



Request for Proposals (RFP)

Central Oregon Health Council Regional Health Improvement Plan Upstream Prevention: Promotion of Individual Well-Being Workgroup

RELAUNCH

Project Name: Improving Third Grade Reading Skills

Access Code: **3RDGRADE**

Future State Measures:

- Increase third grade reading proficiency to the following by county:
 - Crook County 51%(ED) 33.5%(UR)
 - Jefferson County 49.5%(ED) 40.5%(UR)
 - Deschutes County 52%(ED) 47%(UR)

ED=Economically Disadvantaged* UR=Underserved Races*

*As defined by Oregon Department of Education

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About the Central Oregon Health Council

The [Central Oregon Health Council](#) (COHC) is a nonprofit public and private community governance organization. We partner with our communities to guide and align vision, strategy, and activities across industries for a healthier Central Oregon.

Central Oregon Health Council champions diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging in our work culture, grant making and community partnerships. Inequalities based on geography, age, sex, race, ethnicity, national origin, language, culture, disabilities, immigration status, faith, gender identity and sexual orientation, along with income and wealth inequalities, prevent us from fully realizing our vision of creating a healthier Central Oregon. Therefore, we aim to build capacity in communities experiencing health disparities caused by oppression.

The Central Oregon Health Council is responsible for funding projects that improve the health priorities of the [Regional Health Improvement Plan](#). These priorities were decided by the diverse people of our region before the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.

We recognize that when we invest in long-term, preventative solutions we build a Central Oregon that is better able to respond to present and future crises. Therefore, we reserve most of our funds for projects whose impact can be measured over decades. The goal of this request is to support long-term, system-level change.

We also provide smaller funding opportunities for \$5,000 or less called mini grants [HERE](#).

Description of Grant Opportunity

The Regional Health Improvement Plan (RHIP) Upstream Prevention: Promotion of Individual Well-Being Workgroup is investing in efforts that support the Regional Health Improvement Plan metric:

- Third grade reading proficiency will increase by 15% for students from economically disadvantaged* and underserved races.

*The Oregon Department of Education defines economically disadvantaged as “students who are eligible for free or reduced-price lunch”.

For the purposes of this Request, we’re defining the following groups as the priority populations:

- Rural Communities (specifically, Jefferson County, Crook County, Northern Klamath County, and the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs)
- Urban neighborhoods that experience economic oppression
- Students who identify as Black/African American, Native American/Alaskan Native, Latino/a/x, Asian/Pacific Islander, multiracial, or disabled
- Students who are migrant, runaway, or receiving care through the foster care system
- Students who are eligible for free or reduced-price lunch

Why are these efforts needed?

Education is a social determinant of health.

“Literacy empowers and liberates people. Beyond its importance as part of the right to education, literacy improves lives by expanding capabilities which will then reduce poverty, increase participation in community and has positive effects on health...” UNESCO.org

“Reading is a foundational skill for children to acquire knowledge, success in school and access many opportunities. Decades of research indicate that a child’s reading level in 3rd grade is directly related to their ability to thrive later in school and life.” OurChildrenOregon.org

Third grade reading levels offer an important indicator of students' academic trajectories and an opportunity for focused and intentional intervention with at-risk children while they are still in elementary school. Third-grade disparities exist for marginalized and underserved populations by race and economic status (Regional Health Improvement Plan, 2020-2024).

Proposal Requirements

Project Criteria

Applicants should demonstrate how projects:

1. Directly impact the Future State Measures of the Regional Health Improvement Plan specified above.
2. Provide services to economically disadvantaged and underserved races as defined by the Oregon Department of Education. *
3. Partner with and address the needs of one or more communities that experience barriers to third grade reading proficiency. These include:
 - a. Rural Communities (specifically, Jefferson County, Crook County, Northern Klamath County, and the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs)
 - b. City neighborhoods that experience economic oppression
 - c. Students and children who identify as Black/African American, Native American/Alaskan Native, Latino/a/x, Asian/Pacific Islander, multiracial, or disabled
 - d. Students and children who are migrant, runaway or receiving care through the foster care system
4. Be culturally and linguistically responsive for prioritized populations.
5. If a project partners with tribes, a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Tribal partner must be included.
6. Take place within Central Oregon:
 - a. Crook, Deschutes, and Jefferson Counties
 - b. Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians, Klamath Tribes
 - c. Northern Klamath County, limited to: Gilchrist, Chemult, Crescent, Crescent Lake Junction and Beaver Marsh (Zip codes at 97731, 97733, 97737, and 97739)
7. Applications must be submitted by an organization with an EIN/Tax ID. Both nonprofit and for-profit organizations are welcome to apply.

Restrictions

Regional Health Improvement Plan grants cannot be used for:

- Activities that can be billed as clinical services
- Administrative activities to support the delivery of covered services
- Tenant assistance, housing assistance, housing construction, and utilities
- Building new buildings and capital investments in facilities designed to provide billable health services
- Projects benefiting a single individual or single household
- Projects that do not address the specified Future State Measures of the RHIP
- Projects only serving undocumented community members
- COHC staff and household members cannot apply
- Projects that are primarily designed to control or contain healthcare costs
- Provider workforce development and certification training including provider credentialing
- Broad assessments or research that does not directly improve community health
- Advocacy work that does not directly improve community health or healthcare quality
- Patient incentives and items and services that could be covered by Flexible Services
- Projects that are inherently religious

Evaluation Criteria

The RHIP Upstream Prevention: Promotion of Individual Well-Being Workgroup will review your grant application using this [SCORECARD](#). We encourage you to use it to help build your proposal.

Funding Details and Important Information

Award Amounts: up to \$10,000.00

Available Funds: \$25,000.00

Funding Duration: Single and multi-year projects will be considered.

Anticipated Selection Schedule

Request For Proposal (RFP) Released: April 25, 2024

Application Submission Closes: June 6, 2024

Notification of Award: July 18, 2024

How to Apply

This Request for Proposal is posted on our website [HERE](#).

Instructions on how to submit your Proposal are [HERE](#).

Instructions on how to access this application are [HERE](#).

Once registered and logged in to the grant platform, use this access code to apply for this grant:

3RDGRADE

Support

The RHIP Upstream Prevention: Promotion of Individual Well-Being Workgroup is available to support this project in a collaborative, advisory role and to provide networking support.

If you have questions about this Request for Proposal or need technical assistance filling out the application, please contact Gwen Jones by email at gwen.jones@cohealthcouncil.org or by phone at 541.306.3523.

If you have questions about using the grant platform, please contact Kelley Adams by email at Kelley.adams@cohealthcouncil.org or by phone at 541.306.3523.

Resources

2019 Regional Health Assessment [HERE](#)

2020-2024 Regional Health Improvement Plan [HERE](#)

Central Oregon Health Data website [HERE](#)

Glossary of Terms: [HERE](#)

Grant Writing Support: [HERE](#)

*COHC definition of *prioritized populations*:

As an organization created to improve the well-being of all residents across Central Oregon, the Central Oregon Health Council (COHC) has a responsibility to promote and protect that right to health. Prioritized populations are those that experience health disparities due to social, political, cultural, and economic exclusion, and discrimination. Marginalization occurs because of unequal power relationships regardless of reason based on geography, age, sex, size, race, ethnicity, national origin, language, culture, disability, spiritual beliefs, gender identity, sexual orientation, education, criminal background, housing status, income, wealth, displacement, immigration status. It affects both the quality of life of individuals and the equity and cohesion of society as a whole. Poverty is both a consequence and a cause of being marginalized.

**COHC definition of *rural*:

We strive to support the creation of social conditions that lead to thriving economic, political, and social rights and opportunities in the lives of people at every level of society. The unique challenges of rural communities are within our purview to promote and protect the right to health. Due to the lack of access and inequitable distribution of resources, rural communities are considered marginalized. We define rural communities as:

Population of 35,000 or less AND one or more of the following:

Low income such as:

- High levels of poverty**
- Gaps of incomes and cost of living
- High levels of generational poverty or persistent cycles of poverty

Limited infrastructure, such as:

- Regional connectivity (transportation, communications)
- Social services (affordable childcare, emergency food, shelters)
- Health care (maintenance and prevention)
- Emergency services (public safety, fire, and rescue)
- Economic services (business development, access to capital, and employment services)

**Federal poverty thresholds are set every year by the Census Bureau and vary by size of family and ages of family members.