

**INTERDISCIPLINARY
RESEARCH LEADERS**

A Robert Wood Johnson Foundation program



Interdisciplinary Research Leaders

A Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Change Leadership Program

**2021 Call for Applications
Informational Webinar
March 18, 2021
2:00-3:00pm Central Time**

Webinar Overview

- Learn about RWJF's Culture of Health vision and leadership development programs
 - Read more at: www.rwjf.org/changeleaders
- Understand the Interdisciplinary Research Leaders program and the 2021 funding opportunity
- Understand the application process
 - Call for Applications is available at: <http://interdisciplinaryresearch-leaders.org>
- Opportunity to ask questions



Moderator:
Mandy LaBreche
Associate Director of
Operations, IRL

Presenters



Nancy Fishman
Senior Program Officer
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation



Vanya Jones
Co-Director
Interdisciplinary Research Leaders



Toben Nelson
Co-Director
Interdisciplinary Research Leaders



Zinzi Bailey
IRL Associate Director of
Research Leadership & Practice



Presenter

- **Abby Hunt, Executive Director of Health Care Education and Training, Inc.**
- Cohort 2 Alumna from [Team Indiana](#)



Presenters

- **Tiffany Sizemore, Tammy Hughes, Jeffrey Shook**
- [Team Pittsburgh](#) - Current Interdisciplinary Research Leaders team



Culture of Health

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A National Movement: Building a Culture of Health

- Create a society where everyone has an equal opportunity to live the healthiest life possible
- Embrace a more integrated, comprehensive approach to health
- Requires unprecedented collaboration with everyone playing a role

RWJF leadership development programs

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

IRL is 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



Interdisciplinary Research Leaders: Building a culture of health together

INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH LEADERS

Program Features

- Community-engaged action research
 - Cohort-specific research topic areas
- Development and training
 - Methods
 - Policy
 - Dissemination
 - Networking opportunities
- Interdisciplinary collaboration
 - Team
 - Cohort
 - Program

Program Experience



Program Activities

- Co-develop a community-engaged, community impactful research project
 - Project is the foundation for experiential learning
- 2-3 in person meetings per year
 - Cross-cohort engagement and networking
- Ongoing cohort activities
 - Team/program collaboration to support team research projects
 - Team/project-specific mentorship
 - Weekly webinars (sharing and learning)
 - Web-based mini courses

Approximately 8 hours per week on IRL activities

Program Support

- \$25,000 annual fellow support
- One-time research project grants of up to \$125,000
 - RWJF allows the following indirect cost rates:
 - 12% - US colleges/universities and health or hospital systems
 - 20% - Nonprofit organizations
 - 0% - For-profit organizations and government entities
- Travel expenses
- Mentorship and professional development opportunities

Summary of Eligibility Criteria

Teams must be:

- Comprised of *three* mid-career individuals:
 - one community partner
 - two researchers
- Fully collaborative, co-leadership (no Principal Investigator)
- Each team member must be U.S. citizens, permanent residents, or individuals granted DACA status at the time of application

See full criteria listing in Call for Applications

What do we mean by mid-career?

- Someone with experience
- Research partner
 - ~ 5 years post PhD and not retiring within 10 years
 - No graduate or post-doctoral students or trainees
- Community partner
 - ~ 5 years experience and not retiring within 10 years
 - Established relationship in the community

Selection Criteria

- The proposed research project must be developed with an engaged community perspective
- The project is responsive to one of the two themes highlighted in the CFA
- Community partner can facilitate engagement with the community
- The team of fellows has a demonstrated commitment to interdisciplinary and community engaged work
- Research has strong potential to inform policy or action
- Ability to execute the research project within the timeframe and budget

See full criteria listing in Call for Applications

Selection Process

- Selection committee of IRL 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 team selection
- Cohort 6 will enroll up to 15 teams



Community Partners

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Communities can benefit from research that addresses their needs

- Authentic and reciprocal partnership between community leaders and researchers can help answer pressing questions that are meaningful to community members
- A process for research that engages an academic-community partnership can begin to address long standing barriers between researchers, community leaders, and community members
- Community engaged initiatives help frame how to translate research findings into practice and policy
- Community research partnerships are key to building relevant, credible evidence that drives equitable and sustainable change for improving health



Community Partners in the IRL Program



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Examples of Interdisciplinary Teams - Cohort 4

- Community Development and Health
 - **Landscape architect**, environmental psychologist, general pediatrician and public health researcher
 - Social sciences researcher, **manager of a 501[c][3] in 7 Southern U.S. states**, economist focused on health, housing and economic oppression
- Clinical practice, social services, and health
 - **Mental health professional**, trauma prevention and intervention researcher, researcher focused on intersections of public health and poverty to enact policy change
 - **Health services administrator**, general practitioner, vulnerable populations researcher



Meet a current IRL team - Team Pittsburgh - Cohort 4

Improving Juvenile Indigent Defense and Health through Holistic Representation

- **Tammy Hughes**, Professor of School Psychology, School of Education at Duquesne University
- **Tiffany Sizemore**, Assistant Professor of Clinical Legal Education at Duquesne University Law
- **Jeffrey Shook**, Associate Professor of Social Work at the University of Pittsburgh



Curriculum

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Program Experience



IRL Curriculum Domains— Leadership Development Throughout



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Curriculum Delivery and Application

- Hybrid model of delivery (in-person or virtual depending on the COVID-19 pandemic)
- Up to eight in-person sessions over three years
 - Annual IRL meeting in Minnesota
 - RWJF annual meeting, location varies
 - Washington, DC meeting
- Flexible, online courses
- Regular webinars for learning and professional development
- Targeted mentoring



Action Research

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Research Projects

- Focus the project on a topic that address one of the subthemes and has clear potential for action
- May be qualitative, quantitative, or mixed-method
- Are methodologically rigorous
- Are properly scaled and budgeted for a two-year study
- Variety of research designs are acceptable

Program Experience



Themes and Subthemes

- **Cohort 6 (2021) theme: Structural Racism -**

- Racism exists and contributes to health inequities.
- IRL seeks proposals that build evidence for solutions to eliminate the structures that perpetuate racial inequities in health.
- Proposals that seek to further document the existence or impact of structural racism and racist policies will not be selected.

Subthemes:

- Structural Racism in health care
- Structural Racism and community health and well-being

Subtheme 1: Structural Racism in Health Care

Seeking projects-

- focused on solutions for eliminating structural racism in health care and health services delivery
- that address **public health crises** such as the **COVID pandemic**
- that generate community engaged evidence for equitable approaches for improving the wellbeing of Black, Brown, and Indigenous people in the healthcare setting

Subtheme 2: Structural Racism and Community Health and Well-being

Seeking Projects -

- focused on solutions for eliminating structural racism impacting community health and well-being
- that mitigate **processes and mechanisms through which policies, practices, and programs uphold structural racism in institutional systems** including access to housing, education, employment, criminal justice, and economic systems broadly
- that provide **solutions to reduce and eliminate less explicit barriers** (e.g., systemic disenfranchisement of political and social involvement for Black, Brown, and Indigenous communities, redlining on Black communities)



More Details on Applications

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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
- Fellowship program applications from teams (due **May 5, 2021 by 3 pm ET**)
 - Proposed research project description
 - Team collaboration description
 - Individual leadership and research influence and aspirations
 - Biographical sketches of team members

RWJF Online Application System

<http://my.rwjf.org>

Interdisciplinary Research Leaders

2021 Call for Applications

Release Date: March 3, 2021 | Application Deadline: Wed, 5 May 2021

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) is working alongside others to build a Culture of Health that provides everyone in America a fair and just opportunity for health and well-being. We are facing many obstacles that pose challenges to this audacious vision—inequities in life expectancy across communities; high-cost health care but poorer quality of care and health; and more.

That's why RWJF supports a number of leadership programs that aim to develop a generation of leaders who see that we need new approaches to these pressing problems. These programs support and connect leaders who are **caring, curious, collaborative, and committed** to taking risks and boldly toward real pathways to change—and to achieving greater equity across communities across our country.

Purpose

Interdisciplinary Research Leaders (IRL) is a three-year national leadership development program that aims to foster and support new interdisciplinary, action-oriented research collaborations. Achieving health equity—especially for communities of color, those in low socioeconomic positions, and Native populations—is a core value of the program. The aim for the 2021 IRL program is to generate high-quality, community-engaged research useful for dismantling structural racism and improving

Application Deadline

May 05, 2021, 3:00 p.m. ET

[APPLY ONLINE](#)

Key Materials

[Preview the full application before applying →](#)

[Full Funding Opportunity \(PDF\) →](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions →](#)

[Program Specific FAQs →](#)

Key Contacts

IRL National Program Center
Phone: (844) 210-9072 (toll-free)
Email: researchleaders@umn.edu

Interdisciplinary Research Leaders:

ID: 105465 [Print Application](#)

- [Home](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Invite Contributors](#)
- [Cancel My Application](#)

Notice:
Applicant Webinar: We will host an applicant webinar on March 18, 2021 (3-4 p.m. ET) (2-3 p.m. CT). For more information and registration, select the Resources link to the left.

Instruction:
Welcome to the online application system for the Interdisciplinary Research Leaders program. [See More](#)

Deadline: May 5, 2021 03:00 PM ET
50 days remaining

[Submit](#)

Status	Section	Description
<input type="radio"/>	Eligibility Criteria	Review the eligibility criteria and indicate if the applicant organization and 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 Title	Provide project summary information.
<input type="radio"/>	Project Information Questions	Provide responses to team member and project questions.
<input type="radio"/>	Research Project Questions	Provide responses to questions specific to the proposed research project.
<input type="radio"/>	Team Collaboration Questions	Provide responses to team collaboration questions.
<input type="radio"/>	Team Member #1 Questions	Provide responses to individual questions for team member #1.
<input type="radio"/>	Team Member #2 Questions	Provide responses to individual questions for team member #2.
<input type="radio"/>	Team Member #3 Questions	Provide responses to individual questions for team member #3.
<input type="radio"/>	Biographical Sketch	Provide a biographical sketch for each team member.
<input type="radio"/>	Outreach Efforts	Tell us how you heard about us.

Application status: Not Started

Last updated on 03/16/2021 by Mandy LaBrecq

2021 Timeline

DATE	EVENT
March 3, 2021	Call for applications opens
March 18, 2021	Webinar for prospective applicants
May 5, 2021 (3pm ET)	Applications due
May-June	Applications reviewed
July	Applicant interviews (virtual)
July-August	Selection meetings
Late-August	Finalists selected
November 1, 2021	Official start date- IRL program begins
Late Winter 2022	Required in-person Interdisciplinary Research Leaders meeting (Location TBD)

Program Partners



Connect with IRL

- This webinar will be archived on the program recruitment website 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)
- Visit our program website: IRLeaders.org



Thank you for participating from all of us at IRL!

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