



## **DR. IAN AND SHIRLEY ROWE TRAINEE AWARD TO EXPLORE INNOVATIVE WAYS OF MANAGING PSYCHOSIS IN THE COMMUNITY**

### **DESCRIPTION**

The purpose of the Dr. Ian and Shirley Rowe Trainee Award To Explore Innovative Ways of Managing Psychosis in the Community (hereinafter referred to as the "Dr. Ian and Shirley Rowe Trainee Award") is to provide a PhD candidate with seed funding for a pilot project that explores innovative approaches to address the hospital-home transition, and to enable individuals living with schizophrenia, schizoaffective disorder, or mood disorders with psychosis and lack of awareness/anosognosia, as well as their families/caregivers, to thrive within the community.

The goal of the project should be to increase adherence to recommended interventions with fewer involuntary readmissions and to support research that will bolster the continuum of services delivered to individuals and their families and create a bridge between Hospital and Community\*. Further, this award will encourage trainees to choose mental health and specifically schizophrenia research as a research focus.

*\*Community includes support through: In/Outpatient programs, health care teams, municipal health units, family practices, and care groups throughout the Province of Ontario and beyond.*

The intent of the funding is to provide an opportunity for the design of studies and collection of pilot data:

1. that will support the application for larger grants from agencies such as the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, the Ontario, and the National Institutes of Mental Health, or
2. facilitate knowledge translation to bolster more effective mental health in-community services thereby strengthening the health care system through fewer readmissions.

## PROCESS

Please go to The Research Institute of St. Joe's Hamilton [website](#) to access the application. The Dr. Ian and Shirley Rowe Trainee Award competition consists of a single application process for eligible doctoral students. All applicants will be notified of the results in July of that competition year.

## FUNDING

The value of the grant is a one-time award of up to \$15,000.00 (CAD) and funding would generally start in September. The number of awards on offer for any given year's competition is dependent upon funding availability and will be communicated on The Research Institute [website](#). **Projects must be completed within 2 years** from the start of the grant.

## EXCLUSIONS

Projects that focus on genomic expression, pharmacological treatment, laboratory studies, or exploration of the pathophysiology of psychosis are excluded.

## PROJECT PROPOSAL

The research project (including pilot studies) must conform to the following requirements:

- 1) Must be evidence-based, novel, and act as a catalyst to advance research examining how to address the hospital-home transition and support the community coping needs of individuals and families living with schizophrenia, schizoaffective disorder, or related mood disorders with psychosis and lack of awareness and insight into their illness.
- 2) Must be feasible to complete within a two-year period.
- 3) Must support one of a combination of the following strategies:
  - Promote successful adherence to treatment for individuals with psychosis who have deficits in illness, awareness and insight, and assist in the prevention of future relapses;
  - Support successful transition into the community, to independent living, and a productive lifestyle; or
  - Assist family members in understanding and supporting patients who have deficits in awareness and insight and offer the opportunity to leverage technology, such as virtual visits, social media and artificial intelligence.
- 4) Must include a budget and justification of how the funds will be allocated.

## APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

Available to registered Doctoral students undertaking full-time studies leading to a Doctoral degree at McMaster University, and working under the supervision of an active research investigator affiliated with The Research Institute of St. Joe's Hamilton in an appropriate category (refer to the research institute policy **002-RSJ-H Researcher Affiliation with Research St. Joseph's – Hamilton**); in good standing.

The applicant and supervisor's research activities must be principally located at one of the St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton campuses.

Doctoral students must provide documentation of having achieved PhD candidate status in order to draw funding.

## PREPARATION OF APPLICATION

Please go to the Research Institute of St. Joe's Hamilton [website](#) to access the application. **Applicants must submit their application no later than 11:59pm EST on April 30.**

**Late or incomplete submissions will not be accepted under any circumstance.**

## REVIEW PROCESS

Applications will be reviewed by a committee (hereinafter referred to as the "Committee"), struck by the Scientific Director. The review criteria for the Application include:

Applicant & Supervisor Information:

- Applicants' Curriculum Vitae
- Publication Activity
- Other Research Activity (i.e. abstracts, patents)
- Academic Transcripts
- Supervisor Letter of Support
- Supervisor CCV

Project Information:

- Originality
- Background Preparation
- Research Project – Background, Design, Feasibility, Impact
- Research Resources and Mentoring Environment
- Impact on Patient Care and/or Healthcare
- Knowledge Translation Plan
- Budget

## **NOTIFICATION OF AWARD**

The following conditions will be observed when notifying candidates on the status of their application:

- The recommendations of the Committee will be forwarded to the Scientific Director, who is the final authority for approval.
- The deliberations of the Committee are confidential.
- All awardee(s) will be required to sign a terms and conditions agreement prior to receipt of funding.
- Applicants who were Doctoral students at the time of the application must provide proof they have achieved PhD candidate status in order to participate.
- All applicants will be notified of the results of their application in July of the competition year.

## **REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

The award recipient must complete and submit an annual progress report on the anniversary of their award funding. This report will be reviewed by the Scientific Director and the recipient will be notified accordingly. A final completion report will be due to The Research Institute of St. Joe's Hamilton upon completion of the award term, which should highlight how the results will be disseminated, put into practice, or provide a foundation for funding from larger agencies.

An in-person presentation of the research findings leading into where the research might lead will be discussed with the Rowe family, who will also receive a copy of the final report.