

Children's Development and Health Research

Community-Initiated Implementation Projects

The purpose of Children's Development and Health grants is to facilitate research and speed the process of translation of evidence-based strategies for preventing and reducing the downstream effects of adverse childhood experiences. This component of the program focuses on strengthening the community's capacity to address the pressing physical and mental health needs of Iowa children and families.

Recent research in Iowa has stressed the lifelong impact that adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) like neglect, abuse, and exposure to other traumatic stressors like substance abuse, divorce, criminal behavior, etc. can have on children and youth. These negative experiences can disrupt healthy neurological development and can lead to certain behavioral and physical health problems later in life. However, through prevention and response strategies, communities can take efforts to reduce young children's exposure to extremely stressful conditions and build protective factors and increase children's resiliency to their harmful effects.

Two proposals from community organizations will be funded to implement an evidence-based program or project that supports the healthy development of children in Iowa. Strategies may include the prevention of abuse and neglect or the promotion and support of addresses ACEs and their often lifelong impact on well-being. The program may target children, youth, or families. Grantees are encouraged to work with the ICTS for expertise and resources.

A letter of interest is recommended and can be submitted prior to proposal submission. Proposals are due June 1, 2015.

Award

Funding up to \$10,000 is available. Funded projects must be completed within 12 months of award.

Proposal Information

Projects should address issues that have a significant health impact on individuals or populations.

Successful applicants will:

1. Clearly state the significance and impact of the selected issue on the health of individuals and populations.
2. Detail specific goals, strategies, and methods that will be used to address the chosen issue.
3. Propose a realistic timeline for their project.

Letter of Interest

Interested applicants can submit a letter of interest (LOI) for this funding opportunity.

Letters of interest will be reviewed and feedback will be provided. In addition, this process will allow ICTS staff to assist in identifying experts at the University of Iowa who may be able to provide assistance and consultation on the project.

The letter of interest, not to exceed one page single spaced, should address most of the following:

1. Project title and contact information: Applicant name, title, organization, email, phone number, and names of the key members on the project team.
2. A brief description of the project goals and plan and the evidence behind the use of these strategies
3. The significance and relevance of the particular issue addressed by the project to communities in Iowa
4. Request for consultation from expert at University of Iowa if needed.

Submission: Submit your letter of interest, with a request for UI expertise if needed, to Liz Swanton: elizabeth-swanton@uiowa.edu.

Full Proposal Content

Full proposals are due by June 1, 2015 by 5:00 pm (CDT), via email. The full proposal should address the following points:

1. **Face Page:**
 - a. Title of Project
 - b. Grant applicant name, position title, email address, phone number
 - c. Organization name, address, website, mission statement
 - d. Brief Description of Proposed Project (500 words maximum). You must include:
 - i. The project goal(s), including aims and objectives
 - ii. A description of the target population
 - iii. A brief summary of your project activities
 - iv. A timeline of project activities
2. **Narrative:** Addressing the following areas (five page limit, single spaced, upload PDF document):
 - a. *Project Goal:* What do you intend to accomplish? What are the community needs or problems to be addressed by this project? Why is this issue important?
 - b. *Organizational Strengths:* Please describe any relevant experience you have in understanding or addressing the proposed issue. Highlight the strengths of the organization to address this issue.
 - c. *Partnerships:* Elaborate on how the project is connected to larger efforts around childhood adversity and well-being. Include any partner organizations and describe how your efforts cross different sectors and organizations.
 - d. *Project Description:* Describe the intended impact of your project. What are the key tasks and activities? What evidence or literature is there to suggest these activities will have this impact?

- e. *Community Significance*: Who in the community will benefit from the results of your project? How will the anticipated results of your project help to improve the health of your target population? Include an estimate of the number of people to be served by this project?
 - f. *Sustainability*: What are your plans to maintain activities following the funding period, including plans for securing additional funding?
 - g. *Literature cited*: Not included in 5-page limit.
3. **Timeline**: The project must be completed within 12 months of the start date. Show tasks to be completed during each quarter. The timeline is not included in the narrative page limit.
4. **Budget**: Please include a budget and budget justification. The budget should outline all costs needed to complete the project.

Review and Award Notice

Completed full proposals will be reviewed by a joint University of Iowa-Community Review process using the following criteria:

- **Impact**: Does the project address an issue of significance and relevance to a community in Iowa, particularly one that is currently underserved? Does the project have a clear and focused goal with measurable objectives? Will the health of the population be improved if project aims are achieved?
- **Experience**: Does the project have adequate personnel to carry out the proposed project? Do the personnel have appropriate training and/or experience to carry out this project?
- **Approach**: Is the overall strategy well-reasoned and appropriate to accomplish the specific aims of the project? Do the activities reflect best practices and are they supported by current literature? Are the resources requested appropriate and adequate to accomplish the specific aims of the project?

Deadlines

Letter of Interest: prior to proposal submission (Recommended)

Proposal: June 1, 2015

Notice of Award: June 22, 2015

Funding Period: July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016

All proposals should be sent to elizabeth-swanton@uiowa.edu

Questions

Please direct questions to elizabeth-swanton@uiowa.edu