

CCHP Office of Health Equity Research (OHER) and the UR Aging Institute (URAI)

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS: PILOT STUDIES FOR RESEARCH ON HEALTH EQUITIES AND AGING

The Office of Health Equity Research (OHER) and the University of Rochester Aging Institute (URAI) are pleased to announce a collaborative new pilot project funding opportunity (\$40,000 maximum for one year) with the shared goal of improving the health and well-being of older adults in the Rochester region.

BACKGROUND

The mission of the OHER <<https://www.urmc.rochester.edu/community-health/office-of-health-equity-research.aspx>> is to support innovative health equity research across URM to foster a deeper understanding of the root causes of health disparities and the burdens experienced by excluded groups, and to facilitate the translation of findings into more equitable care. High priority areas for health disparities research, as defined by the Rochester community, are:

- improving access to safe and affordable housing,
- violence prevention,
- chronic disease prevention and management,
- decreasing re-incarceration through policy,
- and promoting well-being to prevent mental health and substance use disorders.

The URAI <<https://www.urmc.rochester.edu/university-of-rochester-aging-institute.aspx>> has as its mission to promote vitality in aging by transforming care and communities through discovery, learning, collaboration and innovation. Research in support of the URAI mission that falls at any point along the translational research continuum is welcome.

Numerous factors conspire to make later life a time of great disparities in access to, quality, and outcomes of health care delivery. In addition to carrying the highest burden of illness, older adults experience ageism, social isolation, and financial stressors that contribute to inequities in their care. Their voices often go unheard.

The goal of this OHER/URAI partnership is, through joint funding of pilot projects, to support the conduct of research into the patterns and factors that contribute to health inequities in old age, their mechanisms of impact, and the development, implementation, and effectiveness of models, methods, measures, and strategies to eliminate disparities and improve equity. Its desired outcome is to establish a foundation of excellence in aging and disparities research on which subsequent applications for funding from NIA or other extramural sources will be built.

ELIGIBILITY: Only full-time UR faculty will qualify as principal investigator (PI). They may only hold a single URAI pilot award as a PI at any given time.

Collaborative projects that involve investigators from varied disciplines, investigators who have not previously worked in aging research, and community partners from diverse backgrounds are encouraged.

BUDGET

Up to one (1) award will be made for up to \$40,000 for one year in direct costs. Funds may be used for research costs only, and may not support faculty salaries or administrative staff, travel to professional meetings or equipment. All costs must be justified. Indirect costs are not allowed.

SUBMISSION AND REVIEW PROCESS

Proposals will be scored by a panel of URAI and OHER reviewers. A summary of the reviewers' comments will be provided once the review process has been completed.

OTHER TERMS

A copy of all grant applications that benefit from the pilot program must be provided to OHER and URAI. Support must be acknowledged in all project-related publications or presentations by including the following language: "Supported in part by University of Rochester Aging Institute: Pilot Studies in Aging Research and the UR Office of Health Equity Research: Pilot Studies in Health Equity."

SUBMISSION TIMELINE

Letters of intent are **due February 7th**. Invitations for full submissions will be sent by **March 7th**.

Full submissions (Instructions will be provided) will be due on **April 4th**.

Anticipated start date for successful proposals: July 1, 2025.

Letters of intent and/or questions should be submitted electronically at [\[https://redcap.link/2025OHERcfp\]](https://redcap.link/2025OHERcfp)

CONTACTS

If you have questions regarding this RFP, please contact Diane Morse, Associate Director of OHER (Diane_Morse@urmc.rochester.edu).