

PRESS RELEASE

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ILLINOIS' ONLY STATEWIDE CHILDREN'S HEALTH FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES 2005 REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS

HINSDALE, ILLINOIS (MARCH 22, 2005): The Illinois Children's Healthcare Foundation (ILCHF) today announced its 2005 "Requests for Proposals". Nearly \$6 million dollars is available for grants through the Foundation's annual review process. The deadline for submission of letters of inquiry is Monday, April 18, 2005.

The focus for this year's two RFPs is on increasing the access underserved children have to specific health services provided through either School Health Centers or through Community Health Centers. Funds will be provided to those organizations that seek to establish or expand oral health, mental health, and/or developmental screening/intervention services for children. Additionally, dollars are available through the School Health Center RFP to assist communities with the planning process required to establish a school-based or school-linked health center.

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Funds may be requested for construction-related costs, equipment, or staffing expenses required to add or to expand the specific health services. Funds may not be requested to supplement existing services.

During the Foundation's first ever grant cycle that concluded in December of 2004, nearly \$5.9 million was awarded in new grants to some 32 organizations serving children across the state.

ILCHF was formed in 2002 with one overall goal: to improve the health of Illinois children. The Foundation focuses its giving broadly in four areas:

- Increasing the access underserved children have to high-quality healthcare services
- Working to provide mental health services to those children who need them most
- Improving the oral health of Illinois children
- Ensuring maximum use of developmental screening tools and appropriate intervention for young children

Not-for-profit organizations that may be eligible for a grant from ILCHF should visit the Foundation's web site to review the RFPS and see more details - www.ilchf.org.