



Missouri Foundation  
for Health

REQUEST FOR CONCEPT PAPERS

## Opportunity Fund

Missouri Foundation for Health (MFH) invites organizations to submit a concept paper for an idea that offers a unique opportunity to address health for Missourians in ways that create lasting impact. We are interested in ideas that explore or implement ways to challenge and disrupt the [systems](#) or circumstances that allow inequities to exist.

The 2021 cycle of Opportunity Fund will support ideas that fall into one of the following areas:

- Increasing Health Equity for:
  - Immigrants and refugees (with a particular emphasis on rural communities)
  - Older adults/aging populations (60 years or older)
- Promoting Environmental Justice to Achieve Health Equity

### Key Application Dates

Open  
Date

February 25, 2021

Close  
Date

March 25, 2021, noon (CT)

Concept Papers will be reviewed and select applicants will be invited to submit full proposals.

### Eligibility Requirements

Applicants must be nonprofit or governmental entities and meet the general [MFH funding guidelines](#) available on the Foundation's website.

### Application Timeline

**Concept Papers:** Concept papers must be received by Thursday, March 25, 2021, at noon (CT). Please plan accordingly and submit your concept paper well before the deadline, as MFH cannot accept late applications.

**Full Proposal:** MFH staff will review applications to determine if the organization will be invited to submit a full proposal based on fit with the Opportunity Fund and strategic priorities of the Foundation. Applicants will be notified of concept paper status in mid-May 2021. If an applicant is invited, they will have up to nine weeks from the date of invitation to submit a full proposal.

**Award Notification(s):** September 2021 – December 2021.

### How to Apply

To start a new concept paper application, [click here](#).

To return to a concept paper application in progress, [click here](#).



## Concept Paper Requirements

- **Application Acknowledgement.** Complete and submit the [one-page acknowledgement form](#).
- **Concept Paper Narrative.** In no more than two 1.5-spaced pages, please concisely consider the following. (Note: If invited to submit a full proposal, additional details about the approach, major activities, timeline, organizational history, and partner roles will be requested. For this concept, it is important to focus on describing the idea and emphasizing how it will specifically examine, challenge, improve, or disrupt the systems that allow inequities to exist.)
  1. **What?** Provide a brief synopsis of the proposed idea and the target audience. Clearly identify which of the 2021 target areas this idea fits within.
  2. **Why?** Why is this needed? Why is now the right time to do this? How does this project and timing fit into the current landscape?
  3. **To what end?** How does this idea challenge systemic inequities, create systems level impact, disrupt the system that holds this issue in place, and/or promote equity? Systems change can take shape at many different levels, such as: policy (local/state legislative, health system, organizational, administrative, etc.), structural change, shift in resource flows, relationships, power dynamics, narratives, mental models, and more. Describe the systemic implications for this work?
  4. **With whom?** If anticipated, please share any identified partners. A brief list of partner names is sufficient. Collaboration and partnerships are encouraged for systems level impact.
- **Concept Budget.** Please complete and submit the [concept paper budget](#) listing the estimated expenses for the project with a brief explanation (a more detailed budget will be required if a full proposal is requested).
- **Annual audit report or IRS Form 990.** Most recent audit report or IRS Form 990. Applicants using a fiscal agent must submit financial documents for both the applicant organization and fiscal agent.
- **Conflict of Interest Disclosure.** Complete and submit the [disclosure form](#).

## Additional Considerations

The Foundation reserves the right to:

- Request additional information from any or all applicants
- Conduct discussions with applicants to ensure full understanding of, and responsiveness to, the application requirements
- Request modifications to a respondent's application prior to final award to ensure alignment of project elements with the [core values](#), [mission](#), and operating standards of the Foundation
- Approve subcontractors proposed or used in carrying out the work
- Reject any or all applications submitted



## Inquiries

If you have questions about the goals or content of the RCP, please contact Doneisha Bohannon, Senior Strategist – Initiatives, via email at [dbohannon@mffh.org](mailto:dbohannon@mffh.org).

For more information on the online application system, [click here](#). If there are additional questions, please contact Wendy Rohrbach, Project Coordinator at [wrohrbach@mffh.org](mailto:wrohrbach@mffh.org) or (314) 345-5504.

## About Missouri Foundation for Health

Missouri Foundation for Health is building a more equitable future through collaboration, convening, knowledge sharing, and strategic investment. Working in partnership with communities and nonprofits, MFH is transforming systems to eliminate inequities within all aspects of health and addressing the social and economic factors that shape health outcomes. To learn more please visit [mffh.org](http://mffh.org).