**Community Engaged Research to Promote Health Equity (CERPHE) Pilot Grants - Internal Stanford funding opportunity in Maternal Child Health**

Stanford Maternal and Child Health Research Institute (MCHRI) Community-Engaged Research to Promote Health Equity (CERPHE) Pilot Grants

The Stanford MCHRI is pleased to announce the Community-Engaged Research to Promote Health Equity (CERPHE) Pilot Grants. This initiative aims to use a community-engaged research approach to address the impact of structural racism and social injustice as key drivers in health disparities affecting maternal and child health. Community-Engaged Research (CEnR) is defined as:

“A process that incorporates input from people who the research outcomes will impact and involves such people or groups as equal partners throughout the research process. This involvement may include co-designing research questions to solve problems, making decisions, influencing policies, and creating programs and interventions that affect their own lives.”

--- Yale Equity Research and Innovation Center.

CEnR is an effective strategy to promote healthy equity by partnering with community organizations, patients, public health agencies, advocates, policymakers, or other key groups throughout the research process. It enhances creativity and innovation, contributes to a culture of health equity in translational research, and facilitates the rapid dissemination of study findings to impact policies and practices.

The CERPHE Pilot Grants support community-engaged research that:

- Highlights significant maternal and child health disparity (e.g., racial and ethnic, socioeconomic and geographic, sexual orientation and gender identity).
- Focuses on reasons or drivers behind these disparities.
- Proposes action-oriented strategies to promote equity and improve health outcomes in diverse communities through policy or programmatic changes and innovations.

**Funding Categories**

1. **Category I: Pilot Grants**

   - **Early Career Investigators (Category I a)**
     - Eligibility: Instructors and Assistant Professors, including Clinician Educators
     - Funding Amount: Up to $50,000 for up to 18 months
     - Purpose: Provides PI, staff, and community partner salary and non-salary support for hypothesis-driven or hypothesis-seeking pilot research that is expected to advance health equity and where pilot findings are likely to lead to external funding, with the ultimate goal to inform actions to advance health equity. This category is intended to help early-career applicants become independent researchers. The study must be a pilot, concept, development, or feasibility proposal.

   - **Mid/Senior Investigators (Category I b)**
     - Eligibility: Associate Professors and Professors, including Clinician Educators
     - Funding Amount: Up to $50,000 for up to 18 months
     - Purpose: Provides non-salary support for high-impact, high-risk projects. We encourage investigators to take their research in a new direction or apply a novel approach to address disparities or to partner with communities. The grant is intended to facilitate projects, which are highly innovative and, if successful, will facilitate novel directions in research that is fundable by external funding agencies. The research must be a pilot, concept, development, or feasibility proposal.

2. **Category II: Pilot Trainee Grants**

   - Eligibility: Postdoctoral Scholars and Clinical Fellows
   - Funding Amount: $5,000 for up to 18 months (non-salary support)
Purpose: Provides non-salary support for hypothesis-driven or hypothesis-seeking pilot research. Applicants must have a primary research mentor and funding for their salary/stipend for 75% minimum research effort (e.g., MCHRI postdoctoral support or MD fellow award, T32 or equivalent, or other funding). The study must be a pilot, concept, development, or feasibility proposal. The goal of this pilot grant is to have funding specific to CEnR to pay study participants, community partners, policy partners, etc. This grant is intended to support community-engagement that builds upon a parent project that is supported by another funding mechanism or funding source.

Investigators are required to engage in partnerships with communities, patients, or other relevant groups using a community-engaged research approach.

Information Session

We will hold an information session to provide details about the CERPHE Pilot Grants and answer any questions you may have.

- Details: September 4, 2024, at 11am via Zoom
- Please register at the [here](#).

Application Guidelines

Complete application guidelines and review criteria [here](#). You do not need to submit your application via your RPM.

Deadline: Monday, October 14, 2024 @ 11:59 PM Pacific Time (no late applications will be accepted)

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Justice (DEIJ)

MCHRI is committed to advancing diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice in all aspects of our work supporting research, education, and resources in maternal and child health.

All applicants will be asked to provide a DEIJ statement in their application.

Timeline

Awards will be announced in December 2024. Award start date is January 1, 2025. The project proposed must be feasible to complete within 18 months.

Office of Community Engaged Research (OCEnR) Office Hours

Applicants are required to consult with the MCHRI Office of Community Engaged Research (OCEnR). Reserve your 30-minute consultation with Dongmei Tan, Community Engaged Research Manager, via Calendly

Please be prepared and come with specific questions. If this is a resubmission, please make sure you have discussed your proposal and reviewer comments with the mentor and research team.

Note: To allow enough time for OCEnR to review your consultation request and provide input that can be fully incorporated into the proposal for a successful application, it is critical to schedule the consultation at least 6-8 weeks before the submission deadline. Any consultation requests that are less than this time frame may not be accommodated, and the applicant will be asked to submit for the next cycle to ensure that the application is as competitive as possible.
General Eligibility

- Applications are welcome from all faculty (instructors, CE, UML, NTLR, NTLT, UTL). Postdoctoral scholars and clinical fellows are eligible for the pilot trainee grants.
- All applicants must have, or plan on having, a focus on maternal child health research. Research must be primarily related to maternal child health. "Child" refers to the expectant mother, oocyte, zygote, embryo, fetus, infant, child or adolescent.
- All applicants must plan to engage in partnerships with communities, patients, or other key groups using a community-engaged research approach. A focus on health equity is also required. Community partners need to be identified in the application. If they are not identified, please provide a clear plan for how you will engage and establish new community partners with an example of these groups.
- All applicants and their mentors must be MCHRI Members. Please apply here.
- A Primary Research Mentor must be identified for postdoctoral scholars and clinical fellows, instructors, and assistant professors in all faculty lines.
- All applicants must continue to be appointed at the instructor rank or above for the duration of the award, including any no-cost extensions.
- The following are not eligible:
  - Visiting scholars to Stanford
  - Adjunct Faculty and Affiliates
  - Senior Research Scientists, Research Associates/Assistants
  - Former recipients of MCHRI sponsored awards who have not complied with award/reporting requirements.
  - Mentor or applicants who have not cleared overdraft(s) in previous MCHRI awards prior to applying.

Eligibility Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trainee</th>
<th>Postdoctoral Scholars/Clinical Fellows</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
<th>Asst. Prof.</th>
<th>Assoc. Prof.</th>
<th>Professor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early Career</td>
<td></td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid/Senior Investigator</td>
<td></td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We advise all applicants to notify their division or finance managers prior to submitting their application.

Questions? Contact:

MCHRI Administration
mchri_admin@stanford.edu or 650-724-0279

Institutional representative: not applicable. These programs are internal Stanford funding opportunities. Please do not submit your proposal through your institutional official for approval. You may submit your proposal directly to MCHRI via their online application link. PI Waivers are not required.