UC Davis CTSC Pilot Translational and Clinical Studies Program  
- Call for Proposals for Community Engagement Research -

The UC Davis Clinical and Translational Science Center (CTSC) in collaboration with the Center for Reducing Health Disparities (CRHD) and the Center for Healthcare Policy and Research (CHPR) requests proposals in response to a call for community engagement research pilot projects (includes community-based participatory research and comparative effectiveness research involving community interventions) to be conducted during the 2011-2012 academic year. These awards are intended to support collaborative academic-community research partnerships that will build capacity and sustainability for improvement of lifespan health and the reduction of health disparities. The review process for these pilot project submissions will emphasize building a new research partnership with a community group or community-based or practice-based research program; or developing a new research project with an existing partnership. Particular areas of interest include, but are not limited to, lifespan health issues such as obesity and diabetes; psycho-social determinants of health, depression, or other chronic diseases; or conditions affecting underserved populations. Qualitative as well as quantitative methods are considered appropriate for this call for applications. Proposals involving systematic reviews or cost effectiveness analysis of community-level interventions are also strongly encouraged.

Funds will be available for up to $10,000 in total costs for a 12-month period beginning September 1, 2011. Support may be provided for supplies and other research-related expenses; funds may not be used to purchase equipment. Support may be considered for community partner organization personnel; P.I. (and other faculty) salary support is not permissible. In addition to a community member/partner the proposal must include at least one trainee at the predoctoral or postdoctoral/clinical fellow level and the role of the trainee in the project must be very clearly defined with a mentoring plan. An important criteria in the review of applications is the use of CTSC resources; applicants are encouraged to contact CTSC program directors (http://www.ucdmc.ucdavis.edu/ctsc/) for further information.

Purpose: The UC Davis CTSC provides an academic home for clinical and translational research and is focused on speeding improvements in human health by reducing barriers in health-relevant research. A key goal of the CTSC Community Engagement Program is to increase academic-community health research partnerships through outreach strategies and services for UC Davis researchers, trainees, and a broad spectrum of community members. The goal of the CTSC Pilot Translational and Clinical Studies Program is to enhance and augment research areas crucial to translational research by providing support for novel research projects, the development of new teams and partnerships, high risk/high impact research, and proposals that include trainees. Submissions in response to this call for applications must address partnership sustainability and learning between researchers and communities, as well as plans to disseminate any findings to community partners. Trusting relationships between the community and academic researchers form the foundation of successful community-engaged research projects. Communities are defined broadly as community members, community-based organizations, practice-based providers or groups of providers in community and clinical settings, non-profit agencies, tribes and inter-tribal agencies, policy-oriented groups, and other similar organizations.

Research on disparities starts from the recognition of three major challenges: (1) the existence of complex contributing factors, including social determinants of health such as poverty, discrimination/racism, or geographic isolation; policies that create unhealthy conditions; lack of access to quality care; and/or unhealthy behaviors within these conditions; (2) the need for culturally and linguistically appropriate multi-level and community-based interventions, which recognize that no single intervention will produce substantial or lasting effects in eliminating health disparities; and (3) interventions not based in partnership with communities have little chance of making any sustained change in health disparities.

Eligibility: All full-time members of the UC Davis faculty, including faculty in the adjunct or research series.

Application Procedure: Proposals are requested using the 5-page form that can be downloaded from the CTSC website (http://www.ucdmc.ucdavis.edu/ctsc/areas/pilot.html). Provide an itemized budget and budget justification for all funds requested as directed on the form. The submission must include an NIH biographical sketch for each participating investigator and trainee. Deadline date for receipt is August 1, 2011 at 5 pm. Submitted proposals must use the following format and adhere to the requirements of the form:
• Specific Aims and Hypotheses
• Background and Significance
• Study Design (e.g., sample selection, data collection, analysis and evaluation plan, timeframe)
• Rationale for Requested Funding (include Partnership and Sustainability Plan)
• Role of Trainees(s) and Mentoring
• If prior CTSC or CHPR support how this application represents a new and unique research direction

**Additional Requirements:** Selected applicants will be required to provide regular progress and final reports and adhere to all requirements for CTSC and CHPR pilot funding as described in the funding letter. The names of all investigators funded through the CTSC Pilot Translational and Clinical Studies Program will also be posted on the CTSC website, and as relevant the CRHD and CHPR websites. In addition, all investigators must participate in the annual CTSC retreat and associated workshops and symposia including the Fall 2012 Community Engagement Seminar Series, and acknowledge the CTSC base-operating grant in any abstracts, presentations, or publications resulting from supported studies.

**Application receipt deadline:** August 1, 2011
**Earliest funding start date:** September 1, 2011

*Each P.I. may submit one proposal only. Please send a pdf version of the application on the deadline date to:* aftarantal@ucdavis.edu

**For questions, please contact:**

*CTSC -*
Lars Berglund, M.D., Ph.D. (916) 703-9185 (lars.berglund@ucdmc.ucdavis.edu)
Alice F. Tarantal, Ph.D. (530) 752-6680 (aftarantal@ucdavis.edu)

*CRHD -*
Sergio Aguilar-Gaxiola, M.D., Ph.D. (916) 703-9211 (sergio.aguilar-gaxiola@ucdmc.ucdavis.edu)
Linda Ziegahn, Ph.D. (916) 703-9210 (linda.ziegahn@ucdmc.ucdavis.edu)

*CHPR -*
Joy Melnikow, M.D., M.P.H. (916) 734-3160 (jamelnikow@ucdavis.edu)