



Systems Improvement and Innovation Responsive Grants Program

Request for Proposals InfoSession

Charles Dwyer, Senior Program Officer

cdwyer@mehaf.org

Holly Irish, Grants Associate

hirish@mehaf.org

MEHAF

MAINE HEALTH ACCESS FOUNDATION

Agenda

- Introductions: name, organization, location
- MeHAF and Program Background
- Program Overview & Purpose
- Letter of Inquiry (LOI) Questions
- Questions and Answers
- Accessing & Completing the LOI
- Questions and Answers

MeHAF Background

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.

MeHAF's Strategic Framework

MEHAF GOALS AND STRATEGIES: 2018 – 2022

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



Systems Improvement and Innovation Responsive Grants (SIIRG) Program Background & Intent

- Open up additional funding opportunities outside specific initiatives.
- Builds on our mission and commitment to advance health equity.
- Recognizes the importance of action at system and organizational levels that is shaped by voices and experiences of communities they serve.







SIIRG Program Overview & Purpose

- **Purpose:** To provide regular opportunities for organizations working to improve or innovate to make their services more responsive to the health needs of their communities.
- **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

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For the Purposes of the SIIRG Program, a “System” is defined as:

The interconnected entities and structures--people, policies, services, organizations—individuals interact with when seeking support for their health needs. This may include providers of care (large or small) and other health-related services.

- The parts of any system are interdependent and interconnected in such a way that the actions and decisions of one part affect the other parts of the system.
- Ideally, systems share goals or objectives and work in alignment to produce desired results

Available Funds and Timeline

- MeHAF will award one-year planning grants of \$10,000 to \$30,000 or project grants for up to two years at \$25,000 to \$50,000 per year.
- Two-step application process:
 -  LOIs due Thursday, March 5th
 -  Invitation for full proposals: Thursday, March 26th
 -  Full proposals due Tuesday, April 28th
 -  Decisions announced July 7th
 -  Grant Period: August 1, 2020 – September 30, 2021

Eligible Proposals/Applicants

- Maine based 501(c)(3) non-profit (or equivalent) or have a fiscal sponsor.
- Current MeHAF grantees in other programs are eligible.
- Applicants may submit only one planning or project proposal.
- Separate units of large organizations may submit individual proposals.

I'm confused, what's a separate unit?





LOI Questions


Question 1: What is the health service improvement or innovation for which you seek funding?

- A clear plan and focus
- Aligns with one or more strategic area
- There is logic and purpose to addressing the chosen areas if more than one is selected

Scoring Guidelines

Question 1: Health Service Improvement/Innovation

(possible points: Planning – 35; Project – 30)

Top of Range	Mid-Range	Bottom of Range
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The applicant has a clear plan and focus for the proposal.• The proposal's focus clearly aligns with one or more of MeHAF's strategic priority areas.• If focusing on more than one area, there is logic and purpose to addressing multiple areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The applicant has multiple ideas that may need to be clarified or narrowed down to a clear focus for work.• The proposal's focus aligns with one or more of MeHAF's strategic priority areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The applicant does not have a clear plan or focus for the proposal.• The proposal's focus does not clearly align with MeHAF's strategic priority areas. 

LOI Questions (cont'd)



Question 2: How will your proposed activities address systemic barriers to health equity?

- Understand the nature of systemic barriers and how they cause differences in access and care
- Address systemic barriers related to the proposal's issue of focus
- Grounded in evidence-based practice or practice-based evidence

Scoring Guidelines

Question 2: Address barriers to health equity

(possible points: Planning – 35; Project – 30)

Top of Range	Mid-Range	Bottom of Range
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The applicant understands the nature of systemic barriers and how they cause differences in access and care.• The proposal addresses systemic barriers related to the proposal's focus, and is grounded in evidence-based practice or practice-based evidence on how to address systemic barriers...	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The applicant shows some understanding of the nature of systemic barriers and how they cause differences in access and care, but there may be some gaps in understanding.• It is not clear how the proposed work will address the systemic barriers related to the proposal's focus, or that it is grounded in...	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The applicant's idea does not show an understanding of the nature of systemic barriers and how they cause differences in access and care.• The proposed work does not align with the identified barriers or is not grounded in...



LOI Questions (cont'd)

Question 3: What role have groups/individuals most impacted by the issue of focus played in the design of this planning process or project?

- Individuals or groups most affected by the issue(s) have a meaningful role in the design

Scoring Guidelines

Question 3: Role of groups/individuals most impacted

(possible points– 30)

Top of Range	Mid-Range	Bottom of Range
<ul style="list-style-type: none">The applicant has involved individuals and groups most affected by the issue in designing the proposed planning process or project, and has included them in the decision-making about the approach.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The applicant may have involved individuals and groups most impacted by the issue of focus, but may not have included enough of them, or may have limited involvement to an advisory or input role.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The applicant does not indicate that groups or individuals most impacted by the issue of focus were involved in designing the proposed planning process or project.



LOI Questions (cont'd)

Question 4 for Project Grants only: How will the issue(s) or service(s) that are the focus of this project be different at the end of the grant period as compared to the beginning?

- Desired future state is envisioned and compared to an informed assessment of the current state.
- Path to change is feasible

Scoring Guidelines

Question 4: How issues/services will be different (possible points–10)

Top of Range	Mid-Range	Bottom of Range
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The applicant has a clear vision of the desired future state as compared to the current state.• Both the current and future states are logical and there is a feasible pathway for change.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The applicant does not fully envision either the desired future state, the pathway for change, or both.• The applicant may understand the relationship between the current state and the future, but it is not clear how the project idea will lead to that change.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The applicant does not have clarity about the desired future state as compared to the current state, or the pathway for change is unclear or illogical.

A Few Tips...



- Read the scoring guidelines carefully prior to preparing your application.
- Be direct and concise.
- Read the scoring guidelines and compare with your responses again prior to submitting your application.

Attachments

- **Preliminary Budget**
 - Template on website, its use is not required.
- **Other:**
 - Current Board List/Tribal Council List (if this is not listed on your organization's website.)
 - For applicant's applying with a Fiscal Sponsor, provide an MOU that outlines the relationship.

Use of Funds

- **Planning or Project Grants**
- **MeHAF funding may not be used for:**
 - **General operating support or “gap” funding;**
 - **Direct care costs;**
 - **Public awareness campaigns focused on a specific disease or health condition;**
 - **Fundraising efforts;**
 - **Capital expenditures;**
 - **Academic or graduate research; or**
 - **Grants or scholarships to individuals.**

Expectations of Grantees

- Interim check-in with Program Officer and financial report.
- Final narrative and financial report due at conclusion of grant period.
- One or two learning opportunities, one being an annual equity training session attended by at least one person from lead organization and key partner organizations

Proposal Review and Funding Decisions

- LOIs to be reviewed by MeHAF staff.
- Full proposals to be reviewed by MeHAF staff and community representatives.
- Approval by Foundation Grants Committee



Reminder of Dates and Deadlines

- LOI FAQs Posted: February 12th
- LOIs Due: March 5th at 4:00 p.m. (online submission only)
- Applicants Contacted and Full Proposals Invited: March 26th
- Applicants not selected to submit a full proposal may request a debrief call with the Senior Program Officer: April



Other Dates and Deadlines

- Full Proposal Information Session: April 6th
- Full Proposal FAQs posted: April 8th
- Full Proposals Due: April 28th
- Grants Announced: July 7th
- Grant Period: August 2020 – July 2021

Your Turn

Questions and Answers



FAQs will be posted February 12th

Grants Management Session Agenda

- MeHAF's Grants Portal
- Online application
- Question and answer period

Your Turn

Questions and Answers

Technical or Logistical Questions:

Holly Irish, hirish@mehaf.org,

620-8266, ext.115

Program and Proposal Content Questions:

Charles Dwyer, cdwyer@mehaf.org

620-8266, ext. 103

Thank You.