RFP: CHBD Mentored Scholar Award 2020 Funding Cycle

Purpose
We are pleased to announce the 2020 CHBD Mentored Scholar Award funding cycle. The Center for Child Health, Behavior and Development recognizes that there is often a need for beginning/junior faculty to develop skills in clinical research methodology and complete one or more pilot research projects before they are ready to apply for external funding (such as a K23 or R01 award). These needs may result from a lack of formal training and/or insufficient protected time to develop research and acquire preliminary data.

The CHBD Mentored Scholars Program (CHBD-MSP) is designed to fill this gap, giving junior faculty the means they need to prepare for careers in clinical or outcomes research. It combines a mentored pediatric clinical research experience with salary support, protected time and additional project resources as needed. **It is anticipated that successful applicants to this program will submit (or resubmit) a competitive K or R award within the first year and resubmit it as necessary.**

Components
1. Salary support and protected time: The CHBD-MSP will provide $25,000 in salary and fringe support per year for two years. The scholar’s division or department will be required to match this level of support from divisional/departmental resources and the FTE represented by these funds is intended to be protected time for research. In addition, CHBD will provide a total of $10,000 in research funds and the division/department will be required to match these pilot funds for an additional $5,000 in research funds. **No cost extensions are not permitted.**
2. Mentoring: In addition to the scholar’s departmental/divisional mentor, the CHBD-MSP requires each scholar to also have an experienced mentor in child health research. It is the responsibility of the applicant to identify a mentor prior to submission of the proposal and to acquire a letter of support from this mentor. If he/she needs help identifying a potential mentor, Dimitri Christakis and Tonya Palermo can provide assistance.
3. Other resources: The CHBD-MSP will provide biostatistician time from one of the center’s biostatisticians, as needed.

Expectations of CHBD-MSP Scholars
1. Research project: CHBD mentored scholars are expected to be productive in carrying out research projects. This could include continuing with ongoing research and/or proposing new research projects. In addition, it is anticipated that the bulk of the protected time will be spent in the preparation and submission of a K award, R level award, or equivalent.
2. Presentations and attendance at WIP sessions at CHBD: It is expected that CHBD-MSP scholars will present at least one Work in Progress session per year at CHBD. Additionally, a minimum of 50% attendance to all WIP sessions is required.
3. Meetings and progress reports:
   - CHBD-MSP scholars are required to meet at least twice per month with their mentors.
   - CHBD-MSP scholars are required to prepare informal written progress reports every six months for their mentors and to annually submit a formal written progress report to the CHBD steering committee. Scholars are also expected to meet with the steering committee in person towards the end of the first year. Funding for the second year will be contingent upon adequate progress during the first year.
   - A ½ page (minimum) final progress report is required 60 days after the end of the award period. The final report should detail the deliverables derived from the funds (pilot data, grant application, publications, etc.).
4. Future funding and publications: By the end of the 2nd year of support, CHBD-MSP scholars are expected to have submitted an application for a K23, R level award, or other mentored clinical research award, as well as publish at least one first-authored manuscript.

Eligibility Requirements
1. Since the CHBD-MSP is designed to support junior faculty who wish to pursue careers in clinical or outcomes research in pediatrics, preference will be given to applicants who are at one of the following levels:
   - Completing clinical/research fellowship training and have an offer for their first faculty position or a clear and written commitment from a department for a faculty position upon
attaining K award funding. This commitment includes discussion with the CHBD center director about covering any applicable cost share that may arise during a K award.

b. Junior-level faculty (at the rank of Instructor, Acting Assistant, or Assistant Professor) within the first 3 years after completion of fellowship training.

2. Eligibility is limited to CHBD-affiliated members who have attended a minimum of 50% of the CHBD seminar series and WIP presentations.

3. Applicants must be current members of CHBD and will submit their K award or R level application through CHBD. Applicants with pending K awards are eligible to apply to the CHBD-MSP, but once funding for a K award is achieved, the remaining funds from the mentored scholar award will be returned to CHBD.

4. Applicants must be able to commit two years at a minimum of 50% protected research time.

5. Applicants must hold a Children’s/University of Washington School of Medicine faculty appointment. If the applicant has not yet been appointed a faculty position, a letter is required from the division head/department chair stating that such appointment will commence at the start date of CHBD-MSP funding.

6. Individuals who are ineligible for support from the CHBD-MSP include:
   a. Prior or current NIH K award recipients (or recipients of similar career development awards from non-NIH sponsors).
   b. Anyone who has served as the PI of a prior or current R21, R01 or equivalent grant award.

**Application Requirements:**

Applicants are strongly encouraged to work with their division head/department chair and mentors in the development of their application. A complete application includes the following:

1. Application cover letter.
2. Applicant’s biosketch in the new NIH format
3. Proposed budget and budget justification
4. Candidate’s background
5. Statement of career goals including short-term and long-term objectives (1 page)
6. Description of proposed research project (aims, significance, innovation, approach) including plans for future funding (4 pages)
7. Letter of support from CHBD mentor
8. Letter from division head/department chair including commitment of protected time and matching funds.

**Applications are due by May 13, 2020.** Applicants will be asked to present their proposal at an in-person meeting (Shark Tank) with senior faculty in CHBD who do not have a conflict with a CHBD-MSP proposal submitted. The presentation format will be 5 minutes followed by 10 minutes for questions. This will take place sometime in **May - June 2020 (Date TBD).** You will be notified of your specific presentation time. **Funding decisions will be announced by June 2020.** The funding period will be October 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021 with a ramp-up period starting in July 2020.

Please submit applications to June Lee, june.lee@seattlechildrens.org

Please direct any inquiries to Dimitri and Tonya