



Social, Emotional, and Behavioral Health Request for Proposals

Proposals must be emailed by end of day September 10, 2007 to:

Kevin@rexendowment.org

and

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Call-in Information Session: August 9, 10:00-noon. 1-866-365-4406, Access number 8353565#

Grantmaking Rationale and Guidance to Grantseekers

The John Rex Endowment invests in the development and support of activities, programs and organizations that improve the health of underserved people in Wake and surrounding counties. Currently, the Endowment supports visible and measurable improvements in the health of children and youth by improving access to health services, by promoting healthy behaviors and by providing opportunities for growth and development.

“Social, Emotional, and Behavioral Health” encompasses

- Clinical mental health conditions,
- Social conditions that affect health status, and
- Risk-taking behaviors that affect health status.

The Endowment’s “Social, Emotional, and Behavioral Health” portfolio focuses on

- (1) Increasing children and youth access to mental health care for both clinical and non-clinical conditions, and
- (2) Strengthening youth resiliency and promoting healthy and positive behaviors by youth through evidence-based programs.

The Endowment makes grants to 501(c)(3) nonprofits (public charities) as well as government agencies for effective efforts that advance one of the following strategies.

1. Increase child and youth access to mental health care.

Priority consideration will be given to projects that:

- Enable a multi-agency plan for integrating social, emotional, and behavioral health into primary care. This could accelerate the integration of behavioral health services into primary care settings and could include technical assistance to ensure data collection and measurement of program effectiveness.

- Support a coordinated system of care and enhance provider capacity to identify clinical and non-clinical concerns and provide appropriate interventions. This could include enhancing mental health screening tools for use in pediatric care settings, co-locating psychological and pediatric health services, and/or connecting schools to community-based mental health services and traditional health systems.
- Target groups that require special efforts to reach for mental health care. These groups may include new immigrants, homeless children/youth, children in foster care or Child Protective Services, youth leaving the foster care system, youth engaged with the juvenile justice system, and others with evidence of special needs.
- Enhance the availability and use of data about social, emotional, and behavioral health of children and youth.
- Develop strategies or apply evidence-based practices to reduce the stigma associated with mental health that creates barriers to receiving services.
- Convene strategic conversations with others in the community to address any of the above.

<p>2. Strengthen youth resiliency and promote healthy and positive behaviors by youth through evidence-based programs.</p>

Priority consideration will be given to projects that:

- Build lifelong skills and developmental assets of youth so they can more successfully cope with and/or recover from adversity – such as parental divorce, parental death, family violence or abuse, other specific trauma, and poverty and other social disadvantages. These assets, as defined by the Search Institute, (www.search-institute.org/assets) include:
 - ⇒ A commitment to learning, an achievement orientation, and school engagement.
 - ⇒ Positive values, such as empathy, equality and social justice, integrity, honesty, and responsibility.
 - ⇒ Social competence, including problem solving and decision making, communication, cultural competence, resistance to negative peer pressure and dangerous situations, and peaceful conflict resolution.
 - ⇒ Positive identity, including personal power, self-esteem, sense of purpose, and a positive view of personal future.

- Create support for these youth assets by positively shaping the environment through:
 - ⇒ School-based programs that emphasize safe and nurturing school climate, high teacher expectations, parent involvement in schooling, and positive peer influence, and/or
 - ⇒ After-school and/or community-based programs – which are more effective for middle- and high-school youth who are beginning to make choices on their own and be independent from the family environment – that emphasize positive adult relationships, safe and nurturing neighborhood climate, positive peer influence, and a community that values youth as a resource.
- Enlist evidence-based practices in school-based or after-school and/or community-based programs that increase involvement with positive behaviors and reduce involvement with:
 - ⇒ Teen pregnancy and sexual activity
 - ⇒ Tobacco, alcohol, and drug use
 - ⇒ Eating disorders
 - ⇒ Violence and bullying
- Develop evidence to address opportunities to improve youth social, emotional, and behavioral health.
- Convene strategic conversations with others in the community about the use of evidence-based best practices to address any of the above.

Funding Guidelines

The John Rex Endowment will consider requests for funding through its “Social, Emotional, and Behavioral Health” portfolio at its October board meeting. Both the grant term and the financial request should be determined by the desired outcomes of the proposal. Grantees must submit interim and final written reports on their projects and participate in one-on-one and group meetings for mutual learning and development.

The Endowment funds 501(c)(3) nonprofits designated as public charities and government agencies that focus on improving the health of children and youth in Wake County. The Endowment welcomes proposals that reflect collaborations among organizations.

Social, Emotional, and Behavioral Health PROPOSALS

Instructions for Proposals

Grantseekers must submit a proposal via email no later than **September 10, 2007** to be considered for funding through the “Social, Emotional, and Behavioral Health” portfolio at the Endowment’s October board meeting. The document must be typed using a font size of 10pt or larger and must not exceed eight pages.

The Health Improvement Committee will review proposals on September 24. Grantseekers will be notified of the proposal status following the meeting during the week of September 24. The Health Improvement Committee will take funding recommendations to the Board of Directors on October 22 for funding approval. Grantseekers will be notified of status following the October 22 meeting.

The proposal should provide the following information in the order listed:

1. A description of the agency/organization(s) requesting funds. Include a contact name, telephone number, and email address for the project.
2. A statement of need summarizing the issue that the proposed project addresses.
3. A description of the proposed project and how this advances one of the Endowment’s “Social, Emotional, and Behavioral Health” strategies listed above. Include a statement of purpose and intended outcomes, as well as key activities. Indicate how the need will be reduced or how youth assets will be developed by the proposed project.
4. Evidence of the organizational capacity to achieve and sustain the intended outcomes.
5. The amount and terms (months) of financial support sought from the Endowment, as well as how the intended funds will be used.
6. Is the expectation that the grant-supported key activities will continue after Endowment funding? If no, briefly state why. If yes, briefly describe the fiscal plan to continue the program.
7. The proposed project budget using the Endowment’s budget spreadsheet. Endowment funds may be used to cover both direct and indirect expenses associated with the proposed project. The Endowment will consider payment for indirect expenses not to exceed 8% of Endowment-paid direct expenses.
 - **Direct expenses** are clearly and easily attributable to a specific project and to the objectives of the proposal.
 - **Indirect expenses**, or overhead, are not easily identified with a specific project but are necessary to conduct the grant. Examples of indirect expenses may include rent, utilities, housekeeping, bookkeeping and Internet charges.