![Poverty Solutions — University of Michigan logo]

2017 FACULTY SMALL GRANTS COMPETITION
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RESEARCH ON STRATEGIES TO PREVENT AND ALLEVIATE POVERTY

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF PROPOSAL: Monday, November 13, 2017 - 11:59 PM EST

Purpose

Poverty Solutions at the University of Michigan announces a grant funding opportunity for faculty at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor Campus, to pursue research projects focused on informing strategies that seek to prevent and alleviate poverty in Michigan, the nation and the world. Up to five (5) awards of up to $20,000 each will be given for self-contained research projects or as seed funding that may be leveraged to pursue larger external awards.

Background

Poverty Solutions is an inter-disciplinary initiative at the University of Michigan (U-M) that seeks to finds new ways to prevent and alleviate poverty in Michigan, the nation and the world. This request for proposals seeks to support faculty research that can inform existing policies, practices, or interventions meant to reduce poverty, or research that lays out proposals for future policy directions. Projects using either qualitative or quantitative data sources are eligible for funding. We do not anticipate supporting projects with new large-scale data collection unless conducted in combination with other sources of funding.

Examples of possible projects for funding include (but are not limited to):
- secondary quantitative data analysis that informs or examines poverty policy;
- simulations of the effects of proposed policy alternatives;
- a small-scale evaluation of a pilot or existing intervention that seeks to prevent or alleviate poverty;
- a project that explores how recipients experience anti-poverty programs at the local, state or federal level; and

- projects that examine how contextual factors can shape the utilization of existing or proposed interventions, programs, or policies that seek to prevent and alleviate poverty.

Terms of Funding and Eligibility Criteria

The following terms apply:

1. Applicants for this Poverty Solutions grant must hold a faculty appointment at the U-M, Ann Arbor Campus. Faculty are defined as research professor, research scientist, and tenure track faculty. Preference will be given to junior faculty and to applicants using new approaches and innovative research methods

2. Grants will begin January 1, 2018. Grants will end December 31, 2018. A midway progress report will be due no later than July 13, 2018. A final report will be due no later than January 31, 2019.

3. Funding may be used for faculty time, research assistance, and research related expenses.

4. Project teams are strongly encouraged to publish and disseminate results in the peer-reviewed literature and more broadly. Recognizing that different partnerships will be at different stages of development, teams are expected to share either a published product or a plan and timeline for publishing products at the February 2019 session. Published products may include: a paper submitted to the Poverty Solutions Working Paper Series; a presentation of results at a conference or academic forum; a grant proposal for continued funding related to the original project; or a peer-reviewed publication. Research teams are also strongly encouraged to disseminate results through policy briefs, community meetings, town hall meetings, fact sheets and local media outlets.

Selection Criteria

Applications will be evaluated by senior scholars affiliated with Poverty Solutions. Proposals will be evaluated based upon several factors, including:

- the degree to which the study builds knowledge that informs the understanding of
- interventions, programs, or policies that seek to prevent or alleviate poverty;
- the quality of the research design, including the appropriate research methodology;
- the feasibility of the proposed study to be completed during the funding period;
- preference will be given for projects with inter-disciplinary collaborations. This might take the form of participation by a scholar or mentor from another unit or discipline than the principal investigator; and

Additional Criteria:
- While not a requirement, preference will be given to applications that meet the above criteria and incorporate U-M students into the project.
  Application Instructions

Applicants should submit their proposal via email to povertysolutions@umich.edu. **Proposals must be received by 11:59 PM Eastern Standard Time on Monday, November 13, 2017**. The proposal should be submitted as a single PDF file that includes the following elements in the order listed below:

1. A cover sheet with:
   - The title of the proposed research
   - Researcher names and departmental affiliations with mailing addresses, email addresses, and phone and fax numbers
   - Contact information for your department's grant manager or financial administrator
   - A lead corresponding principal investigator (PI) must be identified. This person will be treated as the primary point of contact.

2. A one-page, double-spaced abstract describing the study's specific aims, data and methods, and relevance of the project to informing strategies to prevent and alleviate poverty. Explicitly connect research to future intervention, program or policy implications.

3. A project narrative of 6 double-spaced pages (excluding figures and references). The narrative should include sections that:

   a. describe the specific aims of the study (1 page),
   b. **very** briefly summarize the relevant literature (1 page),
   c. present major hypotheses or research questions (1/2 page),
   d. describe the research/intervention design, proposed methodology and data sources (2 pages),
   e. indicate how the proposed project will build knowledge that will inform interventions, programs and policies that seek to prevent and alleviate poverty (1 page),
   f. describe how results will be disseminated in the peer-review literature and more broadly (1/2 page).

   Long literature reviews should not be submitted. Place emphasis on items (c), (d) and (e).

4. An itemized budget and a budget narrative that explains each line item. Please detail

each funding item requested. Appropriate research expenses include:

- Research assistance (support of students is strongly encouraged)
- Funds to support data collection and analysis (such as transcription or fees to access data)
- Investigator time (up to the equivalent of 1 summer month)
- Research-related travel

5. A project timeline listing specific milestones for study completion. The timeline must be within the period from January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018.

6. *Curriculum vitae* for all investigators.

7. A letter of support/commitment from a U-M department, specifically accepting administrative responsibility for managing the grant.

8. Human subjects review approval (often a waiver in the case of secondary data analysis) is required for all projects before funding can be dispersed.

Timeline of Important Dates

Deadline for Receipt of Proposals..............	November 13, 2017
Notification of Award	December 18, 2017
Project Start Date.....................................	January 1, 2018
Mid-Way Progress Report Due...	July 13, 2018
Project End Date.....................................	December 31, 2018
Final Report Due	January 31, 2019

Contact Information

Direct questions to:

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