



## **Funding Opportunity Announcement: CHARM Equitable Implementation Science Core Microgrant for Partnership Building in Pursuit of Implementation Research to End the HIV Epidemic**

### **CHARM Mission**

The Center for HIV and Research in Mental Health (CHARM) at the University of Miami aims to catalyze mental health and HIV science with the over-arching theme of promoting, developing, and supporting high-impact, high-quality, community-engaged HIV research addressing mental health and related disparities as a scientific, strategic, and mentoring resource to end the HIV epidemic.

### **Description**

The CHARM Equitable Implementation Science Core is accepting applications for microgrants to support the development of partnerships between investigators and implementers (i.e., people – including community partners – who are responsible for or involved in the delivery of HIV/MH services in the community) to lay the groundwork for *future* equitable implementation research in HIV and mental health. Applications can come from either the investigator or the implementing partner. **Microgrants are specifically for supporting partnership building activities only. Specifically, the purpose of the microgrant is to build a new relationship (i.e., one that is not already established) between a researcher and an implementer (e.g. direct service provider or leader at an organization that provides direct services in the field of HIV/MH). Proposals to conduct research (e.g., surveys, focus groups, intervention evaluation, etc.) will not be reviewed, as research activities are not supported under this microgrant.** Examples of activities that are appropriate to support under this mechanism are listed below (not comprehensive):

- Protecting time for the investigator or the partner to engage in partnership building.
- Investigators attending staff / organizational meetings at the implementation partners' site.
- The implementation partner attending lab meetings at the investigator's site.
- Forming a community advisory board or a community-scientific advisory board.
- Establishing regular mentoring meetings between the partners.

### **Applicant Eligibility**

Applications from researchers/investigators from the CHARM network (University of Miami, NSU Florida, FIU, FSU) will be limited to early-stage investigators, as defined by NIH: *“A Program Director / Principal Investigator who has completed their terminal research degree or end of post-graduate clinical training within the past 10 years and who has not previously competed successfully as PD/PI for a substantial NIH independent research award.”*

Applications from any implementation partner involved in the delivery of HIV/mental health services in South Florida *outside* of University of Miami/University of Miami Health System will be accepted.

If you are unsure of your eligibility, please contact Araceli Garcia ([axg6042@miami.edu](mailto:axg6042@miami.edu)).

This microgrant is a one-year award (no cost extensions will not be given) of \$5,000 to be spent within the following allowable expenses and should be shared equitably between the two partners:

- Effort for the investigator (given the small size of the award, this can be for a brief period during the award or longer as feasible).
- A consultant fee for the partner
- Reimbursement of miles or other local travel for meetings
- Scheduling meetings
- Organizing a workshop or seminar
- Participating in a conference with partner and UM investigator
- Engaging in various program planning tasks
- *Costs for research activities (e.g., participant payments, etc.) will not be allowed as this microgrant does not support research activities*

### Application Instructions

If you are interested in being considered, please submit the following application, along with a letter of support from your partner indicating that they are agreeing to participate in the partnership building activities described in the application. The partner also must indicate that they agree to the budget. The deadline for applications is August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 5:00 pm EST. We anticipate making the notice of awards by October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024.

Completed applications will be one compiled PDF following the naming convention “Last Name\_Microgrant\_2024” and include the following:

- Application (see next page)
- Letter of support from partner
- Budget and brief justification (note that although this is a one-year award, funds can be spent in less than one year)

Please send completed applications to Araceli Garcia ([axg6042@miami.edu](mailto:axg6042@miami.edu)) with the subject line “EIS Microgrant Application” by the deadline of August 30<sup>th</sup>.

### Important Dates

Call for Submissions Posted	April 5 <sup>th</sup> , 2024
Application Deadline	August 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2024
Award Notifications	October 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 2024
Tentative Award Period	February 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2025 – January 31 <sup>st</sup> 2026

### Progress Reporting

To allow tracking of the progress and success of each project, awardees will be required to submit brief progress report at six months and final report at 12 months. Recipients are highly encouraged to participate and present in the annual CHARM Research in Progress (RIP) meeting to present their accomplishments, discuss their next steps, highlight the importance of this new established partnership, and received feedback from the CHARM investigators.

### Core Usage

We strongly encourage applicants to use the CHARM resources during the application process, as well as following award. CHARM can also assist with identifying a research partner (if you are an implementer) or implementation partner (if you are a researcher) to apply to this grant with. CHARM is comprised of 4 primary cores that may be contacted for assistance depending on the specific needs. This includes:

**Mental Health Disparities Core** – provides consultation on community engagement and culturally appropriate interventions approaches for research projects.

**Methods Core** – provides assistance with study analysis, navigate statistical challenges.

**Development Core** – pairs applications with mentors, develop a mentoring plan, provides feedback prior to submitting pilot award applications.

**Equitable Implementation Science Core** – provide consultations on implementation science components of research projects.

To access these resources, please visit the [CHARM website](#) for more information. Upon review of each consultation, applicants will be linked to Cores best suited for their needs.

For questions regarding CHARM resources, please contact us at: [charm@miami.edu](mailto:charm@miami.edu)



## CHARM 2024 Microgrant Application

Application Instructions: Only one application per partnership is needed, applicant can be either a researcher or an implementer. Reminder, implementer should be someone outside the UM system. For any eligibility questions, please contact EIS Core Coordinator Araceli Garcia [axg6042@miami.edu](mailto:axg6042@miami.edu)

Applicant Name:

Type of applicant (investigator or implementer):

Partner Name:

Type of partner (investigator or implementer):

1. Please describe your overall research goals (if you are a researcher who is applying) or program goals (if you are an implementation partner who is applying) (300 words or less).
2. Please describe the partnership you are seeking to build through this microgrant. Describe why this partnership is appropriate for your goals and expected outcomes. (300 words or less):
3. What are the expected outcomes you seek to achieve via this microgrant? What specific activities will be done to achieve these expected outcomes? Remember that conducting a research study is *NOT* the purpose of this grant; deliverables must be related to partnership building (300 words or less):
4. Please provide a brief justification of your budget: