



NIH NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE

CENTER TO REDUCE
CANCER HEALTH DISPARITIES

Partnerships to Advance Cancer Health Equity (PACHE) Program Meeting

Forging Innovative and Sustainable Partnerships
to Advance Cancer Health Equity

September 20–21, 2021





➤ **Capacity Building**

➤ **On-going Cross-Institutional Discussions regarding New Hires**

- CCNY: continual discussion w/Departments regarding hiring (nearly institutionalized)
- NEIU: leverage U54 to hire a Biostatistician (amid persisting hiring freeze)

➤ **MPI Input into ESI Tenure & Promotion Committee Process**

- CCNY: MPI serves on many ESIs Tenure/Promotion Committees to ensure retention & highlight value added of U54 projects to tenure process
- NEIU: MPIs provide letters of recommendation/service to all promotion-eligible U54 faculty

➤ **Development Resources for ESIs Updated Regularly**

- CCNY: Research Education Core + Internal Advisory Committee
- NEIU: Planning and Evaluation Core + Senior Faculty volunteers from across Cores/Projects





➤ Protected Time

➤ Percent Effort on Project/Core:

- Course-Release: allows grant-work to be subtracted from academic workload
- Summer Month: for faculty on sabbatical and/or unable to release from a course

➤ Cost sharing

- 50% comes from U54 budget, 50% supported by institution





➤ Challenges

➤ Institutional Deficits in regards to Financial Management of Grants

- Develop intentional management of Indirect Costs
- Use F&A to:
 - build adequate capacity for pre- & post-grant processing
 - cultivate a system to lead Post-Award Grant Management & Accounting

➤ Persisting lack of Administrative Support for Research

- Applications process, especially ESI Faculty

➤ Continued need to develop a sense of U54 community among Project PIs

➤ Cultural issues between MSI & Comprehensive Cancer Centers





➤ **Lessons Learned**

➤ **Challenges come with inspirational Tipping Points**

- Meeting milestones
- Chasing an ever-rising bar

➤ **Capacity Building**

- Leveraging existing institutional grants (i.e. MARC) to supplement/ensure steady progress

➤ **Protected Time**

- Important to maintain persistent, steady and frequent lines of communication across institutional leadership

➤ **Cultural Differences**

- Maintain own institutional identity and mission, no matter what.





What are your challenges?

