Attachment: RCMI Leadership Survey

This attachment includes screenshots for each part of the RCMI Leadership Survey.

Evaluation of the Research Centers in Minority Institutions (RCMIs) Program

Thank you for taking the time to participate in this survey. The National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) has contracted with Ripple Effect, an independent research and evaluation firm, to conduct a retrospective evaluation of the Research Centers in Minority Institutions (RCMIs) Program to determine the program's outcomes, innovations, and impacts.

You have been invited to participate in this survey because of your current role as an RCMI Principal Investigator (PI), Co-PI (NIH uses the term Multiple PI (MPI)), or an RCMI Core Director. We are interested in learning about your experience as a member of the RCMI leadership team at your institution, and your perceptions of the impact of the RCMI award on the research infrastructure at your institution, careers of early-stage investigators, advancements in the fields of minority health and health disparities research, and development of sustainable research partnerships with communities and non-academic organizations.

Your name will not be attributed to any of your responses. Instead, responses will be aggregated and reported by participant type. When all the surveys are complete, a summary report of the findings will be shared with NIMHD to help inform future decisions about the RCMI program.

Burden Disclosure Statement: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 - 20 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to: NIH, Project Clearance Branch, 6705 Rockledge Drive, MSC 7974, Bethesda, MD 20892-7974, ATTN: PRA (#0925-0766). Do not return the completed form to this address.

Thank you in advance for your willingness to participate in this survey; your responses are important and will provide valuable insight into the outcomes associated with the implementation of RCMI programs and highlight opportunities for improvement.

If you have any questions or concerns about the survey, please contact Dr. Maysaa Alobaidi at MAlobaidi@rippleeffect.com.

By clicking on the "I consent" box below, you are indicating that you consent to participate in this survey.

I consent

I do not consent (exit survey)

→

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Are you currently affiliated with an RCMI Center?

Yes

No

Prefer not to answer

← →

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With which RCMI Center are you currently affiliated?

[dropdown]

Please select the option(s) that best describe your current role(s) with your current RCMI Center [select all that apply]?

RCMI Principal Investigator (PI) - (a PI is the individual listed as the principal investigator on the main RCMI award and is responsible for directing the overall RCMI award)

RCMI Co-PI - (a Co-PI or MPI is an investigator who shares scientific and administrative leadership responsibilities for a project with the PI)

RCMI Administrative Core (Co-) Director

RCMI Research Infrastructure Core (Co-) Director

RCMI Investigator Development Core (Co-) Director

RCMI Community Engagement Core (Co-) Director

RCMI Recruitment Core (Co-) Director

Other (please specify)

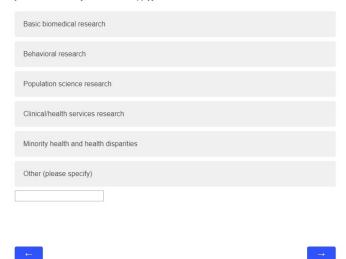[text field]

Prefer not to answer

← →

Please select the option(s) that best describe your role(s) with the RCMI Center [select all that apply]?

RCMI Principal Investigator (PI) - (a PI is the individual listed as the principal investigator on the main RCMI award and is responsible for directing the overall RCMI award)

RCMI Co-PI - (a Co-PI or MPI is an investigator who shares scientific and administrative leadership responsibilities for a project with the PI)

RCMI Administrative Core (Co-) Director

RCMI Research Infrastructure Core (Co-) Director

RCMI Investigator Development Core (Co-) Director

RCMI Community Engagement Core (Co-) Director

RCMI Recruitment Core (Co-) Director

Other (please specify)

Prefer not to answer

← →

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Which of the following scientific areas are addressed by research projects supported by your RCMI Center [Select all that apply]?

Basic biomedical research

Behavioral research

Population science research

Clinical/health services research

Minority health and health disparities

Other (please specify)

[ ]

← →

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We are interested in learning about the research development resources and support that are available at your institution outside of the RCMI Center.

Does your institution have a university-wide research development office that supports investigators in achieving their research goals?

Yes

No

Unsure

← →

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Do investigators at your institution have access to any of the following research development resources? [select all that apply]

Proposal development support

Internal seed funding for research

Grant writing workshops

Support navigating through internal pre- and post-award processes

Support arranging for peer review of grant proposals

Dissemination of funding opportunities

Facilitating collaborative proposal submissions

Access to administrative staff, lab staff, postdoctoral scholars, and graduate and undergraduate students.

Other (please specify)

None of the above

←

→

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Which of the following resources are offered to investigators at your institution through the university-wide research development office [select all that apply]:

Proposal development support

Internal seed funding for research

Grant writing workshops

Support navigating through internal pre- and post-award processes

Support arranging for peer review of grant proposals

Dissemination of funding opportunities

Facilitating collaborative proposal submissions

Access to administrative staff, lab staff, postdoctoral scholars, and graduate and undergraduate students

Other (please specify)

None of the above

←

→

Are there certain types of research development resources that investigators need but do not currently have access to at your institution?

Yes

No

Unsure

← →

Please list additional research development resources that are needed but are not currently available to investigators at your institution.

← →

To what extent do faculty at your institution interact with the RCMI Coordinating Center to seek each of the following?

	Not at all	To a small extent	To a moderate extent	To a large extent	To a very large extent	I do not have knowledge in this area
Support for grant proposal development	O	O	O	O	O	O
Support for research implementation (e.g., statistical analysis, bioinformatics support)	O	O	O	O	O	O
Support for clinical research (e.g., review of clinical study protocols, design of Case Report Form (CRF), access to clinical trial management system (CTMS), etc.)	O	O	O	O	O	O
Senior mentors in a particular field	O	O	O	O	O	O
Collaborators on research projects or grant applications	O	O	O	O	O	O
Access to research RCMI Coordinating Center research clusters	O	O	O	O	O	O

← →

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To what extent have RCMI award funds contributed to developing or enhancing the following aspects of research infrastructure at your institution?

	Not at all	To a small extent	To a moderate extent	To a large extent	To a very large extent	Not applicable
Physical infrastructure (e.g., buildings, offices, lab space, etc.)	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Lab equipment (e.g., microscopes, spectrometers, sequencers, etc.)	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Administrative support (e.g., creating or expanding research development office and/or services, hiring research administration staff, award management support, etc.)	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Workforce development support (e.g., mentoring program, training courses, seminars, workshops, etc.)	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Research partnerships with non-academic organizations (e.g., support to establish and foster partnerships with community organizations, healthcare organizations, faith-based organizations, schools, etc.)	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯

→

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Which of the following groups have been served by the research infrastructure and resources that were developed or enhanced using RCMI award funds at your institution? [Select all that apply]

	RCMI faculty and researchers	Non-RCMI faculty and researchers	Clinical faculty and students	Graduate students (masters- or doctoral-level)	Not applicable
Physical infrastructure (e.g., buildings, offices, lab space, etc.)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Lab equipment (e.g., microscopes, spectrometers, sequencers, etc.)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Administrative support (e.g., creating or expanding research development office and/or services, hiring research administration staff, award management support, etc.)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Workforce development support (e.g., mentoring program, training courses, seminars, workshops, etc.)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Research partnerships with non-academic organizations (e.g., support to establish and foster partnerships with community organizations, healthcare organizations, faith-based organizations, schools, etc.)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

← →

In your opinion, which of the following research and investigator development areas have been most positively impacted by the RCMI Center at your institution? **[Please select up to 3 most positively impacted areas]**

Research productivity (e.g., the number of peer-reviewed scientific publications produced by RCMI faculty and researchers)

The quality of research produced by RCMI faculty and researchers (e.g., research studies with a high level of methodological rigor and impact)

Commercialization potential of research produced by RCMI faculty and researchers (e.g., number of applications for/awards of patents)

Ability to secure grant funding from different sources

Access to interdisciplinary and/or cross-institutional research collaborations

Access to research partnerships with non-academic organizations and/or communities

Access to health policy experts and resources

Access to resources to create courses or training programs to develop competencies needed for conducting minority health and health disparity research

Access to opportunities to conduct translational research projects (e.g., clinical trials, implementation science studies, dissemination trials) with emphasis on communities disproportionately impacted by health disparities

Other (please specify)

[   ]

What type of research collaborations were facilitated by the RCMI Center? [Select all that apply]

Collaborations among RCMI faculty at your institution

Collaborations between RCMI Faculty at your institution and RCMI faculty at other institutions

Interdisciplinary collaborations between RCMI and non-RCMI faculty at your institution

Collaborations with non-academic organizations (e.g., community-based organizations, healthcare organizations, faith-based organizations, schools, etc.)

Collaborations with industry groups (e.g., pharmaceutical industry)

Other (please specify)

[   ]

The RCMI Center at my institution has not facilitated any collaborations

→

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Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements about collaborations facilitated by the RCMI award:

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
The RCMI collaborations have facilitated knowledge generation and transfer among researchers from different disciplines within your institution	O	O	O	O	O	O
The RCMI collaborations have facilitated resource sharing among different departments and/or schools within your institution	O	O	O	O	O	O
The RCMI collaborations have led to the development of innovative solutions to research problems	O	O	O	O	O	O
The RCMI collaborations have provided opportunities to expand health disparities research at your institution	O	O	O	O	O	O
The RCMI collaborations have provided opportunities for RCMI faculty to publish in high-quality journals	O	O	O	O	O	O

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
The RCMI collaborations have created opportunities to improve commercial application of research results	O	O	O	O	O	O
The RCMI collaborations have contributed positively to improve translation of research to real world solutions	O	O	O	O	O	O
The RCMI collaborations have contributed positively to graduate student training	O	O	O	O	O	O
The RCMI collaborations have contributed positively to the career enhancement of early-stage investigators	O	O	O	O	O	O

← →

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To what extent has each of the following factors been experienced as a barrier by RCMI faculty aiming to engage in research collaborations at your institution?

	Not at all	To a small extent	To a moderate extent	To a large extent	To a very large extent	Not applicable
Misalignment of research interests among investigators	○	○	○	○	○	○
Varying research practices and priorities within different disciplines	○	○	○	○	○	○
Institutional and/or departmental administrative obstacles to collaborations	○	○	○	○	○	○

Please describe any other factors that you consider as barriers for RCMI faculty aiming to engage in research collaborations at your institution.

[ ]

← →

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Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statements. The RCMI Administrative Core at your institution is well-resourced to:

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
Support early-stage investigators' career enhancement activities.	O	O	O	O	O	O
Assess programmatic outcomes, overall and for each Center component, on a regular basis.	O	O	O	O	O	O
Promote collaboration amongst faculty within and outside the RCMI Center.	O	O	O	O	O	O
Perform other administrative functions related to the grant (e.g., preparation of grant renewal applications, preparation and submission of annual progress reports).	O	O	O	O	O	O

What are the main challenges faced by the RCMI Administrative Core at your institution?

[text box]

→

What type of research support, training, and/or career enhancement resources for early-stage investigators are supported by your RCMI Center? [select all that apply]

Pilot project awards

Assistance in finding potential collaborators at another RCMI

Assistance in identifying a senior faculty mentor

Assistance in identifying potential non-academic research partners

Assistance in setting up a research program at the university

Release time from teaching and/or advising

Access to research resources (e.g., biostatisticians, IT support, software, databases, etc.)

Access to research services (e.g., biological sample data collection and processing; survey support)

Leadership skills development workshops

Grant writing workshops

Training to enhance mentoring skills

Training to enhance science communication and publishing skills

Support participation in conferences or professional meetings

Other (please specify)

None of the above

Please describe what you think is the most significant contribution of the RCMI Center to enhancing the careers of early-stage investigators at your institution?

→

Does your RCMI Center have a Recruitment Core?

Yes

No

→

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Which of the following strategies have you found to be effective in identifying and recruiting potential faculty applicants through the RCMI Recruitment Core? [Select all that apply]

Contacted specific individuals at other institutions to invite them to apply

Sought out potential faculty applicants at professional meetings

Targeted departments and institutions with strong reputations for health disparities research

Advertised widely, including in diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) focused convenings and platforms

Other (please specify)

[   ]

What challenges did you encounter in recruiting and/or hiring new faculty through the RCMI Recruitment Core? [select all that apply]

Lack of institutional support (e.g., compensation, startup funds, space, etc.)

Difficulty in identifying candidates with the right type and level of expertise

Other (Please specify)

[   ]

Which of the following groups has your RCMI Center supported to conduct health disparities research at your institution (select all that apply):

Undergraduate students

Graduate students (master's and doctoral level)

Postdoctoral researchers

Nursing students

Medical students

Pharmacy students

Students from groups that are underrepresented in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM)

Other (please specify)

[   ]

None of the above

← →

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The next set of questions asks about community engagements and partnerships. The term community engagements or partnerships applies to activities to engage individuals representing communities, community organizations, and other professional organizations providing services to communities (e.g., healthcare, schools, faith-based organizations, etc.) in RCMI research activities.

To what extent is community engagement prioritized in your institution's research mission and strategy?

Not at all
To a small extent
To a moderate extent
To a large extent
To a very large extent
I don't know/Unsure
Not applicable

What type(s) of community-serving or community-based organizations or groups has your RCMI Center partnered with during the most recent award cycle [Select all that apply]?

Community health center/Federally Qualified Health Center
AIDS service organization
Community care access center
Mental health organization
Neighborhood association
Community board
Social service organization
Social justice organization
Community development organization
Community based organization
Faith-based organization
Advocacy organization
Cooperative extension program
Educational institution (e.g., primary or secondary schools)
Other (please specify)

[   ]

None of the above

In 2017, the RCMI Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) was changed to include requirements for community engagement. How have those changes impacted RCMI-community partnerships at your RCMI center? [Select all that apply]

The changes led to establishing additional RCMI-research partnerships
The changes expanded the scope and focus of research partnerships at my institution
The changes led to partnerships with more diverse organizations
There were no noticeable impacts
The changes negatively impacted basic biomedical and clinical research (e.g., diverted resources and attention away from these research areas)
Other (please specify)

[   ]

I don't know/Unsure

→

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In thinking about your RCMI center, to what extent have community-serving or community-based partner organizations or groups been involved in each of the following RCMI research activities:

	Not at all	To a small extent	To a moderate extent	To a large extent	To a very large extent	Not applicable
Identification of research priorities	O	O	O	O	O	O
Grant application development	O	O	O	O	O	O
Implementation of research activities	O	O	O	O	O	O
Recruitment of research participants	O	O	O	O	O	O
Data collection	O	O	O	O	O	O
Data management and analysis	O	O	O	O	O	O
Interpretation of data	O	O	O	O	O	O
Dissemination of research findings	O	O	O	O	O	O
Translation of findings to real world solutions	O	O	O	O	O	O
Preparation of progress reports for funding	O	O	O	O	O	O

←   →

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In thinking about your research, please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding the effectiveness of RCMI-community partnerships:
RCMI – community partnerships ...

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
Have been effective in achieving their goals	O	O	O	O	O	O
Have had a positive impact on the community	O	O	O	O	O	O
Have identified community-relevant problems on which to focus	O	O	O	O	O	O
Have fostered communication between RCMI and its research partners	O	O	O	O	O	O
Have empowered partners to participate in decision-making	O	O	O	O	O	O

← →

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How successful has the RCMI Center at your institution been in achieving each of the following goals for the RCMI-Community Partnerships?

	Not at all Successful	Slightly Successful	Moderately Successful	Very Successful	I do not have knowledge in this area
Increasing community's voice in research.	O	O	O	O	O
Contributing to policy, system and environment changes to promote health in communities with which the RCMI Center works.	O	O	O	O	O
Reducing health disparities through intervention and/or implementation science research.	O	O	O	O	O
Contributing to health promotion and/or disease prevention in communities with which the RCMI works.	O	O	O	O	O
Building the research capacity of partner organizations.	O	O	O	O	O

	Not at all Successful	Slightly Successful	Moderately Successful	Very Successful	I do not have knowledge in this area
Enabling partner organizations to obtain funding to support organizational and/or community-initiated research projects.	O	O	O	O	O
Expanding opportunities available to faculty and researchers at your institution to conduct translational and/or community-engaged research.	O	O	O	O	O
Expanding opportunities for faculty to address issues related to minority health and health disparities in their research.	O	O	O	O	O
Increasing the number of opportunities for students to participate in minority health and health disparities research.	O	O	O	O	O

← →

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Please describe what you think is the biggest achievement or greatest contribution of the RCMI Center to advancing your institution's research capacity, scientific knowledge, and/or the capacity of community partners to engage in research.

Please describe what you think is the biggest achievement or greatest contribution of the RCMI Center to the fields of minority health and health disparities research.

Do you have any recommendations for how the RCMI program can be improved?

Is there anything else that you would like to share about the RCMI program that would be helpful for this assessment?

→

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At any time during your affiliation with the RCMI program, did you meet the NIH definition of an Early-Stage Investigator?

Yes

No

Have you had any other roles with the RCMI Center aside from your current role as a member of the RCMI Center leadership team? [Select all that apply]

Leader of an RCMI core research project

Recipient of an RCMI pilot funding award

Funded faculty investigator on an RCMI research project

Other (please specify)

I have not had any other roles with the RCMI Center

→

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Please indicate the extent to which RCMI Center support has contributed to the achievement of your career development goals:

	Not at all	To a small extent	To a moderate extent	To a large extent	To a very large extent	Not applicable
Joining national-level scientific committees or review groups (e.g., National Institutes of Health (NIH), the National Science Foundation (NSF), the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM), etc.)	O	O	O	O	O	O
Transitioning to research independence (e.g., PI on NIH R01 or equivalent grant)	O	O	O	O	O	O
Obtaining tenure/ promotion	O	O	O	O	O	O
Receiving scientific awards or recognition	O	O	O	O	O	O

←   →

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Has the RCMI Center support contributed to your career enhancement in other ways?

Yes

No

Unsure

←   →

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Please describe additional ways in which the RCMI Center support has contributed to your career enhancement.

←   →

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What is your current academic rank?

Assistant Professor

Associate Professor

Professor

Other (please specify)

What is your primary scientific discipline?

Using a few key words, please describe in broad terms the current focus of your research.

Approximately, for how many years have you been involved with the RCMI program?

1 year or less

2-3 years

4-6 years

7-9 years

> 10 years

→

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What is your gender?

Male

Female

Transgender

Other (please specify)

[ ]

Prefer not to answer

What is your race?

American Indian or Alaska Native

Asian

Black or African American

Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

White

Prefer not to answer

What is your Ethnicity?

Hispanic or Latino

Not Hispanic or Latino

←   Submit