Call for Applications for the Indigenous Trauma & Resilience Research Center Pilot Grant Program

Overview - The Indigenous Trauma & Resilience Research Center (ITRRC) is announcing a new pilot grant program for 2022-2023. These 1-year pilot grants are designed to fund research addressing the impact of historical and unresolved trauma on health inequities within the American Indian (AI) and Alaska Native (AN) populations.

Background/Purpose - The ITRRC is funded through the Centers of Biomedical Research Excellence (COBRE) program of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The goals of this program are to develop a critical mass of investigators competitive for peer-reviewed external research funding and establish research centers in states with historically low levels of NIH funding. The ITRRC has several cores to assist investigators in preparing their applications:

Human Subjects Core (HSC) – The goal of the HSC is to build human subjects research capacity at UND while promoting effective and appropriate tribal engagement. Contact Roselle Martin (roselle.martin@und.edu) for assistance with human subjects research and compliance.

Community Engagement and Outreach Core (CEOC) – The goal of the CEOC is to increase culturally appropriate research with AI/AN communities through bidirectional outreach and training. The CEOC offers a Research Ethics Training for Health in Indigenous Communities (rETHICS) training toolkit through the UND continuing medical education portal. Contact the Sue Thompson (susan.thompson2@und.edu) for more information.

Administrative Core (AC) – The AC provides administrative support for the ITRRC and pilot projects program. Contact kristina.beiswenger@und.edu if you have any questions regarding the development of your application.

Application Due Date: April 30th, 2022

Maximum Award: Up to $75,000 (including indirect costs)

Eligibility: All basic science/clinical/translational/population health or other faculty members throughout the University of North Dakota (UND) are encouraged to apply. Pilot funding priorities are given to tenure-track, junior investigators. Individuals holding postdoctoral training positions are not eligible to lead pilot projects. Salary support is an allowable budget item. Collaborators are allowed, but funds can only be provided to collaborators from North Dakota institutions.

Application Format: Applications should be prepared in general accordance with the NIH PHS 398 application guidelines.

Applications must include the following:

- Face page (signed by institutional signing official) and project summary (Form pages 1 and 2)
- Research strategy section including specific aims, significance and detailed description of the research project, preliminary data (if applicable), research plan, references. (6-page limit, excluding references and 1 page for specific aims)
- NIH biosketch
- Detailed budget and justification

- Appropriate UND documents which indicate approval by the department chair and college dean.

If the proposed study involves human subjects, the following will need to be submitted before final approval from NIH:

- Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval
- Human Subjects Education Certification (required even when research is exempt)

Each Pilot Project application must identify a Pilot Project Mentor with expertise and a record of accomplishment in the research area described. These activities will include regular communication, at least one mentor visit to the pilot project director’s site/lab, and the submission to the AC of an annual mentorship activity summary.

**Evaluation:** Applications will be reviewed by the Internal Advisory Committee (IAC) and External Advisory Committee (EAC). All applicants will receive scores and comments to improve their proposals. Revised applications may be accepted based on perceived potential for applicants to address any weaknesses identified by reviewers. Recommendations for funding will be shared with NIH, and prior approval by NIH is required before the commencement of any pilot projects.

Proposals should be submitted by email to Kristina Beiswenger (kristina.beiswenger@und.edu) by 5pm on Saturday, April 30th, 2022.