

# Frequently Asked Questions

## **SOUTHERN REGION**

- Organizations interested in the capacity development and collaboration building in **Erath, Johnson, and Kaufman Counties**: Please **email** the Center for Nonprofit Management (CNM) at [expert@thecnm.org](mailto:expert@thecnm.org) and clearly reference “Texas Health Community Impact (THCI).”

## **DATA, OUTPUTS, EVALUATION**

- Will grantees be required to use a data collection system determined by Texas Health? If so, and this requires the grantee to incur additional costs, will Texas Health cover these costs?

**Texas Health will employ an independent evaluator to assess the results of your project. Much of the data will be collected through our Grants e-Portal. Proposals are strongly encouraged to budget 10 percent of requested amounts for evaluation and collection of data. It is recommended that funds are reserved to cover any cost associated with implementing the framework that the evaluation team sets for your program.**

- How many outputs do I need to achieve?

**Although Texas Health does not specify the number of outputs to reach on the Request for Proposals (RFP), we encourage all applicants to submit a program design that is focused on producing the maximum number of outputs for the grant requested.**

**We urge you to propose SMART (specific, measurable, attainable, realistic, and timebound) outputs that align with the program implementation and lead to one or more of the desired outcomes outlined in the RFP (reduced depression levels, reduced anxiety levels, reduced food insecurity, and/or increased resilience).**

**Here is an example you may find helpful:**

**Through Program X, we will enroll and screen 100 people for depression using the Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ) 9 assessment tool. Those who screen moderately severe or severe will be referred to a 12-week counseling session and re-screened after three months to determine changes in depression levels.**

**Outputs: The number of people screened with the PHQ-9 assessment tool; the number of people referred to counseling due to moderately severe or severe depression scores; the number of people who completed the counseling session; and the number of people re-screened after three months.**

**Outcome: Changes in the individual’s depression levels at the three-month follow-up.**

- Will Texas Health use an evaluation team for this initiative?

**Yes, Texas Health will secure the services of an evaluation team to work with each THCI grantee in defining a framework that assigns value to the proposed program outputs for the purpose of assessing how the program outputs roll up to the desired outcomes and impact of the THCI initiative.**

- Where did Texas Health get the data for the food insecurities and depression rates per county.

**Texas Health completes a Community Health Needs Assessment (“CHNA”) every three years. This CHNA pulls quantitative data from a variety of sources, such as the Healthy North Texas Dashboard, U.S. Census Bureau, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, as well as hospital usage data, to gather validated information about population health and conditions. Texas Health also gathers qualitative data through**

focus groups and community photovoice projects. You may access our latest CHNA by clicking here: <https://www.texashealth.org/Community-Health/Community-Health-Needs-Assessment>

## **WHO CAN APPLY?**

- May I apply for the 2023-2024 Grant Cycle if my organization is already receiving funding from Texas Health?

**You may apply as the lead organization so long as you have not served as the lead organization in the previous two grant cycles. If you have been a lead organization for the past two consecutive grant cycles, you may be part of a collaboration but not serve as lead organization. Anyone who has served as a partner of a previous collaboration is welcome to apply with no restrictions.**

- Can an organization be the lead on one proposal and a collaborating partner on another proposal?

**Yes.**

- May an organization who has never worked with Texas Health before, apply as the lead organization or be part of the proposal as a partner organization?

**Yes, we encourage all interested collaboratives to apply for funding and choose the lead organization that has the appropriate infrastructure and capacity to manage the project. Having received previous funding is not a requirement.**

- Can a for-profit organization be a partner and receive funding?

**A for-profit organization is excluded from being the lead organization, however, they can be a sub-awardee depending on the role, payment structure, and target population.**

- Can I just apply for funding of our free clinic since we pretty much address social determinants of health, chronic conditions, and mental health?

**Texas Health is looking for innovative and collaborative programs which will change the trajectory of healthcare. Free clinics are encouraged to collaborate with other organizations in their areas (as lead organization or collaborating organization) to offer services; however, they will need to clearly identify how the proposal aligns with the focus of this RFP, how they will collaborate with other local organizations, and include a description of the innovative aspects of the proposal.**

## **COLLABORATIONS**

- If an individual organization would like to apply, can you connect me with a collaboration?

**Organizations are encouraged to make their own connections to other potential partners, which could be developed into a collaboration. We strongly encourage lead applicants to draw from their existing networks to increase likelihood of success; however, we can facilitate introductions between organizations.**

- What kind of collaborations/partnerships are you looking for?

**Preference will be given to collaborations and/or partnerships that include multisectoral organizations. For example: a non-governmental organization (NGO) partnered with a bank and with a fitness center.**

- How many partners do you need for a collaboration?

**Texas Health will not fund individuals or a single organization. Texas Health does not define the number of organizations in the collaborative; however, the collaboration should be multisectoral and sufficiently address all areas outlined in the RFP.**

- Can I apply without a collaboration for one specific area such as \$50K to address food insecurity?

**No.**

- When you say “community collaboration” and “addressing social determinants of health,” what are your expectations on who should be a partner?

**We are looking for innovative, grassroots programs, which may include non-traditional partnerships. Each organization in the collaboration must have a clearly defined role and responsibility in improving the health and addressing the social determinants of health of their client base.**

- Is Texas Health looking to collaborate with specific organizations for areas addressing transportation?

**No. Texas Health is looking for innovative, grassroots programs, which may include collaborations with non-traditional organizations.**

## **FUNDING**

- May we apply for the full amount of funding available in each region?

**Each THCI Leadership Council will make the final determination about how the funds will be allocated across the ZIP codes located within its region. We recommend that the amount you request be proportionate to the scope of work and/or reach proposed.**

- When will we receive funding?

**Awardee notification will be made by Wednesday, Nov. 30, 2022, and the first payment will be made upon successful completion of the onboarding process, which includes execution of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The disbursement schedule will be outlined in the MOU. The lead agency acts as the fiduciary agent for all sub-awardees.**

- Is there a match for funding?

**There is no required match for this funding.**

- How much/what dollar amount is assigned to each area/ZIP code? Example: The total is \$1 million, but what if I want to apply for one ZIP code, is it worth \$333,000?

**Requested funding should be commensurate with the project reach. For example, if you are only serving some of the ZIP codes in a region, the funding request should not equal the total funding available. Organizations looking to meet grant objectives in all ZIP codes under one project may apply for the total funding amount.**

- Does the grant funding include translation/interpretation services?

**Translation and interpretation services are an allowable expense.**

- The RFP states exclusion of capital expenses and indirect costs should not exceed 15 percent. What if we need a location to house materials/supplies and conduct classes? Could that be included in the budget? Funds to purchase a location to serve as headquarters to allow us to accomplish initiatives outlined in our proposal. The funds would allow for implementation of goals. Can they be included on our budget?

**Unfortunately, our funding does not cover capital expenses. You can include it in your proposal; however, your application might get cut from consideration unless you can thoroughly explain why it is mission critical; and even then, there is a chance it won't be considered.**

## **ZIP CODES**

- Can my agency participate if we are not housed in one of the listed ZIP codes?

**Yes – if your agency actively works in or serves the targeted ZIP code or is proposing to start activities in the chosen ZIP code. Data should be provided to demonstrate reach. Participants in the program must be from the designated ZIP codes.**

- Does my agency have to focus and spend all the resources in the ZIP codes?

**Yes, work beyond the designated ZIP codes will not be considered. Proposed programs must spend all resources in the designated ZIP codes.**

- Some of the ZIP codes cross county lines—can I serve a person who resides in the ZIP code, but lives outside of the counties you cover?

**Yes, you may serve based on the ZIP code of residence, not the county of residence.**

- Can an organization apply for one ZIP code?

**Yes, however that may severely limit the competitiveness of your proposal.**

- May I apply for more than one ZIP code or more than one region?

**Yes.**

### **MISCELLANEOUS**

- Does the grant allow a timeframe for the collaboration to build/establish its infrastructure?

**Texas Health expects the proposed programs to begin reaching clients no later than the fifth month of the grant cycle, which begins Sunday, Jan. 1, 2023.**

- What does “prioritization will be given to…” mean in the RFP?

**Prioritization is a result of how your proposal compares to the grant scoring matrix. For example, proposals that deploy evidence-based education will score higher than those that implement educational programs with little or no evidence of success.**

- Do proposed programs have to be evidence- or research-based, or are there set parameters on programs we can offer?

**Use of evidence-based programming is not required. Although Texas Health is looking for innovation, proposals incorporating elements that include evidence-based programming will score higher than programs without validated results. For example, an organization that deploys PEARLS (Program to Encourage Active, Rewarding Lives) to address depression in the senior population will score higher than a proposal which implements a different program that has no evidence of success.**

- How do you define low-income?

**A good definition of low income is households at 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Level. Applicants should describe how eligibility is determined and provide a strong justification for the determination.**

- Are there limitations for Medicare-eligible clients or clients eligible for other government funded programs?

**Texas Health Community Impact grants are not intended to take the place of other funding sources, however, if there are barriers to accessing care, we will consider applications with a specified need and justification. However, you cannot bill the grant for services reimbursed by government funded programs.**

- There are spots for up to 10 letters of support. Does Texas Health expect that many?

**No, but each collaborating organization will need a letter of support, so the total number will also be affected by the number of collaborating organizations listed in the lead agency’s application.**

- Are we able to cover salaries as part our grant?

**Yes, salaries may be included in your project budget for professional, clinical, or grant management services, however the amount budgeted must be proportionate to the amount of time spent working on the project.**

- The RFP has word-count limits for responses, but the e-Portal has character-count limits for responses. Which do we use?

**Most of us are traditionally used to word counts and that is what we included in the RFP. However, our e-Portal platform requires us to use character counts. The best estimate we could determine was approximately a 10 character per 1 word ratio. If you are within the word-count limit, you should also be within the character-count limit.**

**List of Current and Past Projects can be found on our webpage:  
<https://www.texashealth.org/Community-Health/Community-Impact>**