

Mississippi State Department of Health

The Office of Health Equity

Information on Submission of Request for Proposals (RFP)

BE IN GOOD HEALTH: IMPLEMENTING FAITH-BASED PREVENTIVE HEALTH INITIATIVES

ABOUT US

The Office of Preventive Health & Health Equity (hereinafter referred to as “Office”) serves as the official health equity arm of The Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH). The Office is focused on creating conditions which assure optimal health for all people. This includes specific interests in working to reduce persistent health disparities found throughout Mississippi.

Social Determinants of Health



<https://health.gov/healthypeople/priority-areas/social-determinants-health>

The MSDH and Office of Health Equity are committed to eliminating health inequities. This office realizes that minority communities do not have the same opportunities as other groups to achieve and sustain optimal health. We believe that churches can play an integral role in helping to eliminate health disparities in the community by incorporating a health ministry team within the church. The office is soliciting proposals from churches to enhance and/or develop and implement health ministries that promote healing and health as a mission to its members and the community it serves.

OBJECTIVES & GOALS

The ***objective*** of this RFP is to provide capacity building that will improve the health status of the church and strengthen the community and congregation well-being.

Specifically, our ***goal*** is to expand the capacity of churches with health ministries to enhance and increase knowledge as it pertains to preventive health and addressing the needs of congregates and the broader community.

Additionally, this grant opportunity will implement evidence-based community friendly approaches to help encourage community engagement, individually and collaboratively by prioritizing resources that focus on health.

The Office is committed to increasing health equity by working with external partners to identify health disparities and to seeking innovative solutions to address them.

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DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES REQUESTED

The specific interest of the Office of Health Equity is to build/incorporate health ministries within churches and/or expand existing health ministries. The Office welcomes grant requests in supporting churches in their efforts that will meet the basic health needs of and provide valuable resources for the congregation. **Please select a minimum of two projects from the following areas of focus.** The office seeks projects demonstrating a desire to:

- Implement a health ministry that will meet the basic health needs and resources for the congregation.
- Increase awareness of critical numbers (blood pressure, cholesterol, blood glucose, etc.) to encourage a healthier lifestyle by hosting a Diabetes Self-Management, Chronic Disease Self-Management, and/or Know Your Numbers Workshops.
- Host quarterly health screenings and/or health education round tables to raise awareness of chronic and infectious diseases.
- Host monthly health awareness workshops on various topics such as chronic and infectious diseases, health literature, healthy eating, mental health, physical activity etc.
- Implement exercise classes.
- Develop and implement a healthy food policy (template will be provided upon request).
- Implement or expand food distribution/food bank.
- Host healthy cooking demonstration classes.
- Start a church garden or have a representative teach gardening techniques to disseminate produce to socially and economically vulnerable groups.
- Enhance reliable access and resources to local health care providers, pharmacies, social services, etc.
- Implement or expand a clothes closet.
- Other _____

DELIVERABLES

1. Quarterly Reports will be required, and benchmarks will be set. This will be discussed in the technical assistance call.
2. Receipts, sign-in sheets, and agendas, are required.
3. *Be in Good Health* grantees are required to gather in Jackson, MS for the 1st Annual Church Health Symposium to be held April 2024.

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FUNDING

The Office of Health Equity will award up to 30 churches mini grants between \$5,000 and \$10,000 to establish, enhance or support a congregational health ministry within the church. The 8-month project timeline cycle will extend from September 1, 2023, to April 30, 2024.

1. Proposal Content

a. Cover Sheet

b. Name of Pastor _____ Address _____

c. Contact name _____ Phone _____ Email _____

d. Project title _____

2. Project Narrative (Make sure your narrative includes the following - 2-3 page maximum):

a. Project Overview (Provide a description of the project and its purpose)

b. Project Goal (What are the expected outcomes?)

**Please note Project Evaluation specifics will be addressed during the technical assistance call.*

3. Health Ministry Coordinator _____

a. Include the role of the individual in the church who will lead the efforts and establish the responsibilities of this initiative.

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4. Budget

Please provide a detail budget below. No personnel can be paid under this mini grant; however, a stipend is allowed for the individual leading these efforts. The budget for cost is reimbursement only.

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Contact Information

The Office of Health Equity

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Website: Mississippi State Department of Health ([ms.gov](https://www.msdh.ms.gov))

Submission Details and Award Timeline

1. Request for Proposals (RFP) released Monday August 7, 2023.
2. Health Equity RFP Technical Assistance call, **Monday, August 14, 2023, at 3 PM CDT.**
3. Proposals due by 11:59 PM CDT on **Sunday, August 20, 2023.**
4. **Email proposal to Health.EquityOffice@msdh.ms.gov and indicate in the subject line: *Be in Good Health* RFP Response (Name of Church) and request a Delivery Receipt.**
5. Applicants notified by phone and email on (or about) **Monday, August 28, 2023.**
6. Performance period is September 1, 2023 to April 30, 2024.