Q: Who is eligible to apply for a Community Health Grant?
A: An eligible applicant would be an organization that meets all the following criteria:

- Aligns with the Foundation’s mission: “to pursue and invest in solutions that build a healthier region where all people can thrive”
- 501(c)(3) or other tax-exempt nonprofit designation from the IRS or, operates under a fiscal sponsor that has 501(c)(3) status. Churches/religious organizations are designated as tax exempt by the IRS, as are government entities such as counties, cities, towns and villages.
- Has an annual budget of $5M or less
- Did not receive a grant in 2019

Q: Who is NOT eligible to apply for a Community Health Grant?
A: The following entities are not eligible to apply for Community Health Grants:

- Individuals
- Organizations with annual budgets over $5M
- Divisions, departments or schools within an organization that has an annual budget above $5M
- Nonprofit organizations whose primary purpose is to raise funds for their larger (over $5M) nonprofit partner/parent organization
- Public K-12 Schools
- Local branches/offices of national or state organizations that do NOT have a separate 501(c)(3)

Q: Do I need to speak with someone at the Greater Rochester Health Foundation about my intent to apply for a Community Health Grant?
A: A conversation or meeting with Health Foundation staff prior to submitting a Community Health Grant application is not required; however if you have questions please email or call Hannah Stark, associate program officer, and she’d be happy to discuss your proposal or the application process. Hannah can be reached at hstark@thegrhf.org or (585) 258-1703.

Q: What are the deadlines for submitting an online application?
A: Cycle 1 Application Due Date: March 13, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.
Cycle 2 Application Due Date: September 11, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.

Q: What is the difference between Community Health Grant Cycle One and Cycle Two?
A: There is no difference between the cycles. Please choose to apply to the funding cycle that fits best with your organization’s internal timelines and calendars.

Q: What types of projects and activities do you fund through Community Health Grants?
A: Community Health Grants fund a variety of activities. The activities must be short-term and health-benefitting. Examples of activities funded by Community Health Grants may be found here.

As you consider your project, it may be helpful to keep in mind the Health Foundation prescribes to the World Health Organization’s definition of health which is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity.
Q: What types of projects and activities are not eligible to be funded through Community Health Grants?

Ineligible projects:

Due to the American Academy of Pediatrics determining the activities as unsafe for children, the Health Foundation does not fund football or boxing activities.

Excluded projects:

- Education without hands-on learning
- Capital or endowment campaigns
- Lobbying efforts
- Differences between third party payments and actual costs
- Fund-raising events (see our Community Event Sponsorship)

Q: How often can I apply/When can we reapply for a Community Health Grant?

A: Organizations can apply for a Community Health Grant more than once per year, however only one grant will be awarded to an organization per year.

If an organization is awarded a grant, the organization must wait an entire calendar year before applying for another grant. (Example: If you received a grant in 2019, you are eligible to apply again in 2021.)

Community Health Grants are not Opportunity Grants; you may apply for both grants for different projects.

Q: How can I apply for Community Health Grant funding? Is there an application form?

A: All applications must be submitted using the Health Foundation’s online grant system. The application can be found on the Health Foundation’s website, as well as instructions to apply. Free workshops to assist potential grantees with their applications are offered.

Q: Do you provide overhead/indirect costs for Community Health Grant projects?

A: New in 2020, Community Health Grants will allow for an indirect rate, capped at fifteen percent (15%). The overhead/indirect cost should be included in your Request Amount.

Q: Is feedback available for a declined Community Health Grant?

A: If a Community Health Grant application is declined, verbal feedback is available upon request. The intent of our feedback is to assist organizations in improving their application for a future grant request. We recognize how discouraging it can be for grant requests to be turned down. Please keep in mind that we annually receive far more in requests than our grant budget allows us to provide in grants and we will do our best to share our insights into the review and decision process.

Q: What if I have questions about Community Health Grants that have not been answered here?

A: Please feel free to contact Hannah Stark, associate program officer.
Email: hstark@thegrhf.org
Phone: (585) 258-1703