Application Details

Research and Development Minigrants for 2017-2018: Application Review

Application Title: A Sexual Health Curriculum for Social Workers

Application ID: #000058

Review Deadline: Jan 27, 2017 11:59:00 PM

Primary Appointment Title: Assistant Professor

Proposal Summary:

In 2015 the California Healthy Youth Act was passed, which mandated that students should have medically accurate, age-appropriate comprehensive sexual education. The law specifically calls for accommodation and adaption of sexual health curriculum for students with disabilities. Students with disabilities are less likely to receive sexual health education than others as well as tend to struggle with sexual health knowledge and sexual hygiene. Although understudied, school social workers commonly provide individual and group sexual health education for students. This project will assess the feasibility, acceptability, and impact of an instructor training of a sexual health curriculum, Adapted Mike’s Crush, for 10 local school social workers to prepare them to teach sexual health to students with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and Intellectual Disability (ID; formerly known as Mental Retardation). The study will assess the instructor training’s impact on the social workers’ perceptions of sexual health needs among adolescents with ASD and ID and the social workers’ readiness to teach, knowledge seeking behavior, and training collaboration pertaining to providing sexual health education for adolescents with ASD and ID.

Comments to the Administrator(s):

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KRISTEN F LINTON
(Maiden name: Bean)
One University Drive, Camarillo, CA 93012
(213)-700-3541
Kristen.linton@csuci.edu

EDUCATION
2012 Ph.D. Social Work, Arizona State University, May 2012
2009 M.A. Social Service Administration (MSW), University of Chicago, June 2009
Graduate Certificate in Health Administration and Policy
2006 BSW, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, June 2006

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS
2015- Present Assistant Professor Health Science
Program Channel Islands California State University,

2014- 2015 Assistant Professor School of Social Work
University of Nevada, Las Vegas

2012- 2014 Assistant Professor Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work
University of Hawai‘i at Manoa

GRANTS AND FUNDED RESEARCH

Faculty Investigator
Integrating Nutrition, Exercise, and Environment Education for Local High School Students
CIS Mini Grant
November 2016 Total: $615
Other Investigators: Health Science students (Wyatt Bishop, Claudia Chavarin, Hildy Gonzalez, Jennifer Iparraguirre, Jovy Mann, and Sarah Specker) and Community Partners (Anna Jackson from Oxnard Union High School District and Frances Adams from HealthCorp)

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CSUCI Ad Hoc Committee on Student Research Support Grants
December 2015
Total: $500

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Solution Focused Brief Therapy Association Research Award
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Total: $5,000

**Principal Investigator**
Improving Services for Asian Americans with Brain Injuries
Professional Development Opportunity
University of Hawaii at Manoa
Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work
Duration of the study: 1/2013 - 12/2013
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Graduate Research Support Program
Arizona State University
Duration of the study: 11/2011 - 5/2012
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**Principal Investigator**
Educational and Behavioral Outcomes of African American Children with Disabilities
Southwest Interdisciplinary Research Center
Duration of the study: 9/2010 - 5/2012
Total: $4000

**Principal Investigator**
Social Enterprise and Employment of People with Disabilities
Challenges Innovator Grant
Arizona State University
Duration of the study: 5/2010 - 4/2011
Total: $2000

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Organization for Autism Research
Invited Full Proposal Submitted July 2016
Total Requested: $30,000

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Unscored

Principal Investigator
Options Counseling Project: Comparing Experiences between People with and Without Disabilities
Donaldson Adoption Institute
Submitted May 2015
Total requested: $75,000
Unscored

Principal Investigator
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National Institutes of Health Loan Repayment Program
Submitted November 2014
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Consultant (PI: Richard Linton, Psy.D.)
A Peer Support Collaborative Addressing Foreign Human Trafficking in California
Office of Refugee Resettlement- HHS-2014-ACF-ORR-ZV-0773
Submitted April 2014
Score 31.3/100
$4.2 million

**Behavioral Specialist** (PI: Earl Hishinuma, Ph.D.)
Injury Control and Prevention Research Center of Hawai‘i
Centers for Disease Control- RFA-CE-14-001
Submitted October 2013

Priority Score 36/90
$4.5 million

**Co-Principal Investigator** (PI: Bum Jung Kim, Ph.D.)
Global Social Justice: East Asian Social Policy Network Conference
Diversity and Equity Initiative- University of Hawaii at Manoa
Submitted October 2013
Total requested: $1000
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Supporting Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders with Brain Injuries
National Institutes of Health U18
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$1.5 million

**Principal Investigator**
Work-Integrated Social Enterprises and People with Disabilities.
Disability Policy Research Emerging Investigator Award Program.
Submitted proposal February 2013.
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Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI)
Submitted December 2012
Scored 5/9
Total requested: $1.5 million

**OTHER RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**
Co-Principal Investigator
08/2012-06/2014
The Queen’s Medical Center
Honolulu, HI

Supervising the design and administration of a project to assess disparities in challenges among Native Hawaiians who have experienced strokes for National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities /National Institutes of Health - Pilot study on 2P20MD000173-11. September 2012-August 2017. PI: Kazuma Nakagawa

Graduate Research Assistant
08/2009-06/2012
Southwest Interdisciplinary Research Center
Phoenix, AZ

Collected and analyzed data, managed a Community Health Website grant, and managed advisory board for The National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities/National Institutes of Health- P20MD002316-06. PI: Flavio Marsiglia

Graduate Research Assistant
08/2010-06/2012
Center for Applied Behavioral Health Policy
Phoenix, AZ

Conducted program evaluations of programs for people with disabilities and people who are homeless. PI: Michael Shafer.

Data Consultant
08/2010-06/2011
Office of American Indian Projects
Phoenix, AZ

Conducted data analyses for a Native American research project on health conditions and substance abuse. PI: Edwin Gonzalez-Santin

Graduate Research Assistant
08/2006-06/2008
University of Chicago Hospital
Chicago, IL

Conducted qualitative interviews with community providers and assisted in the development of recommendations for University of Chicago Hospital. PI: Stephen Brown
PUBLICATIONS

Peer Reviewed Articles
*Publications with students


Social Work in Disability and Rehabilitation, 11(4), 268-286. (H-index: 5)


Manuscripts under Review


Manuscript Development


Books


**Other Publications**

Linton, K. F. University students find healthy food may not be readily available. (2016). *Ventura County Star*.


**Multimedia Presentations**


**PROFESSIONAL MEETING PRESENTATIONS (JURIED)**

*Presentations with students


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Ing, M. M., Vento, M. A., Nakagawa, K., Stern, T., Dittich, D & Bean, K. F. “A needs assessment of family caregivers and stroke patients across ethnic identity: What are the challenges and barriers faced by the Stroke Community in Hawaii?” Poster presentation at Biomedical Sciences and Health Disparities Symposium, Honolulu, HI, April 2013.

Bean, K. F. & Adams, H. “’They go away and hook up on campus’: A qualitative analysis of school social workers' needs in serving adolescents with disabilities” Paper presentation at Annual


INVITED PRESENTATIONS


Bean, K. F. & Glennon, M. Project H3: how community organization, peer support and a housing first model provided health, hope and homes
for local people who were homeless. Cesar Chavez Conference, Phoenix, AZ, March 2012.

Bean, K. F. “Social and demographic factors associated with health service utilization among people who are homeless”. Conference presentation at Center for Applied Behavioral Health Policy’s Summer Institute, Sedona, AZ, June 2011.

Bean, K. F. “A Dialogue of Evidence-Based Practice and Best Practice Street Outreach”. Workshop presentation at Street Outreach Conference, Phoenix, AZ, May, 2011

Glennon, M. & Bean, K. F. Research findings presented at the One-Year Anniversary Celebration of Project H3, April, 2011, Phoenix, AZ.


TEACHING AND INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITY

Courses Taught at CSU Channel Islands

Primary Instructor
HLTH 101 Overview of Healthcare Industry and Its Delivery
HLTH 102 Community Health Organizations and Their Functions
HLTH 300 Nutrition, Fitness, and Wellness
HLTH 301 Public Health Administration
HLTH 402 Disability Services
HLTH 494 Independent Research
NRS 348 Healthy Aging

Guest Lecturer
BUS/ECON 341 Drug Discovery & Development

Courses Taught Previously at Other Institutions

Primary Instructor
*Distance Education Course

Graduate Courses

MSW 596  Master’s Project Development
SW 606/SWK 740  Social Work Practice
SW 640*/SWK 618  Introduction to Scientific Methods and Principles in Social Work
SW 650  Program Evaluation*
SW 630  Social Welfare Policy and Services
SW 746 and 699  Independent Research (MSW and PhD)
SWG 502  Macro Human Behavior in the Social Environment
SWG 598  Bridge Seminar II- Social Work Interventions
SWG 491*  Ethics in Social Work
SW 699*  Disability Services and Policies

Undergraduate Courses

SWK 101*  Introduction to Social Work
SW 326  Social Welfare Policy and Services
SWU 394  Statistics for Social Workers*

Teaching Assistant
SWU498/SWG 591*  Behavioral Health Services
SWG606  Assessment of Mental Disorders

Guest Lecturer
SWU415  Integrative Field Seminar
SWG320  Research Methods in Social Work

PEDAGOGY TRAINING/EXPERIENCE

2016-2017  openCI Ambassador
2/2016- 4/2016  Completed the CSUCI Online Teaching Preparation Program
08/2013  Taught abroad at Okinawa International University, Okinawa, Japan
12/2013-05/2013  Took Learning Creative Learning MIT Media Lab MOOC class

Teaching E-Portfolio
http://kristenlinton.cikeys.com/blog/e-portfolio/

SERVICE

Service to the University
2016-2017 Member, Curriculum Committee
2016-2017 Member, Student Research Advisory Committee
2016-2017 Search Committee, Health Science Program
2015-2016 Advisor, CI Can with Helping Hands Club
2015-2016 Search Committee, Health Science Program
2014-2015 Search Committee, School of Social Work
2014-2015 Behavioral Health Workgroup, College of Urban Affairs
2013-2014 Practice Sequence Chair in Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work
2012-2014 Engagement Committee, Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work
2012-2014 School of Social Work Representative, University Coordinating Council for Center on Disability Studies

Service to the Profession
2013-2015 Appointed Co-Chair, CSWE Council on Disabilities and Persons with Disabilities
2012-2013 Appointed Member, CSWE Council on Disabilities and Persons with Disabilities
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2012-Present Nominated Member, CSWE Council on Disabilities and Persons with Disabilities
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2010-Present Member, Council on Social Work Education
2009-Present Member, Society for Social Work Research
2007-2009 Editor/Reviewer for Advocates Forum
2006-Present Member, National Association of Social Workers

Service to the Community
2016-Present Faculty, Community Memorial Hospital Residency Program
2016-Present Board of Directors member for Brain Injury Center of Ventura County
2014-2015 Research Consultant for Opportunity Village, Las Vegas, NV
2010-2013 Data Consultant for 100,000 Homes Projects (Local Housing First Initiatives)
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PROFESSIONAL SOCIAL WORK EXPERIENCE

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Provided administration and job training for people with disabilities.

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2008-2009 Public Policy Intern, Mental Health America of Illinois, Chicago, IL.
Participated in the coordination of local coalitions and school-based programs for the statewide Suicide Prevention Initiative.

2008-2009 Public Policy Intern, Donors Forum of Chicago, IL.
Conducted qualitative interviews with nonprofit organizations. Suggested improvements and developed briefings on public policy programs based on research findings.

2008 QA/QI Program Assistant, Department of Family Services, Clark County, NV.
Coordinated and facilitated mandatory trainings for family service specialists.
Completed case reviews for federal mandates.

2007-2008 Social Services Intern, Illinois Center for Rehabilitation and Education, Chicago, IL.
Teach a social skills class to people with physical disabilities.
Developed, facilitated, and supported plans with young adults with physical disabilities to gain independence after high school.

2007 Service Coordinator, State of Nevada, Department of Mental Health and Developmental Services, Las Vegas, NV.
Coordinated services and provided support for people with mental health and developmental disabilities.
Approved supported living budgets and contracts for consumers.
2006-2007  Intake Coordinator, New Vision- Special Care Hospital Management, Las Vegas, NV. Conducted intake assessments and coordinated discharge for patients admitted for substance abuse withdrawal.


2006  Practicum Student, Department of Family Services, Clark County, NV. Investigated allegations of abuse and neglect and assessed the risk of children in allegation cases. Developed affidavits and action plans to administer to civil courts regarding cases of abuse and/or neglect.

2004-2005  Mental Health Technician, Spring Mountain Treatment Center, Las Vegas, NV. Facilitated support group and activity therapy groups with adolescents in acute and long-term mental health care.

2003-2004  Supportive Living Specialist, Easter Seals Southern Nevada, Las Vegas, NV. Directly supported individuals with disabilities living in the community to implement treatment plans and achieve personal goals.

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Project Goals and Outcomes

Research Problem

Students with disabilities are less likely than others to receive sexual education in school (Gilmour, Schalomon, Smith, 2012; Stokes & Kaur, 2005). Adolescents with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) and Intellectual Disability (ID; previously known as Mental Retardation) often lack sexual health knowledge and the ability to care for their own sexual hygiene (Byers, Nichols, & Voyer, 2013; Klett & Turan, 2012). They often struggle with social cues, boundaries, and inappropriate sexual behaviors (Cridland, Jones, Caputi, & Magee, 2014). Although understudied, social workers commonly provide services for adolescents with ASD and ID (Bronstein et al., 2011; Rueda, Linton, & Williams, 2014). A qualitative study of school social workers found that they were frequently approached by their adolescents with disabilities with sexual health needs (Rueda et al., 2014). Social workers reported that their clients with disabilities were sexually active, experiencing pregnancies, and were prone to sexual victimization (Linton & Rueda, 2014; Linton & Rueda, 2015). California passed the California Healthy Youth Act (AB 329) in 2015, which mandated that students should have medically accurate, age-appropriate comprehensive sexual education. The law specifically calls for accommodation and adaption of sexual health education curriculum for students with disabilities. After speaking to two local school districts in 2016, sexual health curriculum had not yet been adapted for students with disabilities.

Specific Aims

The applicant will aim to improve the sexual health among adolescents with ASD and ID by training school social workers that work directly with them. This project will train school social workers on an adapted version of Mike’s Crush, a sexual health education curriculum designed for adolescents with ASD and ID. Mike’s Crush will be adapted based on the applicant’s research with school social workers demonstrating their unique service in providing support and guidance for adolescent students with ASD and ID related to dating, intimacy, sexuality, pregnancy, and sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) (Linton & Rueda, 2014; 2015). The proposed study will assess the impact of training ten social workers on Adapted Mike’s Crush. The specific aims of the project are to:

1. Conduct a formative and process evaluation to examine the feasibility (recruitment, enrollment, and fidelity) and acceptability (satisfaction) of the curriculum among social workers;
2. Assess the training’s impact on social workers’ perceptions of intimate and sexual health needs among adolescents with ASD and ID, and readiness, knowledge seeking, and collaboration to support adolescents with ASD and ID towards intimate and sexual health

Research Plan and Methodology

Project Activities

This study will include a pre-posttest, quasi-experimental design without a control group of social workers (n = 10). Participants will be
recruited from the Oxnard Union High School District and Hart Union High School District. A letter of support has been provided to the applicant from these districts. A three-week Adapted Mike’s Crush training will be administered online using Canvas by Structure, a user-friendly, online learning platform. Social workers will complete an online survey consisting of measures administered prior to the training and immediately after the training. Benefits for the participants will include amazon gift card incentives at pre-test and post-test. Increased incentives for participation at each successive data collection time has demonstrated to improve retention rates (NIH, 1998).

The trainings will be advertised via email for school social workers. Participants will be asked to pre-register online and will answer eligibility questions. Social workers must have a Bachelors (BSW) or Masters in social work (MSW) to be eligible for participation, report that they currently support adolescents with ASD as a social worker, and be willing to provide Mike’s Crush to three of their adolescent clients with ASD in 2018-2019 school year.

The study proposal will be submitted to IRB in spring 2017 for approval. The participants will be given a detailed consent form online at pre-registry and will have to sign it prior to participation in the survey or training.

The Adapted Mike’s Crush Training

The Mike’s Crush training is designed for high school aged youth with ASD and ID. It includes eight lessons on appearance, types of relationships, body language, conversations, getting to know someone, rules and laws (e.g., relationship boundaries), and healthy relationships. The curriculum uses engaging videos and activities to explore and demonstrate concepts, such as the right and wrong way to approach someone that the adolescent has a crush on. The Adapted Mike’s Crush will also include two additional lessons on anatomy and sexual health, such as sexually transmitted diseases and hygiene, for a total of 10 one-hour lessons (Linton & Rueda, 2014; 2015). The additional anatomy lesson will cover sexual anatomy, menstruation, physical maturation, and body self-care. The additional sexual health lesson will cover what sexually transmitted diseases are, how they spread, pregnancy, how pregnancy occurs, and how to prevent sexually transmitted diseases and unplanned pregnancy. Trained social workers will receive a Mike’s Crush Manual with detailed teaching instructions for the original eight Mike’s Crush lessons as well as an additional Supplementary Manual developed by the applicant, which will provide detailed teaching instructions for the other two lessons. Each lesson instruction will include a lesson plan, assessment, reproducible handout, quiz, and other teaching tools as needed. Video stories and supplementary video segments will also be provided to the social workers.

The social workers’ training will be conducted over the course of three weeks. The curriculum will include information about the ASD and ID diagnosis and Mike’s Crush curriculum and activities. Social workers will be
provided with text material to accompany the training including instructions on administering Mike’s Crush with adolescents with ASD and ID. This will ensure that, if efficacious, the training will retain sustainable outcomes for additional youth past the duration of the present study. The social work training will be developed and administered by the applicant and research assistant who will participate in visual-auditory discussion VoiceThread assignments and/or provide mini-lectures in the modules.

Data Collection

The primary outcomes for the study will be measured using scales that have demonstrated reliability and validity among social workers and other professionals. Separate surveys for social workers will include 74 items and measurements of the following:

- **Sociodemographics**: age, gender, ethnicity, educational background (undergraduate and graduate degree(s), date(s) received, previous trainings on ASD, ID, and intimate sexual health), disability status, personal relationship to someone with ASD or ID
- **Social Work Services**: employment (full time/part time and title), current roles and responsibilities, employer type (government/non-profit status), demographics of clients (number of clients, ages, percentage of clients that have autism and other disabilities), types of supports provided, descriptions of intimate and sexual health support provided for people with ASD or ID
- **Readiness**: Two items will be used to measure readiness: “To what extent do you feel ready to support clients with ASD on issues pertaining to intimacy?” and “-pertaining to sexual health?” Response options will range on a five point scale from strongly capable to strongly incapable (Curtiss, 2014).
- **Perceptions of Intimate and Sexual Health Needs among Adolescents with ASD/ID**: *Importance of Specific Outcomes for Individuals with ASD regarding Sexuality* is a 40-item scale to assess social workers’ perceptions of clients’ needs to learn about developing/maintaining relationships, exhibiting skills that enhance relationships, and engaging in sexual relationships ($\alpha = .97$; Curtiss, 2013)
- **Knowledge Seeking**: *Knowledge Seeking* is a 5-item scale to assess social workers’ behaviors in obtaining knowledge on intimate and sexual health among people ASD/ID, such as searching on the internet or reading books ($\alpha = .87$; Curtiss, 2013).
- **Collaboration**: *Collaborating* is a 3-item scale to assess planning and brainstorming intimate and sexual health interventions for adolescents with ASD/ID with colleagues ($\alpha = .94$; Curtiss, 2013).
- **Satisfaction**: Two open-ended questions will inquire about the participants’ satisfaction with the training and relevance to their practice.

Data Analysis

The proposed study aims to obtain pilot and feasibility data. Descriptive statistics and bivariate analyses will be used to describe the
participants and outcomes. The treatment effects will be analyzed using the Friedman’s Test (non-parametric repeated measures ANOVA) in SPSS. Qualitative comments will provide an indication of areas of strength, weakness, and potential solutions to Adapted Mike’s Crush. Converging patterns will identify problematic areas mentioned by the same source multiple times, mentioned consistently by implementers, students and observers, or mentioned less broadly but consistently across lessons. Overall assessments of the salience of these patterns will then inform decisions about needed informed modifications to the training of this program, or to the program itself as it is administered to youth.

**Professional Development Benefits for Faculty**

This project is consistent with the applicant’s research agenda to eliminate disability disparities. The applicant has published six peer-reviewed articles specifically sexual health among people with disabilities and a book in-press with the National Association of Social Workers on sexual citizenship of people with disabilities through the perspective of social workers. This project would take the next step in the applicant’s research agenda since it would provide social workers with the skills to educate people with disabilities on their sexual health using a curriculum designed for them in a welcoming political climate due to the passage of the California Healthy Youth Act of 2016. The applicant has applied to the external grant, the Organization for Autism Research Applied Research Grant (OAR), in 2015 and 2016 to conduct the project described in this application as well as a study of the implementation of Adapted Mike’s Crush training with 30 adolescents with ASD and/or ID by the 10 trained social workers. The aim of this second part of the study is to: assess the training’s impact on adolescents with ASD and/or ID’s knowledge about their bodies, consequences of sex, healthy intimate relationships, contraception and other sexual health resources and sexual behaviors as a result of receiving the Adapted Mike’s Crush training. In 2016, the applicant’s OAR application made it through two rounds of review to the final review of the top 27 candidates out of a total of 148 applicants, yet was not funded. The applicant will use the project detailed in this proposal to create a more competitive application to OAR in 2018.

**Benefits for University, School, Program, and the Applicant’s Teaching**

This project is consistent with community engagement and will improve the applicant’s high-impact teaching practices. This project is inspired by community engagement, one of the four pillars of CSUCI; the recent passage of a state law which mandates that sexual health education be adapted for students with disabilities. After the talking with local school districts, it came to the applicant’s attention that adapted sexual health curriculum were not available or being used for local students with disabilities. This project will provide resources for the local school districts as well as applicable findings to other California school districts.
Undergraduate research is a high-impact practice. A student research assistant will be fully engaged in recruitment, data collection, data analysis, and data dissemination of the project. The skills that the student will learn may be transferable to graduate school or program evaluation in health and/or education.

Dissemination Plan
A final report summarizing the study findings will be provided to all participants as well as any important school administration in the districts involved in the study. Secondly, study findings will be summarized in a manuscript and submitted for publication.

Project Assessment
If the social workers’ outcomes improve after receiving the Adapted Mike’s Crush training, the applicant will consider the Adapted Mike’s Crush training to be a valuable training in preparing social workers to provide sexual health education for adolescents with ASD and ID. If social workers do not improve, then the training may need to be revised or another curriculum may need to be identified.

Project Timeline
- July 2017: Applicant will order 10 copies of the Mike’s Crush curriculum and create the Adapted Mike’s Crush Curriculum online using Canvas by Structure
- August 2017-November 2017: Student Assistant will recruit 10 school social workers, obtain their consent, and obtain their completed pre-surveys. Student assistant will send participants their stipend for the pre-survey.
- December 2018 (first three weeks): The Adapted Mike’s Crush training (pre and post survey completed) will be provided to social workers by the applicant and student assistant
- January 2018: The student assistant will obtain post-surveys from applicants and provide them with a stipend.
- February 2018: The student assistant will enter all data into SPSS, clean data, and prepare it for analysis.
- March 2018-April 2018: The student assistant and applicant will conduct data analyses. The applicant will submit a grant application to the Organization for Autism Research to continue the study.
- May 2018: The applicant and student assistant will prepare and send a study findings report to all applicants and submit a manuscript for publication.

Budget

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<td>Personnel Costs</td>
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<tr>
<td>PI Summer Stipend</td>
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<td>Research Assistant Academic Year</td>
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**TOTAL PERSONNEL COSTS:** $4,492.00

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**TOTAL DIRECT COSTS:** $1,825.90

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**TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS:** $150.00

**TOTAL BUDGET COST:** $6,467.90
References


*Project Goals and Outcomes:

The proposal sets clear goals and outcomes for the project, and it explains the steps that will be taken to realize project goals.

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Rating Scale 1 (1 weakest to 11 strongest):
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*Research Plan and Methodology:

The proposal conveys a complete and well thought-out plan for the project that describes the activities of all individuals involved in the project. If support is requested for student research assistance, the proposal must also include a description of their role in the project and how the faculty

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Rating Scale 2 (1 weakest to 11 strongest):
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*Professional Development Benefits for the Faculty:

The proposed makes clear how the project will advance each individual applicant’s or research, scholarship, creative activity, or innovation in teaching. The proposal discusses whether the applicant(s) intend to pursue external funding and identifies those external funding opportunities.

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Rating Scale 3 (1 weakest to 11 strongest):
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*Project Benefits:

To what extent does the proposed qualify for special consideration (e.g., applicant is
probationary, applicant has not had minigrant funding in the past, applicant has been especially successful in the use of past minigrant funding, project scope is particularly ambitious but realizable).

Rating Scale 4 (1 weakest to 11 strongest):

*Dissemination Plans:
The level and type of dissemination is appropriate for the project, its goals, and its outcomes.

Rating Scale 5 (1 weakest to 11 strongest):

*Project Timeline:
The project goals and objectives are attainable within the timeline of the proposal.

Rating Scale 6 (1 weakest to 11 strongest):

*Project Assessment:
The proposal describes how the product(s) of the project will be assessed and evaluated to determine the degree of success achieved.

Rating Scale 7 (1 weakest to 11 strongest):

*Project Budget:
The proposed budget is reasonable in the context of the project description, and the project costs are necessary to achieve project goals and outcomes.

Rating Scale 8 (1 weakest to 11 strongest):
*Other considerations:

To what extent does the proposed qualify for special consideration (e.g., applicant is probationary, applicant has not had minigrant funding in the past, applicant has been especially successful in the use of past minigrant funding, project scope is particularly ambitious but realizable).

Rating Scale 9 (1 weakest to 11 strongest):