The TMC Funding Program in Collaborative Health Policy -- Reducing Health Disparities

In its pursuit of productive collaborations that can improve the public’s health, the Health Policy Institute will periodically redirect its funding program toward special topics and populations. In this, our fourth, funding cycle, our emphasis shifts from policy research to addressing health disparities. The Institute will award a total of $950,000 for innovative, two-year projects that demonstrate a measurable reduction in health disparities. The disparities to be addressed and the methods for reducing them are open. Funding can be used to design and implement a new intervention or to scale-up an existing one. Grants will be made in two rounds. In the first round, starting in the Fall of 2018, up to 4 proposals will be funded initially at $100,000 each. In the second round, six months later, the remaining funds will be allocated only to projects, among those proposed by the first-round awardees, that demonstrate exceptional promise. In place of a written application, invited proposals will be assessed in a competitive series of short, oral presentations to a panel of judges. Further information on the application process will be provided to potential applicants selected for their Letters of Intent. A Letter of Intent is required by July 15, 2018.

Eligibility

Letters of Intent will be accepted from all Texas Medical Center member organizations. Collaborators may include non-member governmental or not-for-profit organizations.

Award Criteria

• Significant collaboration among 3 or more TMC member organizations (including the applicant organization).
• A 24-month project, budgeted in two rounds.
• Likelihood of making a measurable reduction in health disparities.
• Financially prudent budget.

Letter of Intent

A Letter of Intent is required and must include: a brief description of the project and how it meets to the 4 award criteria listed above, a list of intended collaborators, and estimated budget total for each collaborating organization. Letters will be reviewed and invitations to submit for those selected will immediately follow. All Letters will receive a response.

The Letter of Intent should be submitted as an e-mail attachment before 5PM, July 15, 2018 to: Disparities.grants@tmc.edu

Questions about the program or these requirements and should be directed to Disparities.grants@tmc.edu.

Funding

Up to four grants of $100,000 each will be awarded in the first round for projects that can demonstrate a measurable reduction in health disparities. At the end of a 6-month planning period, awardees will re-apply for the remaining funds. Innovative interventions at the community or organizational level are encouraged, as are those that rely on novel public policy mechanisms and new collaborations.

Each collaborating TMC organization will be funded separately through a gift arrangement with their respective Development/Philanthropy/Donor Office. Details will be provided with invitations to apply. Funding is through a designated/restricted-gift mechanism, and up to 10% overhead costs can be budgeted.