

Request for Proposals: The Possibilities Project

The Possibilities Project is an initiative that aims to implement, evaluate, and disseminate innovations that transform pediatric primary care to best enable children and their families to thrive. The project's goal is to create a model of practice that is safe, effective, patient-centered, timely, efficient, and equitable. This innovation will occur at the intersection of primary care and the community, hospital, subspecialty practice, and transitions of care, as well as innovation within primary care itself. The project will ultimately lead to the creation of programs that positively impact health, are financially viable, and draw families to CHOP. Research funding is made possible through the CHOP Department of Pediatrics and Research Institute.

A survey of nearly 1,000 families across the region served by the CHOP Care Network identified wellness-related concerns as major issues impacting families. Many parents reported facing physical health issues, mental/emotional health issues, and concerns related to financial stability. In addition, the top challenges reported by parents in caring for their children included promoting a healthy diet, time management issues, stress related to school and managing/addressing difficult behaviors. Finally, parent and child health behaviors such as sleep and physical activity were found to be highly correlated and often problematic.

The Possibilities Project seeks proposals for ***research/innovation pilot studies*** focused on ***promoting wellness*** for patients and families (e.g. sleep, physical activity, diet, stress management). The program will focus on supporting the iterative testing of innovations and intervention development as opposed to implementing fixed protocols. Selected proposals will be supported for up to a maximum of ***\$50,000*** for one year. We expect to fund at least two projects. Projects should be able to be completed within one year. Priority will be given to projects that think creatively about new approaches to primary care delivery, for example: team-based care, community partnerships, specialty-primary care collaborations or the use of technology to support healthy behaviors outside office visits. Teams are encouraged to include frontline clinicians, nursing staff, or administrative staff if relevant to the project.

Key Dates

Application Deadline: September 14, 2018

Anticipated Award Announcement: October 31, 2018

Anticipated Project Period: December 1, 2018 – November 30, 2019

Eligibility

Fellows and faculty from all CHOP departments, divisions and the Care Network.

Application

Please submit the application as a single Word document via email to Jim Massey at masseyj@email.chop.edu no later than ***5:00 p.m. on the deadline date***. Application components should include:

- 1) Cover page, listing: Project Title, Principal Investigator, Co-Investigator(s)/Mentor(s) as applicable, Department/Division, Date
- 2) Project Description (5 page maximum in Arial 11pt, $\geq 0.5"$ margins) including: Summary/Abstract, Specific Aims, and Research Strategy (Significance, Innovation, Approach, Dissemination/Sustainability Plan)
- 3) Budget
- 4) Budget Justification
- 5) References/Works Cited
- 6) Biosketch of PI and Co-Investigator(s)/Mentor(s) in NIH format (5 page maximum)

Budget

Budgets must be reviewed and approved by your business manager or senior director prior to submission. Funding may not be used for investigator salary support. Staff salaries are allowable budget items. Provide a breakdown of costs by category (e.g. personnel, travel, supplies, etc.), and describe in the Budget Justification how the funds will be used and how the costs were calculated. Although projects may be funded up to a maximum of \$50,000, priority will be given to projects that include a prudent spending plan. The Possibilities Project will attempt to fund all requested budgets in full but may elect to partially fund certain protocols in order to increase the number of funded proposals.

Selection Criteria

The review criteria used to score proposals follow:

- **Significance:**
 - Does it effectively address a large, important issue?
 - Does it provide a substantial improvement for a broad base of patients?
- **Innovation:**
 - Is the project a departure from the existing model of care that has the potential to fundamentally improve child and family wellness?
- **Approach:**
 - Are the overall strategy, methodology, and analyses well-reasoned and appropriate to accomplish the specific aims of the project?
 - Are potential problems, alternative strategies, and benchmarks for success presented?
- **Investigators:**
 - Does the applicant team have the necessary expertise to complete the project?
- **Sustainability/Scalability:**
 - If successful, does the project have a well-delineated path to sustainability and scalability?
- **Budget:**
 - Is the proposed budget and period of support appropriate in relation to the research?

Awards

Successful applicants must show documentation of IRB submission within 30 days of award notification. Principal Investigators must submit a report at the end of the one-year grant period for review by the Possibilities Project leadership team and include: project progress, expenditures and plans for disseminating results. Subsequent annual reports will be requested to include publications and extramural funding resulting from the research. Funds unspent at the end of the one-year grant period will be returned to the Possibilities Project. However, requests for rollover of funds for an additional year will be considered with adequate justification.

Additional Information

Contact Stephanie Mayne at maynes@email.chop.edu with any questions about the Possibilities Project Pilot Grant Program, eligibility, or the application and submission process.

Contact Alex Fiks at fiks@email.chop.edu or Lisa Biggs at biggs@email.chop.edu with any questions about the Possibilities Project.