

# EXPLORATIONS IN GLOBAL HEALTH PILOT AWARDS

This award program funded by the Global Health Initiative (GHI) aims to improve health outcomes in resource-limited settings and favorably position Children's National (CN) employees to obtain extramural funding in pediatric global health research. Projects which address key pediatric global health issues are particularly encouraged. Funding of \$1,000-\$20,000 (over 18 months) will be considered for applications that demonstrate high-impact and achievable aims, a robust mentorship program to develop new global health research talent and/or new intra-institutional partnerships, and a detailed plan for securing follow-up extramural funding.

## AWARD CATEGORIES:

1. Trainee Mentoring
2. Faculty-to-Faculty Mentoring
3. Interdisciplinary Research
4. Capacity Building & Strengthening

## APPLICATION DUE DATE :

Applications Accepted NOW through December 22nd, extensions considered.

## ELIGIBILITY

Projects must be conducted in a low or middle-income country (LMIC) on a pediatric topic of importance to that country and/or address broader pediatric global health challenges. 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. Medical students and volunteers can be listed as additional investigators but both mentor and mentee must be employed by Children's National. It is strongly encouraged that potential applicants meet with the GHI team to discuss their proposed project.

## TRAINEE MENTORING AWARD

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### **Purpose:**

This award allows trainees to cultivate their global health research skills by participating in a mentored sentinel research experience abroad. The award aims to facilitate collection of pilot data which can be used to apply for larger award applications for the trainee and mentor and often kick-starts careers in global health.

- Trainees should pair with a mentor who is an experienced global health investigator with a record of extramural funding and global health publications. The trainee project should be executed within an existing framework of a global health research program/project enabling the trainee to focus on the project itself rather than the logistics of establishing a new program.
- Trainees must demonstrate an interest in research in resource-limited settings.
- Trainees must have written support for the project from their residency director/fellowship director.
- Trainees should spend 3+ 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 18 months of completion of pilot award funding.

## **FACULTY-TO-FACULTY MENTORING AWARD**

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### **Purpose:**

This award aims to foster the development of global health opportunities among CN faculty and staff through staff-to-staff mentoring. 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 collaborative mentorship, enables junior researchers to learn while executing a project. Trainees may be included in the research team but the focus must be on the global health development of the mentored staff member.

- **Demonstrate an interest in research in resource-limited settings.**
- **Have written support by 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 completion of pilot award funding.**

## INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH AWARD

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### **Purpose:**

This award mechanism's aim is to build capacity internally through support of new collaborations and partnerships in global health research across our institution. Ideally, this award mechanism would be used by a pair or team of interdisciplinary researchers to obtain pilot data needed for a larger award or joint grant applications to support the continued interdisciplinary research.

- 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. For example, one PI may be a PhD involved in research and the other may be an RN involved in clinical care and research.
- Applications must include a plan for submission of a competitive extramural award application to support ongoing global health research within 12 months of completion of pilot award funding.

## CAPACITY BUILDING & STRENGTHENING

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### **Purpose:**

The aim of this award is to encourage CN staff to develop collaborative, meaningful, and ethical partnership networks to build and strengthen pediatric medical educational and research capacity in LMIC.

This project should be designed in collaboration with a partner site where there is an existing relationship between CN or the CN staff member. This project can include systems strengthening, quality improvement, medical education, research education, or other programs/projects tailored to the specific needs of the site.

- At least one PI must be a CN employee. The other PI should be from the partner site.
  - A measure of improvement/outcome should be included in the project/program design.
  - All principal investigators from CN must have the written support of their division chair for completion of the proposed project during academic time.
  - Applications must include a plan for continued collaboration and follow up as well as potential future funding sources after the completion of the 18 month period of the award date.
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## APPLICATION REVIEW CRITERIA

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

- Does the applicant provide a clear background regarding the problem to be studied?
- Has the same topic been studied already in a similar context to proposed project?
- Will the proposed research help fill knowledge gaps in the applicable subject area?
- Does the study address a significant pediatric global health problem?
- Could this work be just as easily accomplished working here with a US population and alternative sources of funding?

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

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

### Opportunity & Plan to Leverage Research for Extramural Funding (0-5)

- If the aims of the application are achieved, what is the likelihood that data will contribute to a high quality application for subsequent funding?
  - Do the investigators provide a sound and convincing plan for use of the data/ outcomes from this study to seek additional research funding?
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## APPLICATION REVIEW CRITERIA FOR CAPACITY BUILDING & STRENGTHENING

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### Significance of the Project to Advance Pediatric Global Health through Capacity Building & Strengthening (0-5)

- Does the applicant provide a clear background regarding the need for the proposed project/activity?
  - Is there a similar project/activity already occurring in the proposed location? Would the proposed project add redundancy?
  - Will the proposed project build capacity and/or strengthen pediatric medical educational and/or research capacity in LMIC?
  - Does the project address a significant pediatric global health issue?
  - Does the project prioritize collaboration between the local site/institution and Children's National Hospital?
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### Design of the Project/Activity (0-5)

- Are the project/activity aim(s) clear & concise? Is there a plan to measure improvement or follow specific outcome measures?
  - Are the project/activity aim(s) feasible given the award amount?
  - Is the project framework adequately developed and appropriate for the aims of the project?
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### Continued Collaboration and Follow Up (0-5)

- Is there a plan outlined for continued collaboration with the partner site?
  - Did the applicant include possible future funding to improve the longer term sustainability of the project?
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## REQUIREMENTS FOR AWARD RECIPIENTS

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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 Children's National Global Health Initiative by name or otherwise as appropriate.**

**PLEASE SUBMIT APPLICATIONS TO:**

**CGOLITKO@CHILDRENS NATIONAL.ORG; GHI@CHILDRENS NATIONAL.ORG**



# GLOBAL HEALTH INITIATIVE EXPLORATIONS IN GLOBAL HEALTH PILOT AWARD 2025-2026 APPLICATION

## 2025-2026 APPLICATION

Applications should not exceed 5 pages (excluding references, biosketches, & letter(s) of support). Submit applications as a single PDF file by email to: [cgolitko@childrensnational.org](mailto:cgolitko@childrensnational.org); [ghi@childrensnational.org](mailto:ghi@childrensnational.org)

### Award Category:

- 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 a team member
- Capacity Building & Strengthening - application should be submitted by CN staff

### Proposal Title:

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

### Project Objectives:

**Project Summary:** *(3-4 sentences) A general description of the research or capacity building project and its relevance to pediatric global health. 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.*

**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 and estimated time to IRB approval as well as project start date and estimated completion date.*

**Local Partnership and Engagement:** *Describe the site where your project will take place, details of local collaboration and support, and the plan for local ethical approval.*

# GLOBAL HEALTH INITIATIVE EXPLORATIONS IN GLOBAL HEALTH PILOT AWARD 2025-2026 APPLICATION

## **Personal Statement:** *(up to 1 page)*

*Submitted by applicant mentee for trainee and mentoring awards and by any investigator(s) for interdisciplinary award and capacity building & strengthening. 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 /Plan for continued collaboration if capacity building & strengthening:**

*Describe your plans for future global health research, how this funding mechanism will advance these goals, your plans for application for extramural funding to support these efforts and/or plan for continued collaboration if capacity building & strengthening.*

## **Budget:** *(up to 1 page)*

*Please indicate how much funding you are requesting from this award program (\$1,000-\$25,000).*

*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.*

## **Statements of Support**

- 1. Statement of support from involved division chair(s) or program director(s)*
- 2. Mentor statement of support (mentoring awards only)*
- 3. Letter of Support from local PI (capacity building & strengthening award)*