



# Systems Improvement and Innovation Responsive Grants Program

## Informational Webinar

Charles Dwyer, Senior Program Officer  
[cdwyer@mehaf.org](mailto:cdwyer@mehaf.org)

Holly Irish, Grants Manager  
[hirish@mehaf.org](mailto:hirish@mehaf.org)

M E H A F

MAINE HEALTH ACCESS FOUNDATION

# Agenda

A recording of the info session will be available at:

<https://mehaf.org/grants-center/siirg>

- 1) Introductions: Name, Organization, Location
- 2) MeHAF and SIIRG Program Overview
- 3) Available Funds and Timeline
- 4) Stage 1: Letter of Inquiry (LOI) Details
- 5) Questions and Answers
- 6) Accessing and Completing the LOI Online
- 7) Wrap-up

# Maine Health Access Foundation (MeHAF)

**Vision: We envision a Maine where all people and communities are healthy and well.**

**Mission: To promote access to quality health care, especially for those who are uninsured and underserved, and improve the health of everyone in Maine.**



# Systems Improvement and Innovation Responsive Grants (SIIRG) Program Overview

## Purpose





To provide regular opportunities for organizations working to improve or innovate to make their services more responsive to the health needs identified by the communities they serve

## SIIRG focus

Changing systems, services, policies, practices, and perceptions that create barriers to access and care

# SIIRG Program Goals and Strategies

## MEHAF GOALS AND STRATEGIES: 2018 – 2022

 <p><b>Ensure equitable access to affordable, quality care.</b></p>	<p><b>Insurance Coverage &amp; Free Care</b> Promote high quality public and private coverage, while ensuring free care options when needed.</p>	<p><b>Workforce</b> Strengthen and expand the health, mental health, and dental workforces, with a focus on recruiting from Maine communities.</p>	<p><b>Rural Health</b> Support rural health care transformation into new systems that coordinate and maintain essential services.</p>	<p><b>Costs</b> Promote learning and problem solving regarding economically sustainable health care, particularly concerning rising costs.</p>
 <p><b>Support systemic changes to address critical health issues in Maine.</b></p>	<p><b>Behavioral Health Care</b> Help to build a robust, trauma-informed, integrated behavioral health care system in Maine, especially treatment and recovery for substance use disorders.</p>	<p><b>Oral Health</b> Ensure ongoing access to high quality dental care and improve the oral health status of individuals with low incomes.</p>		
 <p><b>Advance efforts to improve the health of specific populations.</b></p>	<p><b>Children</b> Support efforts to improve the health of Maine children, focusing on early childhood and infant and maternal mortality.</p>	<p><b>Older Adults</b> Improve the health of Maine's older adults, focusing on health care linked to mental health care, as well as social services and community supports.</p>	<p><b>Equity</b> Support groups that experience health inequities to build capacity to improve health in their communities.</p>	<p><b>Social Determinants</b> Participate in cross-sector efforts to address social determinants of health (such as transportation, security, and housing).</p>
 <p><b>Promote shared leadership to achieve equitable health outcomes for everyone in Maine.</b></p>	<p><b>Public Awareness &amp; Commitment</b> Build public commitment to achieving equitable health outcomes.</p>	<p><b>MeHAF's Leadership</b> Build MeHAF's leadership skills and capacity to live out our commitment to equity.</p>	<p><b>State &amp; Community Leadership</b> Support efforts to foster equity-minded leadership, to advance access to health care and improve the health of everyone in Maine.</p>	

# Available Funds and Timeline

**MeHAF will award one-year planning grants of \$10,000 to \$30,000**

**Implementation grants for up to two years at \$25,000 to \$50,000/yr**

**Awards total up to \$550,000 in 2022**

**LOIs due Dec 14,  
2021 by 4pm**

**Invitations for  
full proposals:  
Jan 21, 2022**

**Full proposals  
due Feb 28, 2022  
by 4pm**

**Grant  
notifications:  
May 3, 2022**

**Reminder: Only 501C-3s, govts/tribes, and  
educational institutions may apply.**

# SIIRG Program Criteria

1. Aligns with MeHAF Strategic Priorities
  - a) Older adults
  - b) BH/SUD
  - c) MCH
  - d) Rural health
2. Community defined health need/concern
3. Systems change that addresses equity
4. Meaningful community member engagement
5. Shared understanding of success

## Terms to Understand

**System**  
**Communities of focus**  
**Health equity**  
**Planning**  
**Implementation**

# SIIRG Program LOI Questions

1) What health service improvement or innovation will your planning or implementation project address, and how did the community of focus help to determine that it is a priority?

2) Briefly describe your planning or implementation project, highlighting how it will seek to address health equity at a systems or organizational level.

3) [Implementation only] What will be the lasting change at a systems or organizational level as a result of the implementation project?

3) [Planning only] What key things do you hope to learn through your planning project that will lead to the next phase of this work?





## Question 1:

**What health service improvement or innovation will you address and how did the community help to determine that it is a priority?**



## Question 2:

**Briefly describe your project, highlighting how it will seek to address health equity at a systems or organizational level?**



## Question 3 (Planning):

**What key things do you hope to learn through your planning project that will lead to the next phase of this work?**



## Question 3 (Implementation):

**What will be the lasting change at a systems or organizational level as a result of implementing this project?**

# Preliminary Budget (Narrative)

**No need to use the RFP template**

**-Upload into the LOI application**

**-Estimate the income and expenses**

**-Discuss how you intend to use the**

**MeHAF funds**

# A Few Tips...



- Read the program criteria carefully prior to preparing your application
- Be direct and concise
- Read the program criteria and compare with your responses again prior to submitting your application
- Keep in mind more goes into a recommendation for funding than an application's score...
- Talk to us if you have questions

# Proposal Review & Funding Decisions

**LOIs to be reviewed by MeHAF staff**

**Community Members will be involved in the review of full proposals**

**Recommendations considered for approval by the Foundation's Grants Committee**

# Staff Contact

Program and Proposal Content Questions:

Charles Dwyer, [cdwyer@mehaf.org](mailto:cdwyer@mehaf.org)

620-8266, ext. 103

# Thank You!



# Grants Management Session Agenda

- 1) MeHAF's Grants Portal
- 2) Online application
- 3) Question and answer period

# Staff Contact

Technical or Logistical Questions:

Holly Irish, [hirish@mehaf.org](mailto:hirish@mehaf.org),

620-8266, ext.115

# Thank You!