers or other professionals who work primarily in community-based organizations, state or local government, faith-based organizations, community health clinics, private practice, etc.

• Community researchers may also be independent contractors who are not attached to any one organization.
WE PROVIDE

- research consults
- training for researchers
- training for community
- community liaisons
- technical assistance
- engagement coaching
- pilot grants
- boot camp translation
- PACT council
- community engaged & Practice based research