



2008 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
BUILDING SYSTEM CAPACITY - EXPANDING ACCESS TO
ORAL HEALTH SERVICES

As part of a \$20 million, five-year major initiative, the Illinois Children's Healthcare Foundation (ILCHF) announces a request for proposals for programs designed to increase access to oral health care by establishing new services or expanding existing services in clinical settings, or implementing a community planning process. This RFP is open to any not-for-profit organization that currently provides primary care services directly to children or has a formal collaborative arrangement with a primary care provider. The intent is to augment an existing medical home for children with the addition or expansion of oral health services.

Funded projects will be able to demonstrate through integrated evaluation, successful strategies for reaching and sustaining relationships with community residents in need of oral health services. They must be able to demonstrate efficiency in delivery of services, and innovation, specifically in regard to addressing barriers created by geography, special needs, and/or race or ethnicity. Eligible organizations include federally-qualified health centers (FQHC), FQHC look-alikes, school-based health centers, free clinics, public health department clinics, hospital clinics, and other community health centers.

Examples of project components eligible for funding include the following:

- Physical modifications that may need to be made to the clinic/health center in order to offer oral health services to children (construction-related costs);
- Staffing required to provide the specified services to children;
- Equipment costs incurred in order to provide the specified services to children.
- Needs assessment/planning phase for the provision of oral health services.

Criteria for Selection

- The project must be implemented in the context of a medical home.
- The project must emphasize the comprehensive coordination of health care to underserved children.
- The project will demonstrate innovation in outreach to underserved populations.
- The organization must directly provide primary care services either alone or **through a formal arrangement** with another primary care provider.

- Evaluation is integrated into the overall service delivery of the organization.
- The leadership is active in policy/advocacy efforts in the community it serves in regard to oral health/healthcare access issues.
- The staff demonstrates cultural competency, and has appropriate credentials/experience to provide the services.
- The project has a plan to leverage additional resources to most efficiently address the issue.
- The project demonstrates the ability to sustain the project after ILCHF funding ends.
- The costs of the project are realistic and relate closely to the scope of the project.
- The project demonstrates a significant need in the community.

ILCHF does not fund:

- Partisan, political or denominational programs
- Intermediary funding agencies
- Grants to/for specific individuals
- Endowments
- General medical research
- Attempts to influence legislation, as prohibited by section 4945 of the Internal Revenue Code for private foundations

Eligibility

Your organization is eligible for ILCHF funding if it is a 501(c)(3) organization determined to be a public charity under section 509(a)(1), (2) or (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or a governmental entity described in Code section 170(c)(1) or 511(a)(2)(B). You must be providing licensed, health services to children residing within the state of Illinois. For the purposes of this RFP, organizations must currently be providing primary healthcare services to children and must continue providing oral health services during the term of the requested grant.

- You may take up to 15 months to complete the introduction of the proposed oral health services to your clinic.
- You may request funding for up to two (2) years in order to fully establish the new services.
- You may take up to 12 months to complete the planning process.

Grant Size

For this RFP, ILCHF expects to award a number of grants. Planning grants will be up to \$50,000, all other grants may range from \$50,000 to \$300,000. The pool of dollars available for this RFP is approximately \$2 million.

The Application Process

Step 1: Determine whether your organization is eligible for funding based on the established criteria, and that your program falls under the focus of the RFP.

Step 2: Follow the directions for the online application at www.ilchf.org.

Timing

- RFP Closing Date: June 20, 2008
- Funding Approved: by October 31, 2008
- Begin implementation of grant-funded projects: by first quarter of 2009