



Housing+Health Request for Proposals Frequently Asked Questions

1. What outcomes is the Trust seeking?

The Chicago Community Trust recognizes that linking the role of permanent housing to health equity will naturally encompass a broad and diverse set of outcomes. We define health equity as the opportunity for every person to have access to his or her full health potential, particularly through the elimination of health inequities, disparities, or other root causes resulting in barriers to a full and healthy life. The Trust seeks to further this definition through its grant-making portfolio by allocating assets to organizations and partnerships seeking to provide services and resources that fill the unmet needs—resulting from socioeconomic disadvantages or historical, systematic barriers— of individuals in order to help them attain the highest level of health possible. As such, strong applications will clearly articulate the outcomes they are seeking through their proposed work. In addition, the aim of this RFP is to support both specific project-related goals, as well as sustained and future cross-sector partnerships as a means to foster responsive models, document collaborative outcomes, enact systems change, and remove structural barriers.

2. Are MOUs or Letters of Support required?

MOUs, Letters of Support, and business agreements are helpful documentation and Grant Central allows the option of uploading up to three supporting documents. A partnership budget is required; this document should be uploaded in Grant Central.

3. Can groups apply as the lead agency on more than one application?

Yes, as long as they are applying for different and distinct partnerships, programs, etc. We ask that organizations do this within reason. We are looking for well thought out, strong partnerships, and the number of applications does not increase your likelihood of a grant award.

4. If we are applying for a shared grant, through partnerships or a coalition, do we submit one application or apply individually?

There should be one application submitted by the lead organization representing the coalition. Describe the partnership or coalition in the narrative and include a partnership budget where budget line items document the partners. Demonstration of the partnership should be evident in both the supporting documentation and budget.

5. Can two agencies working together do separate applications for other projects?

We understand that one organization may be involved in multiple partnerships. The Trust will consider more than one application that include a common partner. We will be looking for possible duplication of efforts as we see multiples applications that include similar partners and/or similar approaches. Partnerships are a critical component of any proposals and as such, we encourage organizations that are working together to apply together as much as possible.

6. Does each partner have to create an organizational profile in Grant Central?

Only the lead organization must complete a profile in Grant Central to submit a Housing+Health application. However, it is worthwhile to add or update your organizational profile to receive future information about grant opportunities at the Trust. A fully updated and complete profile must be created prior to submitting the application. In the interest of time, we highly recommend that the organizational profile be completed and/or updated as soon as possible, even if the proposal itself is in development.

7. Is this funding intended to replace other funding provided by the Trust?

No. The Trust was able to allocate funds to support this RFP out of its existing budget beyond its current grant obligations.

8. If I am a GO grant recipient, am I eligible?

Yes.

9. Can this grant be used to support capital expenses (construction, equipment, etc.)?

We have limited eligible capital expenses to 10 percent of the overall budget. For example, if your grant request is for \$100,000, capital costs for the grant request must be no more than \$10,000.

10. What does capital mean in the context of this grant? For example, is early stage pre-development acceptable?

We understand that many of these programs and pilots are in various stages of development planning. Funding support may be used for planning and pre-development work. The limit on capital expenses pertains to the actual project construction and equipment costs for a capital project.

11. Is this a one year opportunity?

Yes, but one that will inform the Trust's work moving forward.

12. If this is a one-year opportunity, how important is sustainability to the application?

While long-term sustainability is ideal, given this is a one-year grant, we understand that this grant cannot ensure long-term sustainability. We ask applicants to address the ways you are leveraging partnership and other resources, how you will learn from the process, and what your long-term vision is for the work. The Trust will use this as an opportunity to get a better understanding of the landscape, to inform our work and grant making moving forward, and to highlight the demand and interest to a broad audience. The Trust has already begun to convene grant recipients and others working in this field to share progress and opportunities and plans to continue to do so.

13. Is there a possibility that this might be more than one year?

We have available resources for one year. Funding beyond that will require further approval by the leadership at The Chicago Community Trust.

14. What is the funding/project timeline?

Funding decisions will be made on September 25, 2018, and funding will be made available in October 2018. The programs should span October 2018 through October 2019. The start time can be later within this period, but please make sure the application time period and budget reflect the true project schedule.

15. Is there a preference for programs or advocacy in proposals, or do they have to include both?

While not a requirement to include both, we hope to support proposals that are making the connection between systems change and applied work. As such, applications that are linking advocacy and programming will likely be reviewed more favorably, all else being equal.

16. Will proposals be based on the number of people served?

The number of people served is a factor for consideration, but scalability is more important. We acknowledge that pilot programs may be small, while advocacy work may not touch as many individuals initially. The Trust will look to balance that both within individual proposals and across the portfolio of awarded grants.

17. Is mental health included as a component of the health pillar?

Yes.

18. Is there any preference for families vs. individuals?

There is no preference.

19. Are you actively trying to choose projects that are spread throughout Cook County or will there be more focus?

While the Chicago Community Trust serves Cook County, we do have a focus on racial equity. As such, we will be looking to support efforts that serve or focus on communities of color and improve the lives of people of color. This does not preclude other areas from consideration.

20. Are rental subsidies an eligible use?

No, given this is a one-year grant, utilizing this as a rental subsidy runs the risk of providing temporary housing support. The intent is to integrate permanent housing solutions.

21. What are you looking for from organizations submitting renewals?

We are looking to understand how this year's funding will impact your outcomes from the first grant cycle and how your renewal application is an extension or evolution of the first year. If your first year grant is not complete by October 2018 due to the funding cycle you are in or where you are in implementation, we ask you to adjust your scope, budget, and timeline accordingly to account and adjust for the overlap in funding periods. For example, if you received a grant in January 2018, then we would expect a nine-month budget and work plan as opposed to a full year, given that your current grant will carry you through January 2019.

22. What is the total amount of funding you are supporting this year?

In 2017, the Trust approved just over \$1M for all of the Housing+ programs, which included Housing+Criminal Justice, Housing+Health, and Housing+Education. As such, we are estimating total allocations for this Housing+Health cycle to range from \$350,000-\$400,000.

23. Can you tell us the future plans/timeline for Housing+Education and Housing+Criminal Justice?

Timing for Housing+Education and Housing+Criminal Justice requests for proposals is reliant on funding availability and alignment with Trust strategic priorities. If approved, our tentative schedule is January 2019 for Housing+Education and May 2019 for Housing+Criminal Justice.

24. Are the current grantees listed on your website?

The current grantees list is included in the RFP, which can be accessed at cct.smartsimple.com under Funding Opportunities.