

## Purpose & Priorities:

At NorthShore University HealthSystem (NorthShore), we believe that in order to truly care for the communities we serve, we must have clear understanding of community health needs and get involved in our communities. The Community Investment Fund is one of many ways in which we seek to engage with our communities and provide community-connected care.

In 2024, NorthShore plans to distribute up to \$5 million as grants to local partners to create or expand programming that promotes community health & wellbeing and economic security all with a lens of health equity. Priority areas of focus for the Community Investment Fund are community health needs informed by our Community Health Needs Assessment, including:

### Community Health & Wellbeing

- Access to healthcare, including screening, primary care, and specialty care
- Prevention and management of chronic conditions
- Advancing health equity
- Addressing social determinants of health
- Behavioral health care and substance use disorders treatment
- Prevention of violence, including gun violence
- Health literacy

### Local Economic Security

- Expanding supply chain diversity
- Education, job creation and career development, with a particular focus on further developing and promoting diversity and equity in the health care workforce

## Award Guidelines:

The Community Investment Fund program is intended to support sustainable programs that create meaningful impact within the community. New applications will be reviewed and awards granted on an annual basis.

Guidelines:

- Proposals may be for new programs or expansion of existing programs
- **Collaborations involving multiple local groups is welcomed and encouraged**
- Single year proposals and multiple year proposals up to 3-years will be considered. In the case of multiyear grants, funding for years 2 and/or 3 will be contingent on meaningful progress towards deliverables and goals
- Grant awards will vary based on the proposed programming. In 2022, awards ranged from \$100,000 to more than \$650,000 per award year. To learn more about these recipients and the programs supported through the Community Investment Fund, visit <https://www.northshore.org/cif/>
- The number of awards granted annually will be based on the strength of the proposals received and the impact they can have on the community. In 2024, up to \$5 million may be distributed. Any funds that are not distributed will remain in the Community Investment Fund for distribution in future years

## Eligibility Criteria:

Eligibility is restricted to:

1. Organizations that are (or collaborations that involve) not-for-profit organizations, including:
  - Nonprofit charitable organization that are classified as exempt from federal income taxes under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code
  - School districts
2. Programs that primarily serve residents in the NorthShore University HealthSystem service area communities.

## Evaluation Criteria:

The following information will guide award decisions:

- Program alignment with the stated purpose of the Community Investment Fund
- Robust and thorough program and plan
- Evidence of organization capacity to successfully implement the proposal
- Clear and appropriate budget to support the proposed program
- Evidence of unmet community need
- Clear connection between potential benefit of the proposed program and the unmet need
- Meaningful and measurable outcomes
- Alignment of proposed program population served with communities served by NorthShore
- Projected program sustainability

Applications for the 2024 funding cycle will be accepted from July 10<sup>th</sup> through August 25<sup>th</sup>. Applications are available at <https://www.northshore.org/cif> and should be submitted online via the provided form.

Please send any questions on the Community Investment Fund, application process, or application to [community@northshore.org](mailto:community@northshore.org).