

Thank you for your interest in the NorthShore Edward-Elmhurst Health (NS-EEH) South Region Community Investment Fund.

Frequently Asked Questions

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For any questions that are not covered here, please feel free to email us at Melissa.Burroughs@eehealth.org.

What is the purpose of the Community Investment Fund?

At NorthShore Edward-Elmhurst Health (NS-EEH), we believe that in order to truly care for the communities we serve, we must have clear understanding of community health needs and get involved in our communities. The Community Investment Fund is one of many ways in which we seek to engage with our communities and provide community-connected care.

In 2023, NS-EEH plans to distribute up to \$5 million as grants to local partners in our South Region to create or expanded benefit above what currently exists in the community and that align with the following priorities:

Community Health & Wellbeing

- Access to healthcare by underserved populations, including screening, primary care, and specialty care
- Prevention and management of chronic conditions
- Advancing health equity
- Addressing social determinants of health
- Behavioral health care and substance use disorders treatment
- Prevention of violence, including gun violence

Local Economic Growth

- Expanding supply chain diversity
- Education, job creation and career development, with a particular focus on further developing and promoting diversity and equity in the health care workforce

What types of programs will qualify for funding?

Programs may support one or more of the categories/focus areas.

- Access to healthcare by underserved populations, including screening, primary care, and specialty care
- Prevention and management of chronic conditions
- Advancing health equity
- Addressing social determinants of health
- Behavioral health care and substance use disorders treatment
- Prevention of violence, including gun violence
- Expanding supply chain diversity
- Education, job creation and career development, with a particular focus on further developing and promoting diversity and equity in the health care workforce

Within these areas, there is a lot of flexibility on how programs may support or impact these areas. For example, we are open and interested in hearing about programs that seek to mitigate:

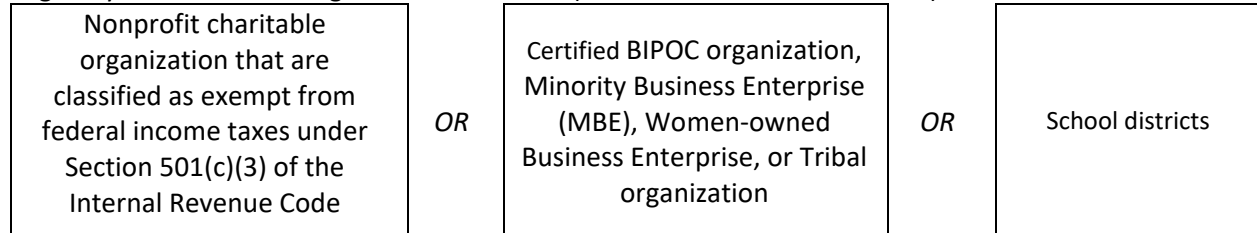
- Root causes, such as creation of jobs with access to health insurance would address area access to healthcare and job creation
- Social determinants of health, such as a mobile health clinic (transportation) would also address area access to healthcare
- Direct causes, such as a program that provides behavior health services

Are programs that focus on violence prevention eligible?

Yes, violence prevention programs are welcome to apply as violence negatively impact the health and wellbeing of communities and individuals.

Who is eligible to apply?

Eligibility is restricted to organizations that are (or collaborations that involve):



And the proposed programs and projects must primarily serve residents in the [communities served by the NS-EEH South Region](#).

Why are organizations limited to the above categories?

The fund is intended to support community-focused organizations and diverse owned business.

What may the funds be used for?

Funds may be used to support:

- Salaries
- Capital costs, including renovations
- Equipment or supplies

Can organizations use funds to hire new team members or bring in contractors or sub-contractors?

Funds may support salaries or people costs. We look to you, as experts in your fields, to identify the best way to engage the right skills and talents. This may include partnerships with other organizations or bringing on additional team members to your own organizations in different capacities.

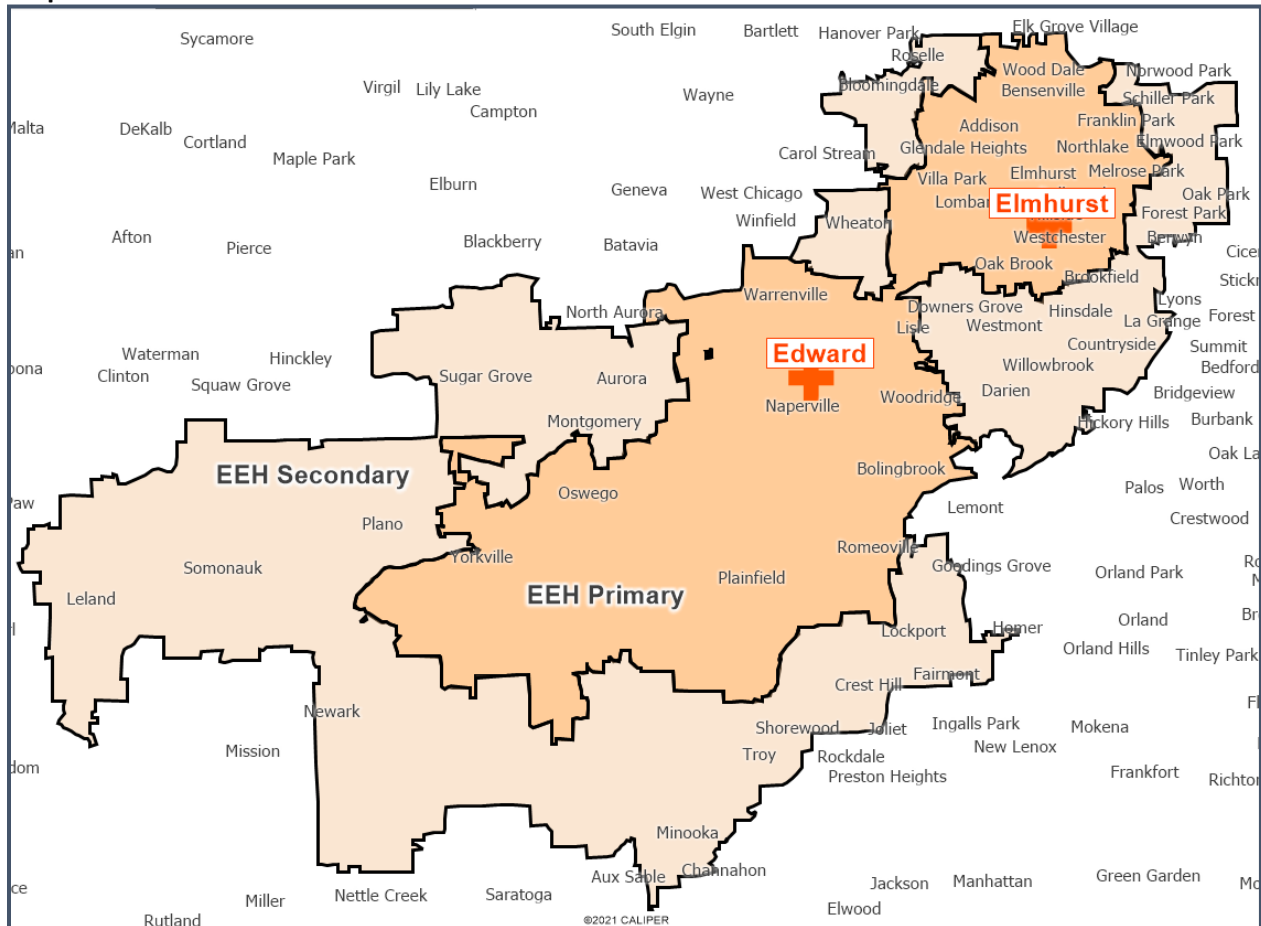
Are local/regional/national organizations eligible to apply?

Organizations may be local, regional, or national in scope. More importantly, the project or program being supported by the requested funds must be focused primarily on the communities served by Edward-Elmhurst Health. A [map and list of zip codes](#) is available to provide information on the communities that we serve.

What are the geographic/community boundaries for programs to be eligible to apply?

The project or program being supported by the requested funds must be focused primarily on the communities served by Edward-Elmhurst Health.

Map:



(Zip codes are shown on the following page).

Zip Codes Representing the Communities that We Serve:

60101	Addison	60302	Oak Park	60526	La Grange Park
60104	Bellwood	60304	Oak Park	60527	Willowbrook
60106	Bensenville	60305	River Forest	60531	Leland
60108	Bloomington	60403	Crest Hill	60532	Lisle
60126	Elmhurst	60404	Shorewood	60538	Montgomery
60130	Forest Park	60431	Joliet	60540	Naperville
60131	Franklin Park	60435	Joliet	60541	Newark
60137	Glen Ellyn	60440	Bolingbrook	60543	Oswego
60139	Glendale Heights	60441	Lockport	60544	Plainfield
60141	Hines	60446	Romeoville	60545	Plano
60143	Itasca	60447	Minooka	60548	Sandwich
60148	Lombard	60490	Bolingbrook	60552	Somonauk
60153	Maywood	60502	Aurora	60554	Sugar Grove
60154	Westchester	60503	Aurora	60555	Warrenville
60155	Broadview	60504	Aurora	60558	Western Springs
60157	Medinah	60505	Aurora	60559	Westmont
60160	Melrose Park	60506	Aurora	60560	Yorkville
60162	Hillside	60507	Aurora	60561	Darien
60163	Berkeley	60512	Bristol	60563	Naperville
60164	Northlake	60513	Brookfield	60564	Naperville
60165	Stone Park	60514	Clarendon Hills	60565	Naperville
60171	River Grove	60515	Downers Grove	60566	Naperville
60176	Schiller Park	60516	Downers Grove	60567	Naperville
60181	Villa Park	60517	Woodridge	60585	Plainfield
60187	Wheaton	60519	Eola	60586	Plainfield
60189	Wheaton	60521	Hinsdale	60598	Aurora
60191	Wood Dale	60523	Oak Brook	60634	Chicago
60301	Oak Park	60525	La Grange	60707	Elmwood Park

What funding amount can I apply for?

Prior Community Investment Fund awards range from \$100,000 to \$500,000 for 1 year programs and projects. The funds requests should align with the goals and impacts of the proposed programs.

Can I apply for a multiyear award?

Single year proposals and multiple year proposals up to 3-years will be considered. In the case of multiyear grants, funding for years 2 and/or 3 will be contingent on impact and meaningful progress towards deliverables and goals. Similar to the funding amount, duration should align with the goals and impacts of the proposed programs.

Can I apply for funding to support an existing program?

Yes, the Community Investment Fund may be used to support or expand on an existing program and/or provide funding to start a new program.

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Yes, the Community Investment Fund may be used to support or expand on an existing program and/or provide funding to start a new program.

What types of metrics should be included? How detailed should the metrics be?

Metrics for program will vary be on the focus of the program and where the program is in its maturity. Metrics should be detailed enough that, on a quarterly basis and at the conclusion of the funding period, we can reflect on the degree of success of the program as well as opportunities to improve or adjust the program moving forward.

Metrics may be:

- Qualitative / Anecdotal – stories are metrics “with a face” and can and should be a part of the story of the success of any program
- Quantitative:
 - Process measures – captures the amount of something, for example:
 - Four new team members were hired and on-boarded
 - 200 additional customers served since the expansion of the program
 - Outcome measures – captures the impact of a services, such as: Costs of required emergency services reduced by 30% for those who participated in the program compared to the previous year

How will applications be evaluated?

We will evaluate all funding requests on the following criteria:

- **Program Design & Service Delivery**
 - Evidence of unmet community need, health or socioeconomic disparity provided, including scope, scale, and impacted population
 - Program is well aligned with the unmet need and purpose of the community investment fund
 - Target populations for services are primarily within the service area of Edward-Elmhurst Health
- **Program Financing & Sustainability**
 - Funding to support the project design is detailed
 - Project sustainability plan beyond the grant funds
- **Program Impact and Measurement**
 - Intended impact on the community, unmet need, and target population
 - Measurement that provides insight into impact and information that allows adjustments to improve the program design and population served
- **Organizational Alignment & Capability**
 - Program is consistent with mission and/or organizational goals
 - Evidence of capability of leadership and organization to successfully execute on the program, including financial viability

Is it possible that we would approve a partial funding request (i.e. issue an award that is only a portion of an organization's total request amount)?

Yes, there is space in the application to identify whether your organization or collaborative is open to partial funding. Please let us know whether your program is contingent on full funding. If you are open to partial funding, please describe how the proposed program would change if you were granted less than the full amount of requested funds.

When will fund recipients be announced?

Fund recipients will be notified in July 2023 and formally announced in the fall.

When will funds be distributed?

Funds will be distributed quarterly with the first payment planned in the fall. Alternate payment schedules may be determined based on specific program needs.

What are the expectations for recipients during the grant period?

- **Kick-Off** – Fund recipients are expected to participate in a kick-off program to celebrate, introduce recipients to each other, and discuss the grant period
- **Amplify Stories** – The NS-EEH Marketing and Community Relations teams will partner with grant recipients to create messaging to amplify the program being supported by the Community Investment Fund
- **Direct partnership** – The NS-EEH Office of Community Health Equity & Engagement will serve as a liaison with the fund recipients. Regular check-ins will allow NS-EEH and the recipients to share progress, discuss challenges, identify ways to share knowledge and talent to magnify the impact of the programs. We welcome opportunities to invite NS-EEH team members and/or other fund recipients to site visits.
- **Cohort partnership** – Fund recipients are expected to participate in cohort gatherings to create connections, learn, and share knowledge and best practice.
- **Reporting** – Fund recipients should plan to communicate progress on a quarterly basis during the direct partnership meetings.

What does partnership mean?

In order to advance the health and well-being of our communities, we recognize the need to partner with like-minded organizations. Together, we seek to work together beyond the funds themselves, for example:

- NS-EEH may provide education or share clinical expertise with the partner organization
- NS-EEH will partner with each organization to create communicates including social media to highlight the organization and program receiving the funding. This may be used to bring awareness to the organization and program, engage other funders, engage community or team members
- Organizations across the cohort may also find value in learning from the experience and programming of other organizations

What will be included in quarterly reporting?

In general, reporting should include:

- How is it going?
- What successes have you had?
- What challenges have you faced and how have you responded?

Reporting should reflect on the metrics that you have shared in your application. Depending on where you are in the program, the measures may differ. For example, initial reporting may focus on onboarding new team members and process metrics.

It may also include stories that reflect impact of your programs on individuals that your programs serve.

Will you consider funding a previous fund recipient, but for a different program?

We are currently *not* limiting previous recipients from applying for different programs. Our focus right now is on impact to community health & wellbeing and economic security in ways that emphasize one or more of the following of areas of focus informed by our Community Health Needs Assessment:

- Access to healthcare by underserved populations, including screening, primary care, and specialty care
- Prevention and management of chronic conditions
- Advancing health equity
- Addressing social determinants of health
- Behavioral health care and substance use disorders treatment
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Will you consider funding an organization who already receives funds through other means from NorthShore Edward-Elmhurst Health?

Please contact us at Melissa.Burroughs@eehealth.org to share more specific information on your organization's existing relationship with NS-EEH.

If my proposal is not selected to receive funding, is there opportunity to reach out to someone and ask follow up questions.

Yes, you are welcome to reach out to us at Melissa.Burroughs@eehealth.org.

If my proposal is not selected, am I eligible to reapply for the next cycle?

Yes, you are welcome to apply for grants in the future.

What is the application cycle?

- Applications Open: Wednesday, March 1st, 2023
- Applications Due: Saturday, April 15th, 2023
- Winners Notified: July 2023
- Funding Period Begins: fall

Who do we contact for questions?

Please email Melissa.Burroughs@eehealth.org with any questions that you have on the Community Investment Fund, application, grant period, or other topics.