

For Immediate Release
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Foundation for Social Connection
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Foundation for Social Connection Receives Funding Award to Advance Consensus on Social Connection Measures

[Washington, D.C.] - The Foundation for Social Connection (F4SC) is honored to be selected for a funding award through the Eugene Washington PCORI Engagement Award Program, an initiative of the [Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute](#) (PCORI). This award will support the organization in hosting a national convening of researchers, community leaders, clinicians, and people with lived experience to address longstanding challenges in measuring social isolation, loneliness, and broader indicators of social connection for patient-centered comparative clinical effectiveness research (CER).

While national reports from the U.S. Surgeon General and the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine have highlighted the growing crisis of social isolation and loneliness, there remains no standard or widely accepted approach for measuring these multi-dimensional experiences across populations and contexts. Alignment across measures is essential to conducting high quality patient-centered CER to evaluate interventions and identify effective and scalable solutions across settings and populations.

"Receiving this award represents a vital step toward strengthening the entire field of social connection research and practice," said Jillian Racoosin Kornmeier, Executive Director of the Foundation for Social Connection. "By advancing shared language, standardized measures, and deeper collaboration across disciplines and communities, we can unlock more effective, patient-centered solutions to social isolation, loneliness, and connection – solutions that are grounded in evidence, shaped by lived experience, and built for lasting impact."

The convening will pursue four key objectives:

1. **Establish shared, patient-centered priorities** for what should be included in social isolation, loneliness, and social connection (SILC) measurement across settings and populations.
2. **Optimize measurement tools for diverse groups** – across the life course, geographic settings, and communities with unique social contexts and needs.
3. **Highlight innovative interventions and promising approaches** to evaluating effectiveness in real-world settings.
4. **Foster mentorship and collaboration** among early-stage investigators committed to social connection and patient-centered clinical effectiveness research (CER).

By centering patients, caregivers, and frontline implementers alongside researchers and policymakers, the project seeks to bridge critical gaps in the field and support the development of effective, scalable solutions to one of today's most pressing challenges.

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The [Foundation for Social Connection](#) (F4SC) was founded in 2020 with the vision of a vibrant society where social connection is at the heart of how we live. As the leading US organization focused on addressing our crisis of disconnection, our mission is to advance social connection nation-wide rooted in evidence for our collective well-being. Together with our [Scientific Leadership Council](#), [Action Network](#), and partners, we translate research into practice, create long-lasting partnerships and convening opportunities for field builders, and prioritize social connection as a national value powered by lived experiences.