



Illinois Public Health Association

500 West Monroe, Suite 1E, Springfield, Illinois 62704

Phone: 217-522-5687 FAX: 217-522-5689 E-mail: ipha@ipha.com Web Site: www.ipha.com

2023 IPHA COVID Homeless Support Mini-Grant Application

Date Issued: October 16, 2023

Deadline for Submissions: October 31, 2023 at 11:59 p.m.

Contact Person: Emily Inman
Program Manager
einman@ipha.com

I. Background

Vaccines are a vital, lifesaving tool that prevent illness and death. Vaccines have greatly reduced or eliminated many infectious diseases that once routinely killed or harmed adults and children, particularly those living in poverty. People experiencing homelessness have been disproportionately affected by COVID-19, yet their vaccination coverage is lower than that of the general population.

It is essential that people experiencing homelessness have access to the COVID-19 vaccine. Illinois along with many states and counties around the country have prioritized vaccine access both for homeless service providers and individuals experiencing homelessness.

Additional Resources:

For more information, visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) COVID-19 webpage at [Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) | CDC](#). Additionally, CDC is developing a [toolkit of communications resources](#) to support messaging to various populations. Initial communications information including [social media assets](#) which can be downloaded and adaptable are available in English and Spanish. You can also find more information and toolkits at www.HelpGuideThrive.org.

II. Purpose

The Illinois Public Health Association (IPHA) was awarded the COVID Homeless Support Grant by the Illinois Department of Public Health. The purpose of the grant award is to provide COVID-related support to organizations working with individuals experiencing homelessness. This grant is part of the state of Illinois' continued efforts to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic through collaboration with key Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) to coordinate resources

for populations particularly impacted by COVID-19. As part of this initiative, IPHA will award mini-grant funding to five (5) eligible CBOs.

Mini-Grant Goals:

- Engage and empower people experiencing homelessness to improve health knowledge and skills to choose healthy behaviors.
- Improve access to COVID-19 prevention, education, testing, and vaccination for those experiencing homelessness through direct and one-on-one outreach.
- Ensure the CHW workforce of the project exhibits diversity and reflects the demographics of the community being served.
- Provide linkages to critical health and social support services for people experiencing homelessness.
- Participate in ongoing technical assistance, provided by IPHA, to address barriers identified, gaps in services, and unmet needs to support the organization's CHWs who are working with those experiencing homelessness.

Project Example:

Below is an example of a potential project. We encourage you to build off this example and/or “think outside the box” to propose a project that addresses the specific needs of your community or targeted population.

- Implementation of a 4-week campaign to reach 50 people experiencing homelessness, in a specific geographic area, consisting of direct street level outreach, education on the updated COVID-19 vaccine, assistance making vaccine appointments and arranging transportation, linking them with other needed health and social services, and distributing health/hygiene kits.

III. Eligibility

Community-based organizations are eligible to apply for these funds if they meet the following criteria:

- Illinois-based, non-governmental public or private nonprofit organization
- Representative of a community or significant segments of a community
- The ability to provide educational and/or navigation services to people experiencing homelessness
- The ability to receive and fiscally manage grant funds
- Must be in good standing with the Illinois Secretary of State, if the Illinois Secretary of State requires the entity's organization type to be registered. Governmental entities, school districts and select religious organizations are not required to be registered with the Illinois Secretary of State. Refer to the Illinois Secretary of State Business Services website: https://www.ilsos.gov/departments/business_services/home.html
- Not on the Illinois Stop Payment List, SAM.gov Exclusion List, or the Sanctioned Party List maintained by the Illinois Department of Health Care and Family Services (HFS)

Applicants with experience working with a Continuum of Care (CoC) that serves the proposed target area, if any, are encouraged to apply for this mini-grant opportunity.

IV. Application Requirements

Please complete the [Online Application](#).

The online application requires the applicant to describe the population to be served in the coverage area, the organization's experience working with people experiencing homelessness, and experience providing COVID-19 outreach and education, with emphasis on any special populations served.

V. Grant Amounts

Five (5) CBOs will be selected to receive a mini grant of \$5,000 that supports the goals identified by IPHA. IPHA will determine the approved funding based on the plan and deliverables proposed and submitted by CBOs interested in receiving funding support.

The selected CBOs will receive an initial payment of 50% of the grant award paid to the subrecipient upon submission of an approved outreach plan to IPHA, a signed agreement and attendance at the mandatory onboarding/training session.

The remaining 50% of the grant award will be paid to the subrecipient after all deliverables are satisfactorily completed and all required reporting has been submitted, reviewed, and approved by IPHA.

VI. Allowable Expenses

Funds can be used for activities associated with the mini-grant deliverables including outreach to homeless populations, staff time for planning and data collection, local staff travel and transportation, food for outreach events, printing, and promotional items specifically to promote vaccine access. Funds may not be used for vaccine purchases, fundraising or lobbying expenses, alcoholic beverages, or other expenses that may create a conflict of interest or perception of impropriety.

VII. Grant Deliverables

The Illinois Public Health Association agrees to:

- Provide training and technical assistance as needed.
- Provide timely review and approval of submitted outreach plans, data, and reports.
- Share the designated data collection tool and provide any necessary training.
- Issue grant funding payments.

Upon selection to receive the mini-grant funding, the CBO agrees to:

- Sign a funding agreement with IPHA.
- Submit an outreach plan to IPHA for approval within the first 15 days following execution of the funding agreement. The outreach plan shall describe the activities and proposed timeline for reaching people experiencing homelessness to support education, awareness, and access to COVID-19 vaccines within the designated coverage area.
- Complete implementation of an IPHA-approved outreach plan to reach people experiencing homelessness in your designated coverage area.
- Attend the required onboarding/training session.
- Participate in meetings to discuss data collection; progress on project deliverables; share information; participate in technical assistance; and contribute to a shared learning environment.
- Participate in data collection efforts, including the submission of timely data via the designated data collection tool.
- Submit a final report at the time of completion of activities to IPHA using the format provided.

VIII. Award Timeline

Mini-Grant Application Due:	October 31, 2023 at 11:59 p.m.
Application Review Period:	November 1, 2023 – November 3, 2023
Award Notification:	November 6, 2023
Grant Term:	November 2023 through February 2024

IX. Additional Information

For additional information, please contact Emily Inman, Program Manager, at einman@ipha.com.