

**ANNUAL REQUEST FOR
APPLICATIONS (RFA)
Informational Webinar**

Monday, July 20, 2026



COLUMBIA

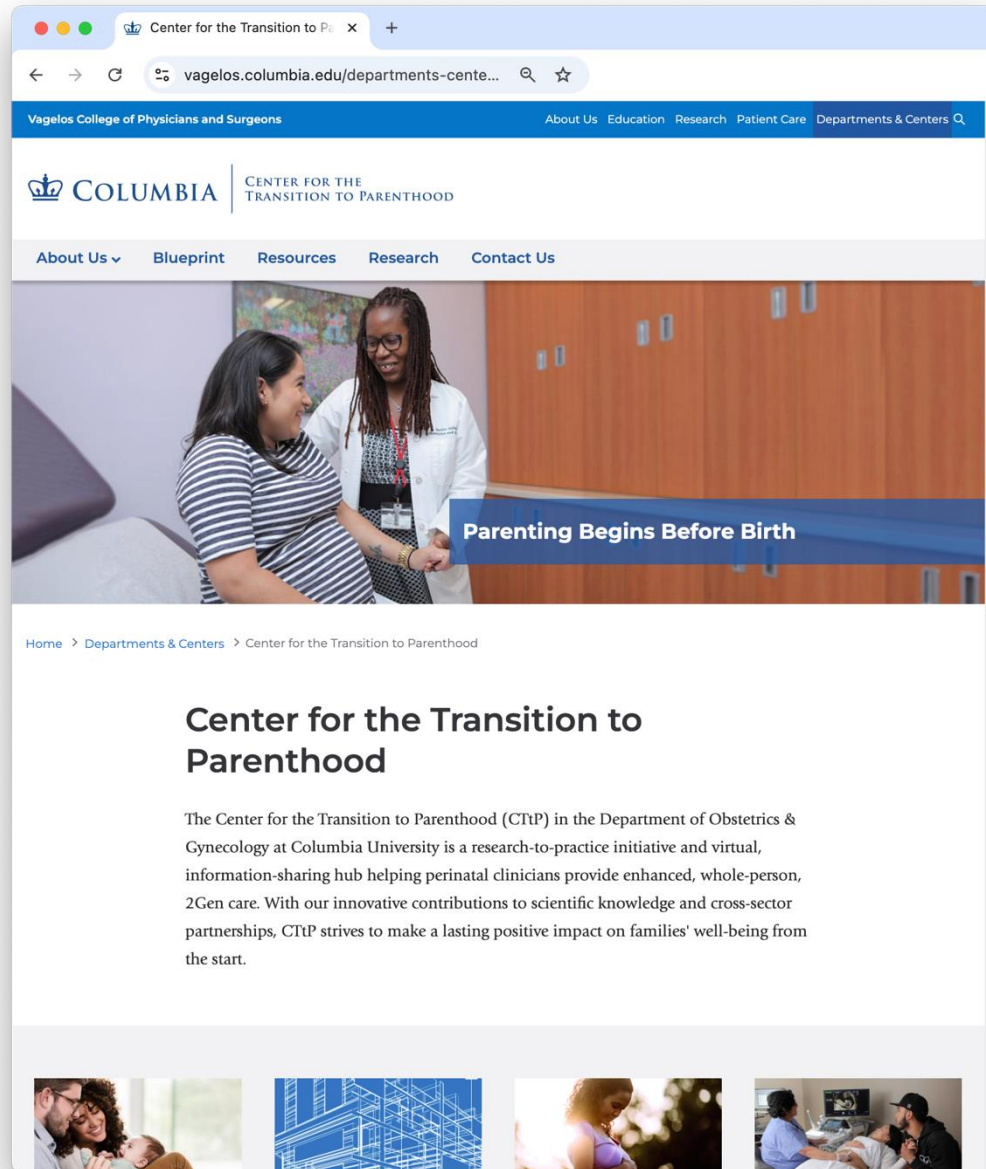
CENTER FOR THE
TRANSITION TO PARENTHOOD



“THE WOMB IS AN INFLUENTIAL FIRST HOME.”

David Barker

PHYSICIAN AND EPIDEMIOLOGIST
1938-2013



CTtP is a **research-to-practice initiative** and **virtual, information-sharing hub** helping perinatal clinicians provide enhanced, 2Gen care.



\$50,000
per award

Two awards available

January 31, 2027
funding start date

FOCUS AREAS

DOHaD & Prenatal Programming

Developmental origins of health and disease; epigenetics; prenatal stress

Perinatal Mental Health

PMH interventions, screening, service delivery, and implementation

Community Equity & Innovation

Community-based programs addressing access, equity, and the transition to parenthood

Related Research & Health Services

Feasibility studies, effectiveness research, real-world implementation

Two Application Tracks — Which Is Right for You?

RESEARCH TRACK

This track is for you if your project generates or **applies scientific evidence** within the perinatal period.

- DOHaD and prenatal programming studies
- Health services research
- Feasibility and effectiveness studies
- Real-world implementation of perinatal mental health interventions

COMMUNITY-BASED TRACK

This track is for you if your project **delivers programs or services** during the transition to parenthood.

- Authentic community engagement as a core project element
- Community-based organizations as key partners
- Clinical programs serving perinatal populations
- Community health worker-led initiatives

Key Dates — Mark Your Calendar

1

**July 30
2026**

**Application Portal
Opens**

The online submission portal goes live. We encourage you to start your application early — don't wait!

2

**Sept 1
2026**

Applications Due

All materials must be submitted through the online portal by 11:59 PM ET.

3

**Nov 15
2026**

Awardees Announced

Award decisions communicated to all applicants. Awardees publicly announced.

4

**Jan 31
2027**

Funding Start Date

Awardees begin their funded work and connect with the CTtP team.

In addition to administrative and contextual questions on the portal and in our guidelines documents, you'll need to upload:

01

CV or Résumé

Yours and key team members' CVs or résumés, if applicable.

02

Project Proposal

2 pages maximum. The heart of your application.

03

Project Summary

Text field entry. Maximum 1,500 characters. Plain-language overview of your project.

04

OPTIONAL

Video

Up to 90 seconds describing the significance of your proposal.

05

OPTIONAL

Supplemental Material

Community Track: Community Partnerships Summary

Research Track: List of References
(1 page max)

06

OPTIONAL

Budget Narrative

Optional. 1 page maximum.

How You'll Be Evaluated — The 5 Scoring Domains

1 DOMAIN	2 DOMAIN	3 DOMAIN	4 DOMAIN	5 DOMAIN
Relevance & Alignment	Rigor / Implementation Plan	Innovation & Impact	Team Capacity & Environment	Evaluation & Sustainability
Research Track Does your research address a meaningful gap in perinatal science? Is it aligned with CTtP's mission and funding priorities?	Research Track Is your study design sound and appropriate? Is the plan realistic within \$50K and one year?	Research Track Is this novel? Will it meaningfully advance the perinatal field? Could findings change practice or policy?	Research Track Does your team have the expertise and institutional support to succeed? Is there a strong mentor or track record?	Research Track How will you measure success? Is there a clear pathway to publication, next funding, or practice change?
Community Track Does your initiative address a real community need? Is it equity-focused and aligned with what the community has identified as important?	Community Track Is your program plan clear and realistic? Can it be implemented on time and within budget?	Community Track Is this approach fresh or fills a genuine gap? Could it meaningfully improve outcomes for families?	Community Track Does your team have the experience and organizational stability to carry this out? Is your organization positioned to succeed?	Community Track How will you measure outcomes for families? Is there a plan for sustaining or scaling beyond the grant?

Tips for a Strong Application



Research Track

- ✓ All study designs are valued equally — RCTs, qualitative, mixed methods. Don't feel you need an RCT to be competitive.
- ✓ Pilot data helps but isn't required. Describe why your approach is feasible even without it.
- ✓ Applicants with no or minimal grant funding history are not penalized. Reviewers look at merit and readiness, not grant history.
- ✓ Show your methods clearly and list hypotheses. Reviewers score this as a full domain.
- ✓ Address sustainability: a pathway to publication, next funding, or practice change matters to reviewers.
- ✓ The Overall Impact Score reflects reviewers' overall enthusiasm — make sure your significance to public health shines through.



Community Track

- ✓ Authentic community partnership is weighted heavily. Show how the community drove the need identification — not just as a service recipient.
- ✓ CBOs, health systems, grassroots groups, and clinical programs are all valued equally. Don't undersell your type of organization.
- ✓ Equity and access matter. Be explicit about the gap you're addressing and for whom.
- ✓ Applicants with no or minimal grant funding history are not penalized. Reviewers look at merit and readiness, not grant history.
- ✓ Show your evaluation plan — what outcomes for families, how measured, how feasible. Don't skip this section.
- ✓ Ambition is okay if grounded. Showing you're stretching to reach more families is different from unrealistic goals.

Questions? Email TTP@cumc.columbia.edu · FAQ & guidelines at vagelos.columbia.edu/departments-centers/center-transition-parenthood/our-initiatives/funding-opportunity



How Applications Are Reviewed & Selected

1

Applications Submitted

Applicants submit all materials through the online portal by September 1, 2026.

2

Track-Based Review

Reviewers matched by expertise review applications within their respective track — Research or Community-Based.

3

Scoring & Deliberation

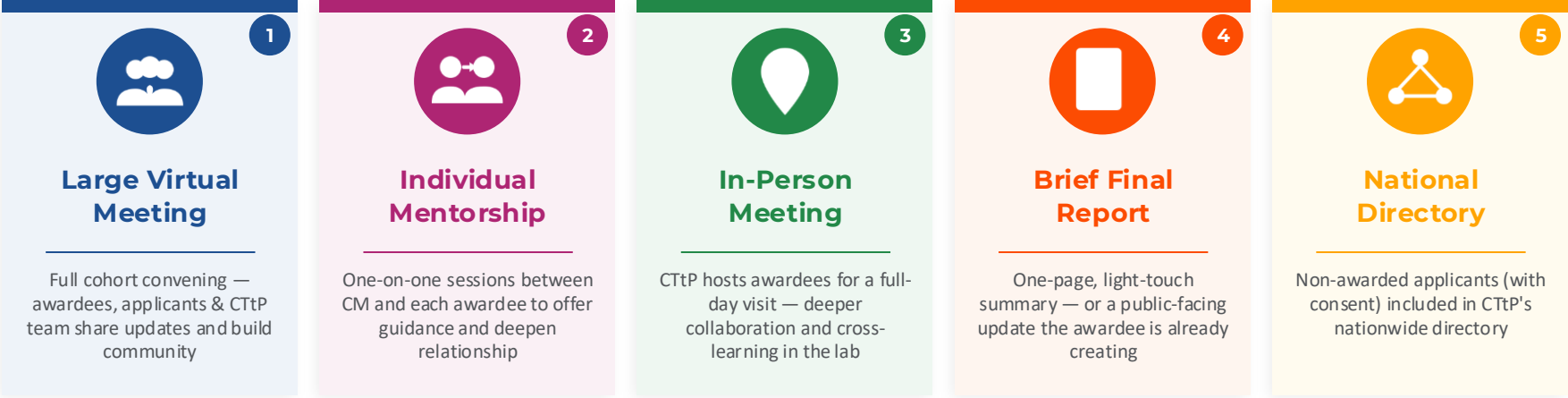
Each application is scored using track-specific rubrics. The committee convenes to discuss and align on top candidates.

4

Final Decisions

The Selection Committee makes final award decisions. Two awardees are selected — one per track, or both from one track if exceptional.

RFA: HOW WE'RE ENGAGING AWARDEES & APPLICANTS





Brittany Neal, LCSW

*Freedom Love Acceptance Therapy Educational Center LLC
Sun Prairie, Wisconsin*

**Pregnancy & Resiliency Early Support Services
program (PRESS)**



Lenore Renee Jarvis MD, MEd, FAAP

*Children's National Hospital/George Washington University
Washington, D.C.*

**Targeted Support for Perinatal Mood and Anxiety Disorders:
A Study of Single Session Intervention in the Pediatric
Emergency Department Setting**



Brittany Neal, LCSW

Freedom Love Acceptance Therapy Educational Center LLC
Sun Prairie, Wisconsin

Pregnancy & Resiliency Early Support Services program (PRESS)

Wisconsin faces persistent birth inequities, with Black, Latino, and low-income families experiencing disproportionate maternal stress and barriers to mental health support. Neal's PRESS program responds with **culturally grounded, trauma-informed care**:

- Therapy, doula/nursing support, and peer advocacy
- 10-week self-care curriculum and faith-based counseling
- Structured follow-up for continuity of care

Serving 20 women/year across three cohorts, a multidisciplinary team uses validated tools to track outcomes — evaluating whether this model reduces maternal stress and advances birth equity in underserved communities.



Lenore Renee Jarvis MD, MEd, FAAP

*Children's National Hospital/George Washington University
Washington, D.C.*

**Targeted Support for Perinatal Mood and Anxiety Disorders:
A Study of Single Session Intervention in the Pediatric
Emergency Department Setting**

“CTtP funding allowed us to **move from concept to pilot** implementation of a novel Single-Session Intervention (SSI) for caregivers screening positive for perinatal mood and anxiety disorders (PMADs) in the pediatric emergency department (PED).

The award supported protocol development, IRB approval, social worker training, and study launch **activities that would otherwise have been delayed or not fiscally possible**... accelerating our ability to test a scalable mental health intervention for caregivers at the point of care.”



Lenore Renee Jarvis MD, MEd, FAAP

*Children's National Hospital/George Washington University
Washington, D.C.*

**Targeted Support for Perinatal Mood and Anxiety Disorders:
A Study of Single Session Intervention in the Pediatric
Emergency Department Setting**

“Importantly, the **preliminary feedback from enrolled caregivers has been positive**, including ‘I was able to express my thoughts,’ ‘I feel better and more peaceful,’ and ‘things went great when I realized what I needed work on.’”



Lenore Renee Jarvis MD, MEd, FAAP

*Children's National Hospital/George Washington University
Washington, D.C.*

**Targeted Support for Perinatal Mood and Anxiety Disorders:
A Study of Single Session Intervention in the Pediatric
Emergency Department Setting**

“Beyond the research study, **the work has evolved into a broader strategy for sustainable perinatal mental health services within pediatric settings.** We are exploring reimbursement opportunities through established CPT codes, expanding partnerships with healthcare systems, payers, and community organizations, and building the infrastructure needed to scale evidence-based mental health interventions for caregivers across emergency, inpatient, and outpatient settings.”

Questions & Next Steps

Portal Opens
July 30, 2026

Start your application now!

Applications Due
Sept 1, 2026

Submit all materials

Awards Announced
Nov 15, 2026

Two awards of \$50,000 each

We encourage applications from researchers, clinicians, and community organizations working across the perinatal period — at any career stage.

Questions? Contact:

ttp@cumc.columbia.edu

www.vagelos.columbia.edu/departments-centers/center-transition-parenthood