Open Call: Requesting Letters of Interest to Submit a Pilot Research Grant Proposal, 2022 Cycle

Letter of Interest Deadline: September 20, 2021; 12 noon – submit to: CHPR@mail.nur.utexas.edu
Within 2 weeks, selected semi-finalist will be invited to submit a full proposal.
Submission of complete grant proposal deadline: November 23, 2021 by 12 noon
Selection of final projects to be awarded funding will be communicated by: December 22, 2021.
Must have IRB approval for funding to be released.

PURPOSE: The St. David’s Center for Health Promotion & Disease Prevention Research in Underserved Populations (St. David’s CHPR) provides pilot seed-monies to full-time faculty and research scientists to conduct small projects deemed necessary to move their programs of research forward. These projects are designed to facilitate interdisciplinary and collaborative research that address the continuum of health promotion and disease prevention (e.g., primary, secondary, or tertiary) to meet the needs of underserved populations. Funded investigators must submit progress reports and are expected to disseminate their results and seek larger extramural research funding.

Funds Available: St. David’s CHPR expects to make 2 – 3 pilot grant awards in amounts between $10,000 (for more limited projects such as secondary data analysis, translation/instrument testing) to $25,000 (for intervention feasibility testing), as funding allows.

Instructions for Letter of Interest (LoI):
The LoI is to provide a concise but complete overview of the proposed project. The LoI must include the title of the project, identify the proposed collaborators (name, rank, school/college/department), state the purpose/goal/aim, provide a brief description of the study design and primary variables, and the proposed budget request.

- Format: 2 page, 1-in margins, font size no smaller than 11, single-spaced lines

Eligibility:

Principal Investigator: Must be a full-time doctoral-prepared faculty or research scientist at The University of Texas at Austin. Priority will be given to new researchers and limited to projects that can be completed within one calendar year. Interdisciplinary collaboration is expected on the research team. Established investigators who are moving in a distinctly new research direction may also apply and will be considered for funding – as funds allow.

Interdisciplinary Research Team: Must be interdisciplinary (from more than 1 discipline) and include one or more faculty investigator(s) from a health-related school (i.e., Nursing, Pharmacy, Social Work, or Medicine) who fully contribute to the development and implementation of the study and interpretation of its findings.

Exclusions: Faculty may only be included on one (1) pilot proposal per investigator per year; and are limited to receiving pilot funding from St. David’s CHPR no more often than once every 3 years.

Budget Limits: When calculating the amount of budget requested, the following apply: Research grants can provide salary for research assistants to perform the proposed research activities; research-related travel (e.g., data collection); research supplies; duplication of surveys, consents; and participants’ incentives. If requested, funds to support faculty/research associate salary (i.e., PI & co-I) must include the calculation for the required fringe benefit (salary + fringe) and this total amount for PI & Co-I may not exceed 15% of the total budget request.

Review Process: The Letter of Intent will be reviewed by a panel of Center Faculty to select the semi-finalists who will be invited to submit complete proposals for consideration of funding. Review criteria:
- Relevance of the proposal with the St. David’s CHPR mission of health promotion and disease prevention in underserved populations;
- Eligibility of investigator;
- Interdisciplinary team;
- Feasibility of accomplishing the stated goals of the project within the 12-month timeframe;
- Appropriateness of the budget for proposed activities.