

Thank you for your interest in the NorthShore University HealthSystem Community Investment Fund.

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For any questions that are not covered here, please feel free to email us at [community@northshore.org](mailto:community@northshore.org).

## What is the purpose of the Community Investment Fund

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 2023, NorthShore plans to distribute up to \$4 million as grants to local partners to create or expand programming that promotes community health & wellbeing and economic security in ways that emphasize one of three community health needs informed by our Community Health Needs Assessment:

- 1. Access to and coordination of healthcare**
- 2. Access to behavioral health care**
- 3. Prevention and management of chronic conditions and diseases**

## Who is eligible to apply?

Eligibility is restricted to organizations that are (or collaborations that involve):

- Not for profit and/or nonprofit charitable organization that are classified as exempt from federal income taxes under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or
- Certified:
  - BIPOC organization
  - Minority Business Enterprise (MBE)
  - Women-owned Business Enterprise
  - Tribal organization

## Why are organizations limited to the above categories?

The fund is intended to support community-focused organizations and diverse owned business.

## What funding amount can I apply for?

Prior Community Investment Fund awards range from \$116,000 to \$682,000.

## Can I apply for a multiyear award?

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.

### What is the application cycle?

- Applications Open: Monday, June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022
- Applications Due: Sunday, July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022
- Winners Notified: November 2022
- Funding Period Begins: January 2023

### Who do we contact for questions?

Please email [community@northshore.org](mailto:community@northshore.org) with any questions that you have on the Community Investment Fund, application, grant period, or other topics.

### How will applications be evaluated?

The following information will guide award decisions:

- **Program Design & Service Delivery**
  - Evidence of unmet community need, health or socioeconomic disparity provided, including scope, scale, and impacted population
  - Program is well aligned with the unmet need and purpose of the community investment fund
  - Target populations for services are primarily within the service area of NorthShore University HealthSystem
- **Program Impact and Measurement**
  - Intended impact on the community, unmet need, and target population
  - Measurement that provides insight into impact and information that allows adjustments to improve the program design and population served
- **Program Financing & Sustainability**
  - Funding to support the project design is detailed
  - Project sustainability plan beyond the grant funds
- **Organizational Alignment & Capability**
  - Program is consistent with mission and/or organizational goals
  - Evidence of capability of leadership and organization to successfully execute on the program, including financial viability

### When will fund recipients be announced?

Fund recipients will be notified in November 2022 and formally announced in January 2023.

### When will funds be distributed?

Funds will be distributed quarterly with the first payment planned in January 2023. Alternate payment schedules may be determined based on specific program needs.

### What are the expectations for recipients during the grant period?

- **Kick-Off** – Fund recipients are expected to participate in a kick-off program to celebrate, introduce recipients to each other, and discuss the grant period
- **Amplify Stories** – The NorthShore Marketing and Community Relations teams will partner with grant recipients to create a video and/or other messaging to amplify the program being supported by the Community Investment Fund
- **Direct partnership** – The NorthShore Office of Community Health Equity & Engagement will serve as a liaison with the fund recipients. Regular check-ins will allow NorthShore and the recipients to share progress, discuss challenges, identify ways to share knowledge and talent to magnify the impact of the programs. We welcome opportunities to invite NorthShore team members and/or other fund recipients to site visits.
- **Cohort partnership** – Fund recipients are expected to participate in cohort gatherings to create connections, learn, and share knowledge and best practice.
- **Reporting** – Fund recipients should plan to communicate progress on a quarterly basis during the direct partnership meetings.

If my proposal is not selected to receive funding, is there opportunity to reach out to someone and ask follow up questions.

Yes, you are welcome to reach out to us at [community@northshore.org](mailto:community@northshore.org).

If my proposal is not selected, am I eligible to reapply for the next cycle?

Yes, you are welcome to apply for grants in the future.