








integrated Translational Health Research Institute of Virginia

June
2022

In this Issue

iTHRIV Announces New Funding Opportunities.....1

iTHRIV Researcher Spotlight: O’Brien and Wood2

iTHRIV Under the Microscope: Katie Rea3

Meet an iTHRIV Scholar Mentor: Lee Ritterband4

Resource Highlight – iTHRIV has a YouTube Channel5

iTHRIV Announces Two Funding Opportunities

The Integrated Translational Health Research Institute of Virginia ([iTHRIV](#)) is announcing two funding opportunities: one to support innovative approaches to clinical and translational research and one to support community engaged research. Proposals for both opportunities are due by August 29th, 2022.

The first opportunity supports researchers at any iTHRIV institution. **The iTHRIV Pilot Translational and Clinical Studies Program** has \$200,000 in available funding to support innovative approaches to clinical and translational research. Proposals can include the full range of translation from laboratory to the clinical area.

This program is designed to help researchers transition from early stage seed grants and proof-of-concept studies to translational research and clinical application. Detailed information about this request for proposals can be found on the [iTHRIV website](#). Single-iTHRIV institution teams may request \$25,000 in direct costs, and multi-iTHRIV institution teams may request \$50,000 in direct costs. Researchers are strongly encouraged to register and attend a [virtual information session at noon](#) on July 11th, 2022. “This funding supports researchers in making meaningful discoveries and facilitates their research getting to the next stage”, states Sean Moore, MD, Director of the iTHRIV Pilot Studies Program.

[Earlier this year, iTHRIV awarded pilot funding](#) to teams exploring AI approaches to combat operating room waste, methods to detect rejection of transplanted lungs, chronic obesity, telepsychiatry, and the neural pathways of self-harm.

The second funding opportunity supports community organization and iTHRIV researcher collaborations. **The Community Organization and Research Institution Partnership Grant** has \$80,000 in available funding to support community engaged research projects which may address direct health outcomes, health disparities, and/or social determinants of health.

This funding opportunity is specifically seeking applications that aim to reduce health disparities and improve health among communities that experience poorer health outcomes and have historically been excluded from opportunities to engage in research (e.g. racial/ethnic minorities, rural communities, women, low-income families). Detailed information on this request for proposals can also be found on the [iTHRIV website](#). Researchers and community organizations are required to attend one pre-proposal virtual information session. Sessions will be held at 9am on [July 14, 2022](#) and at noon on [August 9, 2022](#). “By working together, community organizations and our iTHRIV researchers can directly impact the health of our communities in the state of Virginia”, says Sophie Wenzel, PhD, iTHRIV Community Grant Program Manager.

[Previously funded projects are studying](#) how culturally tailored interventions influence behavioral practices among the Latinx population and examining how the availability of resources and education effect engagement in treatment of patients with Hepatitis C.

iTHRIV, a Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA) partnership between the University of Virginia, Virginia Tech, Carilion Clinic and Inova, combines the expertise of biomedical researchers and data scientists to create resources for using data to improve health across the Commonwealth of Virginia. The institute is supported by the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences, part of the National Institutes of Health, through award number UL1TR003015.

Researcher Spotlight: O'Brien and Wood

Two Inova nurse scientists, Drs. Anne-Marie O'Brien and Elyssa Wood, who are members of iTHRIV, are conducting this survey as part of iTHRIV's efforts to address health equity in Virginia...

Watch the video here: <https://youtu.be/UT9iR3e9xn8>

The graphic features a central text area with a light green background. The text reads: "What do you think about health research? We would love to hear from you!". To the right of the text is a circular inset photograph showing four people (three women and one man) sitting and smiling. The graphic is decorated with large, colorful abstract shapes in shades of green, pink, and orange. At the bottom, there is a row of logos for Carilion Clinic, Virginia Tech, University of Virginia, and Inova. To the right of these logos is the iTHRIV logo, which includes the text "iTHRIV" in a stylized font and the identifiers "UL1TR003015 / KL2TR003016" below it.

iTHRIV Under the Microscope: Katie Rea

Katie Rea is the Clinical Research Manager at the School of Medicine Clinical Research Office (CTO) at UVA, where she has been working since January 2018. Her role involves providing mentoring, support, and education for clinical research coordinators and professionals across the School of Medicine.

She is motivated by helping to grow the clinical research professionals and providing knowledge and compassion to serve the community and research participants. Her excellent communication skills, ability to connect with people, creative thinking, and problem-solving skills are crucial to her success. She interfaces with iTHRIV through the Workforce Development Committee, and UVA SOM Clinical Research Education Sessions are offered to iTHRIV partner sites.

In her free time, Katie enjoys camping, hopping from one sporting event to another with her teenagers, and keeping an eye on her "mini farm," which currently includes bunnies, ducks, chickens, and two dogs.



Meet an iTHRIV Scholar Mentor

Lee Ritterband

Professor, Psychiatry and Neurobehavioral Sciences, University of Virginia School of Medicine

“Dr. Ritterband is my advocate and trusted colleague. He has helped me build my confidence in academic skillsets where my experience was more limited, while pushing me to continue to grow in those skillsets where I have more experience. He has created a protected role and environment where I can develop my own research program and contribute meaningfully to the work of my colleagues.” - **Kelly Shafer, PhD**



Resource Highlight – iTHRIV Has YouTube Channel!

iTHRIV has a YouTube Channel

Watch lectures, meet the iTHRIV Scholars, and discover other valuable video resources!

[Check it out!](#)

The screenshot shows the YouTube channel page for iTHRIV Video Resources. At the top, there is a search bar and a 'SIGN IN' button. The channel name 'iTHRIV Video Resources' is displayed with a logo of a green plant and '9 subscribers'. A red 'SUBSCRIBE' button is in the top right. Below the channel name are navigation tabs: HOME, VIDEOS, PLAYLISTS (which is selected), CHANNELS, and ABOUT. The main content area is titled 'Created playlists' and features a 'SORT BY' dropdown menu. There are seven playlist cards visible, each with a video thumbnail, a title, and a 'VIEW FULL PLAYLIST' link. The first row contains five cards: 'Researcher Check-In' (updated today), '2022 Voices in Clinical Translational Science Series' (updated today), 'BERD Lectures', 'Equity in Health and Research', and 'iTHRIV Scholars 2021 Cohort'. The second row shows three more cards: one with a woman's face, one with a blue background and 'NIH Update', and one with a man's face.