

ARCC 2014 Seed Grant Project Summaries

Partnership Development Grants

Pastors for Patient Centered Outcomes Research (PCOR): Developing Partnership Infrastructure to Facilitate Engagement in PCOR Research Projects.

Bishop Gordon, Southlands Ministers Health Network/Pastors4PCOR, and Rebecca Johnson, Buehler Center on Aging, Health, and Society, Feinberg School of Medicine

As funders increasingly emphasize patient-centeredness, patients, communities of stakeholders who support them, and university researchers need to develop productive partnership infrastructures which foster relationship building, trust, and enables the exchange of research based knowledge which matter to communities. The main purpose of our project is to support a newly developing community-academic partnership through the establishment of a Research Ministry for the faith based entities and congregations represented by the Southlands Ministers Health Network. The project will also develop mechanisms that enable the Research Ministry to engage in partnership with local church health ministries and their members and identify chronic illness research priorities and interventions for comparison. The project will feed forward into a grant application to the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) Pipeline-To-Proposals and The Eugene Washington Engagement Awards for funds to further address issues surrounding the recruitment of vulnerable populations for research projects.

Community-Academic Partnership to Promote Integration of Health Promotion and Prevention Efforts Benefiting Girls of Color.

Laurel Crown, Youth Guidance, and Rebecca Ford-Paz, Pediatrics/Psychiatry, Feinberg School of Medicine

Increasingly, there have been calls for increased collaboration between suicide and violence prevention efforts and evaluation of crossover effects of programs designed to target one outcome. Youth Guidance's Working on Womanhood (WOW) is a school-based counseling, mentoring, character development and educational enrichment program that promotes social, emotional and behavioral competencies in at-risk female youth. The purpose of this project is to develop a community-based participatory research partnership aimed at enhancing and evaluating WOW to target common risk and protective factors for a variety of psychosocial, academic, behavioral outcomes. Through our partnership, we seek to identify community priorities in program refinement for girls of color to inform research question and grant development. We also seek to integrate community and academic expertise from the fields of violence prevention and suicide prevention to evaluate the crossover effects of such programming.

Proposal Development Grant

Developing a care coordination model for substance abusers with co-occurring HIV who are high users of Emergency Department: Proposal Development between Northwestern Memorial Hospital and Haymarket Center.

Jessica Dubuar, Haymarket Center, and Robert Turelli, Emergency Medicine, Feinberg School of Medicine

Dually diagnosed individuals, who live with HIV and a substance use disorder, are an especially vulnerable population composed primarily of racial and ethnic minorities living in an urban area with substantial gaps in their care as a result of their lower socioeconomic status. As a result, these individuals are much more likely to seek care in the Emergency Department (ED) instead of utilizing more cost effective treatment and outpatient services in the community, and the root problem is never addressed. This proposed research partnership proposes to study the best method of care coordination between emergency room providers and substance use treatment providers for individuals with HIV/AIDS to reduce their reliance on the ED and improve their overall health and compliance with substance abuse treatment. The McDermott Center at Haymarket Center and the ED at Northwestern University previously submitted a well scored but unfunded R03 grant to the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) to develop a care coordination model for substance abusers with co-occurring HIV who are high users of the ED with specific aims to improve patient outcomes for both disorders and decreasing inappropriate emergency room usage. To address project critiques received from NIDA, our partnership will work collaboratively to review and address these critiques and strengthen the proposal for resubmission and to develop mechanisms by which Northwestern physicians can fully understand the intricate details of Haymarket's substance use treatment service delivery system.

Research Dissemination Grant

Barriers to HIV Testing in African American Men.

Marcus Murray, Project Brotherhood, and Adam Murphy, Urology, Feinberg School of Medicine

Though a previous ARCC grant, our partnership used to community-based participatory research (CBPR) approach to conduct a qualitative study on the barriers and facilitators of HIV testing African American (AA) men who have sex with women (MSW) and men who have sex with men (MSM) in Chicago at Project Brotherhood, Inc. (PB) in Chicago's Woodlawn community. The proposed project will distribute the key findings of the study in three phases: 1) complete and submit the manuscript from the HIV barriers study; 2) disseminate the findings to the at-risk community through two town hall events; 3) develop an intervention study using the capacity of key stakeholders for a NIH R21 submission for health promotion in minority males. The ARCC funded partnership between Dr. Murphy and PB will be leveraged with support from AA MSM and MSW informants, and stakeholders from community health centers. This award will allow us to apply for R21 intervention grants by demonstrating our ability to recruit AA MSW and MSM (town hall meetings, published data) and our collaboration with key stakeholders. A published manuscript with a conceptual model will provide excellent preliminary data and developing the intervention with CBPR principles will substantiate our credibility in this area of research.