

## NEW JERSEY CENTER ON GUN VIOLENCE RESEARCH AT RUTGERS UNIVERSITY 2020 INTERNAL FUNDING - COMMUNITY ENGAGED RESEARCH PROGRAM

We are pleased to announce our internal pilot funding program to support collaborative research between Rutgers University researchers and New Jersey based community organizations who share common interests in gun violence prevention.

### *GOALS AND ELIGIBILITY*

The New Jersey Center on Gun Violence Research conducts interdisciplinary research on the causes, consequences and solutions to gun-related violence, while respecting the rights of legal, safe gun ownership and use. The Center's mission is to provide high- quality, multi-disciplinary research on gun violence causality and prevention and translate this research into clear and actionable policies and programs. We set out to achieve this mission by partnering with local, state and national experts, utilizing accessible data to identify important patterns and characteristics related to gun violence, testing interventions to reduce gun violence and translating science into effective practices to ensure their widespread adoption.

The Center recognizes the importance of practice informed research and stakeholder voice to develop sustainable solutions to gun violence. For this reason, the Center has created this unique opportunity to support academic and community engaged research projects focused on gun violence prevention. The purpose of this program is to assist in developing meaningful community-academic partnerships that lead to long-term, mutually beneficial research and service initiatives, assist in building a body of work to attract external support for large-scale studies, and to identify innovative methodologies in gun violence research that have the potential of informing local, state, and national policy and programming.

Pilot funds may be requested to support projects across a range of topics so long as proposed projects show clear links to our Center's areas of emphasis. See below for detailed information on broad *topic areas*. Pilot programs are defined as research programs that use qualitative and/or quantitative methods to collect primary data, analyze secondary data, and/or test research methodologies as a means to attract additional support from larger external funding sources. Projects that have the potential to improve interventions and/or inform policy in the area of gun violence prevention are of particular interest.

Eligibility requirements for the COMMUNITY ENGAGED RESEARCH pilot funding:

- One of the Co-Principal Investigators (Co-PI) must be a Rutgers University faculty, doctoral student, or research staff member who is "principal investigator eligible." Doctoral students must be enrolled in a Rutgers University program and may only serve as co-principal investigators with a faculty member. The other Co-PI must be a

community-based organization (CBO) who attended one of the [Community Engaged Research days in March, 2020](#).

- CBOs and Rutgers researchers can apply with different partners but projects must be different from one another, and our policy is that we will not fund two projects from the same CBO/Rutgers partnership in the same funding cycle. If you are submitting more than one proposal please let all of your partners know.

All proposals must include short bios of all members of the research team along with statements verifying capacities and competencies to execute proposed projects.

### ***TOPIC AREAS FOR FUNDING PROPOSALS***

The Center supports original research on gun violence that will help to reduce the burden on individuals and society in five broad areas of inquiry:

1. Individual and societal determinants of risk for involvement in gun violence, whether as a victim or a perpetrator.
2. Individual, community, and societal consequences of gun violence.
3. Prevention and treatment of firearm violence at the individual, community, and societal levels.
4. Effectiveness of existing laws and policies intended to reduce firearm violence, including the criminal misuse of firearms.
5. Efforts to promote the responsible ownership and use of firearms.

### ***TIMELINES FOR FUNDING PROPOSALS***

April 30, 2020	Letter of Intent (LOI) Deadline
May 14, 2020	Invitation to Submit Full Proposal Notification
June 15, 2020	Full Proposal Deadline
June 25, 2020	Decision Date for Full Proposals
July 1, 2020	Disbursement of Funds
June 30, 2021	Deadline for Expenditure of Funds

### ***LETTERS OF INQUIRY***

Interested applicants should submit an informational Letter of Intent no later than April 30, 2020 to determine eligibility and appropriate partnerships. This letter should not exceed one page in length, and must include:

- Co-PIs and other partners on the grant proposal
- Target audience or area

- Proposed aims of the research endeavor
- Primary contact person

### **INVITED FULL PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS**

*Invited applicants will be notified by Center staff no later than May 14, 2020. Full Proposals consist of the Scope of Work, budget, and IRB approval. The deadline for full proposals is 5:00 pm on Monday, June 15, 2020.*

### **REVIEW CRITERIA FOR PROPOSALS**

Selection of projects will be prioritized according to their demonstration of a shared community/academic approach (see below), the degree to which the project will address an important problem or critical barrier towards progress, the scientific merit of the study, innovativeness, the capabilities of the research team, and the likelihood of the project yielding actionable results.

Priority will be given to projects that demonstrate the following:

- Present clear, relevant research aims.
- Describe how the CBO's research skills and/or capacity will be developed and/or improved.
- Demonstrate how community and academic partners worked together at all stages of the proposal development, and share responsibility for ideas and proposed actions presented in the proposal.
- Describe how community and academic partners will share "ownership" over research results and will work in collaboration to decide on key issues related to the dissemination and publication of these results.
- Describe methodologies that are feasible during a one-year time period.
- Include community and academic partners as research team members in a manner that demonstrates equal partnership from project conception through dissemination of results.

Each proposal will be subject to blind review by at least two faculty reviewers affiliated with the Center and scoring will be based on the following criteria:

1. Alignment with targeted research areas of the Center (listed above).
2. Importance of the problem to be studied and innovation of the planned approach.
3. Scientific merit, in terms of critical gaps addressed and quality of scientific design.
4. Capabilities and competencies of the team.
5. Feasibility of study being successfully executed and completed within proposed timeframe.

6. Projected likelihood of the proposed study yielding actionable results including immediate and longer-term prospective deliverables.

### ***PROPOSAL FORMATTING FOR PILOT STUDY PROPOSALS***

Please follow the basic NIH format/outline as a template for the text of your proposal. Please see here for information about NIH formatting: <https://www.niaid.nih.gov/grants-contracts/write-research-plan>

Proposal text should include the following:

- hypothesis, and goals and objectives of the research project;
- anticipated number of people you propose to reach;
- the significance of the research to the specified community;
- a description of what you know about the target population to be served, specifying which neighborhood(s) will be targeted by the proposed project;
- the methods, analytic plan and the work to be undertaken;
- the proposed staffing for the project, including roles and responsibilities of community and academic staff members and their experience serving the targeted community;
- how the community and academic partner will collaborate throughout the entire research project;
- how the results of the research will be disseminated to community stakeholders;
- how the community partner's research skills or capacity will be developed or improved as part of the project;
- the potential for external funding and any future extension of the research.

Proposals are limited to 10 pages of text, 12-point Times font, double-spaced, with 1" margins.

Please include, as separate pages, the following sections (not counted towards the 10-page limit):

1. Title page listing full title along with the name and affiliation of the principal investigator and any co-investigators.
2. Abstract summary of the background of the problem, purpose of the project, methods, anticipated results and potential implications of the proposed project. Should not exceed 300 words.
3. Timeline showing how the research will be executed from the time of award through study completion and an Activity plan indicating the responsibilities of each research team member.
4. List of works cited in the proposal, in APA format.
5. Any relevant letters of support from external collaborators, community partners, etc., that demonstrate the capacity for completing the proposed research.

6. Biosketches for the principal investigator and any co-investigators.
7. Budget narrative and Rutgers budget spreadsheet as detailed below.
8. Contact information (name, address, telephone, email) for your department or unit's main point of contact for budget/financials.

### ***BUDGET PREPARATION***

Please use the Rutgers spreadsheet template as a guide for budgeting. You may find it here: <https://orsp.rutgers.edu/budget-template>.

The template includes categories allowable for funding. We recommend strongly that you prepare your budget with the support of your department or unit's budget/financial administrator. Include with the spreadsheet a full narrative detailing how each line item will be spent. Facilities and Administrative Costs (indirect costs) are not supported on pilot awards. Submission through RAPSS is not required at the time of submission.

Use of Grant Funds: Funds may be used to pay for project staff salary and benefits, consultant fees, supplies and other direct expenses related to program activities (e.g. travel, incentives for community participants, etc.). The purchase of equipment will only be supported if it is demonstrated that there is no other way for the research team to access necessary equipment other than direct purchase. Funds may not be used to XXX

### ***HUMAN SUBJECTS RESEARCH APPROVALS***

Any proposals for studies involving human subjects research will not be eligible to receive funds until proof of Rutgers IRB submission is provided.

### ***LETTERS OF INQUIRY AND PILOT STUDY PROPOSAL SUBMISSION***

Prepare your submission as a PDF document and submit via email to:

Gerrae Brown, Administrative Assistant  
NJ Center on Gun Violence Research at Rutgers University  
[gb465@sph.rutgers.edu](mailto:gb465@sph.rutgers.edu)

### ***QUESTIONS?***

If you have any questions or concerns about this funding opportunity, you may address them to Paul Boxer, PhD, Professor of Psychology and Research Core Administrator, NJ Center on Gun Violence Research at Rutgers University: [pboxer@rutgers.edu](mailto:pboxer@rutgers.edu)