

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

- 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 draw from their existing networks to increase likelihood of success; however, we can facilitate introductions between organizations.
- 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% 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.
- Do I have to address everything in the RFP? Example: Can I select anxiety, but not depression; can I select navigation, but not food insecurity?
   Funding will be awarded based on how well the proposal addresses all the criteria.
   Proposals which do not address all issues will not be considered.
- How many partners do you need for a collaboration?
   Texas Health will not fund individuals or a single organization. Projects must be cross-collaborative in nature and designed to address all aspects of the RFP. Texas Health does not define the number; however, the collaboration should be sufficient to address all areas outlined in the RFP.
- How many outputs do I need to achieve?
   Although Texas Health does not specify the number of outputs to reach on the RFP, we encourage all applicants to submit a program design that is focused on producing the maximum number of outputs for the grant being 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, or increased resilience.
   Here is an example you may find helpful:
  - Through X program, we will enroll and screen 100 people for depression using the PHQ-9 assessment tool. Those who screen moderately severe or severe will be referred to a 12-week counseling session and re-screened after 3-months to determine changes in depression levels.
    - Outputs: # of people screened with the PHQ-9 assessment tool, # of people referred to counseling due to moderately severe or severe depression scores, # of people who completed the counseling session, # of people re-screened after 3 months.
    - Outcome: Changes in the individual's depression levels at the 3-month follow-up.

 Can I apply without a collaboration for one specific area such as \$50K to address food insecurity?
 No.

• 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 agency or collaborating agency) 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.

- Will Texas Health use an evaluation team for this initiative?
   Yes, Texas Health will be securing 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.
- Does the grant funding include translation/interpretation services?
   Translation and interpretation services are an allowable expense.
- 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 3 years. This CHNA pulls quantitative data from a variety of sources, such as the Healthy North Texas Dashboard, US 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: <a href="https://www.texashealth.org/Community-Health/Community-Health-Needs-Assessment">https://www.texashealth.org/Community-Health/Community-Health-Needs-Assessment</a>
- Can a for-profit home health agency or other for-profit agencies 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, the payment structure, and the target population.
- Is there a match for funding?
   There is no required match for this funding.
- May I apply for more than one zip code or more than one region?
   Yes.
- 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
  partners. 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.

- 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.
- When will we receive funding?
   Awardee notification will be made no later than November 30, 2022, and first payment made in January 2023, upon successful completion of the onboarding process that includes execution of the Memorandum of Understanding.
- Does the grant allow a time-period 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 January 1, 2023.
- 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.
- 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 designated zip codes.
- 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.
- 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 zip code of residence, not county of residence.
- 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 programming without validated results. For example, an organization that deploys PEARLS to address depression in the senior population will score higher than a proposal which implements a different program that has no evidence of success.
- What kind of partnerships are you looking for?

  Preference will be given to collaborations and/or partnerships that include multisectoral organizations. For example: An NGO partnered with a bank and with a fitness center.
- How do you define low-income?
   200% poverty level is a good definition of low income. 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?
  - 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.
- Is Texas Health looking to partner with specific partners for areas addressing transportation?

  No. Texas Health is looking for innovative, grass-root programs, which may include non-traditional partners.
- May I apply for the 2023-2024 Grant Cycle if my organization is already receiving funding from Texas Health?
   Yes.