



## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

### **2019 AFTD Nonpharmacological Therapies Pilot Grant Revised Deadline for Applications: April 19, 2019**

AFTD Pilot Grants provide seed funding for innovative research projects in the preliminary stages of development with the potential to increase understanding and improve the diagnosis or treatment of frontotemporal degeneration (FTD) across the full spectrum of FTD disorders: behavioral variant FTD, primary progressive aphasia, progressive supranuclear palsy, corticobasal syndrome, and FTD-ALS. Pilot Grant-funded projects are intended to generate data that will support follow-on funding applications to the National Institutes of Health or other public or private agencies.

For the Nonpharmacological Therapies Pilot Grant, AFTD is seeking evidence-based research proposals for the development of nonpharmacological biological and psychosocial interventions with the potential to improve daily quality of life for FTD patients and families and mitigate caregiver burden. Study proposals should utilize existing objective efficacy measures (e.g., standardized test batteries), or, if such measures are currently unavailable, incorporate novel outcome measures developed and validated to address this gap.

Examples of research areas suitable for the Nonpharmacological Therapies Pilot Grant include (*but are not limited to*):

- Interventions that support cognitive, behavioral, language, or movement functionality to improve daily quality of life for persons diagnosed with an FTD disorder
- Caregiver interventions to improve psychological or physical health and well-being
- Lifestyle modification therapies that can be utilized in the home, community or assisted living facilities, which specifically address FTD concerns
- Development and validation of remote monitoring, symptom tracking technologies such as clinical apps, biosensors, or wearables that ease burden of multiple in-person clinic visits for data collection
- Collaborative care approaches integrating home care or community care, and treatment provided in the clinical setting
- Proposals that specifically target the needs of under-served or under-represented minority populations living with FTD

Projects focusing on drug therapies, biomarkers, or diagnostic strategies are not appropriate for this funding opportunity. Please contact AFTD's Scientific Director or Research Manager to discuss other possible AFTD funding options for such studies.

#### **Grant Specifics**

- One Nonpharmacological Therapies Pilot Grant will be awarded in 2019

- \$60,000 (US dollars), direct costs only
- One-year duration (July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020)
- PI salary (including fringe benefits) may represent no more than 10% of total budget (i.e., \$6,000)
- **The deadline for applications has been extended to Friday, April 19, 2019, 5:00 pm EDT (US)**

### **Eligibility**

- The Principal Investigator submitting the proposal must hold a faculty appointment, medical residency, or an equivalent position in a for-profit organization.
- New or early-career researchers within 10 years of their first faculty appointment or equivalent in a for-profit organization are particularly encouraged to apply.
- Postdoctoral researchers are not eligible to apply unless they can provide a letter of employment verifying they will have an Assistant Professor faculty position by the beginning of the funding period (July 1, 2019).
- Applicants who are new to the FTD field and/or do not have clinical research experience are strongly encouraged to provide a letter of support from a clinical mentor with FTD diagnosis/treatment expertise.
- US and international researchers are eligible to apply.

### **Application Procedure**

- To request a Pilot Grant application packet, contact Debra Niehoff, AFTD Research Manager, at [dniehoff@theaftd.org](mailto:dniehoff@theaftd.org).
- Completed applications should be submitted electronically to [grants+pilot@theaftd.org](mailto:grants+pilot@theaftd.org).
- Applications will be reviewed confidentially by AFTD and an external Scientific Review Panel which includes members of the AFTD Medical Advisory Council. The Research Committee of the AFTD Board of Directors, upon recommendation from the Review Panel, reserves the right to make final award determinations.

### **Contact Information**

For more information contact:

*Specific questions about the scientific or financial aspects of proposals:*

Nadine Tatton, PhD, Scientific Director  
Phone: 267-758-8644  
Email: [ntatton@theaftd.org](mailto:ntatton@theaftd.org)

*General questions about the Pilot Grant program or the application and review process:*

Debra Niehoff, PhD, Research Manager  
Phone: 267-758-8654  
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