

# CTSI Coordinator Connect

A product of the Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI) at the University of Pittsburgh



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# RESEARCH RESOURCES | The Pitt Research Concierge Program: Learning Labs and Other Services

The Pitt Research Concierge Program's [Learning Lab](#) hosts a collection of short, educational videos on various topics related to the sponsored projects lifecycle. Based on the results of interviews with faculty from across Pitt's campuses, schools, and departments, Research Concierge staff have worked with experts on campus in various roles to create ten to fifteen-minute videos on a variety of research and sponsored project topics.

Examples of current [videos](#) include:

- Finding External Funding for Your Research Idea
- Proposal Preparation
- Data Management and Sharing Plans
- Navigating Human Research Protections
- Project Management

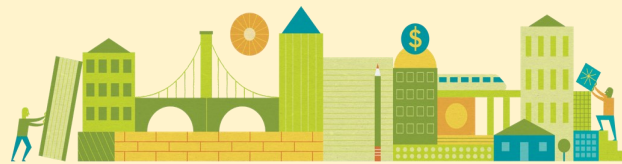
If you would like to see another topic or area covered, please use our [suggestion box](#) or email the [Pitt Research Navigator](#), Stefanie Coburn. You are encouraged to check the Learning Lab site often as new content is added frequently.

The [Pitt Research Concierge Program](#) is designed to reduce administrative burden and promote ease of research at the University of Pittsburgh. Other services and resources offered are aimed at helping faculty and research-related staff on their research journey.

The [Pitt Research Navigator](#) delivers personalized customer service to connect faculty and research-related staff to Pitt research services, offices, and experts. If you have a research-related question, the Pitt Research Navigator can assist you in finding the answer from the appropriate expert within one business day.

The [Proposal Editing Service](#) offers a full range of proofreading and copy-editing services for all types and sizes of externally sponsored funding proposals. Virtual office hours can be scheduled through the website for a one-on-one session with the editor.

[Research Development Resources & Services](#) supports researchers and scholars at Pitt by identifying funding opportunities, providing weekly funding announcements, managing the limited submission process, and supporting the Pitt Momentum Funds.



## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

### [Model Continuums of Care Initiative \(MCCI\) to Advance Health Equity and End Disparities Among Women and Girls in Racial/Ethnic Minorities and Other Underserved Communities](#)

MCCI is a dissemination and implementation science initiative to advance health equity and end health disparities in racial and ethnic minorities and other underserved women and girls of reproductive age living in the United States, with special emphasis on those with intersecting identities that increase their risk for health disparities; i.e., NIH-designated populations with health disparities, defined as racial and ethnic minority groups (African Americans, Latinos/Hispanics, American Indians and Alaska Natives, Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders), people with lower socioeconomic status, underserved rural communities, sexual and gender minority (SGM) groups, and people with disabilities.

MCCI will apply the latest dissemination and implementation science approaches to significantly reduce the prevalence and impact of morbidity among racial/ethnic minorities and other underserved women and girls of reproductive age at risk and living with mental health disorders, substance use disorders, chronic stress, cardiopulmonary diseases, common metabolic disorders, cancer, and HIV/AIDS. This concept proposes a continuum of care approach that integrates preventive health services, primary care, behavioral health, integrative care, and specialty care.

Special emphasis will be placed on using stakeholder partnerships, provider training, and infrastructure changes to improve access for subgroups of racial/ethnic minority women and girls who currently have the least access to high quality health care (e.g., racial/ethnic minority women and girls living in low resource settings).



# CTSI UPDATES

## CTSI Coordinator Connect Office Hours

CTSI is now offering office hours! Need recruitment advice? Have a question about your IRB application, using the Pitt+Me research registry, finding funding, regulatory issues, community engagement, or another research-related issue? Stop by Coordinator Connect office hours on Teams the first Tuesday of every month at 1 p.m. and our CTSI facilitators will provide advice and guidance. We welcome the opportunity to assist the research community in this informal forum and are also happy to schedule more in-depth one on one consultations. Researchers are always welcome to email [CTSI@pitt.edu](mailto:CTSI@pitt.edu) with any questions as well, we will respond within one business day. Use this link to join our office hours: [Join the meeting now](#)

## Notes from the CTSI Community PARTners Core

### Upcoming Lunch and Learn:

[Join us](#) on December 12 at noon, when our topic will be housing security. In this Lunch and Learn, Michelle Dougherty, doctoral student at the University of Pittsburgh, will discuss housing security. The housing market can be very difficult to navigate, especially when trying to find something affordable that still has dignity. In this session we will provide strategies and resources to help people with finding housing regardless of their financial status.

### Community Engagement Studios:

[Community Engagement Studios \(CES\)](#) are opportunities for community members to become the experts and use their life experience to inform research studies. In an hour and a half Zoom session, researchers present for 10-12 minutes about their study and pose two questions. Community members then engage in a dialogue with the researchers and each other about what they like, what they think could be better, and any suggestions they have. Community members are paid \$50 for their participation to show that we value their feedback. If you are interested in learning more or getting involved either as a participant or researcher, email Jordan Scott at [jes602@pitt.edu](mailto:jes602@pitt.edu).

### CTSI Funding Opportunity: The Health Disparities Arising from AI Award

The aim of this [funding opportunity](#) is to stimulate new research that investigates the ways in which AI contributes to health disparities and develops strategies to mitigate these effects. To be responsive to this opportunity, projects must include one or more of the following topics in the context of AI: identify contributors to disparities, develop mitigation strategies, enhance accessibility, and inform policy and practice. Round 1 letter of intent deadline is Wednesday, December 11<sup>th</sup> by midnight.

## REGULATORY NOTES

### Office for Human Research Protections Luminaries Lecture Series

A panel of experts gave an important webinar about some of the ethical and regulatory considerations for research related to LGBTQI+ populations at a public meeting of the Secretary's Advisory Committee for Human Research Protections (SACHRP). You can access the presentation and others in OHRP's [Luminaries Lecture Series](#). Available titles include:

- Ethical and Regulatory Considerations for LGBTQI+ People in Human Subjects Research, Christina N. Dragon, MSPH, CHES
- Risk & Benefit: IRB Review and LGBTQIA+ Research Participation, Amy Ben-Arieh, JD, MPH
- Evidence-Based Recommendations for Ethical Research Practices with Sexual and Gender Minority Adolescents by Brian Mustanski, PhD

The Luminaries series offers a recorded library on many other interesting research related topics available at no cost.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, December 3 | noon to 1 p.m.

### [Enhancing Reproducibility through Transparency in Reporting Experimental Details](#)

Presented by the CTSI Responsible Conduct of Research Center and the University of Pittsburgh Health Sciences Library System  
*Virtual Event*

Wednesday, December 4 | noon to 1 p.m.

### [Genomic Data Sharing: Words Matter](#)

Presented by the University of Pittsburgh Office of Research Protections/ Human Research Protection Office  
*Virtual event*

Monday, December 9 | 10 a.m.

### [The State of Diversity in Clinical Trials: Planning for 2025 and Beyond](#)

Presented by MRCT Center, in collaboration with the Clinical Trials Transformation Initiative (CTTI) and Milken Institute's FasterCures, and with contributions from the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine  
*Virtual Event*

December 18 | noon to 1 p.m.

### [Engaging Rural Communities in Design and Implementation of Translational Research](#)

Presented by the Trial Innovation Network

### [Weeding out the Bad from the Good: Strategies for Researchers Preventing and Identifying Invalid Online Survey Responses](#)

Presented by the Trial Innovation Network  
*Recorded Webinar*

## DEAR CTSI,

**Question:** What resources are available to help promote diversity and inclusion in our research and help our team understand the importance of inclusion?

**Answer:** Including diverse populations has been increasingly recognized as a priority in research and healthcare. On campus, there are several organizations that promote the importance of inclusion:

- The PITT School of Public Health's [Community Research Advisory Board's \(CRAB\)](#) mission is to advise researchers on how best to engage vulnerable and historically underrepresented populations in problem solving and foster collaboration among those populations and researchers interested in addressing health inequities. CRAB hosts monthly meetings to provide consultation to researchers interested in engaging community members in research and aims to ensure that research studies are culturally sensitive and relevant.
- CTSI's [Community PARTners Core](#) seeks to include community voices in research, with a focus on populations who have traditionally been underrepresented in research. They facilitate Community Engagement Studios— a space for community members to meet researchers and provide candid feedback on study design and recruitment materials.
- PITT's Office for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (ODEI) strives to promote diversity as a transformational force through education. [Workshops](#) are available upon request to help foster understanding among staff and faculty members about the importance of representation.

## Questions for us?

We'd love to hear from you: [ctsi@pitt.edu](mailto:ctsi@pitt.edu)

Pitt+Me questions: [ASKPPM@pitt.edu](mailto:ASKPPM@pitt.edu)

**Pitt CTSI**  
Clinical and Translational  
Science Institute