Substance Use Disorders Grand Challenge (SUD GC): Request for Proposals

Conceptual Goal of the SUD GC: By 2030, our goal is to reduce alcohol, opioid, and other substance mortality by 45%, substance-related consequences (including overdose, injury, and accidents) by 40%, crime, incarceration, and recidivism by 20%, adverse childhood experiences by 20%, and overall economic costs of substance related morbidity and mortality by 20%.

Overview and Aims of the SUD GC: Substance use and substance use disorder (SUD) are leading causes of morbidity and mortality, and are associated with excessive social costs and human suffering. Many challenges facing New Mexico are associated with SUD. New Mexico leads the nation in alcohol-related mortality, has the lowest high school graduation rates, and ranks among the top five of US states for accidental death, suicide, underemployment, child poverty, and crime. The SUD GC is a coordinated, multi-systems approach to address substance use and SUD in New Mexico. Our conceptual goal will be achieved through evidence-based implementation projects and by systematic research that addresses the continuum of substance use to SUD, including: 1) basic science research elucidating processes of substance use and SUD, 2) primary prevention of substance use and SUD, 3) secondary prevention of the progression of substance use to SUD, and substance-related harms, through early identification and intervention, 4) improving treatment outcomes for individuals with SUD, and 5) policy evaluation and implementation to address the continuum of substance use, SUD, and substance-related harms.

Request for Proposals: We are currently requesting proposals for Implementation Projects to directly target substance use and SUD in New Mexico using evidence based practices and Pilot Research Projects that address any of five research emphases, described above: (1) basic science, (2) primary prevention, (3) secondary prevention, (4) treatment, and (5) policy. Priority will be given to proposals from UNM faculty, staff, or postdocs that are high in overall scientific merit, involve multiple investigators/practitioners/educators from across central and north campuses, and are highly likely to be successful and generate pilot data for extramural funding.

Funding must be spent within one year from the date of award. Any unspent funds will be returned to the SUD GC index. Quarterly Progress Reports will be due after the initial award. If the project is not progressing on time, then alternative strategies for moving the project forward will need to be described. The SUD GC reserves the right to terminate funding for projects that are significantly delayed. All investigators selected to receive funding will also be expected to submit a Final Progress Report at the end of the funded project, detailing study findings, and all submitted publications and grant applications (pending or funded) relating to the project.

Implementation Projects, \$1000 maximum (up to 2 awards) and \$3000 maximum (up to 1 award): Up to two awards will be made for projects (\$1000 maximum) that result in direct, onthe-ground actions to address prevention, treatment, or policy initiatives related to substance use and substance use disorders in New Mexico. An additional \$3000 maximum will be made for up to one opioid-focused implementation project.

Pilot Research Projects, \$3000 maximum (up to 7 awards), \$5000 maximum (up to 2 awards), and \$10,000 maximum (up to 1 award): Up to ten awards will be made for pilot research projects that address the continuum of substance use to substance use disorders and substance-related harms.

To apply, submit the proposal as a single PDF (4 pages max., 11 pt Arial font, single spaced, 0.5" margins) to sudgc@unm.edu by 5pm July 22nd 2019. See next page for instructions.

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Application Format (4 pages max., 11 pt Arial font, single spaced, 0.5" margins)

Submit the proposal as a single PDF with **bolded headings** as sections of your proposal. Please address *the text in italics* within each section of the proposal.

Project Title. Please provide a brief title that characterizes the proposed project.

Project Team. Describe the members of the study team, including the Principal Investigator(s) (PI; multiple PIs are allowed for proposals), Co-Investigators (Co-I), and Collaborators. In describing the study team please provide the following information for all team members: Name; Title and Department; # of peer-reviewed publications; grant titles, total costs, and role of current funding as PI or Co-I (if no current funding, then # of former grants as PI or Co-I); and expertise relevant to the project. PI(s) must be faculty, staff, or postdocs employed by UNM.

Project Aims. Describe the critical need for the project and what will be implemented, developed, or studied. For implementation projects, the goals and model for implementation should be described. For pilot projects, the specific aims/hypotheses should be described.

Background for Proposed Project and Fit with the SUD GC. Describe the scientific knowledge base that supports the proposed project, preliminary studies related to the project, and how the proposed project fits with the conceptual goals and aims of the SUD GC.

Approach. Describe what you plan to do in order to address the project aims and how you plan to address the aims. Outline the methods you propose and how they will achieve results. Detail the anticipated outcomes and a plan for alternative approaches if results are not achieved.

Plan for Extramural Grant Funding. Describe how the implementation project or pilot project data will lead to an application for extramural grant or foundation funding. Priority will be given to applications that can articulate specific funding announcements that are relevant.

Timeline. Provide a timeline for starting and completing the project, as well as timing of completing project-specific milestones (e.g., IRB/IACUC submission, recruitment, etc.). All projects must be completed within one year from the award date. The SUD GC reserves the right to terminate funding for projects that are significantly delayed.

Budget and Budget Justification. Provide itemized budget and detailed budget justification, with brief description of why each component of the itemized budget is essential to the project. Note that budget limits are: \$1000 and \$3000 for implementation projects; \$3000, \$5000, and \$10,000 for pilot projects. Any unspent funds will be returned to the SUD GC index.

Review process: Review criteria will be based on strength of the project team with respect to prior experience, scientific merit, preliminary work supporting the project, fit with the SUD GC aims, approach, and likelihood of leading to extramural funding. The review will be patterned after the NIH review process. Reviewers will be comprised of individuals internal and external to the SUD GC, and the number of reviewers will be determined by the number of proposals received. All proposals will be reviewed on a scale from 1-9, with 1 being the best. To apply, submit the proposal as a single PDF (4 pages max., 11 pt Arial font, single spaced, 0.5" margins) to sudgc@unm.edu by 5pm on July 22nd 2019.