



Missouri Foundation  
for Health

# Opportunity Fund

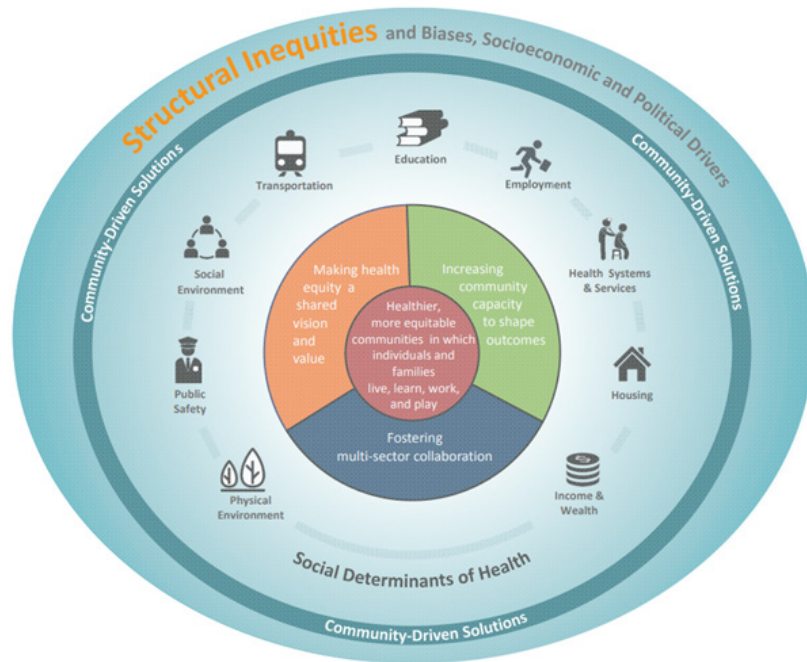
Missouri Foundation for Health (MFH) invites organizations to submit a concept paper for a project that addresses the systems that impact the health of Missourians. We are interested in ideas that explore or implement ways to challenge and disrupt these **systems** that allow and perpetuate inequities in health status and outcomes for individuals, families, and communities.

This cycle of Opportunity Fund will support systems change projects that utilize community-driven solutions to address the social determinants of health and tackle structural inequities (i.e., the deeply embedded systematic disadvantage of one social group compared to other groups with whom they coexist). This cycle of Opportunity Fund does not focus on any specific topic area or population.

Key Application Dates	
Open Date	Tuesday, September 28, 2021
Close Date	Thursday, November 4, 2021, noon (CT)
Concept Papers will be reviewed and select applicants will be invited to submit full proposals in early January 2022	



Figure 1. Building a Healthier Missouri through Systems Change



National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine 2017. Communities in Action: Pathways to Health Equity. Washington, DC: The National Academies Press. <https://doi.org/10.17226/24624>



## 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 (Additional information about your fiscal sponsor will be requested if your organization is asked to submit a full proposal).

- 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.

## Application Timeline

**Concept Papers:** Concept papers must be received by Thursday, November 4, 2021, at noon (CST). Please plan accordingly and submit your application 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 early January 2022. If an applicant is invited, they will have up to eight weeks from the date of invitation to submit a full proposal.

**Award Notification(s):** May 2022 – July 2022.

## How to Apply

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

To return to a concept paper in progress, log into your [account](#).

## 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.)
  1. **What?** Provide a brief synopsis of the proposed project, the systems approach, the population that will be impacted, and how that population will be engaged in the project.
  2. **Why?** Why is this needed? How and why is the environment ready for this project? 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, and disrupt the system that holds this issue in place? 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. What are the systemic implications of 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). If your request is a multi-year project, please provide a multi-year estimated budget.
  - **Annual audit report or IRS Form 990.** Most recent audit report or IRS Form 990.
  - **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 Alyssa Curran, Strategist – Initiatives, via email at [acurran@mffh.org](mailto:acurran@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).