

## Request for Applications

### Reducing Disparities in Monkeypox Vaccination Project

Date Issued: November 10, 2022

Date Response Due: November 30, 2022\*

#### **CDC FOUNDATION CONTACT**

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## ABOUT THE CDC FOUNDATION

The CDC Foundation is an independent non-profit and the sole entity created by Congress to mobilize philanthropic and private-sector resources to support the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's critical health protection work. We are a catalyst for unleashing the power of collaboration between CDC and philanthropies, private entities and individuals to protect the health, safety and security of America and the world.

### OUR MISSION

The CDC Foundation helps CDC do more, faster by forging partnerships between CDC and others to fight threats to health and safety.

### OUR VISION

Save and improve lives by unleashing the power of collaboration.

### OUR VALUES

We believe our core values define and guide the culture and character of our organization. They are the standards that guide us as individuals and that collectively determine how we fulfill this mission. These values include:

**Shared passion:** Working collectively we have the means, science and reach to improve the public's health and safety

**Integrity:** Holding ourselves and others to the highest level of ethics, professionalism and transparency

**Stewardship:** Protecting the trust CDC and our partners have placed in us by safeguarding relationships and providing the highest quality service at all times

**Collaboration:** Creating value for our partners and CDC by linking the public, private and philanthropic sectors to leverage resources and expertise

**Mutual respect:** Treating everyone with dignity and respect and honoring the value of our staff, partners and the people we serve

**Constant innovation:** Utilizing philanthropy as an opportunity to contribute to breakthrough collaborations and innovations to address complex health challenges

## A. SUMMARY OF REQUEST

The CDC Foundation is accepting applications for the **Reducing Disparities in Monkeypox Vaccination Project** which will provide mini-grants to community-based organizations, state, territorial, local or tribal health departments or tribal organizations to support activities related to the administration of monkeypox vaccines.

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## B. BACKGROUND AND NEED

Monkeypox is a zoonotic infection caused by orthopoxvirus. The United States (U.S.) Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) declared its monkeypox outbreak a public health emergency in August 2022. Since then, globally over 75,000 cases of monkeypox have been recorded and over 27,000 monkeypox cases have been documented in the U.S., making it the highest incidence rate globally. Early case detection has highlighted that monkeypox cases have disproportionately spread within the United States. When compared against U.S. Census Bureau population estimates, this data shows non-Hispanic Black/African American persons and Hispanic/Latino persons are overrepresented among monkeypox cases. Approximately 32% of reported cases with race/ethnicity data are among non-Hispanic Black/African American persons, and this group represents 12% of the estimated 2021 U.S. population<sup>1</sup>. Approximately 31% of reported cases with race/ethnicity data are among Hispanic/Latino persons, and this group represents 19% of the estimated 2021 U.S. population<sup>1</sup>. Additionally, data on monkeypox vaccinations among these groups indicates Black/African American persons and Hispanic/Latino persons are less likely to receive a first dose of the monkeypox vaccine.

To address disparities within monkeypox transmission and vaccinations, the CDC launched the [Monkeypox Vaccine Equity Pilot Program](#) to support innovative ways to reach populations most affected by monkeypox and address barriers to vaccination such as location of vaccination sites, language barriers, vaccine hesitancy and lack of access to technology. The Monkeypox Vaccine Equity Pilot Program provides vaccines to state, territorial or local health departments, tribal governments or tribal organizations and non-governmental organizations who plan to address vaccine disparities among one or more focus populations most affected by monkeypox.

The CDC Foundation's Reducing Disparities in Monkeypox Vaccination Project supplements the CDC Monkeypox Vaccine Equity Pilot Program and **will provide mini-grants to community-based organizations, state, territorial, local or tribal health departments or tribal organizations who are vaccinating one or more focus populations for monkeypox**. Funding will support activities to reduce or eliminate barriers to vaccination among these populations.

*Source <sup>1</sup>: CDC Technical Report 4: Multi-National Monkeypox Outbreak, United States, 2022*

## WHAT WE WILL FUND

The CDC Foundation will fund a wide range of strategies and activities to support the reduction of disparities in monkeypox vaccinations. More specifically, we seek proposals for projects that:

- Are modest in scale, specific, innovative and achievable within **3 months** from the date of award decision;
- Will meaningfully address a barrier(s) to implementing monkeypox vaccination efforts or address a need or issue that impedes individuals from receiving the monkeypox vaccine;
- Will be able to demonstrate how associated activities and outputs have impact.

Examples of allowable proposal submissions:

*\*Please note this is a non-exclusive list and multiple strategies can be included in one proposal\**

- Overtime or after-hours salary support for internal or temporary staff who are directly implementing monkeypox vaccination strategies, including vaccinators and administrative staff;
- Monkeypox communication support, including material development, printing and translation costs;
- Vaccine related supplies such as gloves, alcohol swaps, syringes, needles, sharps containers, etc.;
- Incentives for vaccine strategies such as gift cards, at-home HIV test kits, health-related giveaway prizes, etc.;
- Monkeypox vaccination strategy logistics such as transportation support, third party vendor support, etc.;
- Other monkeypox vaccination related support as deemed appropriate by the CDC Foundation.

#### WHAT WE WILL NOT FUND

- Ongoing operating costs, unrelated to supporting focus areas activities;
- Capital improvements; or
- Political/lobbying activities.

#### FUNDING SPECIFICS

- Grant may be awarded in an amount up to **\$25,000 USD/each**;
- Indirect costs are limited to 10% of total direct costs;
- Grant must be used for the purposes described in the grantee's online application, and must be expended or committed within 3 months (or no later than March 31, 2023) from the date of award decision.

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### C. ELIGIBILITY

Applications may be submitted by community-based organizations, state, territorial, local or tribal health departments or tribal organizations within the United States and its territories. The following eligibility qualifications are required:

State, territorial, local or tribal health department:

1. Be an equal opportunity employer with all-inclusive membership that does not discriminate on the basis of gender, race/ethnicity, color, sex, sexual orientation, country of national origin or nationality, age, religion, intellectual or physical disabilities and military or veteran status in its activities or operations;
2. Must have access to monkeypox vaccines for administration;
3. Must currently have active and ongoing monkeypox vaccination efforts or plan to launch monkeypox vaccination efforts by December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022.

Community-based organization or tribal organization:

1. Be recognized by their state of incorporation as a non-profit organization;
2. Have sustainable operations, be in good financial standing and have a proven record of program effectiveness;
3. Be an equal opportunity employer with all-inclusive membership that does not discriminate on the basis of gender, race/ethnicity, color, sex, sexual orientation, country of national origin or nationality, age, religion, intellectual or physical disabilities and military or veteran status in its activities or operations;
4. Must currently have active and ongoing monkeypox vaccination efforts or plan to launch monkeypox vaccination efforts by December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022;
5. Must submit a letter of support from the state, territorial, local or tribal health department where the vaccination project will be implemented.

### **Focus populations**

Applicants must describe at least **one** specific focus population group and community for their vaccination projects. Applicants may designate any focus population groups and communities for their vaccination projects, but must state the following information:

1. Describe how the focus population groups and communities have risk factors that increase their chances of becoming infected with or spreading monkeypox;
2. Describe barriers to vaccination experienced by the focus population groups and communities that may be addressed by the proposed activities;
3. Describe how the focus population groups and communities are over-represented among monkeypox cases and also less likely to be vaccinated compared to other populations, using data at the local, state, tribal or national level.

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## **D. EVALUATION**

Applicants will be evaluated in the following areas below. We encourage applicants to review this section in detail.

### **Problem Statement**

- Does the application clearly define a need?
- Does the need align with the challenge described in the Request for Application (RFA)?
- Are the proposed objective(s) and approach consistent with the mission, vision and values of the CDC Foundation?

### **Approach**

- Do proposed strategies/activities, outputs and outcomes align with the aim of the RFA?
- Is the request compelling, innovative, evidence based and provides sufficient justification for need?

- If funded, is the approach likely to have a demonstrable impact on the identified need?
- Does the approach list key components and activities essential to reducing monkeypox vaccination disparities in the community?
- Does the approach include a reasonable method for the organization to assess its impact and learn from its work?
- Does the applicant describe what they hope to learn from implementing this project and is the proposed approach likely to deepen their understanding in the ways intended?

### **Community/Civic Engagement**

- Does the application clearly specify how they will engage the community through all aspects of the project?
- If funded, are proposed strategies/activities likely to increase capacity and promote resilience?

### **Collaboration**

- Is the approach consistent with the CDC Foundation’s tagline, “Together our impact is greater”, in that it specifies a plan to collaborate to achieve objectives and describes the role of partners?
- Does the collaboration eliminate or avoid duplication of effort?
- Is the collaboration synergistic, catalytic, compelling and/or innovative?

### **Timeline**

- Is it feasible to implement strategies, complete activities/outputs and demonstrate progress towards intended outcomes as proposed, within the term of the mini-grant and amount of funding requested?

### **Budget & Budget Narrative**

- Does the application clearly describe how funding will be utilized to achieve desired impact?
- Is the budget reasonable/appropriate for proposed objective(s)/approach?

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## **E. APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS**

To apply, please complete an online application for RFA title “[Reducing Disparities in Monkeypox Vaccination Project](#)”. Applicants must attach the following to their online application:

- Project budget template (provided by the CDC Foundation);
- Letter of support from health department (template provided by the CDC Foundation, CBO and Tribal Organization Only);
- Annual budget (CBO and Tribal Organization Only);
- Most recent audited financial statement or copy of most recent annual report with detailed financial, if statement is not available (CBO and Tribal Organization Only).

**RFA Link: [CLICK TO SUBMIT ONLINE APPLICATION](#)**

Please direct any questions to CDC Foundation point of contact Ramot Adeboyejo, [radeboyejo@cdcfoundation.org](mailto:radeboyejo@cdcfoundation.org).

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## E. PROPOSED APPLICATION TIMELINE

- **November 10, 2022:** RFA submissions open
- **November 30, 2022\*:** RFA submissions close
- **December 15, 2022\*:** Award decision notification
- **December 2022-March 2023:** Project implementation and funding expenditure period
- **No later than March 31, 2023:** Final financial and narrative report on project activities due

*\*The CDC Foundation will notify applicants directly if they are selected.*

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## F. PROJECT DELIVERABLES

Applicants that are selected for the grant will complete the following steps throughout the project period:

- Signed project agreement with the CDC Foundation;
- Vignette impact story;
- Submission of final narrative report detailing project impact, lessons learned, quantitative and qualitative metrics and photos;
- Submission of final financial report detailing project expenditures.

*\*Please note, this date is an extension from the original announcement*