Request for Applications Small Grants:
Cost Effectiveness of Psychologists in Integrated Care.

APA Center for Psychology and Health

The Center for Psychology and Health of the American Psychological Association (APA) is issuing this request for applications for a small grant program ($5,000 to $12,000 per grant for one year) to examine the value-added of including psychological services in health care settings. Psychologists engaged in this work are encouraged to submit a proposal to conduct a review of existing databases, including health care records or claims data, to evaluate the impact of psychological services on health care outcomes. The purpose is to determine if providing psychological services in a medical setting has an impact on clinical outcomes, clinic efficiency, patient and medical provider satisfaction, and/or costs – including medical, behavioral, pharmaceutical, and inpatient. The goal is to develop achievable examples of effective and efficient clinical programs that include psychological services.

Proposals could potentially focus on the evaluation of:

a. Utilization of health care services and costs in settings with and without psychologists. This can include comparison of multiple sites within a health care system, or pre- and post-measures within one system or clinic, preferably over a period of two or more years. Several planned, controlled studies have shown improvements in both physical and behavioral health measures on specific patient populations (e.g., adults with Type II diabetes) in an integrated primary care setting. In general, studies over the years have shown decreased emergency department utilization or reduced inpatient medical hospitalization days when mental health services are integrated with physical health services.

b. Cost offsets associated with the presence of psychologists. This may include changes in productivity for other health care providers or the entire clinic. For example, one study has shown that pediatric physicians and nurse practitioners have time to see more patients and generate more patient contacts when there is a psychologist integrated into the practice to manage behavioral health needs.

c. Existing measures of patient outcome. This can include utilization data and quality measures, which might assess other provider and patient satisfaction, changes in medications of all types, and other broader variables, such as missed school or work days.

d. Other creative projects evaluating the business case for the integration of psychological services within a health care clinic or system.
ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Individuals possessing a doctoral degree in psychology and the skills and knowledge necessary to carry out the proposed project are invited to submit a proposal.

The project must be completed within 12 months of receipt of funding.

The principal investigator must be a psychologist.

CONTENTS AND SUBMISSION

Proposals must be submitted in PDF format to Doug Tynan, PhD, at APA’s Center for Psychology and Health at dtynan@apa.org, no later than April 15, 2015, and should include the following three parts: cover page with abstract, budget summary, and project summary. More detailed information is provided in the template on the following page.

REVIEW CRITERIA

Proposals will be reviewed and ranked using the following criteria:

a. Clearly stated goals and well-defined outcomes (25 points)
b. Innovative and achievable project design (50 points)
c. Suitability of budget request and budget justification (25 points)

AWARDS AND REPORTING

APA’s Health Leadership Team will review proposals and make funding recommendations to the Board of Directors. Applicants will be notified of final decisions by May 15, 2015. Funds will be disbursed to the investigators by June 1, 2015. Recipients of grants will be required to provide an interim progress report by December 1, 2015, and a final report by May 31, 2016.
APA INTEGRATED HEALTH CARE GRANT PROGRAM

Proposal Template

COVER PAGE

Project Title:
Principal Investigator:
Contact Information:
Abstract (150-word limit)

BUDGET SUMMARY

Revenue
This grant request: ______________________
Other sources of funding: ______________________
Total: ______________________

Expenses (Description):
___________________                     _____________________
___________________                      _____________________
___________________                      _____________________
Total: _____________________

PROJECT SUMMARY

(This section is limited to four pages and should include a rationale, methods of implementation, goals, and measurable outcomes.)
## PROJECT TIMELINE

(You will be asked to update this timeline on your interim and final report)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Tasks to be Accomplished</th>
<th>Date Completed</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 2015</td>
<td>Application and pre-grant actions</td>
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<td>June 2015</td>
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EXAMPLES FROM THE LITERATURE:


