
Request for Interest

Implementation of the Public Health and Safety Team (PHAST) Toolkit in Select Cities, Counties and Tribal Communities

Date Issued: February 14, 2022

Date Response Due: March 15, 2022

CDC FOUNDATION CONTACT
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SUMMARY OF REQUEST

The CDC Foundation is announcing a Request for Interest (RFI) to implement the [Public Health and Safety Team \(PHAST\) Toolkit](#) to prevent overdose deaths in select cities, counties and tribal communities. The proposed activities include collaboration among public health and public safety agencies in select cities, counties and tribal communities through increased uptake and implementation of PHAST at the local level. Selected local jurisdictions will work with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the CDC Foundation to implement the PHAST framework.

The CDC Foundation will fund up to four separate jurisdictions with up to \$150,000 each. For each jurisdiction, at least one public safety agency (i.e., emergency medical service [EMS], fire, law enforcement or criminal justice) and one public health agency are required to submit a joint application to this request. Interested public health and public safety agencies are asked to respond to the RFI with a brief (1-2 page) concept note including the proposed plan for implementation and an overarching budget. Concept notes will be reviewed by CDC and the CDC Foundation and finalists will work with CDC and the CDC Foundation to finalize PHAST Toolkit implementation plans.

BACKGROUND AND NEED

Between 2020 and 2021, over 100,000 overdose deaths occurred in the U.S., the highest number of overdose deaths recorded in a single 12-month period¹. There is a critical need to sustain and renew efforts to address this crisis. Local jurisdictions, such as cities, counties and tribal communities are well-positioned to adopt and implement overdose prevention strategies to leverage existing strengths and address local-level challenges and needs. These local efforts may be even more effective if they are coordinated, collaborative, data-informed and evidence-based.

The PHAST Framework and Toolkit were developed in 2019 by the CDC Foundation, in collaboration with CDC, to provide guidance to local jurisdictions in establishing and navigating data-driven partnerships among public health and public safety sectors to prevent overdose deaths. Modeled after New York City's RxStat Initiative, the PHAST Framework uses guiding principles, strategies and tools to help jurisdictions achieve three primary goals: 1) develop a shared understanding of the local overdose crisis; 2) optimize local capacity to prevent overdose deaths; and 3) establish shared accountability for implementing effective overdose prevention efforts. Early iterations of the PHAST Framework and Toolkit were piloted in 10 jurisdictions across the U.S. between 2019 and 2021 and pilot findings have informed the final Toolkit as well as additional tools and resources to support PHAST implementation.

Through this project, the CDC Foundation will support local jurisdictions' implementation of the PHAST Framework to enhance local overdose prevention.

¹ Ahmad FB, Rossen LM, Sutton P. Provisional drug overdose death counts. National Center for Health Statistics. 2022.

RESPONSE REQUIREMENTS

In responding to the RFI, concept notes should be submitted at the following link:

<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/fb11ab8220c240678b6a23bd7121b732>. Concept notes should be no more than 2 pages, single spaced, 12-point font, and should include the following:

1. PHAST Toolkit Implementation Plan – 2 pages maximum
 - 1.1. Include proposed agencies (public health and public safety) within your jurisdiction and proposed strategies for collaboration.
 - 1.2. Include agency experience in overdose prevention and readiness to implement the PHAST framework.
 - 1.3. Include a brief summary of the community to be served and highlight any populations that have been marginalized and/or disproportionately affected by overdose in your community.
 - 1.4. Provide a brief budget estimate including how the funding will be used (i.e. personnel, supplies, meetings, etc.). Indicate how the funding will be shared among public health and public safety agencies. It is preferred that funding will be distributed evenly among public health and public safety agencies. If unequal distribution of funding is requested, please describe the rationale. Total budget estimates for a jurisdiction should not exceed \$150,000.

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must be willing to work with CDC and the CDC Foundation throughout the PHAST Toolkit implementation process. If funded, recipient agencies will be required to submit PHAST Toolkit progress updates including a summary of accomplishments and lessons learned that align with at least two of the three PHAST SOS goals – Shared Understanding, Optimized Jurisdictional Capacity and Shared Accountability.

TIMELINE

Project Phase	Estimated Completion
Concept Notes Due	March 15, 2022
Agencies Selected for Implementation	By March 31, 2022
PHAST Implementation Period	From Contract Execution Date through September 30, 2022

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

[PHAST Toolkit Draft Version 2.0](#) (Final Version 3.0 expected soon)

[Overdose Fatality Review/PHAST Data to Action Video](#)

Key Contact: Send email inquiries to phast@cdcfoundation.org.