

Dear Researchers and Faculty Members:

Enclosed are the application materials for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' (CMS) Office of Research, Development, and Information (ORDI) 2009 Hispanic Health Services Research Grant Program. The grant program is designed to: 1) Encourage health services researchers to pursue research issues which impact Hispanic Medicare, Medicaid, and SCHIP health disparities issues, 2) conduct outreach activities to apprise Hispanic researchers of funding availability to conduct research-related issues affecting Hispanic American communities to expand the pool of applicants applying for such grants, 3) assist CMS in implementing its mission focusing on health care quality and improvement for its beneficiaries, 4) support extramural research in health care capacity development activities for the Hispanic American communities, 5) promote research that will be aimed at developing a better understanding of health care services issues pertaining to Hispanic Americans, and 6) foster a network for communication and collaboration regarding Hispanic health care issues.

ORDI is responsible for administering this grant program. The enclosed application kit has been prepared to facilitate your preparation of a grant application. The application kit contains a description of the program and application procedures and provides the forms and information necessary to prepare and submit the application.

Prospective applicants are asked to submit a letter of intent by May 27, 2009, to assist us in planning and identifying appropriate peer reviewers. The application is due by the close of business on June 26, 2009. Please review the enclosed application materials carefully.

**Please note that the current application has been revised.**

If you have any questions regarding this program or would like additional information, please call Dr. Richard Bragg, Coordinator, Minority Health Services Research Program, at (410) 786-7250.

It is our hope that this grant program will assist you in successfully addressing the changing health care needs faced by the Hispanic American population.

Sincerely,

Timothy P. Love  
Director  
Office of Research, Development, and Information

Enclosure