

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 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**

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 2021, awards ranged from \$116,000 to \$682,000. 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 2023, up to \$4 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 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

Programs funded will primarily serve residents in the NorthShore University HealthSystem service area communities.

Evaluation Criteria:

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 Financing & Sustainability**
 - Funding to support the project design is detailed
 - Project sustainability plan beyond the grant funds
- **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
- **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

Applications for the 2023 funding cycle will be accepted from June 6th through July 31st. Applications are available at <https://www.northshore.org/cif> and should be submitted via email to community@northshore.org.

Please send any questions on the Community Investment Fund, application process, or application to community@northshore.org.