

Frequently Asked Questions for Diverting to Care Community Based Grant RFA 2021

What does Missouri Foundation for Health (Foundation) mean when we say Diverting to Care?

The purpose of the Diverting to Care initiative is to promote, advance, and support community efforts that minimize the use of law enforcement in situations involving individuals with mental health and substance use disorders. Diverting individuals away from jails and prisons and toward more appropriate and culturally competent community-based behavioral health care is our focus.

The Diverting to Care initiative supports efforts at the front-end, specifically Intercepts 0 and 1, of [The Sequential Intercept Model \(SIM\) | SAMHSA](#) reducing the likelihood that people with mental health and substance use disorders will ever encounter law enforcement.

What kinds of ideas are you looking for under the Diverting to Care Initiative?

We are open to community generated ideas and therefore are not providing specific examples to avoid limiting the types of projects that may be submitted. Project ideas should align with the goals of this RFA and demonstrate how your activities will strengthen diversion infrastructure through community driven solutions.

Why are there two different sets of narrative questions?

We recognize that communities may be at different stages in their journey to increase community supports and decrease the interaction between individuals with mental health or substance use issues and law enforcement. Communities may apply under one of two categories depending on current conditions.

Category 1: Strategic Partnerships and Collaborative planning is for communities that are building diversion efforts and need to engage key individuals in planning, preparing, and building support for activities aimed at changing or improving responses to people in crises and minimizing criminal justice involvement.

Category 2: Strategy Implementation is for communities with an existing supportive group and plans to increase or expand diversion activities.

Are there deadlines I should know about?

MFH will accept applications for Diverting to Care until August 31, 2021 at 12 p.m. Central Time. Applications will be reviewed by Foundation staff after the deadline.

What happens after I submit my proposal?

You should receive a confirmation email after submitting the proposal. Foundation staff will review your proposal and may contact you with questions regarding your proposal. The Foundation's Board of Directors will make the final award decisions. Applicants will be notified of funding decisions by mid-December. All grants under this RFA may begin as early as January 2022.

What do you look for when determining whether or not to fund a project?

Funding decisions are guided by our [core values](#), [mission](#), and how well the application addresses this Diverting to Care opportunity.

Can an organization apply to both Category 1 and Category 2?

No. We encourage each applicant to thoughtfully consider where their community is along their diversion journey and identify which category is the best fit.

Can an organization apply for a Diverting to Care award if they are a current grant recipient from another MFH program?

Yes. Please refer to the Foundation's [Funding Guidelines](#) for more information.

Has MFH established a limit to the amount that can be requested for Diverting to Care awards?

No, however, the amount requested should be reasonable and justifiable for the scope of the project. MFH may request modifications to an organization's application prior to final award to ensure alignment of budget requests with the core values, mission, and operating standards of the Foundation.

Has MFH established a specific length of time for Diverting to Care awards?

MFH understands systems-level change takes time; however, community-based grants under the Diverting to Care fund will have a maximum duration of three years.

If my organization's proposal is declined, will MFH provide us with reasons for the decision?

Yes, you will receive the reasons for the declination in an email correspondence. You may contact the MFH staff person identified in the email for additional clarification if necessary.

Where should I direct my inquiries?

For questions about the goals or content of this RFA please contact Marcel Scaife. Questions related to the budget may be directed to Deena Lauver Scotti. This document will be updated periodically as additional questions are received.

For more information on the online application system, [click here](#).