Clinical Translational Research Center (CTRC)
Clinical Research Feasibility Fund (CReFF) Award

Description: **Funding Available for Junior Investigators**

Deadline: **March 1, 2013 at 12:00 Noon**

Submit electronic copy and one hard copy of completed application to: Amy Hartkemeyer, CTRC Business Manager, email: amy.hartkemeyer@cchmc.org. For questions, contact Amy at 513-636-4273. Location: Center for Clinical and Translational Science and Training (CCTST), Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center (CCHMC) Location S, Room S10.303, MLC 11028.

Qualifications/Eligibility:

- Junior faculty (based at UC, CCHMC or Cincinnati VAMC) with a rank of instructor or assistant professor.
- Fellows who are not faculty may be candidates when it is anticipated they will have a faculty appointment during the course of the CReFF Award.
- Your study **must** utilize CTRC resources. There are **other** pilot funding opportunities (see http://cctst.uc.edu/funding). The CTRC is the clinical research facility core of the NIH Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA)-funded CCTST, with inpatient beds and/or space for outpatient visits available, as well as nursing services. Make sure that you are planning to use the CTRC. The available resources are listed on the CTRC webpage:
  http://www.cincinnatichildrens.org/research/divisions/c/ctrc/
- To be eligible, candidates **must** either have an active CTRC-approved protocol or submit one for review with their application. **Applicants are strongly advised to contact Dr. Mark Mitsnefes (Program Director, CTRC) at mark.mitsnefes@cchmc.org prior to submitting their application, and should submit their study protocol documents to the CTRC Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) at least one month in advance of the CReFF review meeting to facilitate resolving scientific or other issues.**
- The SAC approval process for the study protocol **must** be completed before an investigator is considered for a CReFF award. Protocol submission documents may be obtained from Amy Hartkemeyer, Business Manager, email: amy.hartkemeyer@cchmc.org or on the CTRC Webpage (see link above).
- Applicants **must** be Center for Clinical and Translational Science and Training (CCTST) members. To join free of charge, go to: http://cctst.uc.edu/about/membership

Not Eligible:

- **Faculty with independent funding (R01, P01, etc).**
- **Faculty with training grant funding (K12, K23, KL2, etc.).** CReFF was designed to support transition to Ks or another initial extramural grant (R or foundation funding). If you are thinking of applying for K funding in the future and have questions about the timing of CReFF funding vs. K funding or how the CReFF could help you strengthen your NIH application, please contact the Program Director, Dr. Mark Mitsnefes, at mark.mitsnefes@cchmc.org.
- **Faculty who are recipients of CCTST T1, T1 Jr., or Methods/Ethics grants, Children's Hospital Research Foundation (CHRF) Trustee grants, Procter Scholar program funding, or Place Outcomes Research Awards.**

Required Application Documents:

- **A cover letter** from the investigator for any projects seeking support. The letter should include a description of the applicant's career plan. Specifically, the letter should include a description of how support from the CReFF Program will allow the candidate to seek external support based upon the pilot data collected from it. The letter should also indicate which funding agencies are appropriate for funding the project after the pilot study is completed, and a timetable for potential submission of grants for extramural support.
- **A detailed description of the first year's budget** with support up to $20,000, with the potential to renew for up to one year. Funds can be expended on costs not usually covered by resources available through the CTRC such as coordinator salary, laboratory costs, patient incentives, etc. Investigators' salaries are not an allowable budget item. This detailed budget must be accompanied by a second budget with detail about the entire cost of the project. If the project cannot be carried out for $20,000, an explanation of the source of the additional funds must be included. The person who has authorization over the source of additional funds must write a letter indicating that the monies will be forthcoming if the candidate is successful in getting a CReFF award.
- **A copy of the applicant's curriculum vitae in the NIH 4-page format** which should include any current or pending intramural (including Procter Scholar or Trustee Grant applications) or extramural support.
- **Letters of recommendation by the applicant's research mentor and Division or Department Head.** Specifically detailed in the letter should be a description of how the applicant will be supported by the mentor and Division or Department Head **including a description of the applicant's protected time** (% effort) available for completion of the project. Support is defined as protection of time, funding or allocation of resources to facilitate the project.
- **Current study protocol**

If Your Application is Funded:

- **The CReFF funds must be spent within one calendar year of receiving the award. The date of the award will be in the CReFF award letter. There will be no exceptions or extensions.**
- **A final report (limited to no more than 3 pages) will be required at the time of termination of the project (one year).** The report should include a description of the hypothesis, aims, brief description of methods, and results with interpretation and discussion of how they will be used to submit or obtain extramural funding. Renewal is possible for an additional year of funding with demonstration of significant progress on the project, need for additional support and likelihood of results leading to extramural support.