

**The 2014 Innovations in Community Scholarship Award
Office of Mental Health Promotion**

Purpose

To provide modest awards (\$300-\$500 maximum) to support the development, maintenance, or evaluation of community-university partnerships and collaborations in mental health that do one of the following: conduct or facilitate community-or place-based research, prevention, intervention, education or dissemination of research findings into practice or policy.

Please note that these funds are not intended to support the direct provision of clinical services or consultations. In general, these will be one-time awards, limited to one per faculty member per year, for new or ongoing projects that require funds to reach new partners or to create new collaborations. Exceptions may be considered under unusual circumstances.

Need

Current grant funding mechanisms do not fully address the expenses associated with developing, creating or planning for partnerships, creating effective communication among partners, or sustaining partnerships in periods of transition (i.e., between grants). The purpose of this program is to provide some fiscal resources to offset these necessary costs, to foster the development of new partnerships or to help sustain existing community collaborations in periods of transition.

Example activities of interest (for illustrative purposes only, this list is not meant to be exhaustive)

I. Convene meetings among community-university research partners and their key stakeholders to:

- Develop plans to obtain additional resources from other funding agencies;
- Provide technical assistance or educational activities to develop the partnership (e.g., in grant-writing, information-sharing, etc.);
- Disseminate best practices and successful programs, or speak out about the value of community-university research partnerships;
- Develop a research or intervention program with community partner;
- Write written agreements that will facilitate or strengthen the partnership development (e.g., mission statement, establishing advisory board by-laws and process, attendance, co-authoring guidelines, action plans, dissemination requirements, hiring, and financial policies, etc.);
- Provide feedback to a community board;
- Evaluate the partnership.

II. Facilitate communication among the research partners and build trust over time

Examples of how funds can be used (for illustrative purposes only, this list is not meant to be exhaustive)

- Funding can be used for expenses associated with meeting space, food, materials (e.g., brochures, etc.) and communications that arise in such processes as building partnership infrastructure needed to maintain these relationships (e.g., creating opportunities to build relationships, planning a grant application, etc.), administration, and even program evaluation. For instance: a) food for in-person meetings or training to familiarize each with the other's language or tools; b) costs of producing meeting minutes, notes, newsletters; or c) materials to gather evaluation/feedback on the partnership processes are allowable expenses.
- Research-related expenses, such as to transcribe a focus group report or to purchase some rating forms, are also allowable

TO APPLY

Send, as an electronic attachment only, not more than a one page document to describe or demonstrate the following (write no more than one paragraph for each).

- A research or programmatic objective for the community partnership, including a description of the partners sought (number of partners, agency name and contact, etc.). Describe your current contact (frequency, type of contact, in what role, etc.) with this potential partner.
- A brief description of the product or activity to stem from this partnership development effort (e.g., grant application, etc.), and the date when this product is expected to emerge.
- List of specific activities (and associated expense categories) to be covered by this award (e.g., to establish a series of meetings to vet the relevance of an investigator's idea for a proposal for a Salzman award, etc.).

Please put your name and a project title in the document header.

Please email the one-page proposal to Yeates Conwell and Ann Marie White. In the cover email, please indicate the tentative dates (or time frame) for the effort, and when you will need to start making expenditures. If there are questions about the proposal, they can be directed to Drs. Conwell or White. Explicit budgets will be required along with detailed recording of any expenditure. These awards should not be used to replace funds already allocated or available in funded grants.

Glossary:

Community refers to community members, persons affected by condition/issue under study and other key stakeholders in a community's health, including community-based health practitioners. Any professional with a formal affiliation with URMC is excluded. Communities need not be exclusive to Monroe County, but can involve other geographic regions.

Eligible applicants: Faculty, staff and advanced trainees (post-docs, residents, etc.) in Psychiatry. Faculty members with primary appointments outside of Psychiatry are also eligible if the proposed effort is (or will be) primarily affiliated with Psychiatry.