

# Community Solutions for Healthy Child Development Grant Summary

MEMO TO APPLICANTS AND PARTNERS | MAY 2020

The Community Solutions for Healthy Child Development Grant program was created through the tireless advocacy work of Voices and Choices for Children Coalition, Children's Defense Fund, and several other community organizations aiming to bring the voices of people of color and American Indians into decision-making spaces. As part of the legislation, the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) convened a Community Solutions Advisory (CSA) Council comprised of 12 community members who bring professional expertise and lived experience in racial equity, early childhood development, and advocacy.

MDH's Center for Health Equity released the Community Solutions for Healthy Child Development Grant [Request for Proposals](#) (RFP) on December 9, 2019. The council members co-created the grant RFP and served as the reviewers of the grant applications. Since the release of the RFP, Minnesota received additional federal funding from the [Preschool Development Birth through Five Grant](#), which provides an additional \$750,000 to MDH to fund Community Solutions grants following the same criteria as outlined in the Community Solutions RFP. Therefore, the estimated total amount to grant increased to approximately \$1.75 million annually.

The grant application period closed on February 7, 2020. The council recommended 23 applicants for funding which the Commissioner of Health approved.

State law prohibits MDH from sharing the names of those selected for funding and other review process data until grant agreement negotiations with selected applicants are complete. MDH expects to share the names of those selected for funding in July 2020.

Included in this document is a description of the review process as well as data summarizing the applications received by MDH. If applicants have additional questions, please contact the Center for Health Equity at [health.equity@state.mn.us](mailto:health.equity@state.mn.us) or 651-201-5813.

## Funding Requested

The total funding requested by all applicants for two years was **\$11,590,981**. The total funding available for two years is **\$3,500,000**.

## Applicants

MDH received **46 applications**. The CSA Council reviewed all 46 applications.

## Review Process

Council members reviewed the proposals using an asset-based lens and through framing values of equity, accountability and respect. As outlined in the RFP, the council prioritized the following criteria:

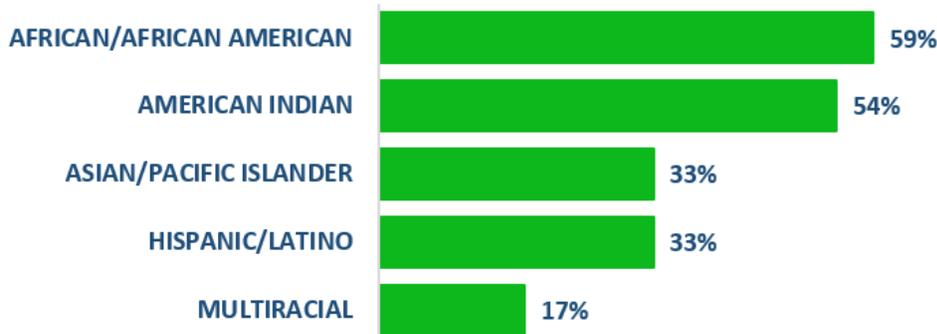
- 1) Organizations are led by people of color and/or American Indians;
- 2) Proposals have a clear and strong focus on promoting racial equity and improving child development; and,
- 3) Proposals focus on prenatal to age three. Total score and organizational size were also taken into consideration.

Out of the 46 applications, the council recommended 23 applicants to fund. The final award amounts range from \$25,000 to \$86,226 and total \$1,750,000 per year. Grantees will be funded for three years.

## Demographics of Applicants

The graph below shows applicants by target population. Some organizations serve more than one population. The percentages are based on the 46 applicants, and describe the populations they would serve in their proposed CSF project rather than the predominant population(s) their organization serves.

### Community Solutions Fund Applicants by Target Population



The graph below shows applicants by target geography. The percentages are based on the 46 applicants, and include 10 organizations serving both the 7-county metro and greater Minnesota areas.

### Community Solutions Fund Applicants by Target Geography



The graph below shows applicants by target age range.

### Community Solutions Fund Applicants by Target Age Range



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To obtain this information in a different format, call: 651-201-5813.