Johns Hopkins Edward R. Roybal Center

Call for Pilot Project Proposals

Description: The Johns Hopkins Roybal Center (JHRC) is funded by the National Institute on Aging (NIA) to support the translation of behavioral and social sciences research into applied practices and programs for older adults. The theme of the JHRC is to support research aimed at *strengthening informal support resources* of older adults, and, when feasible, to do so *using innovative methodological advances.*

"Informal support resources" can be conceptualized in a number of ways including the quantity and quality of one's social contacts, the quality of support provided within existing caregiving relationships or networks, the coordination of family caregiving with formal support and services, and other aspects of the older adult's social environment. "Innovative methodological advances" include innovations in research design, measurement, or analytic approaches to be used in the broader research program. Technological advances in measurement or analysis, for example, can overcome some of the limitations of self-report or proxy data, but more research is needed to translate these methods to research and practice communities.

Funds available: Up to $40,000 (direct costs only) for a one-year pilot project. Funding for one new 1-year pilot project in 2018 is anticipated. Proposals submitted in partnership with other funding sources or stakeholders are encouraged, but such matching funds are not required.

Eligibility: Any full-time faculty member at Johns Hopkins University is eligible to apply. Junior investigators (assistant professors and early associate professors) are especially encouraged to apply. Postdoctoral fellows who are on track to be promoted to a faculty position at Johns Hopkins may apply if explicitly sponsored by an eligible faculty mentor.

Application Due Date: *January 31, 2018* by 5:00 pm.

Application procedure: Applicants should submit a 2-page, single-spaced proposal that includes 1) the title of the pilot project, 2) the principal investigator and any co-investigators, 3) the specific aims, 4) a brief description of the significance of the study, including how the proposed pilot will contribute to the themes of the JHRC, 5) a brief description of the research design, measures, and analytic methods, including any design or analysis features that are methodologically innovative, and 6) a statement describing how the results of the project will inform or support subsequent applications for extramural funding for the emerging research program. In addition, a budget and budget justification should be submitted, and, per NIA requirements, the full curriculum vitae (CV) of the principal investigator.

Submit the entire application in a single pdf file with components in the order listed above to Mr. Brian Buta (bbuta@jhmi.edu) by January 31st**.**

Review Process: Each application will be reviewed by at least two experienced investigators with relevant expertise to evaluate the proposal. Reviewers from outside of Johns Hopkins may be asked to review some of the proposals.

Funding Decision and Post-Award Expectations: The PI of the application that is selected for funding will be notified by March 10, 2018. Additional information may be requested at that time for submission to NIA (e.g., planned enrollment table, copy of an IRB application) by March 26, 2018. Anticipated funding start date is June 1, 2018. All awardees of JHRC pilots are required to provide timely updates to the JHRC leadership throughout the award year and to submit a final written report within two months after the end of the project.

Questions: Feel free to visit the JHRC website (http://coah.jhu.edu/roybal_center) for more information, or contact Dr. David Roth (Center Director, droth@jhu.edu), Dr. Jennifer Wolff (Pilot Core Director, jwolff2@jhu.edu), Marcela Blinka (Program Administrator, mblinka1@jhmi.edu), or Brian Buta (Center Administrator, bbuta@jhmi.edu).