
CHARM's Newsletter: July Issue

From CHARM <charm@miami.edu>

Date Wed 7/1/2026 1:59 PM

To CHARM <charm@listserv.miami.edu>



CHARM

Wednesday, July 1, 2026 · 6 min read

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CHARM's Newsletter: July Issue

A graphic for the "FABULOUSNESS CORNER" section. It features a white background with two red curtains on the left and right sides. Two stage spotlights, one on each curtain, shine a yellow beam of light towards the center. The text "FABULOUSNESS CORNER" is written in a bold, red, sans-serif font in the center, illuminated by the spotlights.

FABULOUSNESS CORNER



This summer, multiple **CHARM team members** shared their research at conferences across the country, highlighting the innovative work being conducted by members of our center. We congratulate all of our presenters and thank them for their contributions to science!



July 15th, 2026 2pm

Pharmacy PEP Talk: Transforming Pharmacy-Based HIV Prevention Implementation

Join us for a remote research in progress meeting where **Dr. Mae Tidd** will present on implementing pharmacy based HIV prevention.

Research in Progress Meetings are a forum where researchers can solicit feedback and discuss research ideas, study design and implementation, results, and dissemination with fellows, clinicians, community members, implementers and senior HIV researchers and biostatisticians.

Click [here](#) to join.

Questions? Contact **Rosana Smith Alvarez Chinigo** (13rsmith@med.miami.edu)

July 29, 2026 6:30pm-8:00pm

CHARMing Conversations: Religion & HIV

Save the date for the upcoming **CHARMing Conversations** where panelists will explore the intersection of religion and HIV. **Community Advisory Board (CAB)** members will be joined by religious leaders who dually serve as HIV advocates to share perspectives on how faith shapes experiences of HIV.

Further details will be shared soon.

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

Pharmacy PEP Talk: Transforming Pharmacy- Based HIV Prevention Implementation

Wed, July 15, 2026 2:00 PM



Mae Tidd, PhD
Associate Scientist
University of Miami



MHD-CE CORE

SAVE THE DATE! CHARMing Conversations: Religion & HIV

Wednesday, July 29th 6:30-8:00 PM



Join us for a meaningful panel discussion exploring the intersection of religion and HIV. CAB members will be joined by religious leaders who dually serve as HIV advocates to share perspectives on how faith shapes experiences of HIV.

October 27th & 28th, 2026

Florida HIV CPR Conference

Tampa, FL

The Florida HIV CPR conference seeks to bring together community members, providers, and researchers to network with colleagues and peers, learn about ongoing and current research initiatives throughout the state and create synergy amongst the attendees for potential future collaborative research projects.

Visit cprconference.org to learn more.

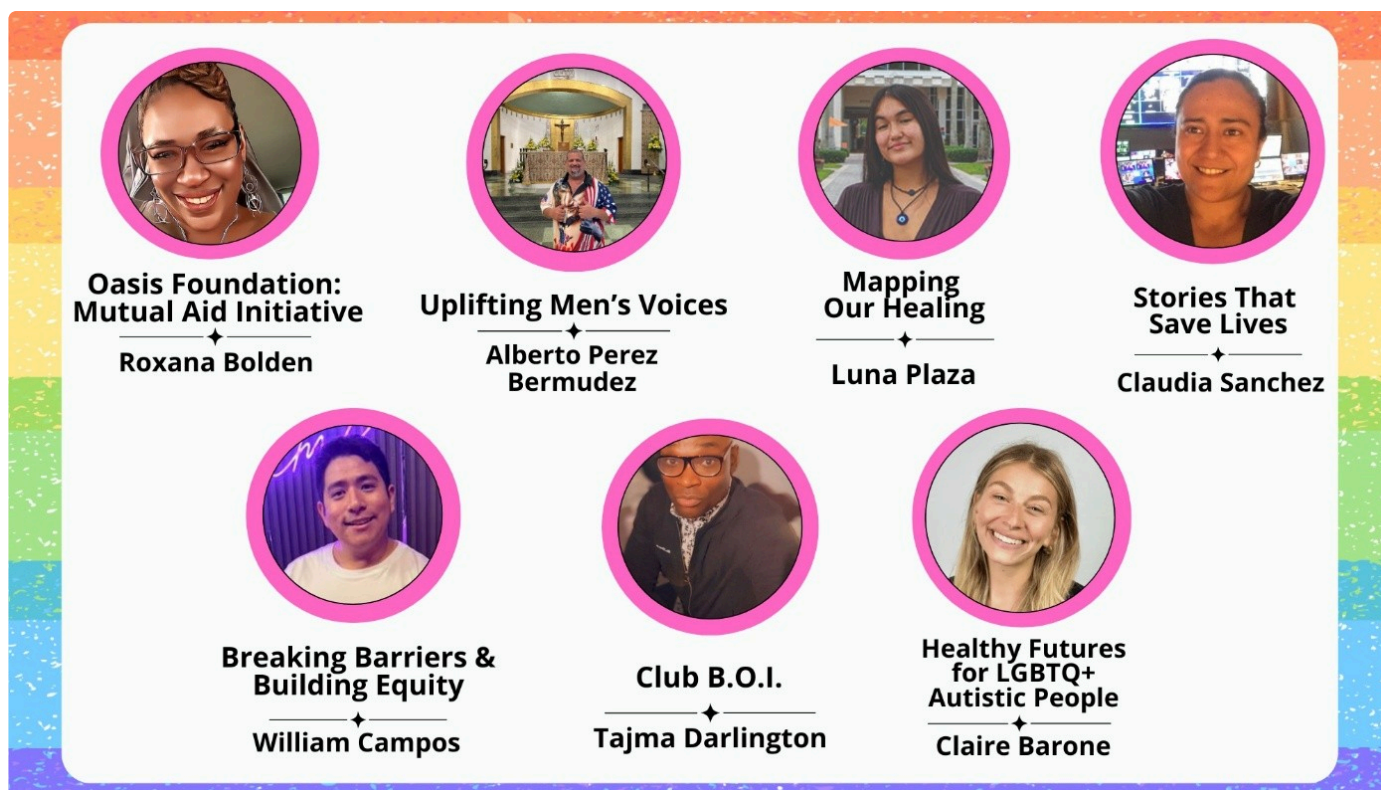


CHARM Awards & Opportunities



CHARM MHD-CE Core Presents the 2026 Community Microgrant & Pilot Award Awardees

Stay tuned for video presentations of their projects!



Deadline EXTENDED!

New deadline to apply: July 17, 2026

Applications are open for the **2026-2027 EIS Core Boutique Mentoring Program!** Selected mentees will meet with their "EIS mentoring pods," to work toward obtaining funding in EIS, prepare for scientific publications with an EIS focus, and build an independent research program in EIS.

Eligible applicants are Early Stage Investigators who work in HIV and Mental Health, are from a CHARM affiliated institution (UM, FIU, UCF, FSU), will be able to meet every month for a calendar year (Sept. 2026-August 2027), and are looking to apply for an EIS focused grant.

Pre-doctoral trainees (e.g., PhD students) are not eligible to apply.

Questions? Contact **Alex Porras** (axp2629@miami.edu).

Scan the **QR code** or [click here](#) to apply.

E. IMPLEMENTATION SCIENCE CORE

Boutique Mentoring Program

APPLICATIONS OPEN!
DUE JULY 17TH

EIS mentoring pods for guided support, focusing on K- and R-level funding, publications, and independent EIS research

SCAN ME





For more information or questions, please contact EIS Core Coordinator **Alex Porras** (axp2629@miami.edu)

Nominations are OPEN!

Deadline to submit: August 14, 2026

The **CHARM Superlative Awards** are \$500 awards for outstanding individuals making a difference in the South Florida HIV community. The available awards include the **Tyson Cash Community Healer Award**, **Meryl James Voices for the Voiceless Award**, and the **Brenda C. Wilmont Resilience Award**.

Scan the **QR code** or **[click here](#)** below to nominate someone or yourself!

Questions? Contact **Meadgine Ilmet** (mfi13@miami.edu)



CHARM
Center for HIV and Health in South Florida

SUPERLATIVE AWARDS

These \$500 awards honor outstanding individuals making a difference in the South Florida HIV community.

Know someone who deserves recognition?
Nominate them today! Self-nominations are accepted.

Available Awards:

- ✓ Tyson Cash Community Healer Award
- ✓ Meryl James Voice for the Voiceless Award
- ✓ Brenda C. Wilmont Resilience Award

To nominate someone, use the QR Code or link:

Due Aug 14th at 5 PM



<https://tinyurl.com/charmsuperlativeawards>

CONTACT US

Reach out to Meadgine Ilmet at mfi13@miami.edu for questions.



Featured Publications

Data Harmonization Within the Clinical Trials Network: Strengths, Challenges, & Opportunities in the Era of Generative AI

This commentary summarizes the benefits of harmonized data, describes solutions to challenges, provides recommendations, outlines guiding principles for data management, and reflects on the promise of generative AI tools.

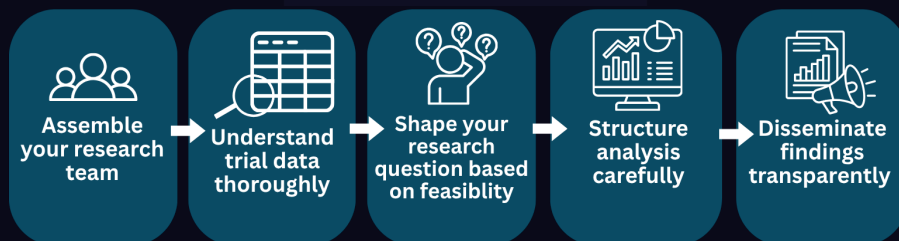
Strengths

- Provides adequate statistical power
- Facilitates the use of machine/statistical learning predictive algorithms
- Increases cost-effectiveness and time efficiency
- Increased generalizability
- Allows examination of context of care
- Allows consideration of additional important outcomes

Challenges

- Variables differences include inconsistent measures, formats, & granularity
- Conceptual differences involve related but non-identical topics, subjective vs objective measures, differences in assessment timing, & divergent definitions of outcomes
- Study documentation differences include variability in data accessibility and structure, changes in data capture forms over time, & incomplete or inconsistent variable documentation

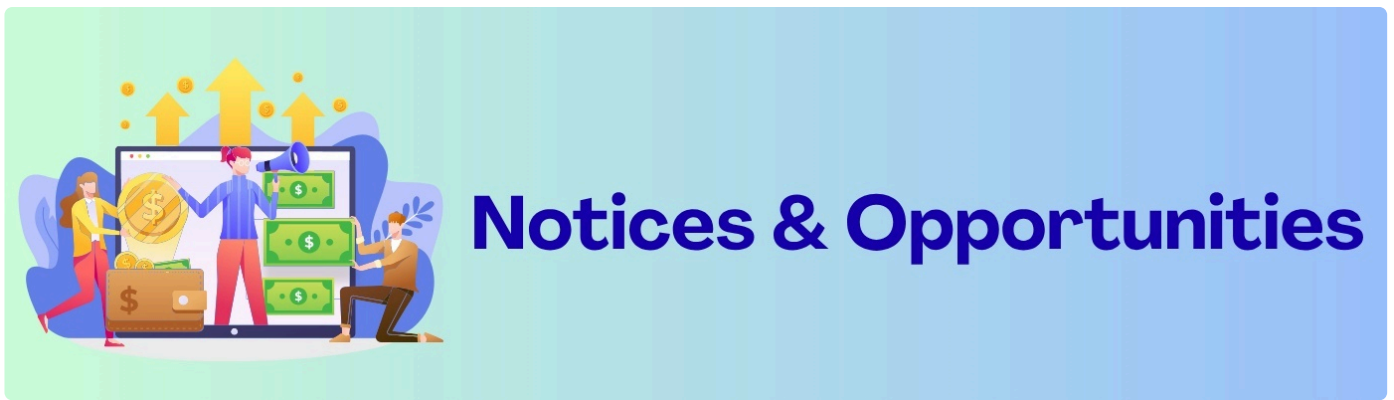
Recommended Workflow for Investigators Pursuing Harmonization Research



Recommendations & Opportunities for Secondary Data Analysis and Harmonization

- **Standardize Measures:** Use consistent metrics to enable cross-study comparisons
- **Archive Decisions:** Document nuances in data to assist external researchers
- **Include & Anonymize Sites:** Describe recruitment locations without revealing specific identities
- **Mentor Researchers:** Guide students and early-stage investigators in data harmonization
- **Leverage AI:** Use LLMs for dictionary mapping and literature reviews, while maintaining human oversight
- **Link Data:** Integrate trials data with EHR, claims, and public geospatial data

Schmidt, R.D. *, Balise, R.R. *, Gonzalez, S.T., Duan, R., Hefner, K., Shmueli-Blumberg, D., Vena, A., Tross, S., Feinberg, J., Brandt, L., Odom, G., Luo, S.X., Feaster, D.J., & Horigian, V.E. (2026). Data harmonization within the clinical trials network: Strengths, challenges, and opportunities in the era of generative AI. *Journal of substance use and addiction treatment*, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.josat.2026.209982> (*Co-first authors)



Notices & Opportunities

- **The UM PI Award Financial Dashboard is now LIVE!**
 - The **Award Financial Dashboard** is an interactive Power BI dashboard designed to provide Principal Investigators (PIs) and department/center administrators with consistent, standardized, and transparent insight into award finances.
 - The dashboard supports proactive financial management by making grant expenditure data easier to access, interpret, and act upon. Click [here](#) more information.
- **Dr. Audrey Harkness** and the **REACH Equity Team** are **currently hiring a Postdoctoral Associate!** This position is full-time and in-person at the School of Nursing and Health Studies at the Coral Gables campus of UM. This position will support multiple funded research projects that apply implementation and behavioral science approaches to improve the reach of HIV and mental health services for populations affected by HIV-related disparities, with a particular focus on Latino men who have sex with men (MSM).
 - The Postdoctoral Associate will contribute across a range of activities, initially including quantitative and qualitative data cleaning, data analysis, and manuscript preparation. As new projects launch, responsibilities may expand to include project management and other collaborative research tasks.
 - The position also offers robust opportunities for implementation science mentorship, training, and professional development, including through our Engaged Implementation Science Core via the Center for HIV and Research in Mental Health (CHARM).
 - Interested candidates can use this link to apply through UM Workday: <https://careers.miami.edu/us/en/job/R100096163/Post-Doctoral-Associate>
 - Click [here](#) to learn more about the **REACH Equity Team**.
 - **Questions?** Contact **Audrey Harkness** (aharkness@miami.edu) and **Jorge Limia** (jml843@miami.edu).
- The **University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) Heersink School of Medicine (HSOM)** is launching a major strategic initiative in implementation science to build upon a robust extramural research portfolio across disease areas.
 - Recruitment is for tenured, tenure-track, and non-tenure-earning faculty at all ranks and includes academic appointment in one or more of 27 academic departments across the HSOM, many of which rank in the top 10 nationally in NIH funding for public institutions.
 - **Please click this link for more information:** <https://uab.peopleadmin.com/postings/26969>

Highlighted Core Services

- **Peer Review:** CHARM organizes mock review meetings of grant proposals prior to NIH grant submissions. Each review consists of a one-hour Zoom meeting with up to three reviewers, who provide structured, constructive feedback to strengthen the proposal before submission. CHARM also provides Specific Aims Reviews for investigators who would like to receive feedback on an aims page under development to evaluate the key aspects of significance and innovation in early stages of the grant proposal process. Please contact **Yanexy Rivera** at yc9@miami.edu for more information on dates.
- **Grant Ready with CHARM:** A comprehensive pre-submission support program designed to prepare investigators for NIH grant submission. The program includes Specific Aims review, Methods consultation as needed, and a full mock peer review. Editorial services are provided upon completion of the full program to ensure clarity, coherence, and compliance prior to submission. Please contact **Yanexy Rivera** at yc9@miami.edu for questions or to participate in the program.
- **CLARO Measures Library:** The El Centro/CHARM measures library houses a multitude of measures translated into Spanish and other languages and can be used to identify and access measures for research studies.
- **Consultations:** Consultations can be requested via the **Research Navigation Portal** (see the [CHARM website](#) for more information).
 - The **Methods Core** supports researchers and community members via consultations regarding quantitative and/or qualitative research methods, designing a study, power analysis, data management, and more.
 - **EIS Core** leadership and co-investigators are available for 1-on-1 consultations to advise on Implementation Science Guidance, grant development, match-making with community stakeholders and implementers, finding a partner for specific implementation science work, and more.
 - The **MHD-CE Core** provides consultations on psychosocial assessment, community-engaged research methods, intervention development, IRB and human-subjects considerations, identifying community partners or stakeholders, engaging with the Community Advisory Board, recruitment support, and grant development related to mental health disparities or community engagement.
- **Implementer Consent-to-Contact Database:** One-time survey for South Florida implementers involved in implementing HIV and Mental Health services at various community organizations. Respondents

answer questions about their needs, priorities, and interest in participating in implementation research.

To see more information on our services, please visit our website: charm.miami.edu



Need a Consultation?



Use the **CHARM Research Navigation Portal** to easily request consultations from our 5 Cores and take your research to the next level!

Visit the [Navigation Portal Page](#) on our website for more information.



The CHARM Team wishes you a Happy 4th of July!



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June 2026 - Issue 2
by Gelman, Barry, M.D.

Outlook Newsletters

Empowering creators to build communities.

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