

MCH Community Based Grant Advisory Group Meeting
December 16, 2022

Attendees

Carrie Akin, KDHE
Holly Frye, KDHE
Shruti Chhabra, Finney County Health Department
Karen Hammersmith, Reno County Health Department
Shanea Bea, Delivering Change
Cari Schmidt, KU School of Medicine Wichita
Monica Reuber, Sheridan County Health Department
Kaylee Goss, KDHE (joined 9:08 a.m.)
Kayxy Bigler, KDHE (joined 9:22 a.m.)
Shaylee Mosher, KDHE (joined 10:14 a.m.)
Dennis Kriesel, KALHD
Shelby Ostrom, KALHD

Call to Order

Holly Frye called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. and the group provided introductions for each of the attendees.

Review Information from Previous Meeting

Holly reviewed notes from the previous meetings and shared the new grant process that was decided on including opening the MCH application to more groups, a new grant cycle of 5 years, and a new grant money floor and ceiling. Holly also mentioned that KDHE will be offering more assistance for grantees with webinars and resources.

Karen Hammersmith expressed concerns about the technical writing assistance for the grant. She expressed that not every health department are grant writers, and she encouraged the group to make the application simpler and provide more writing assistance.

Carrie Akin mentioned that the current MCH grant application for the next year has also changed and become shorter and easier to complete. Based on this conversation, Dennis Kriesel suggested that KDHE create a “fact-sheet” that the applicants could pull from while filling out the application. Holly and her team also offered to host meetings with health departments and office hours about the grant. Shruti also recommended boundaries on the five-year grant.

Reviewing Community Toolbox Workstation

Holly reviewed the Community Toolbox Workstation for the grant as discussed at the last meeting.

Group Communication Preferences

Carrie and her team would like to communicate better with different groups about the new grant through different meetings and trainings. Dennis offered to send an email to the LHD administrator listserv about the MCH grant application. Dennis also suggested that Carrie and her team discuss options with various groups who already receive funds and then they can share more information at the Governor's Public Health Conference during a pre-conference session. In addition, Cari recommended reaching out to previously engaged groups and offering Zoom attendance.

Carrie noted they plan to do a significant unveiling during the MCH pre-conference at the 2023 Governor's Public Health Conference to inform current grantees of the SFY 2025 changes.

Community Toolbox

Kaylee Goss shared more information about the Community Toolbox and the data available to grantees. Kayzy Bigler also shared more information about data that is available.

Next Steps

Hollie shared that the next steps after this meeting will be to take the current feedback to KDHE's Department of Community Health and this group will meet again in February. Dennis will send a new calendar invitation for February once KDHE indicates they are ready to proceed.

Adjournment

Dennis adjourned the meeting at 10:23 a.m.