

## Request for Proposals for Community Health Improvement Project in Bowdoin Geneva

### Background

Funding has been made available to support innovative, small scale Community Health Improvement (CHI) projects in the Bowdoin Geneva community. Funding for this opportunity comes from Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center Community Benefits Program and Determination of Need Community Health Initiatives, which are overseen by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. CHI projects address root causes and systemic issues in the community and have outcomes focused on health. These initiatives are committed to racial equity. Health Resources in Action (HRiA) supports and manages grantmaking for this fund.

### Health Resources in Action (HRiA)

Since 1957, HRiA has been providing services to help people live healthier lives and create healthy communities through prevention, health promotion, policy, and research. This broad mission has remained consistent throughout HRiA's history and is reflective of the varied work performed by staff from our numerous services/initiatives including health/racial equity; assessment and evaluation; training and capacity building; community organizing; advocacy; strategic planning; and environmental health. With a commitment to underserved populations and support of relevant research on critical health issues, HRiA has earned a national reputation as a leader in the public health field, as well as a local reputation for excellence in improving community health in Massachusetts.

### Bowdoin Geneva Community Advisory Board (CAB)

The Bowdoin Geneva CAB is made up of residents of color from the Bowdoin Geneva community. We are concerned family members, neighbors, and friends who are dedicated to making Bowdoin Geneva a better and more cohesive and healthy community. All of us understand the struggles. We go through difficulties and we see our neighbors going through the same challenges, knowing that we all just want the right things for our families. We want to see our fellow community residents be successful and supportive of one another. Having access to this funding gives us the opportunity to support community driven projects that are chosen by residents.

### Funding Opportunity

Allocated funds have been made available to support innovative, small scale Community Health Improvement (CHI) projects in the Bowdoin Geneva community. This RFP is designed to support 2-3 CHI pilot projects in the Bowdoin Geneva community totaling \$22,000 in grants. CHI projects address root causes and systemic issues in the community and have outcomes focused on health. We are looking to support community initiatives and projects focusing on:

- Developing capacity for economic growth and power (i.e. urban farming, cultural entrepreneurship)
- Building a community gathering space (i.e. green space, garden, greenhouse)
- Community and youth of color engagement that supports capacity building (i.e. canvassing, neighborhood planning process, forming a democratic neighborhood association)

Through these projects the Bowdoin Geneva CAB is seeking to support the lives of people of color throughout Bowdoin Geneva that desire to make this neighborhood a better place. Bowdoin Geneva CAB seeks to find applicants who are interested in creating community spaces that can build stronger relationships between the residents of Bowdoin Geneva.

### Grant Period and Funding Available

The funding will be for a period of 12 months, starting August 1, 2019 through July 31, 2020.

## Deadlines

Proposals must be submitted by **Friday, July 26, 2019 at 5:00pm** online or to Nancy Copeland via email at [nrc1959vir@gmail.com](mailto:nrc1959vir@gmail.com). Selected grantees will be notified within 30 days.

## Eligibility Requirements

- Bowdoin Geneva-based 501c.3 nonprofit organizations or community groups/residents sponsored by a 501.c.3 organization. If you have questions concerning obtaining a fiscal sponsor contact Jamiah Tappin at [jtappin@hria.org](mailto:jtappin@hria.org) directly.
- Projects and initiatives must focus on the residents of the Bowdoin Geneva neighborhood and support capacity building.
- Projects and initiatives must demonstrate a plan for community engagement and collaboration with neighborhood groups in Bowdoin Geneva.
- Applicants must have the capacity to manage and account for grant fund expenditures.
- Recipient must be willing to participate in 2-3 Bowdoin Geneva events through funding year (volunteer time, share work with residents, etc.).

## Proposal Questions

1. Project title, applicant name and contact info (address, telephone, email, main contact person)
2. Summary of the initiative (1-2 paragraphs)
3. Background information on organization including brief history, past grant awards, achievements, neighborhood partnerships, and any relevant information (1-3 paragraphs)
4. The lead organization's proof of 501.c.3 tax exempt status (if applicable)
5. Project description, including statement of need, goals, objectives, target audience, how services are marketed to the community (1 page)
6. Brief explanation of how this project supports each of the following aspects of the Bowdoin Geneva community:
  - a. Racial equity in Bowdoin Geneva (1-2 sentences)
  - b. People of color and immigrants (1-2 sentences)
  - c. Youth (1-2 sentences)
7. Brief explanation of how you intend to sustain the project beyond this funding opportunity. What are the long and short-term goals (1 paragraph)
8. Clear goals and measurable outcomes. How will you determine "success?" (1 page, bullets or table)
9. Timeline (1 page, bullets or table)
10. Budget summary (1 page, bullets or table). For groups without a fiscal sponsorship, please submit a quarterly detailed budget.

## Additional Questions (1 paragraph each):

- What does community engagement look like?
- What are some successes and challenges in the Bowdoin Geneva community?
- How can you create opportunities for collaboration with the CAB and other community groups in Bowdoin Geneva?
- How will you leverage this initiative for future funding?

### Bowdoin Geneva CAB Members

- Delcinya Banks
- Nancy Copeland
- Shirley Jones
- Dalida Rocha
- Sandra Teixeira
- William Walker

### Questions?

Contact: Jamiah Tappin, MSW, Community Organizing Manager  
Health Resources in Action, [jtappin@hria.org](mailto:jtappin@hria.org) or 617.279.2268

### Applications due Friday, July 26, 2019 at 5:00pm.

Online applications must be submitted to: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/6B5TDVD>.

Paper applications must be submitted to Nancy Copeland  
via email at [nrc1959vir@gmail.com](mailto:nrc1959vir@gmail.com).

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