Penn4C - Community Collaboratory for Co-Creation
Designing technology for social justice & health
Faculty & Community-Partnered Pilot Grant Program
Sponsored by Penn Nursing & Penn Engineering
Call for Pilot Grant Applications
FY 2023

Penn Nursing and Penn Engineering invite proposals from Faculty and Community Partners for the Community Collaboratory for Co-Creation (Penn4C): Designing Technology for Social Justice & Health. Projects will be funded up to $60,000.

Purpose
To leverage and enhance partnerships among Philadelphia Communities, Penn Nursing, and Penn Engineering to solve problems to enhance social justice, health and well-being. We seek to challenge rather than reproduce or exacerbate structural inequalities as technology often does, through partnership with communities that have typically experienced inequities and been excluded from serving as equal partners in addressing problems of highest need. We invite proposals that seek to solve a problem of importance to the community, by deeply examining the problem from the perspective of those it affects, ideate potential solutions, and as a team co-design prototypes to solve the problem. Successful projects would result in a proof of concept in addressing the identified problem, that helps improve health and well-being in the community, and potentially lead to future funding to scale and sustain the solution.

Applicants
We seek applicant teams that include three co-directors (principal investigators): one who is a member of the standing and/or associated faculty of Penn Nursing, one who is a member of the standing and/or associated faculty of Penn Engineering, and a committed community partner. Co-investigators may include additional faculty from any school at Penn and relevant community organizations. Priority will be given to applications that 1) involve Penn students, 2) are topically aligned with high priority community needs, and 3) integrate issues of social justice and health equity.

Application Due Date
Proposals are submitted via the Pilot Grant Portal, https://pilotgrants.nursing.upenn.edu/Proposal Select 'submit proposal' on the left-hand banner and choose the Penn4C Spring 2023 tab. Submissions must be complete and uploaded by **11:59 pm** on March 15, 2023. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.

Application Guidelines
Proposals must contain the following items:
- Basic Information: grant title and names of the three co-directors and their departmental or community agency affiliation and contact information **[Data Entry Portal]**
- Abstract: 100-150 word unstructured **[Data Entry Portal]**
- Budget: A detailed budget and justification **[Data Entry in Portal]**
- Biosketch (NIH or NSF): Co-Directors & Co-investigators; Resume for community investigators **[File Uploads]**
- Proposal: limited to 4 single spaced pages at Arial font 11 - inclusive of *Specific Aims* that detail the community problem that needs to be solved, *Background/significance* that contextualizes how others have tried to solve the problem and how the teams proposed solution builds on what is known and how it will move the field forward, the *Approach/methods*, and *Timeline* (milestones), and potential for the solution to be scalable and sustainable.

References and human subjects' protections (if applicable) are not included in the 4-page limit. **[File Upload]**
- Letter of Commitment: A letter from the primary community agency confirming partnership must be included.
- IRB/IACUC approval, if required, must be submitted prior to distribution of funds. **[File Upload]**

Use of Funds
Funds may be used to support direct costs of the project. Use of funds may include project supplies and equipment, local travel for data collection, research assistants, student workers, stipends for community partners, participant compensation, and laboratory and statistical support based at the University of Pennsylvania. We support use of funds to compensate community partners for their expertise, time or effort involved in the project. Faculty salary is not supported. Funds may not be used for professional memberships, conference, or publication fees. Funds must be spent by May 31, 2024. Unexpended funds are to be returned to the Community Collaboratory for Co-Creation.

Award Period
The award period is one year (expected timeline would be June 1, 2023 – May 31, 2024). Teams selected for funding will be required to attend the Summer Innovation Institute, organized by the Penn School of Nursing, June 26-30, 2023. Registration costs will be covered by Penn4C.

Review Process
Proposals will be evaluated by a peer review committee and funding recommendations will be made by the Executive Committee of the Community Collaboratory for Co-Creation. Awards will be announced by June 1, 2023.

Questions
For questions, please contact info@penn4c.org