**Child Maltreatment Solutions Network Endowment**

**Request for Proposals**

The Child Maltreatment Solutions Network (CMSN) is pleased to announce a limited funding opportunity for Penn State faculty across University Park and Commonwealth campuses to support activities directly aligned with the core mission of the [CMSN](https://www.solutionsnetwork.psu.edu/). The funding is intended to address the issue of child maltreatment and advance interdisciplinary research aimed at enhancing the health and wellbeing of child maltreatment victims and their families.

**Eligibility**

Eligible applicants are full-time University faculty members at Penn State University. The recipient may be located at any Penn State campus. The recipient of the award must plan to be employed at Penn State for the duration of the research project.

**Approved Expenditures**

Funds may be used to (1) form interdisciplinary research teams or host scientific meetings to develop research initiatives, (2) conduct pilot studies to pursue external funding, (3) develop research partnerships with community organizations, or (4) conduct community-engaged research activities, or (5) conduct preliminary research to establish scientific premises (e.g., review current research literature to inform study development or develop translational policy briefs). We strongly encourage interdisciplinary collaboration across Penn State units in developing project teams for proposals.

The CMSN seed funding program offers three levels of support outlined in the application form. Larger awards (over $25,000) may be available subject to funding availability and approval by the CMSN Advisory Board. If a larger award proposal is anticipated, please contact Kassidy McElwee, [kls662@psu.edu](mailto:kls662@psu.edu), prior to submission. Please refer to the application form for additional details.

**Timeline**

**February 24, 2025 –** Call Launched

**April 25, 2025 –** Applications Due

**June 1, 2025 –** Announce Recipient(s)

**Application Process**

**Format**

Prospective recipients should submit their application as a single PDF to

[ssri-seed-grant@psu.edu](mailto:info@ssri.psu.edu). Applications should be no more than three single-spaced pages, not including items 1 and 3-5 below.

1. Title of project and name, title, and affiliation of the applicant and study team personnel
2. Proposal to include
   1. Project aims/Purpose Statement
   2. Significance
   3. Scientific Foundation
   4. Description of Activities/Methods
   5. Translational Research Potential (if applicable)
   6. Project Timeline
3. A 12-month budget and justification
4. Statements of support and/or references
5. NIH biosketch(es) or CV(s) of the applicant and other key personnel

**Review Criteria**

* Merits of the proposal, including significance and relevance to child maltreatment and the CMSN mission
* Qualifications of the applicant
* Clarity, rigor, and feasibility of the work plan
* Potential for future work and translational activities in the field

**Award Process**

An award letter will be made on or around the award date above to the awardee and their immediate supervisor/advisor for students and postdoctoral scholars.

The Awardee will be required to provide a bi-annual progress report highlighting progress made and tangible outcomes (e.g., papers, presentations, proposals).

We encourage you to apply to this seed grant offering, which is open to faculty across Penn State University. If you have additional questions, please contact Kassidy McElwee, CMSN Project Manager, at [kls662@psu.edu](mailto:kls662@psu.edu).

We look forward to reading your proposals.