

## CONCEPT PAPER QUESTIONS

- ***Will we get feedback on concept papers?***

It's first come first serve and we provide feedback in the order of concept papers received. The earlier you submit, the faster we turn feedback around. It usually takes a couple of weeks.

- ***Are we still able to schedule a call with a program officer before submitting a concept paper? Or are you really wanting to see the ideas in a concept paper first?***

May 16th is the concept paper deadline. We are happy to chat if you have a few quick questions. What we have found historically is we have better conversations after we receive your concept papers because we have a sense of what we want to talk about and can have a dialogue. If you have questions, if you should even submit a concept paper, you can absolutely email, and we will let you know if the idea is viable.

- ***Are we supposed to submit the evaluation paper along with the concept paper or does that go in with the full application?***

Please do not submit a full evaluation plan with your concept paper. The concept paper is 2 pages. We just need to know that you are thinking about evaluation. You can submit your full evaluation plan with your full proposal.

## GENERAL RFP QUESTIONS

- ***Is the sustainability question being removed just for Healthy Aging or across all funding initiatives across Michigan Health Endowment Fund?***

Yes, the specific question has been removed across Health Fund applications. That's not to say we don't care about long-term sustainability, but it's not a criterion at the start. We want to work together with partners on potential paths.

## BUDGET QUESTIONS

- ***Do you fund the costs associated with getting a program up and running that may include operations, etc.?***

It depends what types of operations costs you have in mind. Feel free to reach out to us at [grants@mihealthfund.org](mailto:grants@mihealthfund.org) if you have specific questions about your project.

- ***Does the indirect cost need to be broken down into what it includes or can it just say 'indirect cost'?***

It is helpful to have some description of what types of costs are included, but we don't need a line item breakdown for indirects.

- ***Can you please clarify whether staffing/salary costs would be considered if they are in relation to a specific project?***

Yes, staffing/salary costs are considered if they support your proposed project.

- ***Are you open to considering proposals that are collaborative initiatives between two partnering organizations? If so, it is acceptable if only one of the two organizations has a FTE?***

Yes! We love collaborative initiatives, and it is fine that only one partner has an FTE - we only ask that from the organization that is applying.

## **LEARNING AND EVALUATION QUESTIONS**

- ***Does the MHEF conduct follow-up studies of its grants? I'd be interested in examples of successful community empowerment, long-term impact or sustainability.***

We are working on it! We've had a few reports, such as a report we did on telehealth projects. We also have some case studies on our website. We are bringing on a Learning Officer to help us do a better job sharing success stories and lessons learned.

- ***Is there a portal or a way for a small innovation company to connect with larger, non-profits?***

As a first step, I'd check our online grant database. <https://mihealthfund.org/grant-database>.

## **PROGRAM FIT QUESTIONS**

- ***Is there value if we can demonstrate proposal hits multiple categories? e.g. ADRD, DCW, rural health. Or should we focus on a single category?***

Sure! We do not want you to feel pressure to address multiple areas, we want you to focus on what makes sense for your proposal. But you can absolutely focus on more than one area.

- ***Does dietary intervention and healthy life programs to assess their effect in chronic disease uses biological outcomes measures consider clinical research?***

We would love to get more information. It sounds like you're talking about implementing a specific intervention and measuring it, which would not be considered as clinical research. But more information (through a concept paper!) would be helpful.

- ***Do you consider projects addressing the wellness of older adults in assisted-living facilities?***

Yes! We look at projects that support older adults in any setting (home, assisted living, skilled nursing, etc.)

- ***Is partnership with profit organizations acceptable?***

Yes, you can partner with a for-profit organization. BUT we cannot make grants to for-profit orgs. It has to be a nonprofit or governmental agency.

- ***Do you fund educational events or continuing education for healthcare professionals?***

Sometimes. It depends on what it is. We have done both. We have funded CEUs for staff in proposals, we have also in some cases funded trainings that have then resulted in CEUs for other professionals. So, we have funded that as well. It depends, but it's not outside of the realm of possibilities.

- ***When you say you do not fund clinical research, can you explain?***

For example, if we had a researcher come to us and propose doing a trial, enrolling older adults, and we're going to do these X,Y,Z things on them. If the whole goal is to write a research report that they're going to publish and then share nationally; this is unlikely to make the cut. If a researcher proposed to implement an intervention where they were going to look at measuring X,Y,Z health outcomes due to the intervention and as a result, publish some data that has been collected, that is different. The second scenario is different because what we're funding is the intervention and looking at the pilot implementing it. It depends on what an applicant is applying for, so the intervention and implementation would be the key. It is less about the end goal being published and more about how you are impacting older adults. It's about implementing a program, not studying people for a short period of time and looking to publish.

## **FUNDING TIMELINE QUESTIONS**

- ***The RFP says approval is in November. When would funding actually arrive? For example, if our program is awarded a grant and the program starts 12/1/24, when could we expect it?***

If the grant agreement has been fully executed and we have received any information we need to make payment, we would typically schedule the payment for mid-December.