



Request for Applications | 2022-2023 Academic Year

Through awards to Children's National (CN) Hospital's researchers and providers, CN Global Health Initiative (GHI) aims to support projects addressing key pediatric global health issues, to improve health outcomes in resource-limited settings, and to favorably position CN employees to obtain extramural funding in pediatric global health research. Medical students and volunteers can be listed as additional investigators but both mentor and mentee must be employed by Children's National.

Funding of \$1,000-\$30,000 (over 18 months) will be considered for applications that demonstrate:

1. A research question that is focused, high-impact, and achievable
2. A strong mentorship plan to develop new talent in global health research and/or to develop new intra-institutional partnerships
3. High potential and a detailed plan for securing follow-up extramural research funding

Projects to be considered must be conducted in a **low or middle-income country (LMIC)** on a **pediatric topic of importance** to that country and/or have direct relevance to emerging global threats. Proposals to study a health issue in a developing country that could be studied using a US population are not encouraged. **At least one member of the applicant team must be a Children's National employee.**

Award Categories

GHI will accept applications in the following categories:

1. Trainee Mentoring Award
2. Faculty-to-Faculty Mentoring Award
3. Interdisciplinary Research Award

CN GHI Awards Application and Funding Timeline (2022-2023)

Posted Date	September 15, 2021
Open Date (earliest submission)	September 15, 2021
Open Studios*	October and November 2021
Application Due Date (12pm)	December 1, 2021
Awards Announced (IRB submission begins)	January 2022
Earliest Project Start Date/Funding Available	January 2022
Project Completion Date/Funding Ends	2023

Trainee Mentoring Award Category

Example of a Past Trainee Mentoring Award Project

A 2nd year cardiology fellow worked with her mentor to develop a project studying the ability of non-experts to conduct focused echocardiographic screening for RHD. She spent 6-weeks in Uganda, published a first author paper (BMJ Heart), and was featured on a podcast. Additionally, she supported data collection leading to 2 additional manuscripts for the fellow and faculty mentor. Her data were used to successfully apply for an award from Gift of Life International to study the impact of a RHD support group on normalizing quality of life following RHD diagnosis.

GHI will support research and global health training for residents and fellows by pairing them with an experienced global health investigator (with a track record of extramural funding and global health publication). This award mechanism is targeted towards building research skills in trainees by providing mentoring and a sentinel research experience abroad to kick-start careers in global health. The award aims to facilitate the obtainment of pilot data which is then applied to a larger award application for the trainee and supervising faculty member.

- Trainees may suggest their own mentor.
- Trainees must demonstrate an interest in research in resource-limited settings.
- Trainees must have written support for the project from their residency/fellowship director.
- Trainees should spend 4+ weeks doing on-the-ground research at their project location.
- Trainees must have a local mentor at their project site in addition to their CN mentor.
- Applicants must include a plan for submission of a competitive extramural award application to support ongoing global health research within 12 months of receiving pilot award funding.

Staff to Staff Mentoring Award Category

Example of a Past Staff to Staff Mentoring Award Project

In Homa Bay and Turkana Counties, Kenya, a junior Children's National research staff member with little global health experience partnered with a senior HIV faculty member with extensive global health experience to conduct focus group discussions with adolescents recently diagnosed with HIV. This project augmented a larger existing implementation and research project led by the senior HIV faculty member. The data collected for both led to several presentations and a publication. This research contributed to the development of a toolkit targeted to the care of adolescents living with HIV and is being distributed by EGPAF, UNICEF, and WHO.

GHI supports the development of global health interest among CN faculty and staff through a mechanism that encourages staff-to-staff mentoring by pairing an experienced global health investigator (with a track record of extramural funding and global health publication) with a less experienced, or non-funded, investigator seeking mentorship in collaborative interdisciplinary research. Trainees may be included in the research team, but the focus should be on development of the mentored staff member in global health research.

A staff member who wishes to be mentored must:

- Demonstrate an interest in research in resource-limited settings.
- Have the written support of their division chair for completing the proposed project.
- Find an experienced global health researcher who has a record of significant extramural

funding in global health as a Principal Investigator (PI) who shares scholarly and/or research overlap with the mentee.

- Include a plan for submission of a competitive extramural award application to support ongoing global health research within 12 months of receiving pilot award funding.

Interdisciplinary Research Award Category

Example of a Past Interdisciplinary Research Award Project

In 2019, an experienced infection control researcher designed a program to demonstrate that improving accuracy for hospital-onset infections is feasible in a pediatric intensive care unit in China and can be tailored to individual institutions and locations. Successful program completion together with enthusiasm from local pediatric intensive care staff and support from the local hospitals led to planned program roll-out to more than 20 hospitals in the surrounding area as well as joint grant applications to support continued interdisciplinary research.

GHI supports new collaboration and partnership in global health research across our institution by supporting pairs or teams of interdisciplinary researchers seeking to complete global health research. This award mechanism may be used to obtain pilot data needed for a larger award application.

- All principal investigators must have the written support of their division chair for completion of the proposed project during academic time.
- At least one PI must be a CN employee.
- At least two of the PIs must differ in their discipline and area of expertise.
- Applications must include a plan for submission of a competitive extramural award application to support ongoing global health research within 12 months of receiving pilot award funding.

Application Review Criteria (15 points possible)

1) Significance of the Project to Advance Pediatric Global Health (0-5)

Does the applicant provide a clear background regarding the problem to be studied? What has been done so far? What questions need to be answered? Does the study address a significant pediatric global health problem? Alternatively, could this work be just as easily accomplished working here with a US population and alternative sources of funding?

2) Scientific Merit of the Proposal (0-5)

Are the aim(s) clear, concise, and measurable? Are they feasible given the small award? Are the conceptual or clinical framework, design, methods, and analyses adequately developed, well integrated, well-reasoned, and appropriate for the aims of the project?

3) Opportunity and Plan to Leverage Research for Extramural Funding (0-5)

Do the investigators provide a sound and convincing plan for use of the data/outcomes from this study to seek additional research funding? If the aims of the application are achieved, what is the likelihood that data will contribute to a high quality application for subsequent funding?

Applicant *Open Studio / Conversations with the CN GHI Team

Open Studio workshops are informal discussions facilitated by members of GHI and are designed as a place where those considering applying for the award can discuss their plans and seek feedback and suggestions for application/project improvement.

Please **email Meredith Sherman (msherman@childrensnational.org) to arrange an Open Studio with a GHI team member** who can answer questions, assist with formulation of successful proposals, and stimulate partnerships across the institution.

Applicants are **strongly encouraged** to attend one Open Studio. All past successful grant recipients met with the GHI team prior to application submission.

Requirements for Award Recipients

1. Recipients will meet on a quarterly basis with the GHI research advisory committee to provide an update on project progress.
2. Recipients will provide GHI with a written report of results, outcomes, and benefits produced by this funding award within 30 days of the completion of the project, and all unused funds must be returned to GHI.
3. Recipients will give a seminar or talk on their project work (GHI will coordinate) at a GHI SIG or other such forum.
4. Recipients will provide consented photos, interviews, blog posts, or other materials related to their work to assist GHI with communications about this project.

Any application, abstract, publication, or other product generated from research supported by this funding mechanism must acknowledge CN GHI by name or otherwise as appropriate.



Application | 2022-2023

*Applications should not exceed 5 pages (excluding references, biosketches, & letter(s) of support)
Submit applications as a single PDF file by email to: msherman@childrensnational.org by December 1, 2021 (12pm).*

Award Category *(select one)*

Trainee Mentoring Award

Application should be submitted by mentee

Faculty-to-Faculty Mentoring Award

Application should be submitted by mentee

Interdisciplinary Research Award

Application may be submitted by any team member/investigator

Proposal Title:

Applicant Name(s) and Division(s)/Institution(s):

Project Objectives:

COVID-19 Impact Assessment and Contingency Plan (if applicable):

Project Summary *(3-4 sentences)*

A general description of the research and its relevance to pediatric global health research. Include key methodologies/approaches to be utilized in the proposal in this summary. The information in the summary will be used to identify proposal reviewers with the appropriate expertise and will also serve as a project description to be posted on the GHI website should the project be selected for funding.

Research Plan/Project Description *(up to 2 pages excluding references)*

Include specific aims followed by significance, innovation, approach, and ethical considerations.

Proposed Project Timeline and Milestones

Details of the project timeline beginning with award date March 14, and estimated time to IRB approval.

Local Partnership and Engagement

Describe the site where your project will take place, any local collaboration and support, and the plan for local ethical approval.

Personal Statement *(up to 1 page)*

Submitted by applicant mentee for trainee and mentoring awards and by any investigator(s) for interdisciplinary award. A description of how global health research fits into the applicant(s) academic goals.

For mentee awards please also include:

1. Why you need a mentor.
2. A plan for a meaningful mentoring relationship, including an estimated time commitment from your mentor.

For new interdisciplinary partnerships, please include the structure of this collaboration and the division of responsibilities among investigators.

Plan for Extramural Funding

Describe your plans for future global health research, how this funding mechanism will advance these goals, and your plans for application for extramural funding to support these efforts.

Budget *(up to 1 page)*

Please indicate how much funding you are requesting from this award program (\$1,000-\$30,000). Cannot include salary support for CN staff/faculty/trainees. Travel costs limited to <25% of the full budget. If costs exceed this amount, please provide justification. If other or additional funding exists for this project, please detail those funding sources and amounts as a separate budget.

Applicant(s) Biosketch(es)

Statements of Support

1. Statement of support from involved division chair(s) or program director(s)
2. Mentor statement of support (mentoring awards only)