Breast Cancer Research
Community Partnership Request for Proposals (RFP)

Background

Breast cancer is the most common cancer and second leading cause of cancer mortality for women overall. Even though Black and White women are diagnosed with breast cancer at similar rates, Black women die at a 40% greater rate from breast cancer. Black women are more likely to be diagnosed with breast cancer at a younger age and advanced stage, highlighting the importance of improving screening and early detection. With the goal of closing racial disparities in breast cancer and advancing health equity, researchers at the Helen F. Graham Cancer Center & Research Institute have been developing innovative approaches to identifying young women who may be at greater risk of developing aggressive breast cancer.

Current RFP

The Cawley Center for Translational Cancer Research at ChristianaCare’s Helen F. Graham Cancer Center & Research Institute is seeking applications from Delaware community-based organizations to support bi-directional engagement between their breast cancer research team and the community. Funded by a recent National Institutes of Health (NIH) grant titled, “Detecting Epigenetic Signatures to Prevent Avoidable Racial Inequities in Triple Negative Breast Cancer (DESPARIT)”, Drs. Jennifer Sims-Mourtada and Scott Siegel are interested in partnering with groups who have displayed the capacity to coordinate health-based community work in underserved areas of New Castle County, Delaware.

Specifically, community partners would partner on developing and designing research strategies designed to reduce racial disparities in breast cancer. Activities would include attending the ChristianaCare Breast Community Research Advisory Board (CRAB) meetings, reviewing recruitment materials and advertisements to ensure their cultural appropriateness, and reviewing new research proposals to ensure the community perspective is well represented. The primary deliverable would be to establish a focus group to identify barriers to participating in research with a representative sample of community members, including those who are not inclined to participate in research or engage in other forms of advocacy.

Who can apply?

Community-based organizations and/or non-profit organizations with a strong commitment to positively impacting the health of their communities. In addition, applicants must have the existing capacity to work with racial/ethnic minorities and other underserved groups through education, advocacy, and awareness campaigns.

Available Funding

Applicants may receive a one-time award up to $15,000. Awards will cover staff effort that contributes to the above goals. As the project progresses, invoices may be sent for effort reimbursement of staff. All funds must be used, and final invoices must be submitted by April 22, 2024. Any unused funding will be retained by the grant team and returned to the funding agency. While the current RFP is only until April 22, 2024, there is a possibility of further funding contingent on other grant funding received.
**Anticipated Timeline**

- **November 6, 2023:** RFP is released.
- **December 8, 2023:** Full submission is due by 5:00pm to ctcr-research@christianacare.org.
- **December 11 – December 14, 2023:** Rapid review of applications.
- **December 15, 2023:** Notice of award is sent to organization.
- **December 15, 2023 – January 8, 2024:** Organizational contracts and legal documents are completed.
- **January 9, 2024 – January 8, 2024:** Anticipated dates of contracted work.
- **April 22, 2024:** Final invoices must be sent.

**Submission Requirements**

- **Cover Page (Form on Page 3)**
- **Please provide the following information (page limit: 2 pages)**
  - **Description of organization.**
    Describe the organization’s mission, goals, and structure. Highlight previous successes and developed programs.
  - **Organizational experience working with underserved populations.**
    State your organization’s experience and capacity to contribute to the current partnership, with a focus on the organization’s capacity to work with underserved populations in New Castle County, Delaware.
  - **Description of how partnership with ChristianaCare researchers would align with the organization’s mission.**
- **Appendix (No page limit; submit if applicable)**
  - A current list of the organization’s Board of Directors
  - List of current partner organizations and current funders.
  - Any relevant brochures, links to websites, or other documents describing the applying organization.

Applications are due by **December 8, 2023, 5:00pm.** All submission will be emailed to ctcr-research@christianacare.org. Please direct any questions to Ross Budziszewski at ctcr-research@christianacare.org. *No late applications will be accepted*
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Cover Sheet

**Who will manage the project?**

Organization Name: _____________________________

Contact Person_________________________ Title_____________________

Mailing Address____________________________________________________

City_________________________ State_______ Zip Code__________________

Telephone________________________ Fax __________________________

E-Mail_________________________ Fed ID# __________________________

**Who is the Financial Agent?**

Organization Name: _____________________________

Contact Person_________________________ Title_____________________

Mailing Address____________________________________________________

City_________________________ State_______ Zip Code__________________

Telephone________________________ Fax __________________________

E-Mail_________________________ Fed ID# __________________________