

Interdisciplinary Research Leaders

A Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Change Leadership Program

2016 Call for Applications
Informational Webinar
March 16, 2016



Webinar Overview

- Learn about RWJF's Culture of Health vision and new Change Leadership programs
 - Read more at: www.rwjf.org/changeleaders
- Understand the new Interdisciplinary Research Leaders program and the 2016 funding opportunity
- Understand the application process
 - Call for Applications is available at: <http://interdisciplinaryresearch-leaders.org>
- Opportunity to ask questions

Moderator:
Karen Laumb
Laumb Consulting



Presenters



Nancy Fishman
Senior Program Officer
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Michael Oakes
Director, Interdisciplinary
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IRL Associate Director
3 Human Capital Development



Andriana Abariotes
Executive Director
Twin Cities-LISC



Ezra Golberstein
IRL Associate Director
Research



Culture of Health

A National Movement: Building a Culture of Health

- Create a society where every person has an equal opportunity to live the healthiest life they can; equity matters
- Embrace a more integrated, comprehensive approach to health
- Requires unprecedented collaboration with everyone playing a role

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Blazing the Path: Change Leadership

- Visionary leaders bridging health care and nonmedical factors that influence health
- Leaders who embrace change, adapt and innovate in rapidly evolving landscape
- Networks of leaders across sectors, professions, perspectives
- Engaged champions well-positioned to move the nation toward a Culture of Health

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Seeking Leaders Who...

- Prioritize health equity, diversity, and inclusion
- Work collaboratively across sectors
- Embrace lifelong learning, complexity, and risk-taking
- Want to have real impact
- Are ready to take their leadership and influence to the next level

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New RWJF Change Leadership Programs

- Health Policy Research Scholars
- Culture of Health Leaders
- Clinical Scholars
- **Interdisciplinary Research Leaders**
- Visit www.rwjf.org/changeleaders for a summary of these new RWJF programs and links to the program websites

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Interdisciplinary Research Leaders

Interdisciplinary Research Leaders

- A groundbreaking program supporting teams of research and community leaders to do catalytic, collaborative, and impactful research
 - Connect communities and researchers
 - True collaboration is essential
 - Develop leadership skills to enhance impact
 - Attract and cultivate new, diverse, leaders



Program Partners



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Activating Teams of Researchers and Community Change Agents

- Three-year program for teams of fellows
- Equipping teams with advanced leadership skills and a clear focus on action for health equity
- Create leaders in research: both researchers and community partners to lead research
- The IRL is **both** a “training” and research program

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Program Elements

- Teamwork
- Leadership training
- Curriculum for policy, equity, research methods
- Interdisciplinary collaboration
- Community-engaged action research
- Cohort-specific research topic areas
- Collaboration with all four programs and RWJF
- Active alumni

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Time Commitment

- Spend about 1 day per week on IRL activities
 - Weekly webinars (sharing and learning)
 - Online discussion groups
 - Within and between team/program collaboration
 - Research project
- A few in-person meetings per year

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Dedicated Cohort

- Annual cohorts
- Each cohort will enroll 15-20 teams
- Teams are 2 mid-career researchers and 1 community leader
- No relocation: Complete program from home institution through sophisticated online platform

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Robust Support

- \$25,000 annual stipend per person per year
- One-time research project grants of about \$100,000
- Travel expenses paid

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Who is a Mid-Career Researcher?

- Difficult to define
- Someone with experience doing excellent research
- Perhaps ~4 years post PhD and not retiring within 8 years
- No graduate or post-doctoral students or trainees
- All researchers much be mid-career: no averaging

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Community Partner?

- Difficult to define
- Someone who works in and for communities
- Community partners may work in a variety of organizational settings, as long as their experience and expertise is germane to the proposed research project
- Community partners are to be and/or become research leaders

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Program Experience



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Summary of Eligibility Criteria

See full criteria listing in Call for Applications

- Apply as a team of 3 persons
- Researchers from different disciplinary and/or methodological backgrounds
- Applicants must be U.S. citizens, permanent residents, or individuals granted DACA status at the time of application
- Research grants must be awarded to an organization based in the U.S. or its territories that is either a public entity or nonprofit organization that is tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3)
- Individual candidates for receipt of award funds must not be receiving support from other research fellowships/traineeships at the time they begin the program

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Summary of Selection Criteria

**See full criteria listing in Call for Applications*

- Researchers are excellent, interdisciplinary, and diverse
- Capacity and desire to become leaders in advancing population health and health equity at local and national levels
- A compelling vision for how the research and community partners will work together equitably and collaboratively
- A preliminary research proposal that has strong potential to inform policy or action at local and/or national level
- Demonstrated expertise in research and/or community concerns

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Selection Process

- Selection committee of program leadership, external consultants, IRL national advisory committee (NAC), and RWJF staff
- Semifinalists will be invited for online team interviews
- IRL staff and IRL NAC make funding recommendations
- RWJF makes the final funding decisions

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Community Partners

Community-based Partners

Built Environment



- Housing
- Facilities
- Infrastructure
- Amenities

Economic Opportunity



- Jobs
- Small Business
- Asset Building
- Financial Coaching

Human Capital



- Education
- Early Childhood
- Workforce Training

Social Capital



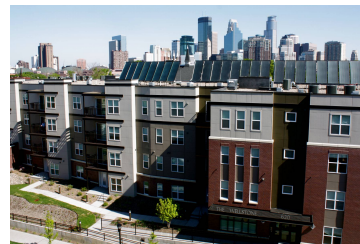
- Engagement
- Organizing
- Civic Participation





Value of IRL to Communities

- Neighborhood-level action is meaningful to how communities develop, but research often episodic or driven from outside.
- Community partners making impacts, but often don't have tools or research partnerships to build evidence.
- Social determinants of health framework has initiated partnerships with health care and public health, but more research needed.
- Research skills and utilization desired by communities, but needs to be co-created and a cross-learning agenda.



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Case Example

- Nonprofit community development organization engaged in listening sessions with residents and developed broad vision for the neighborhood
- Created 200+ units of affordable housing
- Developed youth leadership programs for residents and surrounding neighbors
- Desire for deeper analysis and building evidence of impact
- Research Opportunities: Qualitative data gathering about what health and wellness means to a community; or evaluating the impact of stable housing, resident services, and community engagement
- Potential Actions: strengthening case with funders, policymakers; helping foster integrated funding streams; scaling strategies

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Human Capital Development

Program Experience



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Curriculum Areas

- **Leadership for Change** – Cultivating research and community leaders, with an emphasis on how leaders can create change to promote health equity and social justice
- **Policy and Communication** – Providing a thorough understanding of the policy process and how to communicate research to achieve policy objectives
- **Collaboration and Connection** – Facilitating effective research-community partnerships that collaborate across diverse disciplines and sectors, in both virtual and in-person contexts, and in accordance with the highest principles of ethical partnerships
- **Research Rigor** – Ensuring teams have the skills and capacity to conduct qualitative and quantitative research that is rigorous and scientifically sound

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Curriculum Delivery and Application

- Hybrid model of delivery
 - Eight in-person sessions over three years
 - RWJF Fall Institute (September)
 - Annual IRL meeting in Minnesota (November)
 - Washington, DC meeting (Year 1 and Year 3, spring)
 - Flexible, online courses
 - Regular webinars for learning and professional development
 - Targeted mentoring
- Goal is application of each of the 4 skill areas into the research project planning, coordination, communication, implementation, translation, and impact

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Action Research

Research Projects

- Should focus on issues for which there is clear potential for action and change
- May be qualitative or quantitative
- Should be methodologically rigorous and properly scaled for a two-year study time frame and budget constraints
- May be case studies; evaluations of interventions; experiments; financial, economic, or cost-effectiveness studies; health impact assessments; legal analyses; natural experiments; policy analyses; existing data analyses; qualitative/ethnographic investigations or other action-oriented designs

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Program Experience



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Research Topic Areas

- IRL aims to support a variety of types of research projects, study populations, and research disciplines, provided the research is:
 - Action-oriented, community-engaged, policy-relevant
- Each IRL cohort will be organized around topic areas defined in the call for applications
 - IRL teams work within their topic area for the entirety of their fellowship
 - All IRL teams will interact with each other, regardless of their topic area
 - Cohort 1 topic areas
 - Early Childhood and Health
 - Housing, Community Development and Health
 - Future cohort topic areas to be developed and released over time

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Topic Area 1: Early Childhood and Health

- Increased understanding that the early childhood period is key for health and well-being throughout life
- Early childhood health is important; so are other social, emotional, developmental, and educational outcomes
- IRL program aims to support research that will improve these outcomes and reduce gaps between more- and less-advantaged populations
- Research projects need not directly address a health outcome in early childhood, but must at least address early childhood outcomes linked to health
- Early childhood: birth through age 8

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Topic Area 2: Housing, Community Development, and Health

- Housing, neighborhoods, and communities can play a major role in promoting population health and health equity
- IRL program aims to support research into improving housing stability, housing quality, community engagement, and economic development
- How can community-driven action be harnessed to improve equity?
- Research projects in this topic area need not directly address a health outcome, but should address the outcome's role as a social determinant of health

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[More Details on Applications](#)

How to Apply

- Each team of three individuals will submit one application
- Applications must be submitted through the RWJF online system
- Applicants must follow the instructions and use the templates provided in the RWJF online system
- There are two phases in this funding process:
 - Phase I: Fellowship program applications from teams (due **April 19, 2016**).
 - Short individual essay from each team member
 - Team research essay
 - Team collaboration statement
 - Biographical sketch from each team member
 - Budget narrative for the \$25,000 stipend, submitted by each team member
 - Optional appendices
 - Phase II: Research grant funding proposals from teams (if invited, due **December 8, 2016**). Additional information will be provided to teams invited submit a proposal for Phase II.

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RWJF Online Application System http://my.rwjf.org

Interdisciplinary Research Leaders
2016 Call for Applications ID: 43782 Print Application

NOTICE Close

Informational Webinars
We will host informational webinars for interested applicants on February 25, 2016 from 1-2 p.m. ET and on Wednesday, March 16, 2016, from 3-4 p.m. ET. For additional information registration, select the "Informational Webinars" link to the left.

Welcome to the online system for the Interdisciplinary Research Leaders program.

- You may submit your Application until the deadline on April 19, 2016 at 3 p.m. ET.
- Complete the sections shown below (in any order) to provide information for your fellowship application. Once all required information has been provided, the "Submit" button shown below to the right will become available.
- Finalist teams will be notified in mid-July 2016.

Deadline: Apr 19, 2016 03:00 PM ET 35 days remaining Submit

Status	Section	Description
<input type="radio"/>	Eligibility Criteria	Review the eligibility criteria and indicate whether all applicant team members meet these conditions.
<input type="radio"/>	Team Member Contact Information	Provide contact information for the three team members.
<input type="radio"/>	Project Summary	Provide project summary information.
<input type="radio"/>	Project Information Questions	As appropriate, please respond to the questions listed.
<input type="radio"/>	Individual & Team Essays	Provide essays for the proposed project.
<input type="radio"/>	Budget Narratives	Provide a detailed budget narrative for each team member.
<input type="radio"/>	Supporting Documents	Provide supporting documents for your proposal.

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2016 Timeline

DATE	EVENT
February 22	Call for applications opens
March 16 (3–4 p.m. ET)	Webinar for prospective applicants to learn more
April 19 (3 p.m. ET)	Applications due
April 29–May 13	Applications reviewed
May 23–June 24	Applicant interviews
June 26–July 1	Selection meetings
mid-July	Finalists selected
September 1	Program begins
September 26–28	Required in-person RWJF Cross-Program Fall Institute meeting (likely in Princeton, NJ)
November 16–18	Required in-person Interdisciplinary Research Leaders meeting (Minneapolis, Minn.)

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Questions?

- We will now take questions from webinar participants
- Enter your question in the chat box on your computer screen
- We will sort and select questions of general interest
- Your name and institution will not be identified
- If we don't get to all of the questions today, we will follow up after the webinar with individual responses via email

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Applicant Questions

What are the expectations of the community-based partner?

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Applicant Questions

Would mental health research be eligible for funding under this call for application?

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Applicant Questions

I would like to apply to the IRL program but do not have an existing team. Will help be provided in forming teams?

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Thank You

- Thank you for participating today
- This webinar will be archived on the program website next week
- Visit interdisciplinaryresearch-leaders.org
 - Sign up for program updates and funding alerts
 - Link to the call for applications
- Contact us at ResearchLeaders@umn.edu
- Follow us on Twitter [@IRLeaders](https://twitter.com/IRLeaders)

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