



INTERACT  
FOR HEALTH

## 2026 Rural Changemaker RFP Application Questions

### *Instructions*

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Thank you for your interest in partnering with us as we work toward a healthier and more just community.

We appreciate the time it takes for you to complete this application. We encourage you to be concise in your responses. Applicants are not expected to maximize the character limits. If, however, the character limits become a challenge to sharing your idea, please contact Director of Grants Management [Kristine Niergarth](#).

Feel free to [reach out to our team](#) if you have any questions. Thank you for everything you do for our community.

You can find PDF and Word versions of this application [here](#).

**NOTE: If your organization is not a 501(c)(3), please read our [FAQ about Fiscal Sponsorships](#) before beginning the application.**

### *Overview*

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#### **Title\***

*Character Limit: 100*

#### **Proposed Work\***

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

What We Want to Learn:

- A problem, opportunity, or need in your community or among your population of focus. Relevant data can give more context of this issue, and the impact it has had.
- The activities, planning efforts (if applicable), and intended timeline for this effort.
- Are other organizations or partners involved in the project? How are they contributing, and what role do they have?

*Character Limit: 6000*

### Anticipated Grant Duration\*

Please enter the anticipated duration of your grant request between 12 and 18 months.

*Character Limit: 2*

### Anticipated Start Date

*Character Limit: 10*

## Population and Geography of Focus

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### Population of Focus\*

For people in our region to have a just opportunity to live their healthiest lives, Interact for Health focuses our funding on groups that are facing the greatest barriers to health and well-being. Our priority populations include the following:

- Black
- Hispanic
- Children and families with low incomes (200% [Federal Poverty Level](#))
- Rural (Low density/Low population)
- People who identify as LGBTQ+

This is a grant opportunity that explicitly prioritizes our Rural (low density/ low population) communities. In addition to this, describe how you will intentionally engage Interact for Health's **other priority populations of focus** in this effort.

*Character Limit: 2000*

### Geographical Area\*

Identify the geographical area (county/counties, city, neighborhood, etc.) of focus for **this work**. Please note that this funding requires that applicants serve at least one of Interact for Health's rural counties with this effort.

*Character Limit: 250*

## Learning and Impact

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### The Vital Conditions for Health and Well-Being:

The Vital Conditions for Health and Well-being are the building blocks all people and communities need to thrive and experience well-being.

They include:

- Belonging and Civic Muscle (e.g., connections with neighbors, volunteering)
- Thriving Natural World (e.g., public green spaces, clean water)
- Basic Needs for Health and Safety (e.g., preventative care, violence prevention)
- Humane Housing (e.g., affordable housing, resources to prevent housing crisis)
- Meaningful Work and Wealth (e.g., labor representation, equitable wages for workers)
- Lifelong Learning (e.g., outside classroom engagement, nontraditional learning models)
- Reliable Transportation (e.g., community rideshare, public transit)

Describe **at least one** of the Vital Conditions for Health that this effort addresses in your community, and how it does so. What kind of impact has this vital health condition had on people in your community so far? Do you present an upstream solution to a historic problem?

**Character Limit: 6000**

### Community Belonging and Leadership:

How do community members shape or impact this effort? How do people feel included in this process and outcome?

**Character Limit: 2000**

### Defining Success\*

Briefly describe what success might look like for this work. What changes do you hope to see? This could include the difference that is made for individuals, groups, and/or communities as well as the changes that occur in policies, practices, systems, structures, and/or mental models.

**Character Limit: 2000**

### Anticipated Measures and Outcomes

Based on the vision of success shared above, briefly describe the specific, measurable outcomes that let you know what is changing or the difference that is made as a result

of your work. What indicators will you use to measure those outcomes? How will you collect the information? We value learning alongside you and better understanding your vision and plan to measure the impact of your work. To that end, keep your outcomes and measures realistic, right-sized, and meaningful to this work and your organization.

Feel free to use the text box below to describe your anticipated measures and outcomes; alternatively, if you have an existing evaluation plan, theory of change, or logic model (e.g., one you developed for another funder), click the "Upload a File" button below to upload that instead.

**Optional Resources:** While not required as part of the application, below are a few resources that can help you think through your measures and outcomes:

- Download the **Outcomes Template** tool that will guide you through building out potential outcomes and measures. If you chose to use this tool, feel free to upload a completed version by clicking the "Upload a File" button below.
- Check out this **Evaluation and Learning 101 slidedeck** for more resources.

*Character Limit: 2000 | File Size Limit: 2 MB*

## *Additional Information*

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### **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.

*Character Limit: 2000 | File Size Limit: 5 MB*

## *Budget Request*

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### **Budget Request**

**Please complete the budget chart below for only the years for which you are requesting funding.** This budget form includes fields for up to 18-months to accommodate multi-year requests. If you are requesting funding for less than 18-months, complete **only the applicable year** and leave the remaining year blank. Please keep in mind that Year 2 will not be a full calendar year, as this grant caps at 18 months.

For example, if you are requesting 12-months of funding, complete only Year 1; do not enter amounts for Year 2.

Interact for Health funds **cannot** be used for lobbying activities.

|                | <b>Amount Requested<br/>(Year 1)</b> | <b>Amount Requested<br/>(Year 2 (6 mos.))</b> |  |
|----------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Funding</b> |                                      |                                               |  |

## Expense Narrative

Provide additional detail about the expenses requested in the budget above by using the text box and/or click the "Upload a File" button below to upload a document.

*Character Limit: 2000 | File Size Limit: 2 MB*

## Site Visit

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### Site Visit Availability\*

Before selecting projects for funding, Interact for Health staff will conduct a site visit with the lead organization. Representatives from collaborating organizations are required to participate in the site visit, which will be conducted

**Wednesday, October 14- Thursday, October 15- Friday, October 16- Monday, October 19- Tuesday, October 20**

Site visit topics will include:

- General discussion of your proposed work and budget.
- Population of focus for the work and how the priority populations are engaged in the work.
- Any disparities that exist and how this work plans to address them.
- Community engagement tactics.
- Collaborating partners and organizations or those you plan to engage.
- Your organization's journey around diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- Capacity building support in which your organization may be interested (e.g., data/evaluation, communications, fundraising).

Please provide **three** dates and times for a possible site visit. Site visits are anticipated to last one hour.

*Character Limit: 1000*

## *Project Contact*

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### **Project Contact\***

The project contact for the grant, if awarded, will be responsible for ongoing communication and reporting.

Will you, the applicant, be the project contact for the grant?

#### **Choices**

Yes

No

## *Project Contact Information*

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Please identify the project contact.

### **Project Contact First Name\***

*Character Limit: 25*

### **Project Contact Last Name\***

*Character Limit: 25*

### **Project Contact Business Title\***

*Character Limit: 250*

### **Project Contact Organization\***

*Character Limit: 250*

### **Project Contact Email Address\***

*Character Limit: 254*

### **Project Contact Phone Number\***

*Character Limit: 25*

## *Fiscal Sponsorship*

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### **Fiscal Sponsorship\***

Interact for Health is only able to make grants to public nonprofits or governmental organizations.

Organizations that do not have public nonprofit or governmental tax status may still seek funding through fiscal sponsorship. A fiscal sponsorship is a partnership between a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit organization (the sponsor organization) and charitable project that does not have tax-exempt status (the organization without 501(c)(3) status,

aka the sponsored organization). When Interact for Health provides funding for a fiscal sponsorship, the 501(c)(3) organization is considered the Lead Organization" on the project.

For additional details, please read Interact for Health's [Fiscal Sponsorship Policy](#).

If you have questions about whether your organization is acting as a fiscal sponsor, please contact Director of Grants Management Kristine Niergarth at 513-458-6619 or [kniergarth@interactforhealth.org](mailto:kniergarth@interactforhealth.org).

Is the Lead Organization acting as a fiscal sponsor for this project (providing funds to a sponsored organization)?

**Choices**

Yes

No

## *Sponsored Organization*

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### **Sponsored Organization's Name\***

*Character Limit: 250*

### **Sponsored Organization's Annual Budget\***

*Character Limit: 20*

### **Sponsored Organization's Conflict of Interest\***

Explain any conflicts of interest between the sponsored organization and Interact for Health. Specifically, note if any board members, officers, professionals, or executives have personal or business connections with Interact for Health or its Trustees (list attached)?

It may be helpful to consult our [Board of Directors](#) list.

*Character Limit: 2000*

### **Sponsored Organization Conflict of Interest Declaration (Internal)\***

List any conflicts of interest, otherwise enter "none."

*Character Limit: 250*

### **Fiscal Sponsorship Agreement\***

Please read Interact for Health's [Fiscal Sponsorship Policy](#).

If you have a completed and signed Fiscal Sponsorship Agreement, click the button below to upload the document. If you have not yet completed an agreement, please explain where the organizations are in the process of developing one.

*Character Limit: 250 | File Size Limit: 2 MB*

## Required Materials

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Please upload the following documents for the Lead Organization.

### Lead Organization's Most Recent Form 990

Please upload if applicable to your organization, governmental organizations do not need to upload anything here.

*File Size Limit: 5 MB*

### Lead Organization's Current Operating Budget\*

If organization is large and/or complex, please submit a departmental budget.

*File Size Limit: 2 MB*

### Lead Organization's Audited Financial Statement (if available)

*File Size Limit: 4 MB*

### Lead Organization's Board of Trustees\*

Please upload a list including names, employers and position titles.

*File Size Limit: 1 MB*

### Lead Organization's Conflict of Interest\*

Explain any conflicts of interest between the lead organization and Interact for Health. Specifically, note if any board members, officers, professionals, or executives have personal or business connections with Interact for Health or its Trustees (list attached).

It may be helpful to consult our [Board of Directors](#) list.

*Character Limit: 2000*

## How Your Application May Be Shared

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**Interact for Health may work with external reviewers to review your application. The reviewers will sign a commitment to confidentiality. All parts of your application, except those uploaded in "Required Materials," will be shared. By submitting this application, you acknowledge that your application will be shared with external reviewers.**

### Permission to Share Application with Other Funders\*

Other local funders may be interested in supporting this initiative. Do you give Interact for Health permission to share this application with other local funders?

#### Choices

Yes

No

## *Applicant Feedback*

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### **Hours Spent on Application**

Please estimate the total number of hours you and your staff spent on the grant application creation process.

*Character Limit: 20*

### **Application Improvement Suggestions**

We are constantly working to improve the applicant experience in the application process. Please share any feedback that might make this process better.

*Character Limit: 3000*

## *Recommendations*

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### **Application Recommended for Site Visit (Internal)**

Is this application recommended for a site visit?

#### **Choices**

Yes

No

### **Application Recommended for Funding (Internal)**

Is this application recommended for funding?

#### **Choices**

Yes

No

## *Financial Analysis*

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### **Financial Analysis (Internal)\***

*Character Limit: 1000*

### **Lead Organization's Annual Budget (Internal)\***

*Character Limit: 20*

### **Financial Analysis Worksheet (Internal)**

*File Size Limit: 1 MB*

### **For General Operating Support Grants Only (Internal)**

Indicate what percentage of the organization's entire budget this grant comprises. Note whether the organization has filed a 501(h) election for lobbying (can be found on the 990) and what percentage of the organization's budget is used for lobbying. \*\*\*NOTE - This general operating support grant is NOT earmarked to fund lobbying activities, satisfying Interact for Health's anti-lobbying regulation.

*Character Limit: 250*

## Project Analysis

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### Goal of the Grant\*

The grant goal is a descriptive and concise statement that provides an overview of the purpose - what the grantee intends to achieve - during the grant period. The goal should be written in the form of a “to” statement (e.g. to develop a plan for..., to provide general operating support, to implement a specific program.).

For **general operating support grants**, the grant goal is typically written to state that the grant funds are intended to support the overall operations and mission of the organization: “to provide general operating support.”

For **directed general operating support grants**, the grant goal is typically written to capture the particular department or initiative the grant funds are for. For example, “to provide general operating support for local policy and advocacy efforts” or “to provide general operating support for .”

For **project-based grants**, the grant goal describes the specific purpose of the grant. Include the population of focus and the geography or location for the grant, where possible.

*Character Limit: 150*

### Project Analysis (Internal)\*

Provide your analysis of the work including any additional details to clarify context. Explain how this project furthers the strategies and initiatives of Interact for Health.

Consider the following:

- How the work will address disparities and engage the community and other partners.
- The organization's ability to perform the work based on knowledge of the organization, history with project leadership and previous grant history, if applicable.
- The strengths and risks of the work. For any risks (consider the project, organization, external threats, and sustainability), please note the method to monitor or manage the risk.

*Character Limit: 2000*

### Priority Populations (Internal)

To what extent does the work prioritize our priority populations?

Scale:

1. Not at all (i.e., prioritize different populations; are not specific about the populations they serve)

2. Somewhat (i.e., take a universal approach to serving all people but do not have specific strategies that focus specifically and exclusively on priority population)
3. Very much (e.g., focus specifically and exclusively on priority population; have specific strategies that focus on priority population)

| <b>Priority Population</b>                    | <b>Priority of Population in Project</b> |
|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| <b>Black</b>                                  |                                          |
| <b>Hispanic</b>                               |                                          |
| <b>Children and families with low incomes</b> |                                          |
| <b>Rural</b>                                  |                                          |
| <b>People who identify as LGBTQ+</b>          |                                          |

### **Geographical Area, County and State (Internal)\***

Select the geographical area(s) in which this work is predominantly happening.

#### **Choices**

Adams County, Ohio  
 Brown County, Ohio  
 Butler County, Ohio  
 Clermont County, Ohio  
 Clinton County, Ohio  
 Hamilton County, Ohio  
 Highland County, Ohio  
 Warren County, Ohio  
 Statewide Ohio  
 Boone County, Kentucky  
 Bracken County, Kentucky  
 Campbell County, Kentucky  
 Gallatin County, Kentucky  
 Grant County, Kentucky  
 Kenton County, Kentucky  
 Pendleton County, Kentucky  
 Statewide Kentucky  
 Dearborn County, Indiana  
 Franklin County, Indiana  
 Ohio County, Indiana  
 Ripley County, Indiana

Switzerland County, Indiana  
Statewide Indiana

### Small Area Geography (Internal)

Optional: If the geographical area of focus for this project is *smaller or more specific* than the county or state designation, then please share the specific neighborhood, city, township or other area for this project, including ZIP codes.

*Character Limit: 250*

### Urban-Suburban-Rural (Internal)\*

Based on the applicant's description of the geographical area of focus, is this work predominantly focused in urban, suburban, and/or rural areas? In general, Hamilton County is considered urban, Boone, Butler, Campbell, Kenton, and Warren are considered suburban, and Adams, Bracken, Brown, Clermont, Clinton, Dearborn, Franklin, Gallatin, Grant, Highland, Ohio, Pendleton, Ripley, and Switzerland are considered rural. Feel free to adhere to the grantee's selection for smaller area geographies if it is more accurate.

#### Choices

Urban  
Suburban  
Rural  
Statewide

### Total Amount Requested, All Years (Internal)\*

*Character Limit: 20*

### Indirect Amount - Planning and Project-based (Internal)

**For planning and project-based grants only**, enter the amount of indirect funds to be added to the applicant's requested amount.

Indirect = Total Amount Requested (All Years) x Indirect % (use chart below)

Example: \$50,000 x .15 = \$7,500

The percentage of indirect cost recovery will be based on the asset size of the organization. The asset size will be determined from IRS Form 990 Line 22 Net Assets of the organization's most recently filed Form.

- Organizations with assets \$10 million or less will receive indirect cost recovery of 15% of direct costs on all project grants.
- Organizations with assets greater than \$10 million and less than \$100 million will receive indirect cost recovery of 10% of direct costs on all project grants.
- Organizations with assets of \$100 million or greater will receive indirect cost recovery of 5% of direct costs on all project grants.

*Character Limit: 20*

### Total Amount Recommended, All Years (Internal)\*

Amount Requested + Indirect (if project-based)

Character Limit: 20

### Recommended Project Duration (Internal)\*

Character Limit: 2

### Conflict of Interest Declaration (Internal)\*

List any conflicts of interest, otherwise enter "none."

Character Limit: 250

### Application Source\*

#### Choices

Invited

Response to RFP

## Declination

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### Declination Notes\*

Briefly describe why the work was declined (e.g. not eligible, not a good fit, not ready, etc.)

Character Limit: 5000

### Declination Priority Populations (Internal)

To what extent does the work prioritize our priority populations?

Scale:

1. Not at all (i.e., prioritize different populations; are not specific about the populations they serve)
2. Somewhat (i.e., take a universal approach to serving all people but do not have specific strategies that focus specifically and exclusively on priority population)
3. Very much (e.g., focus specifically and exclusively on priority population; have specific strategies that focus on priority population)

| Priority Population | Priority of Population in Project |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Black               |                                   |
| Hispanic            |                                   |

|                                               |  |
|-----------------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Children and families with low incomes</b> |  |
| <b>Rural</b>                                  |  |
| <b>People who identify as LGBTQ+</b>          |  |

### Declination Geographical Area, County and State (Internal)\*

Select the geographical area(s) in which this work is predominantly happening.

#### Choices

Adams County, Ohio  
Brown County, Ohio  
Butler County, Ohio  
Clermont County, Ohio  
Clinton County, Ohio  
Hamilton County, Ohio  
Highland County, Ohio  
Warren County, Ohio  
Statewide Ohio  
Boone County, Kentucky  
Bracken County, Kentucky  
Campbell County, Kentucky  
Gallatin County, Kentucky  
Grant County, Kentucky  
Kenton County, Kentucky  
Pendleton County, Kentucky  
Statewide Kentucky  
Dearborn County, Indiana  
Franklin County, Indiana  
Ohio County, Indiana  
Ripley County, Indiana  
Switzerland County, Indiana  
Statewide Indiana

### Declination Small Area Geography (Internal)

Optional: If the geographical area of focus for this project is *smaller or more specific* than the county or state designation, then please share the specific neighborhood, city, township or other area for this project, including ZIP codes.

*Character Limit: 250*

### Declination Urban-Suburban-Rural (Internal)\*

Based on the applicant's description of the geographical area of focus, is this work predominantly focused in urban, suburban, and/or rural areas? In general, Hamilton County is considered urban, Boone, Butler, Campbell, Kenton, and Warren are considered suburban, and Adams, Bracken, Brown, Clermont, Clinton, Dearborn,

Franklin, Gallatin, Grant, Highland, Ohio, Pendleton, Ripley, and Switzerland are considered rural. Feel free to adhere to the grantee's selection for smaller area geographies if it is more accurate.

### Choices

Urban  
Suburban  
Rural  
Statewide

## Glossary:

### The Vital Conditions for Health and Well-Being

The Vital Conditions for Health and Well-Being framework identifies essential factors that enable individuals and communities to thrive. These conditions are interdependent and collectively shape the opportunities and challenges people encounter throughout their lives. They differ from Urgent Services, in that they offer solutions that are typically longer-term as opposed to meeting more immediate needs that would be necessary for an individual in crisis (i.e.: crime response or emergency medical treatment).

To learn more about the Vital Conditions for Health, visit The Rippel Foundation:

<https://rippel.org/vital-conditions/>

Here is an overview of each vital condition, along with definitions and examples:

1. **Basic Needs for Health & Safety:** This condition encompasses access to essential resources such as nutritious food, clean water, sanitation, and healthcare services. Ensuring these basic needs are met is fundamental to maintaining health and preventing disease.

*Example:* Community programs that provide free health screenings and vaccinations to underserved populations.

2. **Humane Housing:** Refers to safe, stable, and affordable housing that supports the well-being of its occupants. Adequate housing conditions are crucial for physical and mental health.

*Example:* Initiatives that offer affordable housing options to low-income families to prevent homelessness.

3. **Meaningful Work & Wealth:** Involves access to employment opportunities that provide fair wages, job security, and the ability to accumulate wealth. Meaningful work contributes to a sense of purpose and economic stability.

*Example:* Job training programs that equip individuals with skills needed for gainful employment in their communities.

4. **Lifelong Learning:** Encompasses access to quality education and opportunities for continuous personal and professional development throughout life. Lifelong learning fosters adaptability and personal growth.

*Example:* Community centers offering adult education classes to enhance literacy and job skills.

5. **Reliable Transportation:** Access to safe, efficient, and affordable transportation options that enable individuals to reach employment, education, healthcare, and other essential services.

*Example:* Public transit systems that connect underserved neighborhoods to major employment hubs.

6. **Thriving Natural World:** A healthy environment with clean air, water, and green spaces that support the well-being of all living organisms. Environmental health is integral to community health.

*Example:* Urban parks that provide residents with spaces for recreation and connection to nature.

7. **Belonging & Civic Muscle:** A sense of inclusion and the capacity to participate in and influence community decisions. This condition emphasizes social cohesion and civic engagement.

*Example:* Community organizations that encourage resident participation in local governance and decision-making processes.

Investing in and improving these vital conditions can lead to equitable and thriving communities where all individuals have the opportunity to reach their full potential. Further resources for understanding the Vital Conditions can be found via the link below.



*Vital Conditions vs. Urgent Services – additional information and context can be found here:*

<https://riipel.org/vital-conditions/>