

## **Describing the CTSC in a Grant Application**

For 18 years, the Clinical and Translational Science Collaborative (CTSC) at Case Western Reserve University (CWRU) has integrated research efforts. Our partners include seven institutions across Northern Ohio--CWRU, Cleveland Clinic, MetroHealth System, University Hospitals of Cleveland, the VA Northeast Ohio Healthcare System, the University of Toledo School of Medicine, and Northeast Ohio Medical University. Throughout its history, the CTSC has strengthened the quality and scope of clinical and translational science by advancing research models, technologies, and investigator training. It has supported the development of new researchers, promoted collaboration among investigators, built effective partnerships with industry and local organizations, and enabled the launch of numerous startup ventures. In this iteration, the Clinical and Translational Science Collaborative of Northern Ohio's mission Catalyzing Linkages for Everyone's Health (CLE Health), which will focus on expanding research engagement and enhancing the effectiveness of health interventions across various settings. Persistent variation in key health indicators, such as life expectancy, chronic disease rates, and access to care, reflects the need for more consistent integration of research into practice. Inconsistencies in recruitment and enrollment across clinical studies may limit the broader applicability and operational impact of research findings. This initiative will 1) examine and address barriers to participation in clinical research to support broader engagement; 2) enhance collaborative efforts by strengthening coordination with institutional partners and community collaborators; 3) develop and implement research programs that extend the reach and effectiveness of health interventions across a variety of clinical settings; and 4) provide practical training and education for research professionals at all career stages. To support these goals, the CTSC has established a Strategic Management Core and six key operational components: Workforce Development, Community and Stakeholder Engagement, Resources and Services, CTS Pilot Programs, Health Informatics, and CTS Research Program Support. The CTSC remains focused on practical, results-driven collaboration to improve health research and outcomes across Northern Ohio and beyond.