CIHR OFFERS NEW RESEARCH FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

In addition to its regular operating grants and salary awards competitions, CIHR has just launched two strategic funding initiatives that we would like to call to the attention of the community of investigators conducting workplace mental health research.

Partnership for Health System Improvement

Deadline for Letter of Intent, November 22nd, 2004

Details available at
http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/24797.html

The first initiative is *Partnership for Health System Improvement*. The program will support teams of researchers and decision-makers interested in conducting applied health research useful to health system managers and/or policy makers over the next 2-5 years. Thematic areas have been identified and one is specifically related to mental health and workplace researchers. Priority no 2 for thematic area reads: "Management of healthcare workplace (including issues related to the workplace and mental health)." This priority creates a niche for researchers already active in the area of mental health and health care workplaces. Researchers active in this area may consider working with other Canadian researchers who are working in the area. Please consider revisiting the bibliometric scan that was circulated at the April 27-28th Workshop; it provides a list of researchers and papers. It can assist you in identifying other researchers with similar research interests. It is available (the workshop's final report, discussion papers, respondents' comments and presentations) at the two sites indicated at the end of this newsletter.

CIHR Team Grant Program

Deadline for Letter of Intent, January 7, 2005

Details available at
http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/24791.html

The second research opportunity is the CIHR team grant program. This is a more ambitious program and comes with greater funding. It aims at supporting teams of talented and experienced researchers conducting high-quality research and providing superior research training and mentorship. The program emphasis is on the production of new knowledge and the translation of research findings into improvements in the health of Canadians and the Canadian health care system. Eligible teams should consist of at least three independent investigators, each of whom has an established research track record in areas related to the collaborative project(s) proposed. Collectively, team members should have an extensive record of success, be creative and original in their approach to research and its translation and have experience working in research teams. The competition will be fierce, but if groups of researchers in mental health and workplace consider themselves ready, they should apply. They should also consider collaborations with other Canadian researchers who can be identified using the Workshops' bibliometric scan.

Future Requests for Applications

The current task force on implementation of the CIHR research agenda on mental health and workplace aims to develop a Request for Application (RFA) by mid-2005. Funding will be for at least three teams of researchers. It will be similar to the CIHR Team Grant Application Competition, but on the specific theme of mental health and workplace. Researchers applying there or at the other competition *Partnership for Health System Improvement* still would be eligible to compete, if anything it would give them a headway in preparation.

- Institute of Population and Public Health (IPPH)
- Institute of Neurosciences, Mental Health and Addiction (INHMA)
- Institute of Gender and Health

CIHR IRSC

Update On The Task Force on Early Implementation of The CIHR Research Agenda on Mental Health And Workplace

The last newsletter reported that CIHR Institutes INMHA and IPPH received the April 2004 workshop report and with the collaboration of the Institute for Gender and Health, and are acting upon it by supporting the implementation strategy and working towards the launching of a Request for Application (RFA) in June 2005 in collaboration with other partners. A steering group is presently being formed to create the needed coalitions and consortia. The steering group is now called *Task Force on the Implementation of the CIHR Research Agenda on Workplace Mental Health*.

The Taskforce is developing its membership and met October 4th in Toronto with the first identified members. The Task Force is headed by Jean-Yves Savoie and Alain Lesage, and managed by Carolyn Dewa. The first members identified are researchers Michel Vézina from the University of Laval and Cam Mustard from the Institute of Work and Health. Workplace stakeholders have been identified with Bill Wilkerson as champion of the Global Business and Economic Roundtable on Addiction and Mental Health; Michèle Parent of Standard Life as a representative of the Insurance company sector. Rod Philips of Warren Shappell has been asked to serve as a representative of the Employee Assistance Program and Katherine Lippel as a representative of the Institute on Gender and Health. To be confirmed are a union representative, work security grant agency and business representative from Quebec and British Columbia. In the last newsletter, we sent an appeal to you for suggestions of names and stakeholders groups and the Task Force welcomes your suggestions by October 31st, 2004.

Publication of the Workshop Papers Next Week

Workshop documents including the final report, the discussion papers, the respondents' comments and the presentations are accessible on the Web in both official languages at:
http://www.camh.net/hsrcu/se.html

The workshop report will also be available on the CIHR website under IPPH and INMHA:
http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca

The electronicHealthCare related to *HeatlhCarePapers,* a Canadian Health Policy journal with an international audience, will publish a special issue based on the workshop papers with an editorial by CIHR Scientific Directors John Frank and Rémi Quirion is available online at
http://www.longwoods.com/hp/5-2MentalHealth/HP52index.html.

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