CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCE AWARD | National Institutes of Health

Partners













What is a Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA)?

These grants from the National Institutes of Health help researchers develop ways to reduce the time it takes for scientific discoveries to become treatments for patients. When fully implemented, the program will link a network of approximately 60 medical research institutions across the country.

Last year, Marshall University joined a group of regional institutions—led by the University of Kentucky—to apply for CTSA funding. NIH has announced that the University of Kentucky project is among the 2011 CTSA recipients.

What is Marshall's involvement?

Marshall will be awarded a subcontract of up to approximately \$750,000 over the course of the five-year grant to fund **scientists** in its clinical research program, and to support training **fellowships** and **early stage clinical research trials**.

Marshall also will benefit from:

- Access to the expertise and research networks at the University of Kentucky's Center for Clinical and Translational Science;
- Opportunities to apply for research grants accessible only through the CTSA network; and
- Expansion of its research capacity by leveraging the direct and follow-on grant funds with state and federal matching.

In return, Marshall will bring to the partnership its strengths in rural medicine, genomics/gene editing, and nutrition and cancer research. Key to the collaboration are the university's **Robert C. Byrd Center for Rural Health** and its network of rural health clinics, and leading researchers at the **Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine** and the **Marshall Institute for Interdisciplinary Research**.

What does this grant mean for health care?

This collaborative project will ultimately result in better health care for the citizens of West Virginia and the entire Appalachian community.

Through the CTSA network, investigators are already working together in new ways to advance medical research on many of the diseases and conditions—cancer, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, obesity and neurological disorders—that disproportionately affect those who live in the region.

This award will allow Marshall to tap into this national resource to help speed the translation of laboratory discoveries into treatments for patients, to more fully engage rural communities in clinical research efforts, and to train a new generation of clinical and translational researchers.

What does this grant mean for West Virginia?

This new partnership is not limited to the institutions that directly applied for the grant. With Marshall's successful leadership on the state level, other West Virginia higher education institutions and medical schools can join this exciting project and benefit from the association with the national CTSA network.