

The Deborah Munroe Noonan Memorial Research Fund



2024 Grant Program Office Hours

November 8, 2023



Welcome & Introductions

The Medical Foundation at Health Resources in Action

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Agenda

Overview & Application Requirements

- Program Mission & Scope of Supported Work

Program Mission & Scope of Supported Work

Mission

The Deborah Munroe Noonan Memorial Research Fund, established in 1947 by Frank M. Noonan in memory of his mother, continues its proud tradition of supporting improvements in the quality of life for children with disabilities. Eligible organizations and target populations must be within the Fund's geographic area of interest of Greater Boston.

Scope of Supported Work

The Noonan Research Fund supports innovative clinical and service system research, pilot, and evaluation projects in the greater Boston area, designed to improve the quality of life for children and adolescents with disabilities as reflected in the target population description.

2024 Cycle Timeline

December
2023

February
2024

April
2024

Late Summer
2024

September 1,
2024

Initial
Application
Deadline

Full Stage
Invitation

Full Stage
Proposals

Eligibility

Applicant or Project Team

- Seniority and/or area of expertise do not affect eligibility
- Must hold a position at a nonprofit institution or organization within the Fund's geographic area of interest
- "Nothing about us without us"
- Neither an academic faculty position nor an advanced degree is required nor considered preferentially
- U.S. citizenship not required
- While not required for funding consideration, the Noonan Fund may support new or continuing collaborations on projects between academic institutions and/or other non-profit institutions

Participant Population

- Children and adolescents with a chronic physical, developmental, behavioral, or emotional diagnosis who require a combination of special and or interdisciplinary services, individualized supports, therapies, or other forms of services or supports that are of lifelong or extended duration.
- Geographic area of interest
- Inclusive of women and minority groups

Exclusions

- Basic science, direct service, primary prevention projects, device development, drug trials
- Capital Costs

Continuing from Last Year

One award will be prioritized toward proposals for which
the lead organizationh -

Submission Requirements

Initial Proposal

- A. Application Face Sheet (form)
- B. Table of Contents (form)

Budget Guidance

- \$160,000 over 2 years
- Funds need to be equally distributed across each year of funding
- 20% indirect costs are allowable
- Funds may be used to support personnel, participant enrollment, small equipment purchases, supplies, travel, and other direct expenses that are needed for the project completion.

Program Emphasis

- Project addresses the improvement in the quality of life for children and adolescents with chronic physical, developmental, behavioral, or emotional disabilities.
- Project must provide comment regarding how outcomes of the proposed project and/or research will advance health equity.
- Project should include intentional processes that integrate people with lived experience in the decisions being made and meaningfully engage them in research activities that are meant to address the inequities they face.

Selection Criteria

- The potential impact of the proposed work on the intended community.
- The extent to which the proposal seeks to advance health equity and racial and ethnic equity.
- The extent to which the proposal includes and meaningfully engages people with lived experience in the research design and implementation.
- The significance and originality of the proposed project.
- The approach actively engages the population of interest in east prthniwor

Selection Criteria

Pilot Project

- Conceptualization of the intervention(s) to be evaluated, identified measures (structure, process, outcomes), and linkages between proposed intervention/activities, measures, and outcomes.
- The extent to which the applicant can measure feasibility, implementation, and/or effectiveness of the key intervention/activity.

Research Project

- Clarity of the stated hypotheses.

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Evaluation Project

Selection Criteria Continued

Applicant and/or Project Team

- The project complements or enhances the applicant's previous and future professional work
- The team is reflective of the population served and/or engaged in research
- Appropriateness of personnel or consultants with expertise in skills necessary for the project such as quantitative and/or qualitative data analysis

Proposal Quality

- Persuasive and well-organized proposal that effectively communicates how the project will address the stated need or problem

Common Pitfalls to Avoid

- Link between problem and the proposed methodology is unclear
- Patient/population engagement is not present
- No statement regarding health equity
- No/limited description of sample size and statistics/evaluation methods
- No clear hypothesis/aims
- Lack of clearly budgeting what is needed to execute project
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Reviewer Comments

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Project Team

"The team has background in XX but does not seem to include the appropriate family training/statistician/clinical care/community engagement background needed" ; "The proposal should include how this works builds upon their background" ; "There is no indication in the proposal regarding the relationship between the primary applicant and organization/school/community service XXX."

Letter(s) of Collaboration

"The letter doesn't speak to how the organization will support the ongoing work in terms of facilities/training/mentorship/resources"

Proposal Quality

"The proposal could be improved by greater linkage between the background, significance, and the approach. It is hard to follow the logic" ; "I am not able to read the caption under figure 123, the text is too small" ; "The proposal feels rushed, maybe the applicant cut and pasted wording from another application into this from Lph2(,)0.5t)-0.8 (heo,)03 1 (opsn)uildn

Application Tips

Make sure your proposal reflects the review criteria and program goals

Tell the story and provide explicit reasons and statements regarding why your approach is promising

Recruit the right team: Include appropriate collaborations and/or shared leadership if it benefits the project

Be realistic (in timeline, budgets, etc.)

Avoid jargon and abbreviations

Be concise and clear (make it easy to read!)

Point out pitfalls and include contingencies

Seek feedback (internally, externally, and across disciplines)

Questions?

Thank you for attending!