Overview:
The Women & Children’s Health Research Institute (WCHRI) is pleased to announce a seed grant funding award. This opportunity is an extension of a previous Seed Funding grant, offered by the Department of Pediatrics. Through generous support from the Stollery Children’s Hospital Foundation, the Royal Alexandra Hospital Foundation and the Department of Pediatrics, we have been able to expand the scope of this award, and broaden its application.

This grant competition is intended to foster clinical and educational research in the Stollery Children’s Hospital and Lois Hole Hospital for Women that would be immediately relevant, or rapidly translatable, towards improved health outcomes for children and women.

Grants will be up to $15,000 for a one year term, and competitions will be held twice annually (Fall and Spring) pending the availability of funds. This initiative is designed to encourage a research integrated hospital environment by engaging a variety of care providers in clinical research. For some applicants, this opportunity may be their first foray into research processes, and support is available through WCHRI. Applicants will have the opportunity to respond to reviewer comments and resubmit in the following round if funding is not approved following their first submission.

Eligibility:
All principal investigator applicants must be academic members of WCHRI, and eligible to hold research funds according to the UAPPOL policy: https://policiesonline.ualberta.ca/PoliciesProcedures/Policies/Eligibility-to-Apply-for-and-Hold-Research-Funding-Policy.pdf

Those who do not meet the above criteria may apply as co-investigators or collaborators along with a principal applicant who meets the criteria. Front line care providers, from all children’s or women’s health disciplines, are especially encouraged to participate, as this grant opportunity is specifically aimed at promoting outcome-relevant research.

Scope:
Funding for this competition is provided by the Stollery Children’s Hospital Foundation, the Royal Alexandra Hospital Foundation and the Department of Pediatrics. It is expected that applications will be limited to investigators who have a clear association with or within the Stollery Children’s Hospital or the Lois Hole Hospital for Women where research results would be implemented. Applications must align with WCHRI’s mandate.

Intent:
1. To promote an environment whereby health providers can identify evidence gaps in care for women and children, and feel empowered to apply for seed funding to conduct clinical research aimed at addressing those gaps. Individuals or team members who are new to research are especially encouraged to participate
2. To facilitate applications containing a clear pathway for translation of results to the clinical (hospital or community) and/or educational setting
3. To support high quality research with an opportunity to affect the care of women and children (beyond publications, conferences, etc.). Resources are available within WCHRI to help
4. To encourage research on the safety and efficacy of treatments used in children and women
5. To support pilot studies with the potential of leading to future external grant applications
6. To strongly encourage applications containing patient involvement
7. To achieve best practices in health care and education
8. To encourage educational innovation and research aimed at improving clinical student and postgraduate education
9. Projects should have the potential to directly impact the care provided to our patients either from the perspective of improving care or reducing harm through innovative applied research and/or education
10. Career basic or clinical researchers are encouraged to apply in collaboration with clinical colleagues with a view towards ‘bridging’ discovery research with front line translational workers.

**Application Criteria:**
Applicants must provide the following information:

- A clear statement indicating how the application fulfills the intent of the Seed Funding Opportunity.
- A clear and concise outline of the proposed project, including background, specific aims, and methodologies to be used.
- A clear statement outlining the anticipated outcomes and relevance/impacts.
- A clear statement outlining the plan for Knowledge Translation and/or next steps (i.e.: future grant applications, impacts on health policy, etc).
- A budget including justification.
  - A listing of all or any additional funding that is available to the principal or co-investigators.
  - A statement of overlap of funding, and a clear explanation regarding how funds will be used.

For additional details and page lengths, see the Application Checklist in the following section.

The Review Committee will **NOT** accept incomplete applications, and reserves the right to triage applications that do not meet the above purpose and eligibility criteria. However, feedback will be given to all applicants, and resubmission is encouraged after the review committee concerns or suggestions have been addressed.

**Review Process and Criteria:**
Funding requests will be adjudicated by a peer review committee of broad composition. Strategic review will be based on the above criteria as well as alignment with WCHRI’s vision/goals. These criteria may include assessing if the applications:

- Provide high quality research that supports evidence-based practice;
- Produce outcomes that have a direct and clear impact on health;
- Bring significant and measureable improvements to the health and well being of women and children locally, and perhaps beyond;
- Translate knowledge for the purpose of providing the best health outcomes and clinical practice guidelines;
- Applications involving systematic reviews or applied research are welcome, so long as the outcomes are clinically translatable;
- Are feasible for the budget and timeframe proposed.

**Application Deadline:** November 10, 2014

**Funding Envelope:** Applicants may request up to $15,000 for a one year term. There is no minimum request. One-year extensions may be granted by WCHRI following an annual progress report and request for extension. Only one extension will be allowed. A principal investigator may apply for one grant per cycle, and receive a maximum of one grant per year.
Anticipated Funding Decision Notification: January, 2014

Outcomes and Reporting:
A final report is required by WCHRI and must include a narrative of overall research program outcomes and/or impacts. This is important to provide a record of achievements and for communications with our donors.

Contact:
If you have any questions regarding the grant, please contact Dr. Lorin Charlton, WCHRI Academic Research Officer, at lorin.charlton@ualberta.ca, or Marni Devlin Moses, Research Development Lead, Department of Pediatrics, at marni.devlinmoses@ualberta.ca. Further program information can be found on the WCHRI website at www.wchri.org.
APPLICATION CHECKLIST

PI NAME _________________________________________________

COLLABORATORS ________________________________________

CHECKLIST

☐ 2 ½ pages (max) summary of project including:
  o A description of the project for which funding is requested
  o Relevance to women or children’s health
  o Clear hypothesis and objectives, methodology and anticipated outcomes.
  o A knowledge translation plan
  o Statement related to importance and feasibility of project to knowledge transfer and potential for immediate impact to patient care
  o Please include references for your proposal (not included in the 2 ½ pages)
    ▪ References should be up to date and constitute a thorough review of the literature

☐ A detailed justification for personnel and other budget items that are being requested (½ page) – see template in application form

☐ Summary of all other funding (internal and external) available to support PI and Co-PI’s research program, including fellowships, graduate students, gifts, endowments, etc.
  ▪ Indicate any overlap in funding

☐ 2 – page Abbreviated CV or including:
  ▪ All Publications in the last 5 years (Chapters, Abstracts, Peer Reviewed and non-Peer Reviewed Manuscripts/ Submitted Manuscripts
  ▪ Knowledge Translation Activities including presentations (Invited or Conference)

☐ Letters of support from collaborators and co-investigators indicating agreement to collaborate as appropriate.

☐ Project start dates will occur following the receipt of ethical approval, and within 6 months of notification of grant approval. In circumstances where this has not occurred, extension is possible following approval by the WCHRI Academic Research Officer.