Linoleum Packard Foundation for Children’s Health: 2014 Young Investigator Award - Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs

Request for Proposals

Program Overview:

The Lucile Packard Foundation for Children’s Health as part of its Young Investigator Award-Children with Special Health Care Needs program is offering three grants to support young investigators to develop new and innovative ideas to improve systems of care for CYSHCN. The grants will be for projects up to 18 months in duration and will provide $15,000 for pediatric fellows and $25,000 for junior faculty.

There is a two-step application process.

**Step 1:** Submit a two-page proposal due **12:00PM PT January 24, 2014.**

**Step 2:** After review, top ranked applicants will be asked to submit a full, 10-page proposal due **12:00PM PT April 25, 2014.**

All applicants are encouraged to attend a webinar: “Young Investigator Award-Children with Special Health Care Needs; Writing a Successful Proposal” at **10:00AM PT January 6, 2014.** Invitations to the webinar will be sent out on December 20, 2013.

Background:

Fifteen to 20% of children and youth in the United States have special health care needs. The unmet needs of these children and their rapid increase in numbers translate into poor health care outcomes, considerable burden on families and increasing medical expenditures. These problems are rooted in broken systems that do not meet the needs of families, payers or providers. The Young Investigator Award-Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (YIA-CYSHCN) program was conceived to encourage young investigators to conduct research in systems improvement for CYSHCN. The program, now in its 3rd year, provides targeted funding for pilot studies that will provide the foundation for the scale-up and spread of innovative ideas. To date the program has funded 7 young investigators. Their work has addressed such important systems issues as transition of care from the hospital to the primary care physician, the integration of palliative care into the primary care of CYSHCN, the use of group visits to increase efficiency, transition of care from adolescence to adulthood, and education of pediatric residents in the care of CYSHCN. The Program has also fostered the development of a network of young investigators and senior investigators which continues to grow with each new cycle of young investigators funded.
Requests for Proposals:

This request for proposals is intended to help pediatric investigators early in their career to develop new and innovative research ideas that will lead to future funding of research and programs designed to improve care systems for CYSHCN. Possible topic areas include but are not limited to:

- Transitions e.g. hospital to home or adolescence to adult
- Referral management
- PCP and specialist co-management of chronic illness
- Team based care of children and families with chronic illness
- The development and implementation of care plans
- The use of risk adjustment to provide tiered care
- Palliative care
- Ethnographic exploration of the child and family experience
- Promotion of self-management and care
- Home care

Successful proposals will:

- Be focused primarily on CYSHCN in California
- Address systems of care
- Be scalable to impact a large population of CYSHCN
- Have potential for short and medium term impact
- Have reasonable evidence for sustainability
- Be linked to actionable next steps

We discourage proposals that are limited secondary data analysis of CYSHCN without a plan for improvement of care systems

As part of the Young Investigator process, grantees will be encouraged to submit an abstract of their research to the region IX and X Academic Pediatric Association meeting and the Pediatric Academic Societies meeting. Grantees and their mentors will also be expected to participate in California-based network for researchers in CYSHCN which will include attendance at least one meeting per year at the Lucile Packard Foundation for Children’s Health.

Eligibility:

Eligible applicants include pediatric fellows and MD and PhD junior faculty in pediatric departments in schools of medicine and junior faculty in schools of nursing and public health. Junior faculty should be no more than 5 years out from completion of all training. Each applicant must identify a senior faculty member with experience in the proposed area of research as a mentor for their research. All applicants must reside in California.

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1 Care systems are broadly defined as the people, institutions, and resources to deliver health care services to meet the health needs of target populations.
All proposals must:

- Target a population of CYSHCN as broadly defined by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau. This can include young adults up to the age of 25
- Address systems of care for CYSHCN
- Define or segment their target population according to condition, and severity and medical fragility criteria. Additional information on how to define these sub-populations of CYSHCN will be provided in the applicant Webinar to be given prior to the grant submission. Applicants may focus their research on a particular sub-population of CYSHCN with the understanding that the results will be generalizable across all CYSHCN

Grantees will be expected to provide a written progress report on the project and a final report on the findings of the project which will be suitable for dissemination.

Selection Criteria:

All proposals will be scored and ranked by the members of the National Project Advisory Committee according to the following criteria:

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<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>The overall quality of the proposal with respect to improving care systems for CYSHCN</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<td>Link to actionable next steps or child health outcomes (go beyond describing poor quality of care)</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<td>Potential to lead to a subsequent project proposal building on the Young Investigator project (for PI- likelihood of future funding)</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<td>Feasibility to complete within 18-months (timeline clear, project doable, reasonable budget)</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<td>Innovation (novel, creative)</td>
<td>15%</td>
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The Application Process:

The YIA-CSHCN program has a two-step application process. The first step is the submission of a two-page proposal describing the research project. The submission should be single spaced with 1” margins and use a font no smaller than Arial 11 and should include:

- Problem statement and background, specific aims, methods, intended, measurable changes in systems for CYSHCN to be studied, evaluation/analysis plan, and significance of the study
- Estimated budget. This should not include overhead costs, salary support for mentors, or equipment for long term use such as computers. Up to $1000 can be allocated to travel to the regional APA meeting or the annual PAS meeting.

In addition, application should include:

- Applicant’s biographical sketch using the standard NIH Biosketch form. For the purposes of this grant application the biosketch should not exceed two pages. The biosketch does not count towards to two page limit.
• Faculty/research mentor’s standard 4 page biosketch and a letter of support. A typed signature is acceptable if an e-signature is not available.
• A statement attesting that the mentor has reviewed the proposal

The top ranked applicants for the 2 page proposals will be invited to submit a full 10 page proposal.

All applications will be reviewed by a national advisory board composed of experts with experience in systems of care for CYSHCN.

**Key Dates for Applicants:**

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<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Webinar: “Young Investigator Award-Children with Special Health Care Needs; How to Write a Successful Proposal”</td>
<td>January 6, 2014; 10:00AM PT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Submission of the initial two page proposal</td>
<td>January 24, 2014; 12:00PM PT</td>
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<td>Notification of invitation to submit a full proposal and provision of proposal guidelines</td>
<td>February 14, 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Submission of full 10 page proposal</td>
<td>April 18, 2014; 12:00PM PT</td>
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<td>Notifications of decisions on full proposals</td>
<td>June 6, 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Start of Research Project</td>
<td>July 1, 2014</td>
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**All proposals should be emailed in a PDF file to david.bergman@stanford.edu**

Please address any questions concerning this request for proposals to David Bergman, MD, at david.bergman@stanford.edu