Supports and Benefits of the Nebraska Center for Research on Children, Youth, Families and Schools (CYFS)

CYFS is an institutional priority whose faculty affiliates span the campuses of the NU system. CYFS provides several specific benefits and supports to faculty and graduate student affiliates, including involvement in targeted research dialogues, participation on interdisciplinary collaborative research teams, and assistance with all stages of research conceptualization, grant development and project execution. **Assistance is provided through a number of CYFS core supports and services for faculty and graduate student affiliates preparing, submitting, and conducting grant-related CYFS research:**

- Proposal Preparation and Coordination
- Methodology, Analytics, and Psychometrics (Research Design and Data Analysis)
- Grant Management
- Office Management
- Communications and Technology (Web, Media and Technology)

Examples of the range of concrete supports for research and grant submissions include:

- **Hands-on support during grant proposal development & submission**
  - Project conceptualization
  - Identification of funding mechanisms
  - Proposal construction and review
  - Preparation of required forms and assurances
  - Grant submission

- **Methodological support**
  - Support in determining appropriate methods and refining analytic plans
  - Assistance with data analysis

- **Data collection, management and analysis**
  - On-line survey development
  - Database development for data collection, storage and management
  - Access to high end server for large database storage and efficient processing

- **Budgetary support**
  - Pre-award budget development
  - Regular and accessible grant budget reporting

- **Promotion of research capacity**
  - Recruitment of partners (e.g., co-investigators, key personnel, implementation evaluators)
  - Staff recruitment (e.g., graduate assistants, technical support)
  - Intra- and inter-university networking

- **Dissemination/visibility/networking**
  - Showcasing of research and grant work via the web/mailings
  - Media releases associated with research programs and specific projects
  - Opportunity to participate in intra- and inter-university meetings
Support from each of the CYFS core units is provided free of charge to faculty and graduate students for the work associated with scouting, preparing, and submitting grants. In return, grants are routed through CYFS and “housed” in the Center upon funding.

For grants routed through CYFS, research teams have access to several targeted post-award services to fully support project execution. Nominal charges are incurred for these post-award services. Methodological and statistical support services are available at a pre-determined hourly rate through the MAP Academy. To meet research objectives that require web, technology, media and communications support, the specific services of the Communications and Technology support unit are also available at a pre-determined hourly rate. In these cases, project expenses for the MAP Academy and the Communications and Technology Unit are included in the grant budget during pre-award development at a level commensurate to the scope of work.

In all cases, a minimum of 3% of total direct costs is included in grant budgets at the time of submission to defray the costs of providing extensive post-award grant coordination and management (e.g., detailed budget reporting, facilitation of travel, technology support).

If you are interested in learning more about CYFS, becoming a faculty affiliate, or submitting a CYFS-supported grant, please contact Dr. Sue Sheridan, Director, at 402-472-6941 or ssheridan2@unl.edu.