CARLE ILLINOIS COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH SEED PROGRAM

DATES AND DEADLINES
Call for Proposals: March 15, 2017
Proposal Deadline: April 28, 2017
Award Notification: by June 30, 2017
Award Funding Begins: August 16, 2017

PROGRAM GOALS
The Carle Illinois Collaborative Research Seed Funding Program welcomes research proposals from a broad array of disciplines and clinical areas. This round of funding will focus on four priority areas: population health, imaging, data analytics, and rural health. In these areas the aim is to:

- Foster collaboration between Carle clinicians and Illinois researchers
- Support innovative approaches to the challenges facing clinical care
- Promote opportunities to improve positive health outcomes
- Enable collaborators to acquire preliminary data for a subsequent external collaborative grant application
- Stimulate significant external research or clinical trial funding from either government or corporate sources

All proposals must include a lead investigator from both Carle and from Illinois, with the expectation that projects reflect a true collaborative partnership (i.e., investigators from both institutions play significant and essential roles). The program will not provide interim or incremental support for existing research programs or projects that do not represent a significant opportunity for future externally funded research. Projects should not anticipate additional internal funding after the seed money is exhausted.

FUNDING LEVELS
Applicants may apply for up to $50,000 for a one year project to support project costs such as supplies, staff time, research facility use fees etc. The program does not provide salary support for investigators. We anticipate making up to five awards in this cycle.

ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES
- Proposals must include at least one investigator from each institution.
- Lead Investigators must be full-time members of the Illinois faculty and/or Carle Foundation Hospital staff.
- Faculty and clinical staff may not be lead investigators on more than one proposal.

SELECTION CRITERIA
- Projects must demonstrate the potential to broadly impact clinical outcomes.
- Projects in the areas of population health, imaging, data analytics and rural health will be given priority.
- Projects should leverage existing strengths and/or areas of potential excellence.
- Proposals should describe how the short and long-term success of the project will be measured. Although terminology differs among disciplines, projects must clearly articulate anticipated outcomes/goals and the milestones/objectives by which they will be achieved.
- Proposals must describe mechanisms for the sustainability of the project. Proposals should indicate, in as specific terms as possible, future expansion plans for external sources of support (e.g., corporate, government agency, private foundation) for this work into the future.

PROPOSAL PREPARATION
1. Coversheet: Investigators names and affiliation, contact information, project title, funding amount requested
2. Format: Proposals should not exceed three pages (single space, 1-inch margins, Times New Roman, minimum 10 pt font size, figures included). References, the estimated budget and narrative, and Carle letter of support are not included in the three-page limit. Supplemental attachments are not permitted.
3. Content of the proposal:
   Section I. Project Abstract:
   - Describe the proposed research in language understandable by diverse, non-expert reviewers.
   Section II. Project Narrative
   a. Describe the research project including its potential for broadly impacting clinical care and health.
   b. Discuss how the proposed activities will leverage existing strengths or areas of potential excellence.
   c. Describe the role and qualifications of PI and Co-PIs.
4. Additional required material:
   Budget: Provide a budget estimate and narrative (for both Carle and Illinois) not to exceed $50,000 and one-year’s duration. Estimates should be broken down into major expense categories (e.g., personnel, equipment/use fees, supplies, support). Indirect costs and salaries for investigators are not allowed. The budget narratives should not exceed one page. A budget template is available at go.illinois.edu/CarleIllinoisSeedFunding.
   Letter of Support from Carle: A letter of support from the clinician’s medical leader is required.

SUBMITTING YOUR PROPOSAL
Your proposal, complying with the proposal preparation instructions above, should be uploaded from go.illinois.edu/CarleIllinoisSeedFunding by April 28, 2017.

REVIEW COMMITTEE
The review process will be overseen by the Carle Illinois Research Innovation Committee. The committee may consult with internal or external experts to provide additional input regarding project feasibility and innovation.

NEED HELP?
We encourage you seek guidance drafting your proposal or discussing feasibility. Please contact a research development manager at IHSI via healthinitiative@illinois.edu. For questions related to work at Carle, or if you need help seeking a clinical collaborator, contact Dr. Emily Wee at emily.wee@carle.com.

These details and the link to the application form can be found at go.illinois.edu/CarleIllinoisSeedFunding.