

CHA Application

The Community Health Advocacy (CHA) program is a partnership between OSF HealthCare and UIC aimed at developing solutions to health challenges in urban communities. We are looking for new tools, techniques and processes that remove barriers to care, enhance health and wellness education, and leverage technology to improve training and community outreach. The program is open to all UIC faculty and health care providers of OSF HealthCare.

Proposals must identify two co-investigators: one faculty member from UIC and one health care provider at OSF HealthCare. Selected projects will receive one year of funding up to \$75,000 with the option to reapply for additional funding after the project is successfully completed. *The CHA program caps total funding for any project at \$75,000. No single organization can receive more than 70% of the total budget, though project budgets should still aim for a 50/50 split between UIC and OSF HealthCare.

Overview

To be considered for funding, projects should incorporate one of the three bulleted themes within the six focus areas below:

- Exploring prototypes for the transformation of care and community-based initiatives that address social determinants of health.
 - Improving outcomes and reducing health care disparities.
 - Increasing access to care and reducing barriers to care for individuals from all racial and ethnic backgrounds.
1. *Public Health:* The RFP emphasizes initiatives related to public health, which involve promoting and protecting the health of populations. This may include projects aimed at disease prevention, health education, community outreach, epidemiological research, policy development, and implementation of public health interventions. The goal is to address public health challenges, improve health outcomes, and enhance the overall well-being of communities.
 2. *Pharmacy:* The RFP highlights opportunities within the field of pharmacy. This area encompasses various aspects of medication management, including the safe and effective use of pharmaceutical drugs, drug distribution, patient counseling, medication therapy management, and pharmaceutical research. Proposals in pharmacy may focus on optimizing medication regimens, reducing medication errors, improving patient adherence, advancing pharmaceutical technologies, or exploring innovative pharmacy practice models.
 3. *Nursing:* The RFP encourages proposals that pertain to the field of nursing. Nursing involves the provision of holistic care to individuals, families, and communities across different healthcare settings. Proposals in this area may address issues such as nursing education and training, evidence-based practice, patient safety, nursing leadership and management, quality improvement, nursing research, and the integration of nursing into multidisciplinary healthcare teams.
 4. *Dentistry:* The RFP also seeks proposals related to dentistry. This field focuses on oral health, including the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of oral diseases and conditions. Initiatives in dentistry may involve

promoting oral hygiene, conducting dental screenings, providing dental care to underserved populations, advancing dental technology and techniques, dental research, and enhancing oral health education and awareness.

5. *Cancer*: The RFP prioritizes cancer research proposals addressing prevention, treatment, and survivorship, while the CHA program emphasizes funding projects that enhance access, reduce health disparities, and drive advancements in cancer care to improve patient outcomes and overall well-being.
6. *Mental Health*: Addressing clinician mental health is a crucial aspect of maintaining a robust healthcare system. Projects focusing on mitigating burnout and stress among clinicians, fostering a supportive environment, and enhancing mental wellness are encouraged. Addressing clinician mental health is a crucial aspect of maintaining a robust healthcare system. Improving the well-being of healthcare professionals also contributes to better patient care and a more resilient healthcare system.

Review Criteria

1. *Approach*

Are the conceptual or clinical framework, design, methods, and analyses adequately developed, well integrated, well-reasoned, and appropriate to the aims of the project? Does the applicant acknowledge potential problem areas and consider alternative tactics?

2. *Impact*

Reflects the likelihood for the project to exert a sustained, powerful influence on the research field(s) involved. Is the proposal competitive for additional external funding to advance the broader use of clinical innovation in healthcare? Note that an application does not need to be strong in all categories to be judged likely to have major scientific impact and thus deserve a high impact/priority score. For example, an investigator may propose to carry out important work that by its nature is not innovative but is essential to move a field forward.

3. *Relevance*

Is it a collaborative effort between Faculty and Clinicians, as they work to solve health care challenges through innovative solutions? Is it intended to demonstrate improved clinical outcomes, reductions of cost and higher quality practices through the creation of equipment or facilities to evaluate and improve health care through clinical innovation? Does the research contribute to scholarship and support for advanced degrees to prepare new generations of experts in the field?

Required Information

1. Title of your application
2. Is this a new project or a request to continue funding?
3. Total Funding Requested (cannot exceed \$100,000 for new projects)

4. Personnel Information

a. Primary Investigator (PI)

- i. PI First Name
- ii. PI Last Name
- iii. PI's Institution (UIC or OSF)
- iv. College

- v. Department or Unit (include business manager for UIC)
 - vi. Email Address
 - b. Co-PI Information
 - i. Co-PI First Name
 - ii. Co-PI Last Name
 - iii. Co-PI's Institution (UIC or OSF) iv. Co-PI College
 - v. Co-PI Department or Unit
 - vi. Co-PI Email Address
 - c. Other Collaborators (<7 other named collaborators)
 - i. First Names
 - ii. Last Names
 - iii. Institutions (UIC, OSF, or Other) iv. College
 - v. Department or Unit vi. Email Address
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5. Application Questions

- a. Executive Summary: State the application's broad, long-term objectives and specific aims with relevance to and how the project meets CHA's goals. Provide a succinct and accurate description of the proposed work that should be able to stand on its own (separate from the application). This section should be informative to other persons working in the same or related fields and understandable to a scientifically literate reader. Avoid both descriptions of past accomplishments and the use of the first person. The executive summary must include any additional information necessary for reviewers to evaluate the proposal (see evaluation criteria for more details). Please be concise.
 - b. Specific Aims: Restate the specific aims of the proposed project as actions to be taken. A list of bullet points is acceptable. If they are sequential, place in a temporal order. If non-sequential, place them in order of priority.
 - c. In a few sentences, please describe what you're working on. How does it contribute to the goals of the CHA program? (1500 characters)
 - d. What problem are you solving? Why is it significant? (3000 characters)
 - e. How does your project uniquely address this problem? What are you doing differently from others in this area? (3000 characters)
 - f. What is your hypothesis? List the objectives you will achieve for this project period and the anticipated outcome for each. (3000 characters)
 - g. Why your team is uniquely qualified to accomplish the project objectives.
 - h. Other Supporting Documentation, if applicable (maximum file size 100MB)
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6. Additional Information

- a. **Facilities/Equipment:** If facilities or equipment are required that are not available in your laboratory or institution (e.g., use of a Simulation Center, simulation equipment, 3D printers, or VR/AR laboratories), please contact the Academic Collaborations team.
- b. **Plan for Securing Institutional Review Board (IRB)/Committee on the Use of Human Subjects in Research (CUHSR) or Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC):** While these approvals

need not be in place at the time of submission, they MUST be secured before an award is executed. Failure to secure appropriate approvals may result in the award being rescinded.

- c. **Future Funding and Intellectual Property Statement:** Given CHA awards are seed grants, discuss opportunities for future or matching funding from sources other than UIC or OSF HealthCare, such as governmental or non-governmental organizations (e.g., private foundations, industry, etc.). Identify specific programs and submission deadlines. Discuss plans for submitting invention disclosures of intellectual property ideas to the OSF's Office of Innovation Management (OIM) and University of Illinois Office of Technology Management (OTM).

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7. If your application is a continuation of a previously funded CHA project, you are required to answer the following questions in respect to the previous project.
 - a. What were the goals of the first phase of your project? Provide an update on the status of each of the initial project objectives. (3000 characters)
 - b. Have there been any changes in the goals or anticipated outcomes of your project? (3000 characters)
 - c. Have you shared the results of the first phase of your project at conferences or events? Have you published the results? (3000 characters)
 - d. Have the outcomes of the first phase of your project led to additional funding? (3000 characters)
 - e. Have you submitted a technology disclosure or filed a patent application? (3000 characters)
 - f. Are there any other accomplishments you would like to highlight? (3000 characters)

8. PROPOSED BUDGET AND RATIONALE

- a. Amount requested per institution. (UIC or OSF)
- b. Please complete the following budget template and upload it here. (spreadsheet)
- c. Please upload your budget justification (a breakdown of project expenses and the rationale for each line item). (Pdf or document)