

Request for Proposals: Community COVID-19 Relief and Recovery

Background:

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a dramatic negative impact on the social, economic, and physical well-being of Boston community members. When the pandemic began and as it wore on, thousands of Bostonians experienced significant reductions in their income due to job loss, reduced hours, and other factors. The financial stress is further exacerbated by the pre-existing wealth gaps across racial and ethnic groups, immigration status, gender lines, education level, and other socio-economic conditions. In Boston, residents who were already at a disadvantage at the start of this pandemic saw their financial stability and security suffer further as COVID-19 forced economic activities to slow down.

After more than a year since the pandemic reached Boston, while the economic situation has marginally improved for some residents, many continue to face tremendous financial hardship and limited prospect of new, sustainable opportunities, especially with key sectors rebounding slowly or not at all. However, income and financial security are a powerful social determinant of health. It not only shapes individuals' living conditions and physical surrounding, but also their access to health-promoting resources. Financial insecurities are demonstrated in various forms, but they are all detrimental to individuals and families' overall health and stability.

Supporting and collaborating with our local communities for many years, Tufts Medical Center (Tufts MC) appreciates that community-based organizations (CBOs) have been a lifeline for tens of thousands of residents. Since the pandemic began, they have proven invaluable by filling gaps and making connections to help families recover. CBOs are in unique positions to respond to community needs, help vulnerable families, improve residents' short-term economic situation, and provide long-term pathways for sustainable prosperity moving forward.

Grant Timeline:

Monday, April 19, 2021	RFP available online at: https://www.tuftsmedicalcenter.org/about-us/community-partners-programs
Friday, May 21, 2021	RFP due by 5:00 PM EST to: CHNA@tuftsmedicalcenter.org Subject: RFP - Community COVID-19 Relief and Recovery LATE APPLICATION WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED
Monday, June 14, 2021	Notification of Decision by 5:00 PM EST All applicants will be notified via email.
Thursday, July 1, 2021	Implementation Period Start

Purpose of this Request for Proposals:

Given the financial burden posed by COVID-19, and economic insecurities' toll on individuals and family's health condition, Tufts MC will fund grants to CBOs to support responsive activities that advance the economic well-being of and provide economic (mobility) opportunities for Boston residents.

Eligibility:

Applicants must be 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations.

Funds must be used to support activities that benefit Bostonians who are part of the Chinatown/local Asian, Dorchester, South Boston, and/or the South End communities. (Your organization can be in an adjacent Boston neighborhood; however, its proposal must primarily serve these communities.)

Funding Details and Requirements

Amount:

Grants will range in size from \$25,000-\$50,000/year (maximum \$31,250-\$62,500 for full grant period); funds are limited; partial awards may be offered.

Area of Focus:

Economic opportunity and mobility in response to COVID-19.

Target Population:

Bostonians who are part of the Chinatown/local Asian, Dorchester, South Boston, and/or the South End communities.

Timeline:

Selected grantees will be contacted in mid-June. Grant period will run from July 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022 (15 months). All funds must be expended by September 30, 2022.

Funds must be used to:

Promote financial stability and economic opportunity and mobility of residents of Boston's Chinatown/local Asian, Dorchester, South Boston, and/or South End communities. Programs and activities should be aimed at improving the **long-term economic well-being** of community members. We will consider a broad range of approaches to this goal. Types of activities may include, but are not limited to:

- Career-path advancement (e.g. youth and adult pipeline and internship (paid preferred) programs);
- Professional development, certification opportunities for incumbent employees, esp. that lead to better pay and opportunities;

- Workforce development, vocational, ESOL training, education, and scholarships for job readiness;
- Financial literacy and planning initiatives, esp. that encourage long-term savings and investing;
- Assistance with resume preparation, interview skills, professional appearance, and other application/candidacy factors;
- Support provided to small, local, and/or minority business owners (e.g. Low/No-interest loans or grants; marketing strategy assistance; website development; fee coverage to food delivery companies and/or out-door seating license application assistance for restaurants; purchase of vital equipment for employees; etc.)
- Business language capacity building and assistance for ESOL workers;
- Legal assistance for job seekers with criminal records, etc.

Required Reporting If Awarded:

Two reports will be required throughout grant period highlighting activities and other requested data. Reporting templates will be shared prior to each report due date.

An initial brief report describing initial progress will cover the period July 1 to September 30, 2021 will be due **in October 2021**.

A final report covering the period October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022 will be due in **October 2022**.

Please note: Tufts MC will require de-identified demographic information regarding residents/community members served per regulatory reporting requirements. Further details are delineated in the application and will be provided to award recipients.

Application Deadline:

May 21, 2021 by 5:00 PM EST; submit by email to CHNA@tuftsmedicalcenter.org. Late proposals will not be considered.

**Tufts MC – Community COVID-19 Relief & Recovery
Application for Funding**

Organization Name		
Contact Person Name		
Contact Person Title		
Contact Person Email		
Contact Person Phone		
Program Name		
New or Continuing	<input type="checkbox"/> New Program	<input type="checkbox"/> Continuing Program
Target Population(s)		
Neighborhood(s) Served		
Program Address		
Amount requested		

- Please describe your program’s background and staff experience relevant to the proposed activities.**
- Please describe how you plan to use the funds, what economic needs you plan to address and how these activities and approach will improve the long-term economic well-being of community members?**
- How many people do you expect will benefit directly and indirectly from your proposed activities?**
- How will you evaluate the impact your program activities on participants? Please identify expected deliverables with measures/indicators.**
- Please describe how evidence/data will be collected.**
*Please note that selected grantees will be asked to provide concrete qualitative (e.g. anecdotes from participants) and quantitative (e.g. numbers) data to describe outcome per regulatory reporting requirements.
- Please fill in the timeline below describing what activities will take place during each quarter. A brief bullet-point summary is sufficient:**

Period	Activity(ies)
Jul-Sep 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A • B • C
Oct-Dec 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B • C
Jan-Mar 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A • B • C
Apr-Jun 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A • B • C
Jul-Sep 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A • B • C

7. If your proposal involves partnership with other organizations, please identify them and describe, indicate any portion of this budget if applicable.
8. Please provide an itemized budget for the funds requested, examples below. If you plan to leverage these funds and/or use additional funds to support the program, please briefly describe in the table.

Budget Item	Total Request
Personnel Costs:	\$10,000
1. e.g. Project Coordinator	\$8,000
2. e.g. Financial Literacy Trainer	\$2,000
Program Costs:	\$5,000
1. e.g. Internship stipend	\$5,000
Supplies Costs:	\$4,000
1. e.g. Chromebooks for virtual learning	\$2,000
2. e.g. Professional clothing	\$2,000
Other Costs:	\$7,000
1. e.g. Space rental cost for socially distanced activities	\$2,000
2. e.g. Certification/exam costs	\$5,000
Total	\$26,000

9. Please describe how you would utilize partial funding if we are unable to grant the full amount requested.