MICHIGAN HEALTH ENDOWMENT FUND

2019 Healthy Aging Initiative Webinar Q&A

Concept Papers

Q: How soon should we expect feedback after submission of the concept paper?

A: The program team will do their best to get you timely feedback, usually within about two weeks. We anticipate receiving many concept papers and will respond to them in the order received, so we recommend submitting your concept paper early in order to get feedback more quickly. Concept papers are due by 5 p.m. on Thursday, May 30, 2019.

Budget Questions

Q: How do you define overhead costs? Are hourly employees who provide direct program services included?

A: We consider overhead or indirect costs to include costs associated with a project that are not in direct services of the project, such as administrative support, general office expenses, rent, and utilities. Employees who provide direct program services, whether hourly or salaried, should be included in the salary portion of your project budget.

Q: Is it OK to request a budget less than $500,000 (for implementation grants) or $200,000 (for planning grants)?

A: Absolutely! You may request up to $500,000 for an implementation grant and up to $200,000 for a planning grant, but we do not set a minimum request amount.

Q: Is there a limit on overhead costs?

A: For this grant round, an organization may request up to 10% of their total project budget for overhead or indirect costs.

Planning Grants

Q: Does the planning grant need to be directly related to the proposed initiative or can they be on two separate topics?

A: You are welcome to submit a planning grant to address a specific issue as it relates to healthy aging or caregiving. It does not need to specifically address the focus areas called out in the RFP, but it does need to be relevant to one of those two target populations – older adults or caregivers.

Number of Applications

Q: Can one organization apply for a planning grant and an implementation grant?

A: Yes, an organization can apply for more than one grant in a given cycle, including multiple implementation grants and/or one implementation grant and one planning grant. However, it is unlikely that the Health Fund will approve more than one grant per organization in a single grant

cycle. The program team at the Health Fund is happy to provide feedback on multiple ideas through the concept paper submission process to identify which project(s) would be most competitive.

Q: Can an investigator be involved in more than one application?
A: Yes. However, it is important to keep in mind that the Health Fund will likely only fund one project per organization. The program team can help you decide which project(s) to proceed to a full application with through the concept paper process.

Project Activities

Q: Are organizations eligible to apply if they are seeking funds for capital campaigns?
A: No. The Health Fund does not sponsor capital campaigns or provide funding for capital projects, including building or construction expenses.

Q: Could you please reiterate the items excluded from consideration concerning large equipment items?
A: We do not provide funding for large equipment such as vans or the purchase of multiple bikes to give away. However, we would consider equipment purchases (outside of vans) if they are part of a larger health improvement program and essential to carrying out the work.

Q: Clinical research is listed under "excluded from funding considerations" in the RFP. How do you define clinical research, and can you elaborate on that?
A: We do not fund clinical trials, such as drug or device trials; human subjects research; or animal research. If you have a specific project idea you would like to propose, please send in a concept paper and we can provide targeted feedback on your idea.

Q: Does the Health Fund provide funding for software development?
A: It depends. We encourage you to submit a concept paper to get specific feedback on your project.

Evaluation and Outcomes

Q: May we contact the evaluation officer to review our logic model before we submit?
A: Yes. The evaluation officer is available to discuss individual evaluation plans should you have questions prior to submitting a concept paper or proposal. We may engage the evaluation officer in the review process and we may send back questions or comments regarding your evaluation plan.

We also encourage you to attend our evaluation webinar for this grant opportunity. The webinar will be Tuesday, June 18 at 9:30 am. You can register for the webinar here:
https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_JFQHS8QKR3arX2JT_cnjzw

Collaboration

Q: We are considering collaborating with a community mental health organization as a small part of our proposal. Is this responsive, or should the community mental health organization apply for the Behavioral Health grant opportunity instead?
A: It would be helpful to hear more information about your planned collaboration. Please send in a concept paper and we can provide targeted feedback on your idea.

Q: Can you please further define the "aging population"? Does this mean 65+ years?
A: We intentionally did not define the aging population with regard to age. We recognize that there are many different programs with different age requirements, and if we want people to be healthy as they age, we need to target earlier interventions. That being said, we would not be able to support a program that was targeted at adults in their 30's or 40's unless it is specific to caregiving.

Application Questions
Q: What is the earliest start date for grants?
A: Projects may begin any time between December 1, 2019 and March 31, 2020.

Q: How often is the Healthy Aging opportunity available? Will the 2020 opportunity be similar or different than the current opportunity?
A: This is an annual opportunity that generally opens in the spring. The priorities and goals of the 2020 Healthy Aging opportunity may be different than the current grant opportunity.

Q: Where can I find more information on previous Healthy Aging grants?
A: Our website includes a list of grantees and project titles for all previous grant cycles. A list of the 2018 awards is available here: https://www.mihealthfund.org/health-fund-awards-14-million-in-healthy-aging-and-special-projects

Q: What is the typical funding rate for this opportunity?
A: In 2018, we received 109 concept papers and 72 full proposals. We made 22 awards.

Q: If we've applied and received grant funding from the Health Fund, do we need to resubmit the administrative documents, including our confirmation of our tax-exempt status, our organization's current annual operating budget, etc.?
A: Yes, these documents must be uploaded for every proposal.

Q: Is there a page limit for the full proposal?
A: All responses should be included in the application fields within our grants portal. We respectfully request that you limit your application narrative to a total of 10 printed pages, excluding any attachments.

Q: What is the timeline for the grant review process?
A: Applications are due Thursday, July 11, 2019 at 5 pm. Our program team will review each proposal and contact applicants with any questions in late summer, then present recommendations to our grantmaking committee in October. If our grantmaking committee does not recommend your proposal to our Board of Directors, we will notify you that your proposal was not approved after the grantmaking committee meets. We will send award notifications after our Board of Directors meets on Thursday, November 14, 2019.