About
The UW ICTR, founded in 2007 with funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), represents a novel partnership between the University of Wisconsin-Madison, with the William S. Middleton VA Medical Center in Madison, and the Marshfield Clinic. This union joins the strong and distinct resources of these institutions, bringing together unique opportunities to enhance clinical and translational research in Wisconsin.

UW ICTR is part of a national consortium of research institutes funded through NIH Clinical and Translational Science Awards (CTSA) through the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences. There are 60 CTSA sites nationwide with the common goal of Accelerating Discoveries Toward Better Health.

More than 2000 investigators, staff, and community researchers are members of UW ICTR. Members receive biostatistics and biomedical informatics consultations, scientific editing, and community engagement and research services, as well as access to the Clinical Research Unit at UW Hospital and Clinics and discounted laboratory and imaging services.

Pilot Awards Program
To advance innovative research ideas more quickly:

- ICTR has awarded 59 grants totaling $2.78 million from 2007-2012 to support clinical and Type 1 translational research that includes basic laboratory investigations, patient-oriented research, and innovations in technology and biomedical devices.

- ICTR has awarded 43 grants totaling $2.71 million from 2007-2012 to support Type 2 translational research that addresses improvements in clinical practice and community health. These projects include community groups as active research partners.

Research Education and Career Development
UW ICTR offers a wide array of educational and career development opportunities for post-doctoral fellows, junior faculty, or students at UW-Madison, as well as other health science professionals interested in learning more about clinical and translational research.
Research Education and Career Development continued:

- UW ICTR has trained a total of 50 faculty scholars (18 current) and 17 pre-doctoral trainees (six current).
- UW ICTR founded and administers the Graduate Program in Clinical Investigation offered at UW-Madison. The program includes an MS, a PhD, and a PhD minor degree. There have been 10 MS degrees granted to date, and two PhD degrees will be granted this year. More than 40 students have enrolled in the Clinical Investigation degree programs (23 current).
- UW ICTR offers a variety of training certificates in clinical research topics; short-term, intensive non-credit workshops, courses and presentations; and co-sponsors summer research programs for medical and pre-doctoral students at UW SMPH and Marshfield Clinic. Specialized training is also available for community research partners and other members of the public.
- With several NIH grants, ICTR leads a national mentoring program in the biomedical sciences that promotes diversity in the research workforce. Mentor training workshops are being tested nationwide and the training manuals are now available as textbooks.

Research Infrastructure
The UW-Madison/Marshfield Clinic partnership advances research statewide by providing strategic support for networks across multiple health care centers (Wisconsin Network for Health Research; WiNHR), across multiple clinic sites (Wisconsin Education and Research Network; WREN), across pharmacy practices, and across public health systems, among many others. Such networks provide research collaboration opportunities for both academic and non-academic based health practitioners.

The institute also promotes improvements in existing local and statewide clinical research infrastructure. This includes improving human subjects protections for patients, promoting the efficiency of clinical trials and patient-oriented research, and building electronic management of clinical research data, biospecimens, and data registries. These improvements eliminate duplication and speed the completion of clinical research.

Community and Health Disparities Research
UW ICTR works with community groups in rural Wisconsin through its Community Health Connections (CHC) team; with tribal communities in Wisconsin through the Collaborative Center for Health Equity (CCHE); and with Milwaukee-based community organizations, including the United Community Center and the Lindsay Heights Neighborhood Alliance (CCHE, CHC).

CCHE is an NIH-funded center within UW ICTR that supports health equity and health disparities research with underserved and diverse racial/ethnic communities in Wisconsin, while CHC works to improve community-based research statewide through a variety of outreach and dissemination efforts. Other community-based organizations serve both as research partners and as advisors for ICTR-based community research.

July 2012