October 28th, 2020

To: UIC Tenure Track Faculty and Non-Tenure Track Faculty

From: UIC Community Engagement COVID-19 Strike Force

Re: Pilot funding for Equitable Collaborations between UIC faculty focused on Racial Justice and COVID-19 and Community Scholar/Researcher

The UIC Community Engagement COVID-19 Strike Force is a campus wide collective of faculty, staff, and students developed in April 2020 to provide organized support, resources, and dynamic collaborations with our community partners. The Strike Force’s short-term goal is to address COVID-19 needs articulated by community partners, while aligning with Mayor Lightfoot’s COVID19 Racial Equity Rapid Response Working Group and Recovery Taskforce. This funding opportunity aims to support a long-term goal of the Strike Force: to create UIC structures and norms that facilitate community engaged scholarship developed in collaboration with community priorities and address systemic racism and its devastating impact on the health and wellbeing of communities of color. The Strikeforce works in tandem with on-campus entities such as UIC Office of Community Engagement and Neighborhood Health Partnerships (OCEAN-HP) and the UIC School of Public Health Collaboratory for Health Justice. This RFP amplifies their innovative research practices including establishing bi-directional and diverse partnerships, and promoting collaborative scholarly engagement aimed at solving complex problems.

The Strike Force, in partnership with Institute for Research on Race and Public Policy (IRRPP), Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences (CCTS), and Institute for Policy and Civic Engagement (IPCE), announces this request for planning grants to promote focused collaborations between UIC faculty and community members from predominantly Black and/or Latinx Chicago communities. The goal of these collaborations is to promote innovative community-based research or scholarship that addresses underlying conditions or factors producing the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on Black and Latinx communities. We intend for this funding to provide for consulting contracts with community residents representing formal or informal community-based organizations, all of which will be in service to innovating how UIC approaches community engagement and collaboration in its research and service endeavors.

We seek to support faculty from across the university who have existing research collaborations they wish to deepen as well as faculty interested in developing equitable research collaborations with community partners. In either case, we will support collaborations that identify a pressing community or organizational need and collectively develop a plan of action that serves both the
UIC researcher (and potentially currently enrolled graduate students) and the community researcher. Applications are welcome from all disciplines across UIC. Junior faculty and faculty from underrepresented racial/ethnic groups are especially encouraged to apply.

As this is a planning grant, outcomes may be reported in a variety of different formats. These might include but are not limited to:

- Co-writing different types of materials (peer reviewed journal article, series of op-eds, policy briefings for various stakeholders);
- Developing collaborative research protocols or processes for use by other UIC faculty and staff;
- Workshops or trainings that community partners and UIC faculty/staff co-lead for multiple audiences;
- Completing a grant application to further support the collaboration;
- Designing an exhibition of public program series that serves all partners involved.

We plan to award up to 5 awards of up to $10,000 each. All grant funds must be spent by June 30, 2021 and a final summary report showing outcomes must be provided at the end of the funding period. All applications must include a line item for a consulting contract for community scholar/researcher or organization (up to $7,500). Please include a description of the services to be performed during the consultancy.

**Other allowable expense types:**

- Graduate Research Assistant (hourly, only)
- Payments to community members for participation in ideation generation sessions (focus group/interviews).

Proposal will be evaluated in terms of the extent to which they deepen a UIC/community relationship, recognize and address the bi-directional benefit to both UIC and the partner, employ participatory methods for research, and their feasibility.

**APPLICATION: DUE November 20, 2020**

Please submit your application using the following Google Form link, be sure to note fields that require attachments. If you have any questions please email Jennifer Brier (jbrier@uic.edu) or Gabriela Peña (gpena5@uic.edu).

1. Name, Title and department, Department head name, business manager
2. Project description (3 pages maximum), including background, work plan, and expected outcomes or products including: (upload three pages max.)
• The community partners mission, history, and program activities
• The problem/resource need to be addressed by the collaboration along with the goals of the project
• The specific tasks and activities through which these goals will be achieved, and a timeline.
• Strategies that will and can be used to preserve the resource(s) created by this collaboration
• The multiple audiences who would be interested and affected by the project outcomes

3. A letter of commitment from the community partner (uploaded), explaining how this project meets their needs.

4. A budget with brief narrative – up to $10,000 to be used by June 30th, 2021.
   • Community collaborator compensation
   • Graduate assistant hourly
   • Payment to community members for participation
   • Production of materials (e.g. flyers, mailing)
   • Web design tools (e.g. Piktochart, social media ad buys, Square Space)

5. A 300-word bio for each research collaborator (UIC faculty, community member, graduate student).

Notification of Award:

Applicants will be notified of their award status by December 1st, 2020 via email. All applications will be reviewed by the Strike Force’s Review Committee, which is made up of UIC faculty and staff.
**The UIC School of Public Health Collaboratory for Health Justice**

*Building Capacity for Academic-Community Partnership across Research, Teaching, and Practice*

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**col·lab·o·ra·to·ry, noun:** an environment where a group of people work together to solve complex problems by exploring collaborative innovations.

We **strive to advance health justice**—that all people would have the power and resources to have agency over their health, which requires addressing systems of oppression such as classism, racism, sexism and xenophobia.

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| Teaching                                                                      |                                                                                          |                                                                                        |
| • Acknowledge historical injustices                                           | • Funds to compensate practice partner to collaborate in CE course                        | • Promotion and tenure (P & T) advising                                               |
| • Partner pool database to identify partners to serve as guest speakers      | • Support the voices of partners                                                         | • CEnR/CBPR training for SPH and community                                             |
| • Developing                 | • Teaching in the community                                                             | • Train students in CEnR and UIC history                                               |
| • Pipelines to UIC undergrad                                                  | • Pipelines to UIC undergrad                                                             | • Inform P & T processes on metrics of excellence for scholarly public health practice |
| • Building Chicago-based teaching collaboratives                             |                                                                                          | • Student fellows                                                                      |

| Research                                                                      |                                                                                          |                                                                                        |
| • Partner pool database to identify new research partners,                   | • Develop SPH research agenda                                                             | • Doctoral fellowships/ faculty expertise/TA                                           |
| • Manage/celebrate current                                                   | • Provide UIC swag for community partners                                                 | • Development of community review board                                               |
| • Small funds to support partnership praxis                                  |                                                                                          | • Inform P & T processes on metrics of excellence for CEnR                            |
|                                                                              |                                                                                          | • Standardize dissemination outputs                                                   |
|                                                                              |                                                                                          | • Support grant writing of CBOs                                                       |
|                                                                              |                                                                                          | • Train students in CEnR and UIC history                                               |
Partnership Principles

The Office of Community Engagement and Neighborhood Health Partnerships (OCEAN-HP) has adopted a partnership framework that is derived from the Guiding Principles developed by Community-Campus Partnerships for Health. These principles are promoted through our Healthy City Collaborative which advocates for authentic university/community relationships. Authenticity is defined by the following principles:

1. Partnerships reflect an appreciation of the mission, values, and goals of each partner. The foundation of the partnership is based on the adoption of complementary and mutually determined goals and processes.

2. Partnerships may form to serve a specific purpose but may take on new goals over time. Sustainable partnerships demonstrate a commitment to continuous self-assessment of purpose, processes, products and outcomes.

3. The roles and functions of authentic partnerships are clearly defined and demonstrate a continuous effort to sustain trust and mutual respect.

4. Partnerships reflect a commitment to equity and provide opportunities for partners to be involved in defining and, as necessary, redefining the terms of engagement and measures of equity.

5. Processes and products of partnerships reflect respect and transparent integration of the knowledge and contributions of all partners.

6. All partners are committed to high quality, ethical interventions, research and actions that are guided by procedures that protect the public and the interests of the partner organizations.

7. Partnerships are sustained by universally accessible, contextually relevant and clear processes for communication and decision-making. Partners strive to understand each other’s needs and interests and to develop a common language.

8. Research partnerships encourage joint exploration research questions and demonstrate efforts to create a mutually rewarding research agenda and research plan.

9. The organization of the partnership supports allows shared leadership, shared decision making, consensus building and where possible, resource sharing.

10. Partnerships have a documented plan to exchange knowledge, share information and build the capacity for all partners. There are visible efforts to maximize learning within the local community and associated organizations.
11. There is evidence of shared accountability, acknowledgements of successes and assessment of failures. The partnership provides opportunities for input into processes to evaluate and disseminate information about the partnership.

_Citation:_ CCPH Board of Directors. Position Statement on Authentic Partnerships. Community-Campus Partnerships for Health, 2013.