— Massachusetts —
COMMUNITY HEALTH AND
HEALTHY AGING FUNDS

Idea Submission Phase

During the Idea Submission Phase, interested applicants can submit an idea prior to submitting a full grant application. This process allows applicants to develop an idea or share an existing approach related to the Funds' purpose to address the root causes of health inequities. Applicants receive feedback (1) on their eligibility, (2) on alignment of their idea, and (3) on ways to develop their idea or approach further. This process will inform their full grant application to the Funds and/or provide a valuable exercise for advancing PSE change and community health improvement work.

> Idea submission is not required, and submitting an idea will not guarantee your application will be selected for funding.
>
> Once Idea Submission closes, questions can be directed to staff during office hours throughout the application process.

Overview of Process

Step 1: Review Funds Information
Background, purpose, funding streams, and eligibility criteria

Step 2: Discuss Alignment
Discuss alignment of your existing initiatives OR brainstorm new ideas aligned with the Funds purpose with your team and partners. This worksheet can help you consider key guiding questions.

Step 3: Create Submission
Co-create a submission with your team/partners.

Step 4: Submit Idea
Submit an idea for feedback and/or to identify opportunities for partnership with other groups.

Step 5: Receive Feedback
Receive feedback & incorporate changes into your full application, if you plan to submit.

Please direct questions to MACHHAFunds@hria.org

Background

In January 2017, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) completed a landmark revision of the Determination of Need (DoN) regulation which led to the creation of the Massachusetts Community Health and Healthy Aging Funds (The Funds). Resources for the Community Health and Healthy Aging Funds are from hospitals, long-term care facilities, and other healthcare entities that are required to contribute to the Funds the Massachusetts Department of Public Health's Determination of Need Program. Click here for additional information on the Determination of Need program.

Purpose

The Funds are an opportunity to reduce health inequities in communities across Massachusetts. They represent both a grantmaking and capacity-building resource to assist organizations and communities in disrupting and removing barriers to health – structural and institutional racism, poverty, and deep power imbalances – through community-centered policy, systems, and environmental change approaches.

The Funds are guided by the following principles:
- Social Determinants of Health (SDoH) account for significant variation in health outcomes.
- Policies, systems, and social/physical environments are historically based in structural and institutional racism and other forms of oppression.
- Structural and institutional racism and other forms of oppression need to be understood and disrupted to eliminate inequities in population health outcomes and the social determinants of health (SDoH).

Funding Streams

The Funds will distribute grants in the three funding areas below.

	PSE	CHIP	Healthy Aging
Approach	Policy, systems, and environmental change approaches	Community health improvement planning	Healthy aging focused policy, systems, and environmental change approaches
Priority Geography	Communities outside of Boston that have not historically and routinely benefitted from DoN dollars and have high rates of health inequities	Communities outside of Boston that have not historically and routinely benefitted from DoN dollars and have high rates of health inequities	Gateway cities and rural areas
Priority Populations	Communities with high rates of health inequities	Communities with high rates of health inequities	Older adults
Who can apply	Organizations or coalitions who meet eligibility criteria	Organizations or coalitions leading or participating in a collaborative CHIP process, who meet eligibility criteria	Organizations or coalitions who meet eligibility criteria

Please direct questions to MACHHAFunds@hria.org

Step 2: Discuss Alignment

Discuss alignment of your existing initiatives OR brainstorm new ideas aligned with the Funds purpose with your team and partners. This worksheet can help you consider key guiding questions.

Step 3 – Submission Development

For the most helpful feedback, ALL submissions should include:

Applicant Name(s): Applicant organization name(s)

Location: City/Town of main office address

Geographic Scope of Work: Towns, Counties, or Regions your work covers/will cover

Populations Impacted: Brief list or description of the primary populations impacted

Funding Stream: PSE, CHIP, Healthy Aging, or Not sure

Applicant Group Description – Brief (~1-2 paragraphs, 5-10 sentences) description of group, organization, partnership, or coalition – those involved in implementing the approach

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If you are unsure which funding stream to apply to, *include the types of work you do that you'd be seeking funding for in the Applicant Group Description and stop here.*

If you know what funding you're interested in, consider answering these additional questions for the most helpful feedback. Answer only the questions under the funding stream for which you're interested.

Policy, Systems, and Environmental Change (PSE) Submissions

- **What is the main area of focus for your activities?** (Built Environment, Education, Employment, Social Environment, Housing, Food Access, Violence, Access to Health Services, Public Safety, Transportation, Other – write in)
- **What are the secondary focus(es) for your activities, if any?**
- **Approach/Project Description** – Brief (~1-2 paragraphs, 5-10 sentences) description of the approach your group is taking or proposes to take to address the root causes of health inequities through community-centered policy, systems, and environmental change strategies

Healthy Aging Submissions

- **Which of the Eight Domains of Livability will you primarily focus on?** (Outdoor spaces and buildings, transportation, housing, social participation, respect and social inclusion, work and civic engagement, community and information, community and health services)
- **Approach/Project Description** – Brief (~1-2 paragraphs, 5-10 sentences) description of the approach your group is taking or proposes to take to address the root causes of health inequities through community-centered, healthy aging focused policy, systems, and environmental change strategies.

Community Health Improvement Planning (CHIP) Submissions

- **Are you a part of an existing CHIP planning group:** Yes/No
- **Are you aware of other CHIP processes impacting some or all of your geographic scope?** Yes/No
- **Approach/Project Description** – Brief (~1-2 paragraphs, 5-10 sentences) description of the current status of the CHIP process (if an existing CHIP) or proposed CHIP process, and your approach for ensuring a community-centered process. *This worksheet includes links to a few models that you could base your approach off and can reference in your description.*

Please direct questions to MACHHAFunds@hria.org

Step 4: Submit Idea

Submit your idea through **this form**. All submissions will receive:

> **Eligibility Verification & Idea Feedback**
> This will include (1) confirming eligibility, and (2) feedback and guidance around alignment with the Funds purpose including upstream, policy, systems, and environmental change approaches, community engagement, and equity.
>
> **Deadline:** Rolling, final deadline Nov 24
> **Feedback:** 2-3 weeks after submission, no later than Dec 15

In addition, you are welcome to request your idea be shared with other applicants for:

> **Peer Connection Requests**
> Select this option if you are interested in sharing your idea to find potential partners, subcontractors, etc. You will be prompted to include what types of partnership or collaboration you are looking for: ex. application or implementation partners, subcontractors, etc.
>
> **Deadline:** Rolling

Step 5: Receive Feedback

Receive feedback & incorporate changes into your full application, if you plan to submit one.

Questions & Answers

If we have additional questions, who should we contact?
Please direct questions to MACHHAFunds@hria.org and a member of our team will get back to you.

Do we need to submit an idea to be eligible to apply for or be considered for a grant?
No, you do not need to submit an idea to apply or be considered for a grant. Nor does submission of an idea guarantee that you will receive funding.

Do we need to submit the checklist worksheet that is linked in this Request for Ideas?
No, you do not need to submit that worksheet. It is an optional tool for your team to use as you consider your activities and their alignment with the Funds purpose.

When will the full application be available?
The application process will open in December or early January.

Are there other key dates we should be aware of? What is the funding timeline?
Below is the approximate timeline for this funding process

September	Idea submission begins
November 24	Final deadline for ideas
December/January	Application process opens
March 29	Final deadline for applications
May/June	Award Notifications
July 1	Grant start date

What is the expected amount and length of grant awards?
Award details are subject to change before the application process officially opens. However, the approximate size of awards in each funding stream are as follows:

- **PSE:** up to $200,000 **per year**, 3-5 years
- **CHIP:** up to $375,000 **total**, 3-5 years
- **Healthy Aging:** up to $100,000 **per year**, 3-5 years

In addition, there may be an opportunity for interested applicants to submit a Seed/Planning Funding proposal for any of the three funding streams which would include a lower budget per year for 1-2 years.

If I'm interested in multiple funding streams, can I submit multiple ideas? Can an organization submit an application in more than one funding stream?
You are welcome to submit ideas for multiple funding streams if you are considering several projects or are planning to submit multiple applications. When the full application opens, applicants can apply to multiple funding streams.

If we are interested in multiple funding streams, should we submit 1 or multiple ideas?
Please submit separate responses for each funding stream you are interested in.

Can we submit an idea multiple times to receive additional feedback?
Please plan to submit your idea just once. Due to the number of ideas we expect to receive, we will not be able to review ideas multiple times. There will be additional opportunities to ask questions during the full application process.