

Virginia COVID-19 Working Group Meeting 6/12/2020

Project Updates

- Proposal is under EVMS IRB review and Josh will keep the group updated.
- Pre-review is in process and we expect to receive that feedback by COB today.
- The next full board review will be on July 2nd.
- After that point, the proposal will need to be accepted by the GMU IRB.
- Next week we will focus on communication strategies. Going forward we will divide our time between communication strategies and grant work.

Discussion of R01 Opportunities

- Two opportunities were discussed by the group:
 - Notice of Special Interest: Health Services Research on Minority Health and Health Disparities (R01- Clinical Trial Optional): <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-MD-20-011.html>
 - We still believe our project is a good fit for this opportunity after our conversation with the PO. She indicated that the breadth of our aims may be a bit overly ambitious, and we are revising accordingly.
 - Keith has made edits to the aims and Dr. Dodani requested that the rest of the team send her any further edits this weekend.
 - The Conafay group can assist with this process as we move forward (this is true for all of the grants we are looking at).
 - Dr. Dodani suggested a multi-PI setup where EVMS, GMU, and Vibrent are each PIs.
 - Notice of Intent to Publish a Funding Opportunity Announcement for Digital healthcare interventions to address the secondary health effects related to social, behavioral, and economic impact of COVID-19 (R01 - Clinical Trial Optional): <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/not-mh-20-058.html>
 - PJ suggested that this opportunity may be a good fit for our work given all that we have already been doing around secondary health effects and health disparities.
 - Group members expressed concern based on the fact that our current plan includes no intervention and is more descriptive in nature.
 - However, PJ explained that Vibrent does have experience with delivering interventions via their platform. Dave Klein described Vibrent's "mood module" and how that could be tailored to put forth an intervention. Vibrent also has the capacity for a nurse or social worker to be flagged in cases where a higher level of intervention is needed.
 - In the case of our group, this would require a redesign of what we are proposing.
 - We also noted that this project/intervention would be focused on mental health.
 - We will need to talk with the program officer to be sure that this is completely in line with the idea of a digital intervention.

- Keith suggested that given how different these two ideas are it may make sense to have this as two different projects with different teams and Vibrant as the connecting piece. Keith will connect with PJ and Dave separately regarding this RFP. They will then move forward with talking to the program officer.
- During the meeting, PJ pulled up another brand new NOSI related to digital health interventions that we can look into as well:
<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/not-mh-20-053.html>

Discussion of U01/U54 Opportunities

- Amy provided an update based on the brainstorming call between representatives from GMU, EVMS, UVA, and the Conafay Group. The group discussed ongoing work on Cancer and COVID-19.
- Group agreed that the work would be a very big lift with a short timeframe (deadlines are June 22nd) and will come to a decision early next week. There was interest in continuing these discussions.
- U01 information: <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-CA-20-039.html>
- U54 information: <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-CA-20-038.html>

Action Items:

- Dr. Dodani requested that the rest of the team send her any edits on the aims this weekend. Please work off the latest version that Keith sent around. Dr. Dodani will then revise.
- Keith will connect with PJ and Dave separately regarding the digital health RFP. They will then move forward with talking to the program officer.