Collaborative funding opportunities to support rural health research

Lessons from the OppNet initiative

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Rural health and wellbeing issues

- Adherence, maintenance
- Exposures, perceptions
- Health care equity
  - Dental, mental, physical
- HIV/OSTI prevention
- Lifestyles
- Migration
- Overall prevention
- Pre, peri-natal health
- Transportation
- Trust, recruit, retain
- Workforce development
NIH’s goals

To foster
- fundamental creative discoveries,
- innovative research strategies,
- their applications as a basis for ultimately protecting and improving health;

To expand
- the knowledge base in medical and associated sciences in order to enhance the Nation's economic well-being,
- to ensure a continued high return on public investment in research;

To develop, maintain, renew
- scientific human and physical resources that will ensure the Nation's capability to prevent disease;

To exemplify and promote
- the highest level of scientific integrity, public accountability, and social responsibility in the conduct of science.
OppNet: Mission and goals

• To expand NIH’s b-BSSR funding with additional investments that complement and augment the agency’s entire extramural research portfolio.

• To foster research initiatives on basic social processes and mechanisms of behavior that relate across . . .
  ✓ public health challenges
  ✓ specific prevention and treatment contexts
  ✓ the missions of individual NIH ICOs
Accomplishments: FY2010-2011

• $21,533,410 for 106 extramural research projects
• 14 FOAs
  o 10 RFAs
  o 4 NOTs
• 4 on-Campus scientific symposia
• 1 widely-attended scientific conference
• Multiple pleased stakeholders
advances methodologies

• Create new methods for fitting causal models and for computing mediation effects

• Assess stress exposure in real time to assess immediate physiological, emotional, cognitive responses

• Build user-friendly computer programs that allow health researchers to apply new methods

• Develop methods to assess mechanisms of adolescent development of reward-related problem behaviors
  – (e.g., sensation-seeking, substance abuse, sexual risks)

• Refine and validate more thorough pathways that explain social environment effects
links brains and behaviors

- Characterize brain processes associated with first- vs. later-learned behaviors
- Delineate how neural systems involved in mediating control of habitual and goal-directed systems control behavior
- Elucidate the neural mechanisms associated with MBCT *
  - Mindfulness-Based Cognitive Therapy
- Explain control of habitual and goal-directed learning systems and behavior-related mechanisms
- Use fMRI scanning to probe ventricular affective processing and dorsal executive control systems
builds research teams

- Develop collaborative, international research agenda to promote PA maintenance across the lifespan.
- Conceptualize an interdisciplinary b-BSSR informed R01 application to advance healthy, successful aging.
- Learn basic social network theory and method to inform future family-based interventions.
- Expand relationship among behavioral economics, emotion, and decision-making.
explains self in settings

- Explain how communication about health influence risk perception and reduction within family networks
- Elucidate influence of social and spatial environments on youth, parents:
  - Mental-physical health
  - Risk behavior
  - Victimization
- Determine influence of built environment on lifestyle behaviors and health
- Examine effects of isolation on stroke damage, recovery, immune response
- Account for influence of one’s peer networks to create demands for self-regulation of reward
explains settings and self

- Explore impact of environmental factors, race, and SES inequalities on diet, obesity, and cardiometabolic risk
- Describe influence of the parenting situation on maternal and emergent infant self-regulation
- Determine patterns of influence in at-risk families for future interventions
Collaborative funding opportunity secrets

- Strong, agile leadership matters.
- Diverse input is crucial.
  - Requests for information
  - Conferences, meetings, town halls
  - Let data speak through iterative analysis
  - Prepare for confirmation and surprise
- Dedicated funding helps.
- Pooled funds have strength.
  - New funds for new projects
  - Multiple funding streams
Multiple $ streams: Safeport

- Gated compound of 25 apartments and treatment administration building, within a larger public housing complex.
- Clients are tenants or qualify for public housing.
- Clients rent homes from KWHA and finance their own needs.
- Local agency provides behavioral health services and other health case management.
Safeport: Behavioral health services

- Individual, group counseling
- Medical, dental case management
- Psychiatric services: Assessment and Rx management
- Childcare cooperative
- Ancillary service coordination
Safeport: Multiple funding streams

- US Department of Housing and Urban Development
- US Department of Health and Human Services
  - Health Resources and Services Administration
  - SAMHSA/Center for Substance Abuse Treatment
- Florida Department of Children and Families
- Florida Department of Law Enforcement
- Private foundations and trusts
- Client co-payments as appropriate
- Researchers with NIH research funding
OppNet Lesson: Make plenty good room!

Many hands . . .
- Make light work
- Have access to funds
- Increase ownership, productivity
- Require communication management

Provide leadership opportunities
- Makes lighter work for all
- Empowers, trains your members
- Stimulates synergy

Celebrate accomplishments
Means to facilitate

**Communication**
- Set regular meeting dates
  - Held *prn*
- Facebook
- List-serv
- SharePoint
- Twitter
- Website
- Wiki

**Funding**
- CTSA pilot projects
- Health foundations
- Health management organizations
- HHS agencies
- Insurance foundations
- PCORI.org
- Secondary data analysis
- Supplemental funds
Essential tips for NIH applications

• Relate your project to NIH.
• Contact and listen to a NIH program director.
• Have concise, precise research aims that inform your entire application.
• Write for your audience: Study section members
• Reflect repeatedly on your application and rewrite accordingly.
• Submit only when ready.
Tutorials, resources

Grants.gov search page
  •  http://www.grants.gov/search/basic.do

NIH Guide to Grants and Contracts search page
  •  http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/index.html

Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute funding opportunities
  •  http://www.pcori.org/funding-opportunities/

NIH-CSR review process videos

NIH-OER on writing your application
  •  http://grants.nih.gov/grants/writing_application.htm

NIAID’s All About Grants tutorials page
  •  http://funding.niaid.nih.gov/researchfunding/grant/pages/aag.aspx
Safeport references

- Elwood, WN, with the Safeport Transition Team. (2001, December). *Housing partnership plan to serve Safeport client-tenants in public housing*. Key West: Key West Housing Authority.
- Elwood, WN, & Greene, K. (2003). *Ready (or not) for Safeport: Mental and physical health characteristics associated with completing public housing-based substance abuse treatment in Key West, FL*. Poster presented at the annual American Public Health Association meeting.
- Elwood, WN, & Haskins, HV. (2003). *No place like Safeport: The planning and process of providing residential substance abuse treatment to public housing tenants*. Poster presented at the annual American Public Health Association meeting.