The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announces that it is committing almost $30 million in new funding to support innovative public health research aimed at further promoting and protecting the health of Americans, with an immediate focus on producing a body of evidence that will help employers make better choices in wellness programs. The CDC’s new Health Protection Research Initiative aims to strengthen public health research by encouraging more individuals and institutions to engage in research that will result in measurable improvements in public health.

The first element of this new research initiative targets projects that will provide employers with the evidence they need to promote the health of their workforce. CDC has found employers need more science-based evidence to choose the best options among various benefit programs and workplace health promotion programs. This part of the new initiative is not intended to address occupational health and safety issues but to focus on broad health promotion.

CDC expects projects designed to affect health in the workplace will have a positive economic and health impact. For example, with more than 60 percent of U.S. adults being overweight or obese, the direct and indirect costs of diabetes were estimated at nearly $132 billion in 2002, and annual U.S. medical expenditures attributed to obesity are estimated at $93 billion in 2002 dollars. The economic cost of obesity to business, including health, life and disability insurance and paid sick leave by private sector firms was estimated to be at least $15.4 billion in 2002.

For this purpose CDC will dedicate up to $14 million to support 20 to 40 grants. Grant applications will go through an external peer-review process to gauge their effectiveness in responding to the intent of the research initiative. Applications are open to researchers affiliated with public or private academic or research institutions, eligible agencies of the federal government, units of state or local government, and health care organizations.

Two additional blocks of funds are aimed at expanding training to increase the number of individuals and institutions involved in public health research. Up to $10 million will support development of a corps of independent, public health researchers to address national public health priorities. And up to $4 million is targeted to support institutions of higher learning to develop training programs that will prepare highly qualified scientists to lead innovative public health research in the future.

An additional $1 million has been allocated to establish a Center for Excellence in Health Promotion Economics. This new academic research center would apply economic theory and methods to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of health protection programs in priority areas.

Through this initiative, CDC hopes to engage dozens of new researchers in understanding the nation’s most compelling public health problems and in developing and evaluating effective solutions that will lead to measurable improvements in health promotion and protection.

Research proposals for the workplace and individual training components are due June 21, while applications for the institutional training and health economics components are due June 22. Awards are expected to be made in September 2004.

For more information, visit [http://www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)
MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

One of the roles that Community-Campus Partnerships for Health plays is to be a clearinghouse of information about funding sources that can support community-campus partnerships. Increasingly, both government and private funding agencies are recognizing the value that these partnerships bring to understanding and solving a whole host of complex problems, from racial and ethnic health disparities to domestic violence to homelessness. Here is a sampling of funding announcements that recognize the link between community-campus partnerships and health outcomes:

The Health Resources and Services Administration (part of the US Department of Health and Human Services) is funding partnerships between schools of nursing and community health centers that provide nurse practitioner and nurse midwifery students with clinical experience serving underserved populations. http://www.hrsa.gov/grants/preview/professions.htm#hrsa04096

The National Institute of Nursing Research (one of the National Institutes of Health) invites applications for “community-partnered interventions” that reduce health disparities through demonstrated partnerships with the “target communities throughout all phases of the research process.” http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-02-134.html

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Benton Foundation, through their national program Sound Partners for Community Health, are funding partnerships between public broadcasters and community organizations that solve problems around local health and health care issues using a variety of programming and community engagement techniques. Colleges and universities are very much viewed as key partners in the program. For example, KQED and the Mental Health Education and Workforce Development Initiative at San Francisco State University worked together to improve the quality of care for the area’s mentally ill homeless population. http://soundpartners.org

The Northwest Health Foundation and CCPH are collaborating on a directory of U.S. funding sources for community-based participatory research (CBPR). The first edition will be distributed as a handout at the Foundation’s June 28-30 CBPR conference in Portland, OR, and subsequently made available online in pdf and searchable database formats. (To learn more about the conference, visit http://www.nwhf.org. To learn more about CBPR, visit http://depts.washington.edu/ccph/commbas.html). The directory will include federal, state, local government, foundation, corporate, and other sources.

You can help make the directory complete by sending us information about funding sources, active or forthcoming requests for proposals, program announcements, etc. that have supported or could support any aspect of CBPR (e.g., planning, specific projects, core infrastructure, training, conferences). The more details you can send the better. If you have an example or two of CBPR projects that have been funded through the mechanism, even better. We also welcome your ideas and suggestions for ensuring the directory is a valuable and utilized resource. Please respond to Jen Kauper-Brown, CCPH program coordinator, at jenbr@u.washington.edu.

How can you stay on top of the myriad of funding opportunities available and position yourself to successfully apply?
- Scan each issue of Partnership Matters newsletter for time-sensitive funding announcements, funding agency reports and fundraising tips
- Visit CCPH's funding resources web page at http://depts.washington.edu/ccph/links.html#Funding
- Read the proceedings of past CCPH conferences that featured plenary panels of funding agency representatives at http://depts.washington.edu/ccph/guide.html#Publications
- Send us your requests and questions and we’ll try to be helpful
- Stay tuned for the forthcoming CBPR funding directory!

MORE HISPANICS NEEDED IN CLINICAL TRIALS; NHMA CALLS ON CONGRESS TO PROVIDE COMMUNITY-BASED RESEARCH ON HISPANICS

There are more than 100 medical schools in this country today, but very few of them devote enough attention to research on Hispanics, said Dr. Elena Rios, president of the National Hispanic Medical Association (NHMA). “If we are going to look at the future of health care in this country, we can no longer afford to take a wide, mainstream approach,” she said. “As the Hispanic population surges, we have to develop research on Hispanics and include more minorities in patient studies if we are to eliminate racial and ethnic disparities in health and improve our nation’s health.”

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MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

In August, the CCPH staff are having a retreat to reflect on our past work and consider our plans for the future - including in the area of membership development. We’re especially interested in your thoughts on what CCPH’s membership development priorities should be. For example:

• How might CCPH best support you in your partnership work?
• What membership benefits do you value most?
• What new membership benefits would you like to see offered?
• What new programs or initiatives would you like to see CCPH undertake?

Please send your ideas and suggestions to ccphuw@u.washington.edu.

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NHMA is calling on Congress to support bills by Sen. Bill Frist (R-TN), Sen. Tom Daschle (D-SD) and Rep. Elijah E. Cummings (D-MD). The bills, which seek to eliminate Hispanic health disparities, call for providing community-based Hispanic health research. The NHMA recommends that partnerships with community organizations be a requirement for funding of research projects on the Hispanic community and that Congress enlist NHMA, its foundation and research networks to develop training and culturally appropriate research methods, and to incorporate Hispanic populations in clinical trials. Rios also will call for health literacy so health professionals can better communicate with patients and understand the differences among Cuban Americans, Mexican-Americans and other Hispanic populations. Phrases that mean something to a person from South America do not mean the same to a person from Puerto Rico,” she said. Understanding those communities and their concerns begins with research that includes Hispanics, who make up the largest minority group in the United States. NHMA is calling on the government and researchers to conduct studies that pay more attention to cultural, language, immigrant and generational statuses. Most health officials agree that research data should include individuals’ race, ethnicity and primary language spoken. NHMA says that such information collected and reported at the federal and state levels is critical to achieving more equitable access to health care and improved care and to countering racial discrimination (Hispanic PR Wire, 5/18).

For more resources on community-based participatory research, please visit: http://depts.washington.edu/ccph/commbas.html

JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

Associate Director for Project Management - Closes: June 16 The Corporation for National and Community Service has posted a position available in Learn and Serve America in Washington, DC. http://www.cns.gov/jobs/jobopenings/index.html

Public Health Analyst for Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) - Closes: July 2 This position is responsible for a full range of cooperative agreements or grants within HRSA. http://www.hrsa.gov/JOBS/JOBS.HTM

Grant-Funded Position Available at the Loka Institute - Closes: open until filled With funding from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, the Loka Institute has a National Coordinator position available. Office is currently in Washington D.C, but location is negotiable. For details, visit http://www.loka.org and email: loka@loka.org.

Coordinator of Service Learning - Closes: open until filled Regis University, School for Professional Studies, Office of the Academic Dean, seeks a Coordinator of Service Learning. Consistent with the Jesuit mission of Regis University, the Coordinator of the School for Professional Studies (SPS) Service Learning program will oversee SPS service learning opportunities in the community, and the academic reflection and integration of these experiences in to the student’s degree program. http://www.regis.edu and email: resumes@regis.edu.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

We welcome announcements, comments and questions from you! Please forward them to the PM Editor at ccphpm@u.washington.edu. Below are some simple submission guidelines:

• Please limit announcements and questions to not more than 150 words. As for articles and editorials, not more than 250 words;
• Provide the names of all authors, their current institutional affiliations and/or photos;
• Explain all abbreviations and unusual terms when first used.

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UPCOMING EVENTS!

CCPH SPONSORED EVENTS

For more event listings, see CCPH’s website at http://depts.washington.edu/ccph/conferences.html

June 10-13, 2004: The Institute for Community Research Conference on Crossroads: Critical Issues in Community-Based Research Partnerships in Hartford, Connecticut. CCPH partner Kari Hartwig (Yale University) and program coordinator Jen Kauper-Brown will present a workshop entitled “A Skill-Building Workshop on Community-Based Participatory Research Partnerships.” CCPH program coordinator Jen Kauper-Brown will also speak about “The Toolkit for Community-Engaged Scholarship: Successfully Navigating the Faculty Promotion and Tenure Process” as part of a panel on the barriers and challenges - in academic and funding environments - to effective community-based research practices. CCPH will also have a poster presentation. To learn more about this conference, visit: http://www.incommunityresearch.org/news/crossroads.htm

June 14-16, 2004: Annual Grantee Meeting of the Environmental Justice and Community-Based Participatory Research Programs in Albuquerque, NM. A meeting sponsored by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences. Robert McGranahan and Gary Tang, both partners in the ASPH/CDC project Examining Community-Institutional Partnerships for Prevention Research, will facilitate a workshop on community-based participatory research. To learn more about the meeting, visit http://www.niehs.nih.gov/translate/amejcbpr/2004/ To learn more about the project, visit http://depts.washington.edu/ccph/researchprojects.html.

June 28-30, 2004: Improving the Health of Our Communities Through Collaborative Research in Portland, Oregon. Sponsored by the Northwest Health Foundation, with CCPH among the co-sponsors. CCPH is organizing a two-part workshop on funding resources for community-based participatory research. http://www.nwhf.org

October 6-10, 2004: CCPH and The Network: Toward Unity for Health are cosponsoring an International Conference: Overcoming Health Disparities: Global Experiences from Partnerships Between Communities, Health Services and Health Professional Schools in Atlanta, Georgia, USA that will replace our individual conferences for that year. By collaborating in these and other ways, we hope to strengthen the many wonderful partnerships already underway around the world, as well as to engage new individuals and organizations in this important work. For more information, visit http://www.ccpp.info. For more information on The Network, visit http://www.the-network.org. Register by July 1 to receive the “early-bird” discount at http://www.thenetworktufh.org/conference/. Poster abstracts are also due July 1. (see page 3 for details)

OTHER EVENTS


ANNOUNCEMENTS

2004 Primary Care Leadership Training Program  American Medical Student Association Foundation announced a weeklong, innovative institute designed to educate dental and medical students about important issues in primary care, develop leadership skills for future primary care providers, and engage students in curricular reform and health policy issues. The training program is in Seattle, WA, August 2-6, 2004. http://www.amsa.org/addm

Council on Graduate Medical Education provides an ongoing assessment of physician workforce trends, training issues and financing policies, and recommends appropriate federal and private sector efforts on these issues. http://www.cogme.gov/


Many Health Plans Collecting Data to Address Racial Disparities  A growing number of health insurance plans are collecting data on beneficiaries’ race, ethnicity and primary language in an effort to reduce racial and ethnic disparities in care, according to a new survey of health plans by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and America’s Health Insurance Plans. http://www.rwjf.org/news/special/trackingRace.jhtml

Changing the Face of Medicine, an exhibition about women in medicine from the National Library of Medicine, will be taking to the highways and stopping at libraries around the country. Your library can apply to host this excellent exhibit. http://www.ala.org/ala/ppo/currentprograms/changingthefaceofmedicine/changingmedicine.htm

Responsible Research Conduct Awardees Announced  Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) and the Department of Health and Human Services Office of Research Integrity (ORI) have recently awarded more than $130,000 in combined funding to five academic societies under the AAMC-ORI Responsible Conduct of Research Program for Academic Societies. For more information, visit: http://www.aamc.org/programs/ori/

Supersized: The Ballooning of a Generation  Join this provocative session to learn what one health system is doing - in collaboration with the schools, the media, the community and policymakers - to stem the tide on youth obesity. June 17, 9:00-10:00 a.m. Pacific Time. Register at http://www.communityhlth.org/education/audio.html.

GRANTS ALERT!

Women and Health Learning Package - Deadline: June 15  Global Health through Education, Training and Service, Inc. (GHETS) announces a competition for mini-grants to support the implementation of the Women and Health Learning Package, developed and produced by The Network: TUFH Women and Health Taskforce. http://www.ghets.org/index.html or email jessica@ghets.org

Public Housing Neighborhood Networks - Deadline: June 17  The program provides grants to PHAs to 1) update and expand existing Neighborhood Networks/community technology centers; or 2) establish new Neighborhood Networks (NN) community technology centers. http://www.fedgrants.gov/Applicants/HUD/ODGMO/AT/FR-4900-N-32/Grant.html

Health Literacy Grants - Deadline: June 18  American Medical Association Foundation has extended the deadline for the third series of grants it is awarding to programs that address low health literacy. http://ama-assn.org/ama/pub/category/12540.html

Emergency Response & Crisis Management Grant - Deadline: July 9  This grant supports efforts by LEAs to improve and strengthen their school emergency response and crisis management plans, including training school personnel, students and parents in emergency response procedures and coordinating with local law enforcement, public safety, health, & mental health agencies. http://www.ed.gov/legislation/FedRegister/announcements/2004-2/052804d.html

Local Initiative Funding Partners - Deadline: July 14  The program is a partnership between The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and local grantmakers that supports innovative, community-based projects to improve health and health care for society’s most vulnerable people. http://www.rwjf.org/applying/cfpDetail.jsp?cfpCode=LFP&type=open

Lead Outreach Grant Program - Deadline: July 15  One of the purposes of this lead outreach grant program is to increase enrollment of low-income housing units for treatment via the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development lead hazard control grant program or another lead hazard treatment program. http://www.fedgrants.gov/Applicants/HUD/ODGMO/AT/FR-4900-N-08/Grant.html
CALLS FOR SUBMISSIONS


Call for Nominations for New Class of Patient Safety Improvement Corps - Deadline: June 30 The purpose of the program is to train teams of state health officials and their selected private or public hospital partners in analyzing reported medical errors, identifying their root causes, and developing and implementing interventions to improve patient safety. http://www.ahrq.gov/about/psimpcorps.htm

Mentoring Programs - Deadline: July 7 This program provides assistance to promote mentoring programs for children with greatest need that: Assist these children in receiving support and guidance from a mentor; improve the academic performance of the children; improve interpersonal relationships between the children & their peers, teachers, other adults, and family members; reduce the dropout rate of the children; reduce juvenile delinquency and involvement in gangs by the children. http://www.ed.gov/legislation/FedRegister/announcements/2004-2/052804f.html

Patient Safety Research Coordinating Center Request for Proposals (RFP) - Deadline: July 13 The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) has issued the RFP seeking applicants to serve as AHRQ’s patient safety research coordinating center. http://www.ahrq.gov/fund/rfp040012.htm

Call for Proposals - 2005 Forum on Improving Children’s Health Care - Deadline: July 16 The theme of Forum will center around the idea of creating dynamic system level changes that will transform health care for all children. http://www.nichq.org/events/forum/2005/

Association of American Medical Colleges Women in Medicine Program - Deadline: July 30 The award recognizes an individual or women’s group/organization for outstanding contributions to the development of women leaders in the field of academic medicine. http://www.aamc.org/members/wim/2004awardnomination.pdf

Annual Pilot Project Awards - Deadline: July 30 The National Institutes of Health funded Center to Address Disparities in Children’s Oral Health invites applications for funds for research by investigators who wish to initiate new pilot or developmental projects. http://www.ucsf.edu/cando

PUBLICATIONS

Reflections on Violence Prevention Initiative provides a retrospective look at the California Wellness Foundation’s 10-year, $60 million comprehensive grantmaking program dedicated to preventing violence against youth. http://www.tcwf.org/reflections/may_2004.htm


The National Library of Medicine has collected links to funding for health services research and public health, respectively, at: http://www.nlm.nih.gov/nichsr/grantsites.html and http://phpartners.org/grants.html.

School Health Index: A Self-Assessment and Planning Guide This version of the School Health Index will enable schools to address their policies and programs related to safety (unintentional injury and violence prevention) in addition to the physical activity, nutrition, and tobacco-free lifestyle issues addressed in the previous editions. http://www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/SHI

Educational Toolbox on Plight of Uninsured Available from the Association of Academic Health Centers (AHC) AHC has released a new educational tool box that explains major factors and highlights new demographics contributing to the plight of the uninsured in America. http://www.ahcnet.org/programs/delivery/access.php

American Careers Health Careers Planner and companion Teaching Guide were developed in cooperation with the National Consortium on Health Science and Technology Education, and integrate the topic of health careers with lessons supporting academic and health career skill standards. http://www.carcom.com/index.html