



INTERACT
FOR HEALTH

**2026 Responsive RFP
Workshop**

Tuesday, July 7, 2026



Presenters



Megan Folkerth



Deanna Hillard



Ashlee Young



Agenda

- Welcome
- About Interact for Health
- RFP Overview
- Application Process
- Questions



HOLLOMAN
CENTER FOR
SOCIAL JUSTICE

Welcome & Introductions!

- What are you most interested in learning about today?
- What is your personal superpower?

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS



Our Why

Vision

People in our region are healthy and thriving, regardless of who they are or where they live.

Mission

To ensure people in our region have a just opportunity to live their healthiest lives.





Our Values



WE TACKLE ROOT CAUSES



WE AMPLIFY COMMUNITY POWER



WE SPEAK OPENLY



WE PARTNER WITH TRUST



WE ARE RELENTLESS PROBLEM SOLVERS

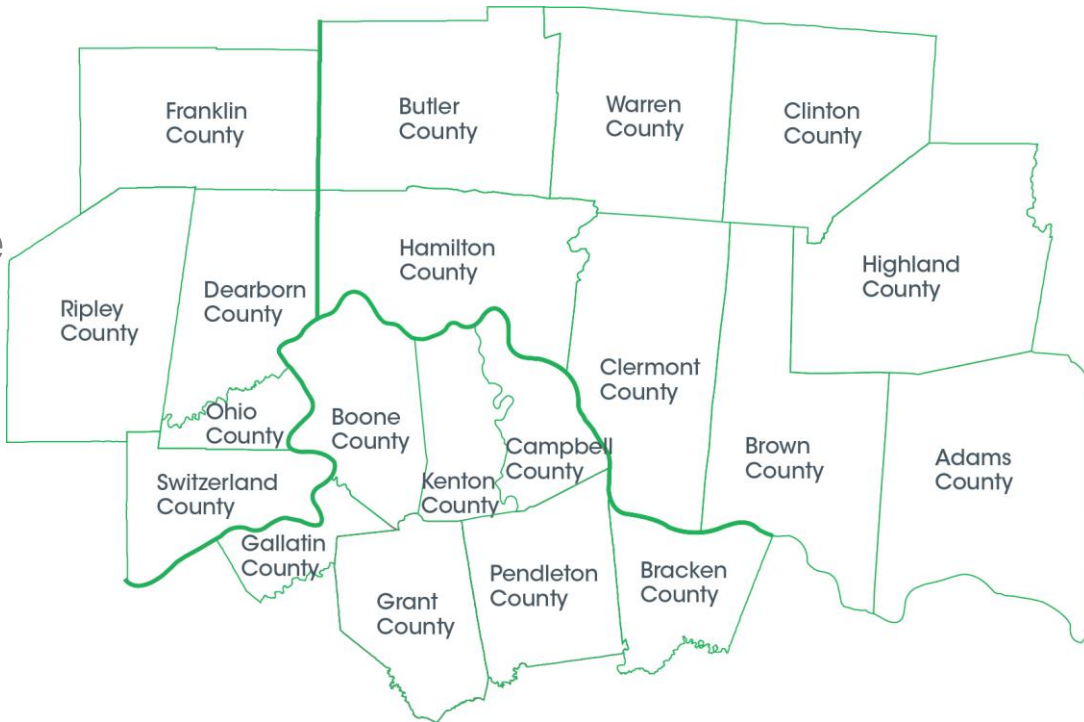


WE STRIVE FOR IMPACT



Who and Where We Focus

- 20-county region
- 3 states
- 2.4 million people





Our Priority Populations

It shouldn't matter where you live, how much money you make, or what your race or ethnicity is – everyone should have the ability to shape their communities and access the resources they need for good health. Interact for Health focuses on groups that are facing the greatest barriers to health and well-being.



Black
communities



Hispanic
communities



Children in
families with
low incomes



Rural
communities



LGBTQ+
communities



How We Work



Flexible, catalytic funder



Trusted, non-partisan voice for change



Independent, regional convener



Amplifier of community voice

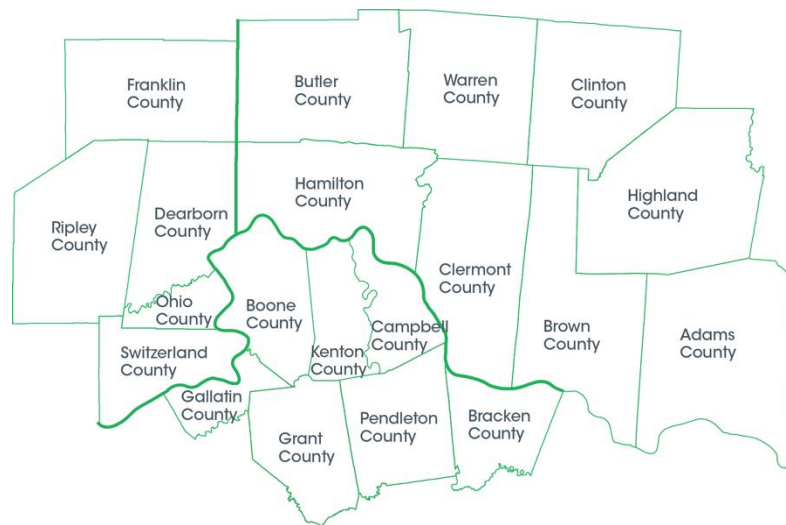


Go-to resource for data on health and health justice



Eligibility Criteria

- Be a public nonprofit or governmental organization
- Provide services in at least one county of Interact for Health's 20-county service area





RFP Overview & Goal

Interact for Health launched a Responsive Fund with the goal of responding to emergent needs in the nonprofit community. We recognize that the needs of our nonprofit partners are changing, and that opportunities to build resilience require dedicated funding.

\$2M

Total Funding

3

Funding Streams

Three Funding Streams

1

Critical Services

Sustaining Civic Infrastructure

Supports continuity of critical community infrastructure and services by addressing time-sensitive operational and programmatic needs.

Award Amounts

\$50k, \$75k or \$100k | Up to \$1.5M

Grantee & non-grantee partners

2

Sustainability Consultations

Capacity Building Support

Up to 30 hours of individualized consulting support over 6–8 months, focused on strengthening short- and long-term financial and organizational sustainability.

In-Kind Consulting Support

Grantee & non-grantee partners

3

Organizational Resilience

Workforce Well-being

Dedicated resources to support the health and well-being of nonprofit staff and leadership.

Award Amounts

\$5k or \$10k | Up to \$200K

Current grantee partners only

Stream 1: Critical Services

Sustaining Civic Infrastructure

Award Amounts
\$50k, \$75k or \$100k | Up to \$1.5M

What It Supports

Supports the continuity of critical community infrastructure by addressing time-sensitive operational and programmatic needs. Proposals for funding should focus on critical gaps or unmet needs with deep ties to community relationships.

Example Projects:

- Efforts supporting people maintain access to Medicaid amid eligibility and policy changes
- Support for summer youth employment programs facing unexpected funding reductions
- Immigrant-serving organizations responding to sharp increases in demand for mental health and direct services
- Maintaining basic needs and civic infrastructure in our region

Selection Criteria

- **Strategic Alignment**
Essential to advancing health justice & youth well-being
- **Demonstrated Urgency**
Clear evidence of time-sensitive need
- **Operational Readiness**
Concrete plan to deploy resources rapidly
- **Community Trust**
Documented track record & deep-rooted relationships
- **Resource Uniqueness**
Gaps not addressable by other funders

Stream 2: In-Kind Sustainability Consultations

10 – 15 Spots Available

Capacity Building Support

What It Supports

- Scenario planning
- Legal support
- Sustainability and development planning and implementation
- Diversified funding strategies and implementation
- Exploring collaboration, partnerships/alliances, shared services, and/or mergers
- Strategic planning and revisions

Important Reminders

- Up to 30 hours of individualized support
- 6 – 8 month program
- Virtual or in-person participation
- November 2026 kick-off meeting
- January 2027 start

Selection Criteria

- **Clarity of Priorities**
Clear and focused priorities that align with the scope of the sustainability program
- **Barriers to Participation**
Honest identification and self-awareness of potential barriers and risk to this work
- **Prior Participation**
Priority will be given to those who have not participated in this program before

Stream 3: Organizational Resilience

Workforce Well-being

Award Amounts
\$5k or \$10k | Up to \$200K

What It Supports

We believe that the people who work at nonprofits are the heart of the sector. When they thrive, organizations thrive — and communities benefit.

Example Activities

- Team retreats and off-site planning sessions
- Mental health support (therapy, counseling, employee assistance programs)
- Wellness stipends for staff
- Collective care practices (peer support groups, restorative practices, mental health days)

Selection Criteria

● Prior Funding

Priority will be given to organizations that did not receive similar support through 2025 Rapid Response Funding

Current grantee partners ONLY

- Interact for Health grantee partners from 2023 – present
- Includes all cohorts of Data for Equity
- Received email on June 22 about eligibility

Eligibility & Selection Criteria

Who Can Apply

- Public nonprofit or governmental organization
- Serve at least one county in Interact for Health's 20-county service area
- Organizations without tax-exempt status may apply through fiscal sponsorship with a 501(c)(3) sponsor

Grantee Requirement

Awarded grantees complete a short survey at the end of their grant period.

How Proposals Are Evaluated

Priority Populations

Organizations serving immigrant and refugee communities and other priority populations

Mission Alignment

Working in alignment with advancing health justice and youth well-being

Values Alignment

Organizations operating in alignment with Interact for Health's values

How to Apply

1

Critical Services

Submit via Interact for Health's online grants management system.

Visit interactforhealth.org/open-funding/

If you have received a grant in the past two years, your email may already be registered.

Questions:
responsive@interactforhealth.org

2

Sustainability Consultations

Submit via Google Form

Apply [here](#)

Open to both grantee and non-grantee partners.

Questions:
responsive@interactforhealth.org

3

Workforce Well-being

Current grantee partners will be sent a link to the application form via email.

Check your inbox for the application link

Only current grantee partners are eligible for this stream.

Questions:
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Southwestern
Limited
St. Louis to
New York in
24 hours
on the restful
water level route

No. 12		No. 11	
9:00 am	Ex. St. Louis	(C. T.)	Ar. 5:00 pm
11:35 am	Ex. Marion	"	Ar. 1:55 pm
12:57 pm	Ex. Terre Haute	"	Ar. 12:45 pm
3:05 pm	Ex. Indianapolis	"	Ar. 11:20 am
5:19 pm	Ex. Muncie	"	Ar. 10:03 am
6:05 pm	Ex. Indianapolis	(E. T.)	Ar. 9:10 am
9:00 pm	Ar. Cleveland	"	Ex. 6:10 am
"	Ar. Buffalo	"	Ex. 11:39 pm
6:00 am	Ar. Albany	"	Ex. 5:09 pm
10:05 am	Ar. New York	"	Ex. 5:00 pm
10:04 am	Ar. Springfield	"	Ex. 4:47 pm
11:28 am	Ar. Worcester	"	Ex. 3:25 pm
10:00 am	Ar. Boston	"	Ex. 2:10 pm

Service and equipment
identical with that of the
20th Century Limited.



HOW TO APPLY



Open Funding Page Features

RFP Document Example

Interact for Health awards competitive grants through Requests for Proposals (RFPs), invited funding and collaborative funding. Read more about our process on our [How We Fund page](#). Current open funding opportunities are below:

Click the button below to begin the application process for any of the current open RFPs or RFAs listed below (unless noted).

ACCESS GRANTS PORTAL >>

Responsive Fund

The goal of the [Responsive Fund RFP](#) is to address immediate, emerging, or unanticipated needs within the community, recognizing that opportunities to build resilience require dedicated funding. An optional proposal webinar will be held on Tuesday, July 7, from 4-5 p.m. Register [here](#).



Open Funding Page Features

Fillable application, Rubric

The remaining funds of up to \$200,000 will be open to invited partners for organizational resilience and workforce well-being. Eligible organizations will receive an email from Interact for Health staff.

Helpful Documents:

Application Questions ([PDF](#) / [Word](#))

[Scoring Rubrics](#)

- [Critical Services](#)
- [Sustainability Support](#)
- [Organizational Resilience & Workforce Well-being](#)

Frequently Asked Questions

Please don't hesitate to reach out with questions at responsive@interactforhealth.org.

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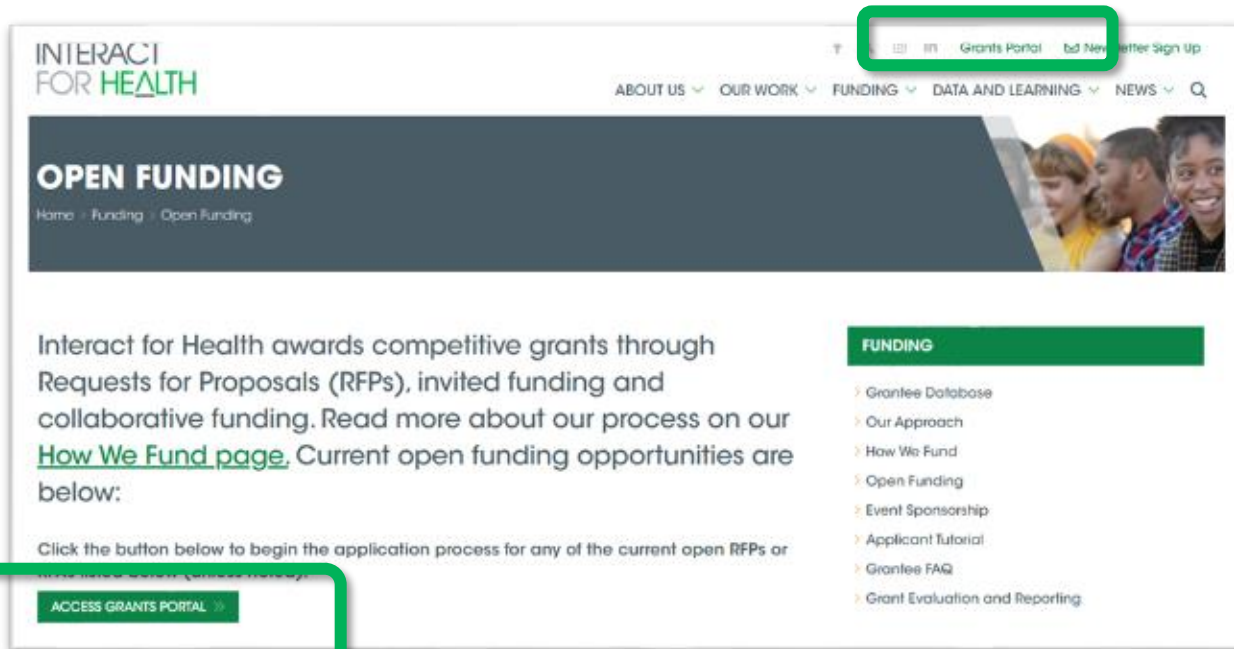
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Accessing the Grants Portal



Contact Kristine Niergarth with any questions about the process at:
kniergarth@interactforhealth.org

www.interactforhealth.org/open-funding



Applicant Tutorial

INTERACT FOR HEALTH

Grants Portal | Newsletter Sign Up

ABOUT US | OUR WORK | FUNDING | DATA AND LEARNING | NEWS | Q

OPEN FUNDING

Home > Funding > Open Funding

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[ACCESS GRANTS PORTAL](#)

FUNDING

- Grantees Database
- Our Approach
- How We Fund
- Open Funding
- Event Sponsorship
- Applicant Tutorial**
- Grantee FAQ
- Grant Evaluation and Reporting

Contact Kristine Niergarth with any questions about the process at:
kniergarth@interactforhealth.org

www.interactforhealth.org/open-funding



Application Preview: Word/PDF

Overview

Title*

Character Limit: 100

Proposed Work*

Provide a description of the work for which your organization is requesting funds.

Character Limit: 6000

Anticipated Grant Duration*

Please enter the anticipated duration of your grant request in months.

Character Limit: 2

Anticipated Start Date

Character Limit: 10



Application Preview: Word/PDF

Word Count

Statistics:

Pages	5
Words	837
Characters (no spaces)	4,059
Characters (with spaces)	4,945
Paragraphs	158
Lines	167

☒ Include footnotes and endnotes

Close



Application Preview: In Grants Portal

Title*

Proposed Work*

Provide a description of the work for which your organization is requesting funds.

B *i* U   

6,000 characters left of 6,000

Anticipated Grant Duration*

Please enter the anticipated duration of your grant request in months.

#

Anticipated Start Date





Character Limits: Spaces Count!

Proposed Work*

Provide a description of the work for which your organization is requesting funds.

B *i* U   

6,000 characters left of 6,000



Additional Features

Proposed Work*

Provide a description of the work for which your organization is requesting funds.

B

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6,000 characters left of 6,000



Additional Features

▼ Additional Information

Additional Information

You may provide additional information to support your application by using the text box and/or click the "Upload a File" button below to upload a document.

B*i*U

☰▼☰▼

2,000 characters left of 2,000

Upload a file

[5 MiB allowed]

How to Apply

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Responsive Fund Sustainability Program

Background

Interact for Health is launching a Responsive Fund with up to \$2 million in support to respond to emergent needs in the nonprofit community. We recognize that the needs of our nonprofit partners are changing, and that opportunities to build resilience require dedicated funding.

Across our region, communities are navigating volatile conditions, sudden policy shifts, and rising demand for services. The organizations closest to this work are carrying more than ever, often with fewer resources and shorter timelines than the moment requires. Traditional funding streams and processes alone cannot keep pace with that reality.

The Responsive Fund is built to meet that gap. It allows us to respond when communities face urgent or unanticipated needs, sustain the civic infrastructure that holds the region together, and invest in the people behind the mission. Burnout is real, and the well-being of the staff and leaders doing this work is inseparable from the well-being of the communities they serve. Caring for our local nonprofit workforce is part of how we care for the community.

Sustainability Consultations and Capacity Building Support

Interact for Health will partner with trusted consultants to offer a new round of sustainability consultations for a small group of nonprofit organizations beginning in late 2026, with implementation starting in January 2027.

The program will provide up to 30 hours of individualized consulting support over approximately 6–8 months, focused on strengthening both short- and long-term financial and organizational sustainability. The process will be organization-led, with nonprofit leadership determining the priorities, direction, and format of the engagement. Meetings may be held virtually or in person, depending on organizational needs.

How to Apply

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Organizational Resilience and Workforce Well-being

Background

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Organizational Resilience and Well-Being Support

We believe that the people who work at nonprofits are the heart of the sector. When they thrive, organizations thrive — and communities ultimately benefit.

Burnout is not an individual failing — it is a systemic risk that threatens the long-term capacity of nonprofit organizations. This funding addresses that risk by providing dedicated resources to support the health and well-being of nonprofit staff and leadership. The total amount of funding available in this area will be no more than \$200,000.



Accessibility

If modifications are needed to make this application accessible, please reach out to the RFP's program manager or Kristine Niergarth, Director of Grants Management, at kniergarth@interactforhealth.org for accessibility accommodations.

Key Dates & Timeline

July 7, 2026

4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

July 31, 2026

5:00 p.m. deadline

September 2026

Notification month

Nov 2026

Exact date TBA

Jan 2027

Consulting start

Application Webinar

Optional Q&A webinar to answer questions about the RFP and application process. Not required to apply.

Application Deadline

All applications must be submitted via the appropriate channel by 5 p.m.

Award Notifications

All applicants will be notified of grant award decisions during September 2026.

Cohort Kickoff

Applicants applying for Sustainability Support should be aware of a forthcoming November date

Consulting Begins

Sustainability consultation program begins for selected organizations.



QUESTIONS

Ready to Apply?

Here's how to get started:

- 1 Attend the optional webinar on July 7, 2026 (4–5 p.m.)
- 2 Review eligibility requirements and determine which funding stream(s) apply to your organization.
- 3 Submit your application by July 31, 2026 at 5 p.m. via the appropriate channel for your stream.

Questions? Contact us at responsive@interactforhealth.org
More info at interactforhealth.org/open-funding/