



Healthy Communities Delaware
alignment. investment. impact.

Call for Proposals from Existing HCD Partners for Continued Multi-Year Collaboration for Thriving Communities April 2024

Healthy Communities Delaware (HCD) is pleased to announce this ***Call for Proposals from Existing Partners for Continued Multi-Year Collaboration for Thriving Communities***. We are seeking proposals from existing partners to continue our collaborative efforts to strengthen the vital conditions that all people and communities need to thrive—humane housing, lifelong learning, a thriving natural environment, meaningful work and wealth, basic needs for health and safety, reliable transportation, a sense of belonging and civic muscle. This long-term support and investment are intended to foster new or support existing place-based collaborations in the Delaware communities experiencing the greatest inequities, with the long-term goal that all people and places in Delaware are thriving—no exceptions.

Our guiding principles for this work are: collaborate with communities, embed equity in everything we do, mobilize across sectors, increase prosperity to improve health, and commit over the long term.

What is Different About Healthy Communities Delaware and this Call for Interest?

- We collaborate with communities to strengthen the vital conditions/social determinants of health.
- We will support the work that your community decides is most important.
- We are committed to long-term work to enable meaningful community change, not short cycles like typical grants.
- In addition to funding, we provide or connect you with support tailored to your community's needs (e.g., resources on best practices, evaluation support, storytelling and communication support, professional development support, support accessing funds from other sources, and other community capacity building opportunities and resources).

General Eligibility Criteria

Who? Place-based Collaborations








This Call is designed to support existing or foster new place-based collaborations with representation from residents and organizational stakeholders. Applications from a community must demonstrate either (1) current collaboration among residents and organizations working within a community, or (2) a plan to bring together residents and community-based organizations where that work has not yet been done. In addition to residents, collaborations may include community-based organizations, community coalitions, civic associations, faith-based organizations, schools, government entities, etc.

Partners must be willing to explore collaboration opportunities within and across communities. Multiple partners from a given community are encouraged to submit a unified application. Funding can go to multiple organizations to conduct their part of the collaborative work. Applicants should have 501(c)3

status, or an organization that acts as a fiscal agent. If you do not already have a fiscal agent, we can advise you on the process of finding one. Fiscal agents must be identified by the application due date.

What? Strengthen the Vital Conditions/Social Determinants of Health

Partners must focus on strengthening one or more of the vital conditions/social determinants of health. Preference will be given to applications using best-practice or evidence-based strategies. Increasing equity is a foundational goal of this effort and should be at the core of the proposed work.

	THRIVING NATURAL WORLD	<i>Sustainable resources, contact with nature, freedom from hazards</i> Clean air, water, soil; healthy ecosystems able to sustainably provide necessary resources; accessible natural spaces; freedom from extreme heat, flooding, wind, radiation, earthquakes, pathogens
	BASIC NEEDS FOR HEALTH & SAFETY	<i>Basic requirements for health and safety</i> Nutritious food, safe drinking water; fresh air; sufficient sleep; routine physical activity; safe, satisfying sexuality and reproduction; freedom from trauma, violence, addiction, and crime; routine care for physical and mental health
	HUMANE HOUSING	<i>Humane, consistent housing</i> Adequate space per person; safe structures; affordable costs; diverse neighborhoods (without gentrification, segregation, concentrated poverty); close to work, school, food, recreation and nature
	MEANINGFUL WORK & WEALTH	<i>Rewarding work, careers, and standards of living</i> Job training/retraining; good-paying and fulfilling jobs; family and community wealth; savings and limited debt
	LIFELONG LEARNING	<i>Continuous learning, education, and literacy</i> Continuous development of cognitive, social, emotional abilities; early childhood experiences; elementary, high school, and higher education; career and adult education
	RELIABLE TRANSPORTATION	<i>Reliable, safe, and accessible transportation</i> Close to work, school, food, leisure; safe transport; active transport; efficient energy use; few environmental hazards
	BELONGING & CIVIC MUSCLE	<i>Sense of belonging and power to shape a common world</i> Social support; civic associations; freedom from stigma, discrimination, oppression; support for civil rights, human rights; civic agency; collective efficacy; vibrant arts, culture, and spiritual life; equitable access to information; many opportunities for civic engagement (voting, volunteer, public work)

How? Community Collaboration & Community-Driven Plans

This opportunity is intended for communities interested in: (1) Forming/Sustaining; (2) Assessing; (3) Planning; and/or (4) Implementing, as described below. A community coalition or collaborative group of residents, community-based organizations, and other stakeholders should drive the work proposed in these areas. Community collaborations should tap the existing community expertise and leadership of

residents and provide residents with voice and power in the decisions impacting the community.

- **Forming/Sustaining:** Forming or maintaining formalized, place-based, collaborative partnerships or coalitions composed of residents, community-based organizations, and other stakeholders to support the vital conditions in a community.
- **Assessing:** Assessing community needs and identifying resident priorities.
- **Planning:** Developing data-driven community-informed plans that support one or more vital conditions.
- **Implementing:** Implementing components of a resident-driven community plan that supports the vital conditions.

Where? Eligible Communities

This opportunity is open to existing HCD communities only. HCD communities are among those with the highest level of vulnerability or deprivation determined by either (1) the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) [Social Vulnerability Index](#) or (2) the [Area Deprivation Index](#). The greatest opportunities to improve health, well-being and equity exist in these communities.

Available Funding

HCD may fund part or all of a request. Funded proposals will be shared with public and private investors with the **goal of providing additional resources through co-funding**. Because co-funding from other sources is a possible outcome, there is no limit on individual funding requests. Please consider the resources required to carry out your project in an impactful way, and align your request with those needs.

What Can the Funding Be Used For?

A combination of contractual, project, salary and capital expenses may be requested. Not all capital requests are appropriate for this collaboration and funding opportunity.

Examples of capital requests addressing social determinants/vital conditions that may be funded are:

- Light construction to clear or revitalize a green space
- Renovation of homes for vulnerable populations to increase safety and healthy home environments
- Minor exterior home repairs as part of a larger initiative to improve housing or blighted streets
- Lighting to increase street safety and walkability
- Revitalization of a school play yard that will become accessible to the public

Examples of requests that will not be funded are:

- The purchase of land
- Endowments
- Religious organizations for sectarian purposes (*However, projects that serve the entire community, regardless of religious affiliation, are eligible for support.*)
- Annual fundraising campaigns or general operating expenses
- Projects completed before the application deadline of this proposal
- Individuals

- Special events
- Debt reduction
- For-profit businesses
- Purchase of office equipment, furniture or electronics (*Exceptions may occur at the Grants Committee's discretion, for projects that build and/or sustain an organization's technology infrastructure. Such projects must clearly demonstrate the impact of this type of capacity investment.*)
- Direct lobbying
- Any organization or project that is inconsistent with the HCD mission, vision, values, and strategy
- Organizations or projects that unlawfully discriminate with regard to employees, volunteers, delivery of programs or services, or clients served based on age, sex, religion/creed, race, color, national or ethnic origin, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, marital status, military or veteran status, pregnancy or genetic information

Application Process

1. Partners meet with their HCD Liaison for a proposal brainstorming discussion.
2. Partners submit their proposal through the Delaware Community Foundation online portal: (<https://www.delcf.org/grants/>).
3. HCD proposal committee reviews applications.
4. HCD requests Partners to engage in Grant Agreements.

Key Dates and Deadlines for HCD Investment

Key Events	Dates
Proposal Brainstorming Meeting	February/March 2024
Proposal Opens	April 1, 2024
Proposal Due Date	April 30, 2024
Receive and Sign Grant Agreements	June 2024
Grant Start Date	July 1, 2024
Disbursement 1	July 1, 2024
Grant Kick-off Meeting	July 2024
Check-in #1 Meeting	October 2024
Progress Report Due Date	January 15, 2025
Check-in #2 Meeting	January 2025
Disbursement 2	February 2025
<i>2025 Proposal Brainstorming Meeting</i>	<i>February/March 2025</i>
<i>2025 Proposal Due Date</i>	<i>April 30, 2025</i>
Check-in #3 Meeting	May 2025
Grant End Date	June 30, 2025
<i>2025 Grant Start Date</i>	<i>July 1, 2025</i>
Final Report Due Date	July 15, 2025