Institute for Research and Education to Advance Community Health (IREACH)

IREACH Faculty Pilot Grant Support Program

PURPOSE
The purpose of the IREACH faculty pilot grant support program is to foster research at Washington State University (WSU).

(1)   Research that makes significant and innovative contributions to American Indian, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander, LatinX, or rural health. Applications from faculty members in any discipline to fund research on health disparities impacting these populations are welcome. Proposals can involve primary data collection, secondary data analyses, or a combination of these methods. Proposals that involve primary data collection are encouraged to incorporate community-based participatory research principles.

(2)   Research with a demonstrated potential to advance social justice. In your application, please the following information:

- How does the population (including racial and ethnic minority populations) and content of the research relate to social justice?
- How do the methods proposed help advance social justice?
- How will the results be used to advance social justice in a concrete way and/or change an unjust practice or system, including any education components?

IREACH pilot grant support program funds will be used to provide support for investigators to develop their research capabilities and to demonstrate the merit of their research methods, ideas, productivity, and creativity pertinent to community health and social justice. Pilot applications should clearly articulate their potential as a **basis for obtaining future extramural grant funding**. Justice projects must demonstrate potential for major institutional and/or system changes, if extramural grant support is not feasible.

ELIGIBILITY AND TERMS OF SUPPORT
Applications will be accepted from WSU faculty who are eligible as Principal Investigators to apply for funding from extramural agencies such as NIH and NSF or private foundations. Support is limited to $20,000 per application. Each faculty member may submit only one proposal for pilot support as the Principal Investigator in any funding cycle. Requests for travel to conferences and equipment will not be considered and Principal Investigator salary support will be limited to 10% FTE. Salaries for research staff are allowable, if properly justified. Awards are made for a period of performance of up to 18 months. We anticipate funding 2 to 3 grants per cycle (maximum of 1 justice grant) if reviews merit funding.

APPLICATION
This solicitation is designed to promote WSU faculty pilot research projects that lay the foundation for and have the potential to generate extramural funding. Funds also may be used to collect additional preliminary data for extramural proposals that were submitted and favorably reviewed but not funded. Such applications should include a copy of the submitted grant and the reviewers' critiques.

Applications should include the items described in the Application Format section below. Budgets should be certified by the home department or College. All projects must be completed within 18 months. A brief final report will be required.

APPLICATION SUPPORT MEETING
Dedra Buchwald, MD, Director, IREACH; Clemma Muller, PhD, Methods Core Co-leader; and Caitlin Oberst, JD, Associate Director, IREACH, will conduct an application support meeting via Zoom on October 8, 2020. Prospective applicants are encouraged, but not required, to attend. Topics covered will include general information on potential topics of interest, desired content and structure of the application, the review process, and other questions regarding the funding or the application process. In general, we cannot advise about the suitability of individual or specific ideas or projects.

Details for the October 8, 2020 Zoom meeting are as follows:

Join Zoom Meeting from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS, or Android:
https://wsu.zoom.us/j/98018059299?pwd=UDdTd2RUaDRkaTNzRHdkNlR4QnU0QT09

Meeting ID: 980 1805 9299
Passcode: 987451

Join by Telephone (long distance)

For higher quality, dial a number based on your current location.
Dial:
US: +1 253 215 8782 or +1 669 900 9128 or +1 646 558 8656

REVIEW PROCESS
The proposal will be reviewed by a committee of 3 WSU or external *ad hoc* faculty members who are knowledgeable in the area of the application for scientific content. Most committee members will have received a national competitive award from NIH or another federal sponsor. Caitlin Oberst, JD, Associate Director, IREACH and Dedra Buchwald, MD, Director of IREACH will confirm alignment with IREACH Faculty Pilot Grant Support Program goals.

Scored review criteria will include the following:
I.   Overall Impact: the likelihood for the project to benefit the research field(s) involved and increase the likelihood of extramural funding at WSU
II. Significance: whether the project addresses an important problem or critical barrier to progress in the field
III. Investigator(s): whether the Principal Investigators, collaborators, and other researchers are well suited to carry out the project
IV. Innovation: whether the application challenges and seeks to shift current research or clinical practice paradigms by using novel theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions
V.   Approach: whether the overall strategy, methods, and analyses are well-reasoned and appropriate to accomplish the specific aims of the project\
VI. Extramural Funding Potential: whether the project is likely to generate extramural support
VII. Budget: whether the project is conducted in an efficient and cost-effective way

As a general rule, requests that propose to work with an IREACH faculty or staff member or to establish new collaborations will be given special consideration, all other factors being equal. Reviewers will be asked to consider the appropriateness of the budget, and budgets will be carefully reviewed by fiscal staff prior to an award being issued. If applicants have any questions about the suitability of a potential grant application, they should contact the IREACH faculty pilot grant review committee administrative contact.

The review process will be completed by December 1, 2020 and awardees will be notified and funds available effective on or after December 15, 2020, pending approval by the WSU Institutional Review Board.

SUBMISSION AND CONTACT
All applications will be due by 5:00 p.m. on November 1, 2020 (see below). Applications should be submitted to the IREACH Fiscal team, by email at ireach.fiscal@wsu.edu. For questions on the **application process**, please contact Dedra Buchwald (dedra.buchwald@wsu.edu).

APPLICATION FORMAT AND COMPONENTS
Format
- Use margins that are a minimum of 0.5 inches.
- Use Arial 11-point font.
- Numeric superscript citations (e.g., JAMA format).
- Use single spacing for all components of the document, including tables.
- Label each section.
- Appendices are not permitted.
- No F&A will be awarded.
- Do not assume reviewers will access hyperlinks.

Required Components
I.   Face page (name, position, department, submission date, proposal title, and abstract)
II.   Response to critique (if available, for resubmitted applications only – maximum of one page)
III. Specific aims (maximum of one page)
IV.   Significance and Innovation (maximum of one page)
V.   Approach (maximum of 2 pages)
VI.   References (no page limit)
VII. Detailed budget: Use 2021 Budget Workbook when developing your budget
      https://orso.wsu.edu/documents/2019/01/budget-workbook.xlsx
VIII. Budget justification (provide rationale for all expenses, no page limit)
IX.   Statement of how and from what sources/sponsors the project is expected to generate extramural support. A plan and timeline for obtaining extramural funding. A statement of benefit to WSU. (maximum of one page)
X.   Need for funds. Explain why your **current resources cannot be used**, or are not available, to cover this request.