

## Circle of Giving

### 2021 Women's Health Research Funding Opportunity

Proposal Due: January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021

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#### Overview

The OHSU Center for Women's Health Circle of Giving is now accepting submissions for its 2021 Women's Health Research Funding Opportunity. Circle of Giving funding is intended to support new or established investigators interested in developing innovative directions in research that will advance women's health. Applications will be accepted from faculty at the rank of Lecturer, Assistant, Associate, or Full Professor. The Circle expects to award \$125,000 to support one project for one year. If funds permit, a second grant may be awarded.

The Circle of Giving Women's Health Research Program is designed to invest in research that will lead to improvements in women's health. Applications may be in basic science, clinical investigation, population health, or behavioral research. The pilot project conducted using these seed funds is expected to lead to additional research fundable by federal and non-federal sources; the proposed research must be intended to produce a tangible improvement in women's health. We ask that you consider the diversity, equity, and inclusion lens in your proposal. **Key selection criteria include scientific rigor, likelihood of proposed research leading to future funding, and likelihood for the project to exert a sustained, powerful influence on women's health.** Funds are unrestricted and may be used for equipment, salary, or travel (no indirect cost allocation allowed).

The Circle of Giving brings together a community of leading women who are passionate in their support of the OHSU Center for Women's Health and its commitment to advancing research programs that address the health needs of women. Established in 2006, the Circle of Giving has awarded nearly \$2.8 million to support a total of 24 OHSU-led pilot studies designed to help improve women's health outcomes. Donors are interested in directly impacting women's health outcomes.

For further information about the Circle of Giving and prior awardees, please visit our [Center for Women's Health webpage](#).

## Submission and Review Process

### Required Submissions

**Application: Due Friday, January 8<sup>th</sup> 2021**

Please submit your application via the [Competitive Application Portal](#).

#### The application must include:

1. Executive Summary (300 words): **Write this section in non-scientific language, for a lay audience** (e.g. how you might describe your research to a distant family member). Explain the overall intent of your project using the following headings: Pilot Project Title; Principal Investigator(s); Problem/Need; Goal; Method. Be clear in how this project will enhance women's health.
2. Main Application (3 pages): **Write this section in non-scientific language, for a lay audience** (e.g. how you might describe your research to a family member or an 8<sup>th</sup> grade science class). Describe your proposed research using the following headings: Background/Significance; Methods (brief overview); Outcomes. Please include innovation (conceptually or technically) as well as rigor of science.
3. Budget (1 page or less): Budget template is required and available for download in [Competitive Application Portal](#) under "Competition Files."
4. Budget justification (1 page or less): Funds are unrestricted (i.e. equipment, salary and travel); no indirect cost allocation allowed. Submissions are expected to fully utilize the full \$125K award. Requests for partial funding will not be considered.
5. Research Appendix (2 pages): **This section is key for the investigator peer-review process** and can be written with a professional/scientific audience in mind. Utilize the following headings: Specific Aims; Preliminary Studies (if applicable); Research Design and Methods; Expected Outcomes and Alternative Strategies; References. (Note: References not counted in 2 page limit.)
6. NIH Biosketch (follow link for instructions re: format and content): Include NIH biosketches for investigators directly involved in your proposed research.
7. Letters of Support Appendix: For applicants currently enrolled in a training program (e.g. clinical or other fellowship), a training grant (e.g. NIH or other individual or institutional training grant) and/or in a post-doctoral position, a training/mentoring plan (i.e., NIH K01/K08 career development plan) and letter(s) of support from the applicant's supervisory faculty member and training and/or grant director is required.

An example of a successful application can be found in [the Competitive Application Portal](#). Please note: current requirements supersede formatting from sample application. Applications this cycle must conform to the 2021 guidelines listed above.

## Selection Criteria

- OHSU faculty at the rank of Lecturer, Assistant, Associate, or Full Professor (Including School of Dentistry, School of Medicine, School of Nursing and School of Public Health)
- Faculty member's qualifications and research commitment to women's health
- Scientific and technical merit of proposed research
- Consideration of diversity, equity, and inclusion in the proposed research
- Demonstrated and/or anticipated capability in the conduct and dissemination of research
- Likelihood of fundability to continue investigator's research based upon Circle of Giving-supported findings

## Selection Process

- **Applications due by 5:00 p.m., Friday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021**
- Applications reviewed for compliance with format, faculty appointment, and qualifications; submissions not in compliance returned without further review (J. Warren)
- Applications submitted to investigator reviewers for peer review (applications will be evaluated by other OHSU investigators with content expertise in proposed research area); reviewers rate proposals and return documentation (J. Warren)
- Scientific Review Committee (SRC) ranks applications from among applications with the best reviews The SRC is composed of key OHSU women's health researchers and faculty, including: Johanna Warren, MD, Interim Director, OHSU Center for Women's Health; Julie Saugstad, PhD, Professor, Dept. of Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine; Aaron Caughey, MD, PhD, Professor & Chair, Dept. of Ob/Gyn; Michelle Berlin, MD, MPH, Former Director, OHSU Center for Women's Health; Jeanne- Marie Guise, MD, MPH, Director, Oregon Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women's Health (Oregon BIRCWH); Jeffrey Jensen, MD, MPH, Director, OHSU Women's Health Research Unit; Susan Smith, PhD, Senior Scientist/Chair, Medical Research Foundation, ONPRC; Lisa Coussens, PhD, Associate Director for Basic Research, Knight Cancer Institute; Leslie Myatt, PhD, Director, Placental Origins of Disease Group, Knight Cardiovascular Institute Center for Developmental Health.
- Selected applications move forward to the Circle of Giving Selection Committee. This Committee is composed of Circle of Giving members who rank the top three finalist applications chosen for presentation at the Circle of Giving Granting Meeting.
- Circle of Giving Granting Meeting: May 12, 2021. Each Circle of Giving member has the opportunity to vote on the proposals presented. Each member has one vote, in person or by proxy. The proposal with the most votes is awarded funding. Investigator is notified of funding at close of meeting. *(If funds permit, two grants may be awarded)*

## **Responsibilities of Grantee**

In addition to the conduct of research outlined in the proposal funded, the grantee will:

- Deliver a presentation updating Circle members on research progress at the Circle of Giving Annual Impact meeting (typically held in the Fall),
- Deliver a lecture on the research project at one or more academic venues (e.g. pertinent Grand Rounds) during the award year or within one year thereafter,
- Provide updates on progress of research of funded and related projects upon request.
- Acknowledge the Circle of Giving and the OHSU Center for Women's Health as supporters of the funded research project during national and local presentations, lectures, and in publications, and
- Inform the Interim Director of the Center for Women's Health when lecturing, presenting or publishing information concerning the funded research project.

## **Circle of Giving 2021 Award Cycle Deadlines**

Applications Due: January 8, 2021 by 5:00 p.m. PT

Finalists Selected: April, 2021

Circle Granting Meeting: May 12, 2021

## **Contact Information**

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