Fall 2020 Innovation Lab Grant Program

Grant Info Session

September 30, 2020

Innovation Lab Grant Program

Background:

- Created out of community conversations in 2017
- "Research and development" funding for new, untested ideas
- Transformative, partnership-led projects
- Ongoing learning

Purpose:

- To support systems change projects that will improve how the safety net system functions
- To advance one of the Six Areas of Opportunity identified in the Blueprint for a Better Safety Net

Blueprint for a Better Safety Net

Vision: A strong safety net benefits everyone, and Montgomery County's safety net will thrive through a shared commitment to nourish and sustain it. It will be:

- Connected
- Respected
- Person-centered
- Equitable
- Impactful

Shared Principles:

- Common voice
- Anti-racism
- Justice
- Dignity
- Partnership
- Community

Areas of Opportunity

1. Build the safety net system's capacity to advance racial and social justice.
2. Put an end to chronic underfunding and cut the red tape of the safety net system.
3. Sustain technology advances and support equitable access to technology.
4. Support the emotional well-being of safety net staff and community members.
5. Strengthen the operational practices of safety net providers.
6. Build a more vibrant, active, and inclusive community.

Fall 2020 Innovation Lab

Grants for systems change ideas that have the potential to demonstrate change in a clearly identified problem or system failure in the Montgomery County safety net.

Two distinct grant opportunities to design the project idea, and to implement a longer-term, transformative idea based on the design phase concept:

1. **Design and planning → Design Grants**

2. Project implementation → System Impact Grants (not available Fall 2020)

Available Fall 2020: Design Grants

- Design Grants are meant to give organizations the time and resources to:
  - Fully outline a systems change initiative,
  - build trust with their partners,
  - articulate specific roles for each partner organization,
  - research best or evidence-based practices if applicable,
  - identify training and infrastructure needs (e.g. computer systems, outcomes measurement tools, etc.),
  - assess underlying costs and identify options for ongoing financial support if implemented,
  - create business plan timeframes or thresholds needed for a successful implementation,
  - and similar activities

Additional Grant Information

- Applicants may apply for $3,000- $30,000
- Projects are intended to be short-term (under 9 months)
- Applicants must apply with at least one partner organization
- Up to 15 Design Grants will be awarded for a January 2021 start
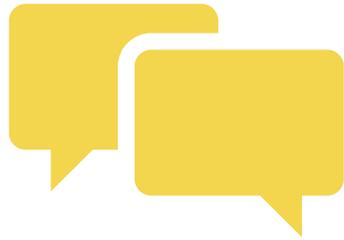
Eligible Costs

- Support for planning and design such as:
  - Research
  - Provider convenings
  - Project planning
  - Consumer participation stipends or other support
  - Community engagement expenses
  - Operating costs that directly support the project (e.g. agency admin and overhead, staff time)

Application Notes

- Apply online via the Foundation's online grant portal, Foundant
  - Healthspark.org -> "Grantmaking" -> "Apply to the Foundation"
- Use your organization's log in, or contact us if you don't know if your organization has a log in
- RFP Linked Here
- Blueprint for a Better Safety Net linked here
- Download the budget form, save to your computer, and upload when complete
  - Project budget is the "Lead Agency" budget
  - HealthSpark will provide grant funds to the Lead Agency only
  - Partner time can be listed as a line item and paid by the Lead Agency directly to the partners
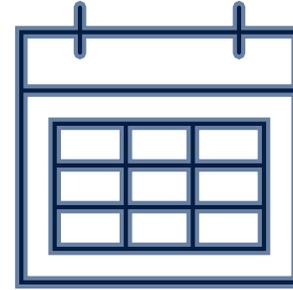
Reminders

We encourage applicants to call us with their project idea before applying!

215-716-5400

info@healthspark.org

Applications are due by

5:00 pm on November 6, 2020