



SCALING PILOT PROJECTS TO EQUITABLY PROTECT CHILDREN

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS: \$10,000 GRANT PROGRAM

PROPOSALS DUE MAY 3, 2021

COVID-19 dramatically altered the ways we live, work, and play, in part by laying bare the racism and inequality inherent in all of our communities. In response, many cities created rapid response pilots and programs to meet immediate and emerging needs.

Our 2020 Healthy Babies Bright Futures (HBBF) and Mayors Innovation Project (MIP) grant program supported cities' immediate needs to address COVID-19 with efforts to reduce toxic exposures in pregnant women and babies.

This year, HBBF & MIP will provide \$10,000 grants to five cities that identify and implement strategies to scale and sustain projects that have demonstrated potential for improving children's health and reducing health disparities.

We invite concise proposals from US cities to participate in this grant program designed to scale up pilot projects and share this learning with other cities. Both cities funded in our 2020 grant cycle and new cities are eligible to apply.

5 SELECTED CITIES WILL RECEIVE:

- \$10,000 grant to improve children's health and reduce health disparities, specifically those that decrease neurotoxic exposures.
- Access to technical assistance from HBBF and MIP staff (e.g., consultation, peer-learning, case studies, and best practices).
- An opportunity to present at a future (virtual or in person) MIP meeting to showcase work and share lessons learned with peers.
- Sharing of your accomplishments through HBBF's and MIP's national networks, including development and dissemination of a case study featuring your project.



TO BE CONSIDERED

1-3 page proposals from a city leader (e.g., offices of the Mayor, City Manager, Sustainability Director, City Health Officer, and/or any interested municipal staff) are due May 3, 2021. Email your application to Kyra Naumoff Shields at knaumoff@hbbf.org.

Proposals should include a short description of your:

- Challenge to children's health, including exposures that harm brain development¹. Include any relevant social, environmental, or economic background that will help us understand more details about your community.
- Project to continue, grow, scale, or institutionalize, i.e., project background, partners, and city departments engaged in the project.
- City's role, including how this project fits within the larger vision or planning structure of the city.
- Initial project impact, and the impact you anticipate from growing/scaling/continuing the project.
- Project timeline, including any key future milestones. Funds should be spent in a 12-month period.
- Project budget & justification, including any matching funding.

Cities will be selected by May 21, 2021. Proposals will be evaluated with respect to:

- Impact, short and/or long-term.
- Portability, e.g., how can this model be shared.
- Longevity, e.g., how project will be embedded into the city's long term strategy.
- Community engagement, e.g. how and extent to which community/impacted populations are engaged in defining the challenges and solutions to children's health.

Program begins shortly thereafter, and assistance continues through at least May 2022.

Funding & Reporting Guidelines

The budget must closely track the proposal's narrative plan and must not include lobbying expenses. Funds should be spent within 12 months. One short interim and final report are required.

Projects should seek to improve health and reduce health disparities for pregnant women and babies. Examples of eligible projects include:

Reducing toxic exposures in public housing and spaces. e.g., toxic free childcare training and nap mat exchanges; transition to chemical-free turf maintenance; and reducing lead exposures through education and/or remediation projects.

Reduce toxic exposures in city purchasing. e.g., environmentally preferable purchasing policies that require products purchased are sustainable and free of neurotoxic chemicals.

Reduce toxic exposures in food. e.g., using municipal land for organic produce cultivation, increasing availability of local/organic produce; working collaboratively with residents in low access food areas to develop solutions to the lack of healthy food access.

Reduce toxic exposures in outdoor air. e.g., planting of trees and/or vegetative barriers near busy streets to reduce pollutants; transitioning park management strategies to chemical-free methods, and other green infrastructure projects.

1. arsenic, flame retardants, lead, mercury, organophosphate pesticides, toxic air pollutants including PAHs, the banned industrial chemicals PCBs, plastic additives called phthalates, and a rocket fuel component and fertilizer contaminant called perchlorate.