



Missouri Foundation
for Health

a catalyst for change

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

Using Advocacy to Address Community-Identified Health Issues

The Health Advocacy work of Missouri Foundation for Health (MFH) is grounded in empowering Missourians to be a voice for change through increasing the coordination, capacity, and effectiveness of the field of advocates. In order to address inequities and transform systems, communities must have the opportunity to take an active role in the advocacy work that impacts them directly.

This request for applications (RFA) invites organizations to apply for an advocacy project that addresses pressing health issues that have been prioritized by the community. This opportunity seeks a variety of advocacy projects that are community-led. The community should play a driving role in identifying and prioritizing the issue(s) which they believe will improve their health and well-being, as well as in the implementation of the work. Successful projects should have community involvement engrained at every level. Finally, projects should embed health and racial equity in their approach and offer a clear plan for advocacy to positively impact the identified priority issue. While it is not required that each project focuses solely on communities of color, we are especially interested in projects that prioritize communities of color and work towards racial equity.

Key Application Dates	
Close Date:	October 6, 2021, Noon (CT)
Pre-application Webinar:	August 25, 2021, 11 A.M.-noon Webinar Registration Link: https://mffh.zoom.us/j/86456789012
Anticipated Award Start Date:	February 1, 2022

Eligibility Requirements

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

Applicants may apply with a fiscal agent or sponsor.

- A fiscal agent is a non-profit organization that is in good standing with the state of Missouri and performs various administrative management and oversight functions for another agency or 501(c)(3) organization.
- A fiscal sponsor is a non-profit organization that is in good standing with the state of Missouri and performs various administrative management and oversight functions for a group that is not registered as a 501(c)(3) organization.

If funded, the applicant organization and fiscal agent/sponsor will be responsible for all terms and conditions of the Grant Award Agreement for the duration of the grant.





How to Apply

Applications must be received by **noon CT, on Wednesday, October 6, 2021**. Please plan accordingly and submit your application well before the deadline as MFH cannot accept late applications.

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

To return to an application in progress, [click here](#).

Application Requirements

Projects are anticipated to be up to 36 months in duration. Award amounts for individual projects will vary. Applicants should submit a budget that aligns with the scope of the project, supports proposed activities, and clearly connects activities or outcomes with line-item requests.

- Application acknowledgement.** Complete and submit the [one-page acknowledgement form](#).
- Application narrative.** Address each section below. The application narrative can be up to 10 pages and must be double-spaced with at least 11-point Arial or Times New Roman font and one-inch margins.
 - Identify the Issue.** We believe that communities have the best insight regarding their needs. For this reason, we ask organizations to partner with them to elevate communities' pressing health issues.
 - Please define the community-identified health issue that is the focus of your project.
 - Does this issue impact racial equity? If it does, how does this issue present differently in communities of color?
 - Detail how this issue was identified collaboratively with the impacted community and how it is driven by them.
 - Proposed Approach.** Explain your project and how it will work with community to improve health and well-being. Keep in mind that health is influenced by conditions in the environments where people are born, live, learn, work, play, worship, and age. [Learn more about how we define health](#).
 - What tactics will be used to impact the community-identified health issue?
 - Describe the advocacy scope of your project.
 - Why is your organization well positioned to address this particular issue?
 - Who is the primary focus of your advocacy efforts? (e.g., community organizations, local leaders, policymakers, etc.)
 - Who are your allies and how will you engage them? Include Memorandums of Understanding as available.
 - How will the impacted community lead the work? How will they have a specific voice in the project?



- **Anticipated Project Impact.** If successful, in what ways would your project contribute to better health and well-being as well as systems transformation and further equity goals? What long-term and/or short-term effects do you anticipate?
 - **Project Activities and Timelines.** Please outline the major activities of the project and expected timelines.
 - **Organizational History and Qualifications.** Provide a summary of the experience and qualifications of the organization's staff as well as any proposed subcontractors.
 - **Funding Sources.** List any in-kind services or other sources of funding, if applicable.
 - **Budget spreadsheet and narrative.** Download and complete the [MFH budget guidelines and template](#). Budgets must be submitted using the MFH budget format and as a Word document. Applicants should submit a budget that aligns with the scope of the project, supports proposed activities, and clearly connects activities or outcomes with line-item requests.
 - **Financial documents.** Applicants must submit the following documents. If using a fiscal agent/sponsor, financial documents for both the applicant organization and fiscal agent/sponsor organization are required.
 - Audit report or IRS Form 990 issued less than 15 months prior to the date of application submission
 - Financial statements for the most recent annual accounting period
 - Current year's approved budget
 - Current unaudited income statement and balance sheet issued fewer than 75 days prior to the date of application submission
- Note:* If the applicant organization does not have either an annual audit report or IRS Form 990, provide explanation and the following:
- Financial statements (income statement and balance sheet) for the most annual accounting period and current year compiled by an external accounting firm or prepared by the applicant organization and reviewed and approved by the applicant organization's governing body.
- **Conflict of Interest Disclosure.** Complete and submit the [disclosure form](#).
 - **Fiscal agent/sponsor explanation.** If using a fiscal agent/sponsor, a written explanation outlining why one is needed. In addition, a signed Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) outlining the roles and responsibilities between the applicant and fiscal agent/sponsor must be submitted. A sample MOA is [available here](#).

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



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- 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 this RFA please contact Megan Bhatti, Strategist, at mbhatti@mffh.org or (314) 345-5573.

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 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.