



— Massachusetts —
COMMUNITY HEALTH AND
HEALTHY AGING FUNDS

Healthy Aging Funding Stream

The vision that guides the Healthy Aging funding stream is to ***contribute to equitable systems across sectors affecting community-level physical environments and social and economic conditions ultimately leading to a better quality of life and health outcomes for older adults as they age in Massachusetts.*** The Healthy Aging funding stream is designed to support prevention efforts to enable older adults of all abilities, races, ethnicities, sexual orientations, religions, and regardless of economic status to remain active, independent, safe, and involved in their community (see Figure 1).

The Healthy Aging funding stream will invest in strategies that focus on the eight multisector domains of age-friendly communities defined by the World Health Organization (WHO) and AARP (see Figure 2), emphasizing the social determinants of health and funding of policy, systems, and environmental change approaches. Approaches will lead to measurable short, intermediate, and long-term outcomes in areas related to policy, systems, and environmental change approaches, changes in community-level conditions, and changes in population health.

Figure 1. Healthy Aging Funding Investment Strategy



Example Healthy Aging approaches:

- Increase in the availability of options for affordable transportation as measured through a survey of transportation programs.

- Increase in the availability of affordable multi-purpose and aging in place housing options as measured by review of planning committee minutes and inventory of municipal affordable housing units for residents 55+.
- Portion of people 65+ who want to remain in their current residence and are confident they will be able to afford to do so as measured by a community survey and,
- Change in Serious Complex Chronic Disease measure found in the Massachusetts Healthy Aging Data Report¹. Click for more information on [Health Equity](#), the [Social Determinants of Health](#), and [Age-Friendly Communities](#).

In this round of funding, the Healthy Aging Fund expects to make multiple awards in the range of \$10,000 to \$100,000 per year for up to 5 years per award, with preference given to those ideas that address the areas of housing and transportation. Awards that support planning and capital investments are also possible. Future rounds of funding will depend on the availability of funds. The types of activities that may be supported in this funding include but are not limited to:

- Activities that would build the infrastructure for, or take initial steps toward, advancing a longer-term initiative. Examples include hosting activities that support community engagement; strategic planning; focus groups and listening sessions; and professional and staff training.
- Organizations or coalitions that seek support to develop new or expand existing initiatives. Specific examples of costs that can be covered in this category include staff/personnel, building capacity of older adults to engage in policy, systems, and environmental change, and trainings with coalition partners to build awareness about and incorporate health equity.

Figure 2. Domains of Age-Friendly Communities



For more information about Age-Friendly Communities and the eight domains, click [here](#).

Alignment with Other Initiatives

Preference will be given to initiatives that complement and/or align with other public and private social determinants of health initiatives affecting the quality of life of older adults.

These include, but are not limited to: recommendations from the [Governor's Council to Address Aging in Massachusetts](#), goals and strategies of [ReiMAgine Aging: Massachusetts Age-Friendly Action Plan](#), [Community Compact's Best Practices](#), and [Mass in Motion](#).

Healthy Aging Proposal Questions

Note: These questions are just for reference. You will answer the Organization and Proposal Information questions in the [online application form](#), and the proposal narrative questions in a document, slide show, or video. See the [application guidance](#) for more information about how to submit your proposal attachment.

Organization Information

1. Lead Organization Name
2. Fiscal Sponsor (if applicable)
3. Tax ID of Lead Organization or Fiscal Sponsor (if applicable)
4. Organizational Operating Budget
5. Highest Ranking Official Contact Information
6. Primary Contact Information

Proposal Information

1. Project Title
2. Geographic Area Served
3. Which of the Eight Domains of Age-Friendly Communities does your proposal primarily focus on? Select all that apply.
 - ☐ Transportation
 - ☐ Housing
 - ☐ Social Participation
 - ☐ Communication & Information
 - ☐ Civic Participation & Employment
 - ☐ Respect & Social Inclusion
 - ☐ Community Support & Health Services
 - ☐ Outdoor spaces & Buildings
4. Which of the six prioritized social determinants of health will your project directly address?
 - ☐ Built Environment
 - ☐ Social Environment
 - ☐ Housing
 - ☐ Violence and Trauma
 - ☐ Employment
 - ☐ Education
 - ☐ Other: _____
5. Which of the four prioritized health outcomes will your project address?
 - ☐ Chronic disease with a focus on cancer, heart disease, and diabetes
 - ☐ Housing Stability/Homelessness
 - ☐ Mental Illness and Mental Health
 - ☐ Substance Use Disorders
 - ☐ Other: _____

Proposal Narrative Questions *Word counts are recommendations

Instructions: Please be as specific as possible in your responses to the questions below. We encourage applications to be candid about their existing community engagement and equity efforts, recognizing that people, organizations, and partnerships need to deepen understanding and know-how about equity and its related practices of community engagement. We also welcome your plans for how these areas will be deepened if joining a future awardee cohort. Finally, awardees will receive training and technical assistance on these and other topics, therefore responses that can detail as much as possible where your organizations and partnerships are will enable us to target and tailor capacity-building efforts as much as possible.

Approach

1. What do you propose to do with this funding? Is this a new program/process or an expansion of work that you are currently doing? What is the specific policy, system or environmental change(s) you expect to achieve? How will your approach **directly** address [root causes](#) of inequitable health outcomes? (750 words)
2. How will this approach support the **principles of Age-Friendly Communities**? *Preference will be given to initiatives that complement and/or align with recommendations from the Governor's Council to Address Aging in Massachusetts, goals and strategies of [ReiMAqine Aging: Massachusetts Age-Friendly Action Plan](#), Community Compact's Best Practices, and Mass in Motion.* (150-300 words)
3. What will the impact of this work be at the end of this funding? (150-300 words)
4. How will you know if you are successful? How will you measure success? (150-300 words)

ATTACHMENT: Complete the Workplan/Activities Template by outlining the specific activities your organization will do to achieve your goals.

Community Engagement

5. How is the impacted community engaged in the leadership, design, implementation and evaluation of this work? *For example, members of the impacted community sit on decision-making bodies within your organization or collaborative.* (250-350 words)
6. Describe where this work falls within the [public participation spectrum](#), both currently and where you would like the work to be in the future. *Priority will be given to proposals that come from and are led by populations with lived experience related to the issue being addressed.* (150-250 words)

Applicant and Partners

7. What are your organization's current efforts and/or plans to incorporate equity within your organizational policies and practices? What are your partners' current efforts and/or plans to incorporate equity within their organizational policies and practices? (250-350 words)
8. The Funds are committed to addressing the root causes of health inequities, specifically, institutional and structural racism. How do the staff, leadership and Board/Advisory Board of your organization reflect the communities you propose to serve with this

funding? Please include de-identified demographic information such as race, gender, ethnicity and age. (300-500 words)

9. How do your partners help fulfill your goals? What do they contribute to your partnership? Which entities are currently not part of your partnership that you would like to engage? *Priority will be given to those who demonstrate strong partnership and collaboration.* (250-400 words)

Resources

ATTACHMENT: Using the budget template provided, please complete a budget including how dollars will be allocated to partners. Applicants are encouraged to include a realistic budget with robust justification for requested funds.

Capacity Building

Your response to the following question will not negatively impact your application. It will be used to provide technical assistance and learning/teaching opportunities for awardees.

One of the main goals of The Funds is to support applicants with capacity building training and resources. In 2-3 sentences describe the kinds of capacity-building support and resources you may need to help complete the activities you are proposing (i.e., developing educational materials, etc.)? Topics may include but are not limited to racial equity, assessment, use of data, policy, systems and environmental change approaches, institutional/structural racism, proposal writing, and budget development.