Building Healthy Communities in Suburban Cook County aims to strengthen the capacity of organizations to advance community solutions for racial and health equity and overall well-being. This RFP is integral to supporting on-going COVID-19 response, resiliency, and recovery, and aims to continue to prevent and control the spread of COVID-19, lessen the health, social and economic impacts, and reduce COVID-19 health disparities, especially for communities and populations hardest hit by the pandemic.

This initiative led by the Cook County Department of Public Health (CCDPH) is supported by funds from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Center for State, Tribal, Local and Territorial Support, under CDC-OT21-2103, and the National Center for Chronic Disease and Health Promotion, under CDC-DP21-2109, the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), under the 2022-23 COVID-19 Crisis Grant, and the U.S. Department of Treasury, under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) program.

Eligibility
Proposed projects must take place and impact communities within suburban Cook County. The following are eligible to receive funding as part of this RFP.

- Community-based organizations (CBOs), defined as 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations that have demonstrated service delivery to specific populations and/or community areas
- Community Health Centers, including free clinics, Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC), FQHC “lookalikes”, and mental health centers
- Local municipalities
- Education agencies, including K-12 public school districts, local schools, and private schools

It is important to note that eligibility differs by funding source and by each strategy identified on the Menu of Options. Eligible applicants serving communities within CCDPH’s jurisdiction may meet criteria to apply for funding across more than one funding source; whereas eligible applicants serving Evanston, Oak Park, Skokie, or Stickney Township may apply only for ARPA funding.

If you are a CBO that also serves the City of Chicago, you may be eligible for an additional award. Please see Cook County Health’s RFP #H22-0028 on the Bids & RFPs webpage of the Cook County Health website for additional information.

Use and Availability of Funding
Overall, the goals of this funding opportunity are to increase availability, access to, and provision of culturally and linguistically tailored programs and services; improve equitable resource distribution, and strengthen the places where people live, work, learn and play in suburban Cook County. Towards this end, eligible applicants may choose one or more strategies from the Menu of Options in the RFP (see pages 12-16 and Appendix A). You may also propose a project that is not on this list if it meets certain criteria (see pg. 14, Innovative Strategies). Each award recipient may receive a funding amount between $50,000 and $300,000. A total of nearly $11 million is available.
Information Sessions: April 19 and April 20, 2022
CCDPH in collaboration with Cook County Health Supply Chain Management will conduct virtual Information Sessions on Tuesday, April 19 from 10 am – 11:30 am and Wednesday, April 20 from 3 pm – 4:30 pm. CCDPH strongly encourages potential applicants to attend one session to find out more about this funding opportunity.

Registration is required to participate in an information session. To register:
1.) Go to the Bids & RFPs webpage of the Cook County Health website for RFP #H22-0027.
2.) Download the RFP and go to page 4.
3.) Click on the registration link for the day you want to participate.

An email confirmation on how to join the meeting will be sent after registration is completed.

Proposal: Deadline – May 16, 2022
Proposals must be submitted by Monday, May 16, 2022, no later than 5 pm CST. You will find a checklist, instructions, and proposal form templates in Appendix B.

Initial Award Notification and Project Period
Applicants will be notified of funding status the week of June 20, 2022. The project period is for 9 months, beginning September 1, 2022 and ending May 31, 2023 (unless otherwise stated).

Project Administration Schedule
Be prepared to begin your project as soon as possible after notification of award, initial meeting with all award recipients and contract execution. CCH/CCDPH will administer all projects through subcontract agreements. A 25% advancement of the estimated budget will be paid to award recipients once contract is executed and P.O. is established to cover upfront costs, followed by disbursement of funds on a reimbursement basis. All project expenditures must be made by May 31, 2023, and final invoices submitted for reimbursement by June 16, 2023 (unless otherwise stated).

General Guidelines for Applicants & Summary Contract Terms and Conditions
Award recipients will be bound by the requirements set forth in the RFP, the General Guidelines for Applicants, and the Contract terms and conditions should the proposal be accepted and a Contract offered by CCDPH. Applicants may also download and view the full Contract template on the Bids & RFPs webpage of the Cook County Health website.

Questions
You may ask questions via a Microsoft Form. Link is provided in the RFP. Responses will be added to a list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) with updated versions posted on the Bids & RFPs webpage of the Cook County Health website on the following Mondays: April 25, May 2, and May 9. All questions must be received by 12 pm CST on Wednesday, May 4, 2022.

To download any RFP-related documents, including the FAQs, please visit the Bids & RFPs webpage of the Cook County Health website. Find RFP #H22-0027 and click on “VIEW RFP.” You will then be prompted to complete a registration form. Once submitted, the RFP documents will display in the Documents column. Completion of the registration form is required every time the RFP documents are accessed.