

## Social Impact Mini Grants – Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

### **Who is eligible to apply for funding?**

- 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations
- Groups fiscally sponsored by a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization
- Public sector agencies serving Robeson County, North Carolina
- Religious organizations with or without a non-profit designation
- For profit businesses serving Robeson County, NC

### **Will large-scale organizations be applying to this funding opportunity?**

While the Social Impact Mini Grant opportunity is open to organizations of all sizes, awards will be determined based on applicants' intent to leverage or strengthen collaboration between anchor institutions and community-based organizations working across diverse sectors. Lead applicants can be organizations of any size. For additional information on eligibility, visit the 'Award Details' section of the RFA on our [program webpage](#).

### **What can funding be used for?**

If funds will be used for making capital purchases (i.e. gas cards, vehicles), applications must include a plan for how those items will not be needed or could be funded in the future. We encourage applicants to leverage their own knowledge of the community's needs to outline how their proposed use of funding will-

- build trust and encourage community collaboration
- Support tangible progress towards sustainable systems-level, long-term transportation solutions
- help identify key policies and practices that impact overall health outcomes of Robeson County residents as it relates to transportation as a key social driver of health

### **How will projects be expected to increase collaboration?**

For more information, visit our website at <https://www.ncha.org/programs/social-impact-program/>

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Collaboration between organizations of various sizes, sectors, and capacities (i.e. anchor institutions and grassroots organizations) is highly encouraged. Projects should strengthen existing partnerships or encourage collaboration among organizations of diverse profiles.

### **How will projects be expected to address sustainability?**

Applicants are asked to outline a plan to support the continuation of initiatives after the grant phase ends. This includes 1) potential strategies for securing long-term investments (e.g. able to attract diverse grant funding, public budget allocation, or private investment) ; and 2) a plan to evaluate organizational effectiveness throughout the project period to identify opportunities for strengthening impact through enhanced delivery of the funded project. If awarded, grantees will participate together in a learning collaborative that will include activities and support for developing a robust sustainability plan.

### **What is the project timeline?**

The project period will begin in June 2025 and end in June 2026. Awards will be paid out in a lump sum at the start of the project period and may be considered for renewal or extension at the end of the project period contingent upon outcomes.

### **When is the application cycle?**

The application cycle for the 2025 mini-grants will open on March 31, 2025 and will close on May 16, 2025. Applications are due by 11:59 p.m. on May 16, 2025, and late submissions will not be considered.

### **Are letters of support required?**

While letters of support are optional, we ask that applicants thoroughly outline their plan for collaboration including the names of partnering organizations and role for each.

### **What if more than one agency intends to apply in a collaborative partnership?**

This project does strongly encourage collaboration amongst anchor institutions and community-based grassroots organizations. Please be transparent in your request for funding where more than one agency may be submitting a proposal request for a joint

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project and how these funds will be leveraged across organizations to support your project outcomes.

### **My organization isn't located in Robeson County. Can I still apply for this grant?**

NCHF does not restrict an organization's location when applying for a grant. However, to be eligible for funding, the organization must offer services that directly benefit residents of Robeson County.

### **What are my chances of receiving a grant, and how will I be notified if I receive a grant?**

NCHF is committed to ensuring fairness in each grant cycle. The likelihood of receiving a award depends on the strength of applications and the availability of funding. Final decisions are made within one month of the application deadline, and grant recipients will be notified in writing.

### **If my application is declined, can you tell me why?**

Due to the high volume of applications received, NCHF is unable to provide individual feedback to applicants. However, we welcome you to reach out to our team directly for feedback on your application.

### **What is social impact?**

Social impact in healthcare is about making a positive difference in communities by addressing non-medical drivers of health and improving the well-being and quality of life of individuals. This involves implementing policies, programs, services, and interventions that extend beyond the hospital setting. By fostering collaboration between healthcare, public health, and community organizations, social impact seeks to create sustainable solutions that improve health outcomes and contribute to a healthier, more resilient society.

### **Is the NCHF Team available to answer questions during the application process?**

The NCHF Social Impact Team is available to answer questions and can be contacted via the Social Impact Program email at [social.impact@ncha.org](mailto:social.impact@ncha.org).

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