

TO: Executive and Operations Leadership
Mercy Housing (Strategic Partner)
Mission Leaders
Community Health and Community Benefit Leaders
Foundation Leaders
Participating Congregations

cc: Leadership Executive Assistants

FROM: Tom Kopfensteiner, Chief Mission Officer

DATE: September 11, 2023

SUBJECT: FY25 Mission and Ministry Fund Grant Application Cycle

I am pleased to announce the beginning of the Mission and Ministry Fund FY25 grant application cycle. **Letters of intent are due October 13, 2023** for community health & wellbeing programs and violence prevention initiatives. The complete grant cycle timeline and application information are attached to this memo. This new cycle of grants will be awarded for a start date of July 1, 2024 (FY25).

Please note that ALL CommonSpirit communities are eligible to apply for funding through the Community Health and Wellbeing and the United Against Violence priorities. This year marks completion of phasing in legacy Dignity Health communities and congregations. Communities are eligible to submit multiple applications, however, this funding round will be extremely competitive.

The purpose of the Mission and Ministry Fund (MMF) is to provide funding for innovative programs and initiatives within our hospitals and health systems that align with CommonSpirit principles:

- *We are committed to building healthy communities by advocating for those who are poor and vulnerable, and **innovating how and where healing can happen.***
- *We are committed to health equity, and through community programs and innovative technologies, **we are addressing the social issues and root causes that can lead to poor health.***

Historically, grant applications have aligned with needs identified in community health needs assessments (CHNAs). The Fund provides support for both planning and program grants for **Community Health and Wellbeing**, with a particular focus on applications that demonstrate effective cross-sector engagement with communities. **All initiatives supported by the MMF must address an identified community need, invite collaboration with partners in the community, and have the potential for replication in other communities.**

Violence prevention grants are a foundational component of our comprehensive **United Against Violence (UAV)** campaign. In place since 2008, this multifaceted campaign is designed to eliminate the impact of violence in every community we serve through community-based programs, public policy advocacy and shareholder advocacy.

The following is a summary of key points regarding eligibility and timelines. Please visit our [google site](#) for additional information about the Mission and Ministry Fund. All who have a commonspirit.org email have access now; other organizations will need to contact MMFgrants@commonspirit.org to gain access.

Eligibility: CommonSpirit affiliated organizations are eligible to apply (must be federal tax-exempt).

- CommonSpirit Hospitals and Health Systems
- Community Health Service Organizations (CHSO)
- Joint Operating Agreement Organizations (JOA)
- Joint Venture Organizations
- National Office
- Participating congregations (must be listed in the Official Catholic Directory)

Organizations and participating congregations may receive multiple grants. Multiple facilities within a market or Division may have grants at the same time.

Community Health & Wellbeing Program and Planning Grants: All potential applicants MUST submit a Letter of Intent by **October 13, 2023**. The Letter of Intent is a brief description of the initiative or program, designed to provide MMF with a better understanding of the scope of concepts and funding needs.

United Against Violence Grants: All potential violence prevention grant applicants MUST submit a Letter of Intent by **October 13, 2023**. The Letter of Intent is a brief description of the initiative or program, designed to provide MMF with a better understanding of the scope of concepts and funding needs.

Office hour sessions are scheduled for September 2023 to field questions and inquiries by potential applicants. Additional information about the grant process is provided in the attached timelines document.

Please share this information with members of your staff who will be completing the Mission and Ministry Fund Grant applications. To assure fairness in the grant process, it is essential that all applicants comply with the grant application process and timeline.

If you have questions or need additional information regarding the Mission and Ministry Fund, please contact Elizabeth Miller at 719-640-9657 or MMFgrants@commonspirit.org.

Thank you for your support of the Mission and Ministry Fund and all your efforts to improve the health of the communities we serve.