

Transform brain health through community partnership



At Western's Institute for Neuroscience (WIN), we're transforming how brain research is done — by listening to the people it's meant to help.

Neurological disorders are now the leading cause of disability and the second leading cause of death worldwide. These conditions take a heavy toll, especially on marginalized groups, who, despite carrying the greatest burden, often have the least say in shaping care.

Western is a national leader in neuroscience, with deep expertise across all areas of neuroscience, from neuroimaging and cognitive neuroscience to neurodevelopmental disorders and neurological diseases. WIN builds on these strengths by breaking down silos and fostering collaboration across medicine, health sciences, engineering, social science and beyond.

Together with our community partners, our researchers are addressing urgent challenges in the areas of child brain development, concussion, epilepsy, mental health, neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's, Parkinson's and ALS, and the rapidly growing field of brain-infection interactions.

By building Western's strengths and leadership in these key areas and working alongside community partners, we are bridging the gap between science and society to develop more targeted ways to diagnose, treat and prevent neurological conditions, improve outcomes for vulnerable populations in our communities and shape a more inclusive, responsive and impactful future for neuroscience.

With your support, we can take this important work even further, advancing research in areas of greatest need, training students and postdoctoral researchers through hands-on, community-based opportunities and building lasting partnerships that bring science closer to the people it is meant to serve.

“The Western Institute for Neuroscience postdoctoral fellowship award gave me the opportunity to explore promising new ways to diagnose individuals at risk for developing Alzheimer's disease. The funding provided the resources to implement cutting-edge diagnostic tools and accelerate this important research.

Manoj Medapati, Postdoctoral Researcher, WIN

RESEARCH WITH COMMUNITY IMPACT

Western unites researchers and community partners to co-develop solutions in a host of areas, including:

1.

Brain health: Working with older adults, caregivers and community groups, we promote brain health and reduce dementia risk by addressing barriers like social isolation and limited resources, and co-developing practical, culturally relevant interventions.

2.

Mental health: Partnering with people with lived experience, advocates and service providers, we identify community needs and co-create interventions, safeguards and systemic changes that reflect the realities of those most affected.

3.

Maternal and child brain health: Studying how pregnancy, birth and early experiences shape the brain, we work with families and healthcare providers to identify protective factors and create culturally responsive interventions that support healthy development from conception through childhood.

Are you all in?
Get in touch.

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