



KANSAS HEALTH  
FOUNDATION

## IMPACT AND CAPACITY GRANTS INITIATIVE

2019 Request for Proposals designed to make progress toward one or more of these goals:

- Increased fourth grade reading proficiency
- Increased access to healthcare
- Increased access to/consumption of healthy foods
- Increased physical activity
- Reduced tobacco use/exposure
- Foster civic/community engagement among Kansans working toward any of the above goals.

## BACKGROUND

The Kansas Health Foundation (KHF), based in Wichita, is statewide in focus. With a mission to improve the health of all Kansans, KHF envisions a culture in which every Kansan can make healthy choices where they live, work and play. KHF defines health as a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity. In pursuit of this vision and mission, KHF uses a lens of equity and is focusing this grant opportunity on efforts with potential to make progress in our impact areas - *access to care; healthy behaviors; educational attainment; and civic and community engagement among Kansans working toward improvements in one or more of these areas*. Within our impact areas, KHF prioritizes serving populations within Kansas experiencing the greatest disparities in health outcomes because of the environments in which they live, learn, work and play. KHF uses **education level, income, race, ethnicity and geography** as the primary lenses to identify inequities and guide our work.

KHF recognizes factors that contribute to improved health outcomes, such as community-level prevention efforts, access to high-quality health care, access to healthy food and safe physical environments is reliant on how policies are shaped and resources are allocated. KHF believes it is critical for *all* Kansans to be engaged, be part of decision-making processes and have their voices heard -- especially those populations with the worst health outcomes and greatest barriers to accessing care. As such, we encourage applicants to propose strategies to make progress toward one or more of the stated RFP goals that include engaging diverse and underrepresented populations.

Please review the RFP details below to better understand how KHF views these impact areas:

### ACCESS TO CARE

It is important for all Kansans to have access to health care to prevent or reduce the severity of disease and illness. In Kansas today, however, over 239,000 Kansans lack health care coverage. We know that rates of uninsurance are significantly higher among communities of color and Kansans living in poverty.<sup>1</sup> In 2017, 19% of adults with chronic conditions did not get needed care (for those without insurance, 41% did not get needed care).<sup>2</sup> One in three residents do not have dental coverage. For others, the challenge is not coverage, but rather, having sufficient health and dental providers close to where they live. We know these types of barriers to access exist and can take many other forms. To address challenges in accessing quality healthcare, oral health and behavioral health services, KHF supports efforts to address gaps or barriers to access care, to help improve the health of all Kansans.

### HEALTHY BEHAVIORS

Tobacco use and obesity remain the leading causes of preventable death and illness in Kansas. One of every three Kansans is obese (34%), and over 17% of Kansans smoke.<sup>3</sup> When we start digging deeper into these issues, more startling disparities emerge. For example, one in three (33.6%) Kansas adults with less than a high

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<sup>1</sup> Kansas Health Institute, "Annual Insurance Update 2018," [https://www.khi.org/assets/uploads/news/14814/khi\\_aiu2018brochure.pdf](https://www.khi.org/assets/uploads/news/14814/khi_aiu2018brochure.pdf).

<sup>2</sup> 2017 Kansas and Missouri Consumer Health Access Survey, RTI International.

<sup>3</sup> Kansas Health Institute, "Kansas stuck in the middle in overall health even as obesity rate climbs," December 2016.

<http://www.khi.org/news/article/kansas-stuck-in-the-middle-in-overall-health-even-as-obesity-rate-climbs> and the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS).

school education smoke, compared to less than one-in-ten (6.5%) adults with a college degree.<sup>4</sup> Compared to the general population, the proportion of Kansas adults who report participating in physical activity is lower among Latinos, African Americans and those with less than \$15K/year in income.<sup>5</sup> To make progress toward our vision of a culture where *every* Kansan can make healthy choices where they live, work and play, KHF focuses efforts on these types of disparities within *tobacco use, access to healthy foods and physical activity*.

## EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

KHF recognizes the importance of tackling the root causes of health inequities. A large and growing body of research shows, “better educated individuals live longer, healthier lives than those with less education, and their children are more likely to thrive.”<sup>6</sup> According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the health benefits of education “accrue at the individual level (e.g. skill development, personal access to resources), the community level (e.g. the health-related characteristics of the environments in which people live), and the larger social/cultural context (e.g. social policies, residential segregation, and community access to educational resources).<sup>7</sup> This is why it is especially concerning that in 2017, 63% of Kansas fourth graders were not proficient in reading (a strong predictor of future academic success).<sup>8</sup> To help more Kansas children acquire the skills to succeed in the classroom, KHF invests in interventions to improve *kindergarten through third grade literacy outcomes* that lead to increased 4<sup>th</sup> grade reading proficiency in Kansas in the hopes of ultimately increasing educational attainment levels in the state.

## CIVIC AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

While significant health improvements have been achieved through medicine and public health, KHF recognizes individuals’ health and well-being are also influenced by where and how they live. The reality is tremendous differences in health outcomes remain for many underserved groups and communities. Disparities in voter registration, voter turnout, community members contacting public officials and community members attending public meetings mirror the health disparities in Kansas. Improvement in health outcomes for all populations depends on a robust and vibrant democracy because health and civic disparities are intrinsically linked.<sup>9</sup> The success of factors that contribute to improved health outcomes, such as community-level prevention efforts, educational attainment, access to high quality health care, access to healthy food and safe physical environments is reliant on how policies are shaped and resources are allocated. KHF believes it is critical for all Kansans to be engaged and be part of the decision-making process, especially those populations with the worst health outcomes.

# INTRODUCTION

KHF will consider proposals submitted for this *Impact and Capacity Grants (ICG) Initiative Request for Proposals (RFP)* opportunity designed to support either impactful projects *or* organizational capacity-building

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<sup>4</sup> Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS).

<sup>5</sup> Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS).

<sup>6</sup> County Health Rankings, <http://countyhealthrankings.org/our-approach/health-factors/education>

<sup>7</sup> US Department of Health and Human Services, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. Zimmerman, Emily and Steven H. Woolf and Amber Haley. “Population Health: Behavioral and Social Science Insights, Understanding the Relationship Between Education and Health.”

<sup>8</sup> US Department of Education.

<sup>9</sup> <https://ncoc.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/2016KansasCHI.pdf>

efforts from organizations that meet two basic criteria: 1) applicant organization's mission aligns with KHF's strategic focus to reduce disparities in one or more of our key impact areas; *and* 2) applicant organization is actively working toward one or more of the stated goals of this RFP. Please carefully review KHF's mission, strategic focus and funding criteria before applying.

This initiative provides grants up to \$25,000 for two categories of awards: *impact grants or organizational capacity-building grants* designed to contribute to progress in one or more of the stated goals in *access to care, healthy behaviors, educational attainment and/or civic and community engagement*. A limited pool of funds is available **May 1, 2019 through August 30, 2019 or until all 2019 funds are awarded**. This responsive RFP is designed to make funds available to mission-aligned organizations actively working toward one or more of the stated impact-area goals; and, ultimately, contributing to reducing health disparities and promoting health equity.

As it relates to proposals for *impact grants*, preference is given to proposals describing a health policy, systems or environmentally-focused effort which demonstrates the opportunity to address health disparities in one or more of the impact areas described in the *Background* section (pg. 2) and affects those who systematically experience greater obstacles to health.

**Available funding is designed to support:**

- **New effort(s)**, referring to a *new* project, initiative or other work in which the organization has not previously engaged, or
- **Expansion effort(s)**, where the organization has identified a sustainable way to serve *new* populations or *additional* geographic areas, for example, through a previously-established program or initiative.

Grants are not awarded in instances where applicant is applying for funds to support ongoing, "business-as-usual" programming or efforts.

As it relates to proposals for *capacity building grants*, preference is given to **non-recurring internal capacity building needs** of mission- and goal-aligned organizations addressing health disparities which adversely affect groups of people who have systematically experienced greater obstacles to health based on their education level, income, race, ethnicity or geography.

## WHO SHOULD APPLY

Eligible organizations are Kansas nonprofits classified as:

- Tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code – sub-sections 509(a)(1) or 509(a)(2)
- Government entity with a Federal Employer Identification number
- Church with a Group Ruling Letter

Eligible applicants are qualifying Kansas organizations whose missions align with KHF's, are actively working toward the stated goals in this RFP, whose efforts complement KHF's funding strategies and have the potential to contribute to measurable impact within one or more of KHF's impact areas. One proposal from each organization is accepted per year; those organizations with multiple branches/programs/locations across the state may submit one proposal per location per year. Consideration is given to the following:

- Mission and goal alignment between applicant organization and KHF, and alignment with KHF's strategic direction.
- Extent to which applicant organization effectively articulates a strategy for meeting its mission and goals, clarity about what applicant organization wants to accomplish and indicators for success.
- Extent to which applicant organization, if it executes its strategy, is likely to meet the impact it seeks.
- The degree to which the proposed work could contribute to progress toward this RFP's stated goals and, ultimately, health outcomes for KHF's priority populations within these impact areas.
- Leadership, governance and financial stability of applicant organization. KHF welcomes applications from partnerships and/or coalitions.

Please note, if an applicant has an active grant from KHF, the organization is eligible to apply provided what is being proposed is different than the work funded through any currently active grant.

## WHAT WE FUND

Requests for funding are accepted May 1 through August 30, 2019 or until all funds are awarded. The maximum grant size is \$25,000, and the maximum grant term is two years. These funds will support strategic efforts to make progress toward one or more KHF impact areas through flexible, time-sensitive support for project or policy-specific requests from mission- and goal-aligned applicant organizations targeting Kansans with the greatest need and least access/economic opportunity.

Please consider the following criteria before deciding to submit an Impact or Capacity-Building Grant Proposal.

### When to Apply

Applications accepted between May 1<sup>st</sup> and August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

Limited funds are available; once expended, initiative is closed for the year.

**Maximum  
Grant Amount**  
\$25,000

**Maximum  
Grant Term**  
Two years

**Where to Apply**  
[kansashealth.org](http://kansashealth.org)

Refer to the Frequently Asked Questions section of the website before applying

# KHF ICG FUNDING CRITERIA

	DEFINITION	CRITERIA FOR CONSIDERATION Includes, but is not limited to:	ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES Includes, but is not limited to:
<b>IMPACT GRANTS</b>	<p>Efforts designed to make progress toward one or more of these goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• increase fourth grade reading proficiency</li> <li>• increase access to healthcare</li> <li>• increase access to/consumption of healthy foods</li> <li>• increase physical activity</li> <li>• reduce tobacco use/exposure</li> <li>• Foster civic/community engagement among Kansans working toward any of the above goals.</li> </ul> <p>These efforts should focus on making improvements in one or more of the above, with a special focus on at least one of KHF’s priority populations listed in the “Background” section (pg. 2).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Degree to which applicant organization’s mission and vision align with KHF’s</li> <li>- Extent to which effort addresses a community need experienced as a barrier to health</li> <li>- Extent to which KHF priority population is targeted and case is made for the health disparity at issue</li> <li>- Extent of experience with similar efforts</li> <li>- Strength of organization’s connection to the community(ies) served</li> <li>- Stability of the leadership team/organization</li> <li>- Goals of the work (what will be different because of this project?)</li> </ul>	<p>Efforts designed to make progress toward stated goals, thereby, improving the health of one or more of KHF’s identified priority populations under “Definition,” such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Policy and systems change advocacy, including grassroots organizing</li> <li>- Time-limited projects that build on evidence of what works or that seek to test an innovative or promising approach</li> <li>- Initiative planning (e.g. needs assessments, feasibility studies, ROI assessments, cost avoidance studies, etc.), initiative implementation and/or evaluation</li> <li>- Requests for dollars to match initiative/project-committed funds</li> <li>- Efforts to engage underrepresented Kansans around KHF impact area goals.</li> <li>- Requests of up to \$5,000 for strategically-relevant convenings* of at least 50 invitees designed to increase awareness/support, build/strengthen networks, etc. (Fund-raising events are ineligible)</li> </ul> <p>Please note: requests to fund <i>ongoing</i> projects that do not propose any new elements, i.e. expanding to a new area or population, etc., are ineligible.</p>
<p><b>ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING GRANTS</b> For organizations</p> <p>1) <b>actively working toward one or more of the stated goals of this RFP</b></p> <p><b>AND</b></p> <p>2) <b>with a focus on one or more priority population.</b></p>	<p><i>Internally-focused efforts</i> designed to help an organization fulfill its mission and improve its effectiveness in areas such as capacity-building efforts to <i>enhance</i>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Leadership;</li> <li>- Management;</li> <li>- Funding/Financial management;</li> <li>- Relationships/Collaboration;</li> <li>- Communication/Marketing;</li> <li>- Programs/Services; and/or</li> <li>- Evaluation/Learning.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Degree to which applicant organization’s mission, vision and goals align with KHF’s.</li> <li>- Extent to which proposal describes how funding would help develop stronger organizational capacity to make progress toward applicant organization’s KHF-aligned vision/mission/goals</li> <li>- Organization’s connection to stakeholders/partners</li> <li>- Leadership team stability</li> <li>- Objectives/goals of this work (what will be different because of improved capacity?)</li> </ul>	<p><i>Internally-focused activities</i> that <i>build</i> organizational capacity in one or more category (“Definition” column), such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Network building, building up of membership base, collaboration or grassroots organizing</li> <li>- Strengthening evaluation, data and measurement systems</li> <li>- Organizational planning (leadership transitions, strategic planning, etc.)</li> <li>- Enhancing operations capabilities (financial stability, governance, finance administration, etc.)</li> <li>- Professional development (training for board, staff or volunteers, etc.)</li> <li>- Requests for dollars to match committed capacity-building funds</li> </ul>

## \*CONVENINGS

KHF sees value in bringing people together to educate around important issues, explore, build and strengthen networks and drive progress. We support opportunities to help organizations leverage each other and share learning to accelerate change. To that end, KHF considers requests of up to \$5,000 for convenings planned for *a minimum of 50 attendees* related to one or more of KHF's impact-area goals listed above. In the proposal, applicants will describe anticipated participants and how the convening connects to a larger policy, systems and/or environmental change designed to make progress toward these goals.

## FUNDING EXCLUSIONS

Grant funds may not be used for the following activities:

- Medical research
- Contributions to capital campaigns
- Operating deficits or retirement of debt
- Construction projects, real estate acquisitions, or endowments, not part of a Foundation-initiated program
- Vehicles, such as vans or busses
- Medical equipment
- Direct mental health services
- Direct medical services
- Grants to individuals
- Annual fund drives
- Fundraising events

## WHEN TO APPLY

Requests for this funding opportunity are being accepted May 1 through August 30, 2019 by 5:00PM CST, or until the pool of 2019 funds are awarded. Proposals should be received by KHF at least eight weeks before the start of the proposed grant period, to allow time for processing. Funding recommendations are provided on a rolling basis (within 45 days of application) and are finalized for the calendar year by November 1.

## WHERE TO APPLY

Submit proposals through KHF's online portal. Applicants may visit <https://kansashealth.org/grant-opportunities/impactandcapacity/> to learn more, or call KHF at 316-262-7676.

## FUNDING DISPERSED

Applicants are notified within 45 days of submitting a proposal whether they will receive an award. Funds are issued upon KHF's receipt of the signed grant agreement and authorization form for direct deposits from the awarded organization.

## REPORTING

By accepting a grant award, recipients agree to submit **one brief report** within 30 days of the conclusion of the grant describing 1) the extent to which proposed objectives were achieved; and 2) use of grant funds.