

Funding Opportunity: DASH Mentor Program

Solicitation of Interest for Mentor Awards

SUMMARY

The Data Across Sectors for Health (DASH) National Program Office (NPO) is announcing a new funding opportunity for advanced multi-sector community health data sharing initiatives called the DASH Mentor Program. The DASH Mentor Program recognizes high achievement in multi-sector data sharing and seeks to amplify and replicate successful local efforts. DASH Mentors will use the [*All In: Data for Community Health*](#) network to share and spread their knowledge and to support peer communities while continuing to advance their own work.

If you think you might be interested, please take these steps:

1. Read the following program description
2. [Register](#) for an optional informational webinar, scheduled for August 8, 2018 from 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm Eastern time
3. Respond to the [Mentor Funding Interest Survey](#) by August 10, 2018

PURPOSE

The DASH Mentor Program is designed to celebrate and support the development and deepening of multi sector collaboration and alignment through the following:

1. Creating and disseminating specific tools/products/resources that can be shared across *All In* to increase state and/or community capacity to share data and strengthen collaboration among sectors
2. Enabling ongoing documentation, learning, and dissemination about pitfalls, best practices, and the mechanisms of success for local multi-sector community collaborations to systematically and sustainably share data
3. Enabling and encouraging the continued participation by mature collaborations in the *All In* learning collaborative
4. Strengthening established communities' ability to provide support and consultation and transferring skills and knowledge directly to communities with less experience developing data systems
5. Testing and documenting collaborative efforts that seek to share data to help coordinate activities and align local systems and sectors toward common operations and outcomes

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TOTAL AWARDS

DASH has allocated \$250,000 for mentor activity in 2018. The maximum award will be \$50,000 and may vary depending on the scope of activity. The Mentor will receive half of the award, with the balance going to local organizations or collaborations that are identified or selected as “mentees” in the cohort development process. DASH Mentors will be recognized within *All In* and through DASH in the larger field of multi-sector community-based data sharing. This will be the first round of Mentor awards, with another opportunity in 2019.

The award period will be one year beginning approximately October 1.

ELIGIBILITY

This program is open to *All In* members that have extensive, documented and ongoing experience with multi-sector data sharing. This includes experienced current and former grantees of [All In Partners](#) (DASH, CHP, Colorado Health Foundation, BUILD, PHNCI, PHIL and NJHI) and leaders from local collaborations that are not funded by an *All In* Partner. You must have an active member profile on the [All In online community](#) to be considered.

Please note: If you are interested in the DASH Mentor Program and are not currently an *All In* member, we encourage you to [join All In](#) and consider applying for a 2019 Mentorship.

DASH MENTORSHIP: MENTOR-LED GROUP COHORT

DASH Mentors will participate in the selection of a small group of community collaborations that have a common opportunity or problem and would address that issue together under the direction of the Mentor, with support from the DASH National Program Office (NPO). The issue to be addressed could be something that requires a national approach related to policy, systems or environmental change, to which all of the communities would contribute, or it could be something where each of the communities would address the issue within their local context and share the experience within the cohort. A Mentor could also propose a local cohort working on a local problem or opportunity.

Under this model, the Mentor would work on this problem or opportunity and would also provide practitioner guidance and consulting to the cohort participants. Cohort communities would have access to other members of the cohort, the Mentor, and the DASH NPO. They would also be provided travel support to a convening co-led by the Mentor and the NPO, with the NPO providing travel funds.

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As part of the proposal, prospective Mentors would be asked to describe an approach to mentorship, which could include a combination of the following:

- Co-lead the cohort group with NPO staff on the *All In* online community with a variety of online and asynchronous activities to support the development of capacity within cohort members
- Host a site visit for cohort members
- Lead a workshop in conjunction with a national or regional meeting
- Provide consultation to interested *All In* members
- Propose a set of evaluative measures to determine the value of this mentorship structure
- Others to be identified by RWJF and NPO staff and external stakeholders

The primary deliverable would be progress on the group project lead by the Mentor, measured by proposed learning and action objectives. DASH also expects to see increased capacity of the Mentor and cohort communities as measured by the DASH Capacity Assessment.

TOPICAL AREAS FOR MENTOR AWARD FOCUS

When selecting Mentors, the DASH NPO will consider both Mentor expertise and capacity and areas of interest as reported by local communities across the country. Potential Mentors are asked to identify their expertise in any of these areas and are also invited to propose other topic areas for consideration.

1. Developing shared data systems and shared metrics that support assessment of community health. Mentors who have been able to overcome substantial limitations of current systems (granularity of data below the county level, timeliness of data) and who have innovative approaches for analyzing, displaying, and using data that facilitate community engagement and collective approaches to investment are particularly sought.
2. Combining data to support coordinated whole-person care for populations with patterns of high utilization across multiple service systems or sectors (e.g., numerous hospitalizations or emergency department visits combined with exposure to incarceration, homelessness, etc.) and to analyze outcomes or benefits of such models across sectors.
3. Addressing a national, regional or local policy, systems or environmental change opportunity.

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4. Linking health care and social needs data to support screening, referrals, service-coordination, and follow-up across sectors; potentially through a health or community information exchange.
5. Working with other specific types of data, data sources, or data sharing mechanisms with broad multi-sector interest or applications.
6. Convening stakeholders from different sectors within communities in order to create a shared vision, commitment, and plan for shared data to support community health.
7. Proven, replicable approaches for moving forward with plans for data sharing: governance, consent, vendor selection, identity matching, workflow, etc.
8. Applicants may also propose another topic that is in line with the purposes of this award program. Please be as specific as possible.

NEXT STEPS

Selection of Mentor Awardees will be a two step process. First, express your interest by responding to the [Mentor Program Interest Survey](#) by August 10. This short survey contains eight questions and should take less than 30 minutes to complete. It is meant to obtain your initial ideas and not a comprehensive response.

The DASH NPO will review the survey submissions and then solicit feedback from communities in the *All In* network (without identifying the potential Mentor candidates). Doing so will help us to identify areas and approaches to mentorship of greatest interest.

Subsequently, the NPO will evaluate responses to the Mentor Interest Survey compared to interest expressed by the larger *All In* community and invite a subset of survey respondents to submit a formal application to be a Mentor. Up to five Mentors will be selected from the final applicants.

The timing of activities is as follows:

- July 31: DASH Mentor Program is announced. Selected organizations will be encouraged to apply.
- July 31 - August 7: Questions about the Mentor Program may be submitted to the NPO and responses will be posted at dashconnect.org/mentor-program/
- August 8: Informational webinar for potential Mentors
- August 10: Deadline for potential Mentors to respond to the Mentor Funding Interest Survey

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- August 31: Mentor applications due for those invited to respond
- September 11-12: All Mentor finalists should plan to attend the *All In* National Meeting in Denver
- September 17: Mentors announced
- October 1: Mentor program officially begins

Upon award of the Mentors, the NPO will work with awardees to develop a mentorship work plan. The NPO will assist Mentors with administrative details (meeting logistics, conference call scheduling/administration, travel arrangements and funding for approved travel). The NPO and Mentor will work together to solicit participation of other communities in mentoring activities.

QUESTIONS?

Please direct all questions regarding the DASH Mentor Program to info@dashconnect.org.