

DASH 3.0 Mentorship Program Award Opportunity

Program Summary

[Data Across Sectors for Health](#) (DASH) is launching its third round of the Mentorship program to support seven cohorts of selected teams of “Mentees” to learn with and from DASH Mentors and community peers in order to accelerate their local multi-sector data sharing efforts. Each selected Mentee collaboration will be matched to an experienced Mentor and will be eligible to receive up to \$10,000 for participation, with most awards at \$5,000 for groups of at least 2 participating organizations. The funding can be used to support staff time for participation in the Mentorship program activities, including related professional development opportunities (e.g. virtual conference registration, in-person travel, online training, etc.).

Participation in a Mentorship will give Mentees access to individualized guidance and technical assistance from advanced community leaders, as well as provide a forum for peer learning, troubleshooting, and discussion with a focused group of peers tackling similar issues.

Mentorships will take place for ten months and will build the skills and capacity of participants working at the community or regional level to:

1. Engage community members/people with *lived experience and staff of organizations from multiple sectors in planning for shared data systems;
2. Build and design data systems to routinely share data across sectors; and/or
3. Design or implement initiatives based on shared multi-sector data that support community goals.

**Lived experience refers to how a person is treated, set against standards (imposed by someone else) and affects the opportunities that are available to a person and environmental exposures, based on a social determinant. People with lived experience can include: community residents, program participants, patients or the persons who directly experience the conditions being addressed by your partnership.*

The DASH Mentor program enables organizations leading or participating in multi-sector collaborations to build capacity in three primary ways:

1. Matching your Mentee team with a DASH Mentor who offers one-on-one coaching and guidance using a work plan that you develop;
2. Convening peer cohort meetings and other cross-cohort learning opportunities for Mentee teams;
3. Leveraging [All In: Data for Community Health](#), a national learning collaborative, to identify best practices and facilitate connections with even more communities.

Introduction & Background

For over five years, DASH has worked with communities throughout the country to build local capacity for multi-sector data-sharing, while simultaneously building the evidence base to inform a national movement. Three strategies — building the capacity, building the movement, building the evidence base — work in tandem to support organizations from a range of sectors including housing, health care, education, public safety, economic development, behavioral health, and more. DASH supports collaborations that work together to improve the health of their communities, promote health equity, and foster a [Culture of Health](#) by strengthening information sharing systems, engaging stakeholders and community members, and building capacity to work collaboratively toward community goals. Furthermore, DASH recognizes that health disparities result from systemic racism, class oppression and gender exploitation, and that health equity will only be achieved when these factors are addressed.

The DASH National Program Office is funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and a collaborative effort led by the [Illinois Public Health Institute](#) (IPHI) in partnership with the [Michigan Public Health Institute](#) (MPHI). DASH shares lessons learned from awardees to create a body of knowledge and advance an emerging field of sharing data and information across and beyond traditional health sectors, and leverages peer-to-peer connection opportunities to spread innovative approaches that address the root causes of inequity and poor health. “The field” is loosely defined as community collaborations that engage multiple sectors and use or plan to systematically share data to increase organizational and community capacity to improve individual and community health.

The home for this network of dissemination is [All In: Data for Community Health](#). *All In* is a nationwide learning collaborative that helps communities build capacity to address the social determinants of health through multi-sector data sharing collaborations. *All In* is a valuable resource for peer learning and gathering data on successes and includes a robust [online community](#) for practitioners of all disciplines and experience.

Purpose

The DASH Mentor Program is a co-production between the DASH Program Office (PO) and the DASH Mentors, a set of high-capacity collaborative leaders selected for their experience, knowledge, and commitment to supporting emerging leaders and the field of collaborative multi-sector data sharing. This year, each Mentorships will have a more tailored theme or focus that guides the shared learning experience for incoming Mentees. The program is designed to support the development and deepening of multi-sector collaborations, primarily that are ‘early’ in their multi-sector collaboration work.

Because Mentees in one cohort may be in different stages of their data-sharing projects, as well as vary in use case or data system, the DASH PO will host group activities that encourage and foster cross-cohort learning and engagement.

The DASH Mentor Program is part of the larger *All In* network and Mentorships will both enhance and be enriched by other *All In* activities. Mentees will have the opportunity to attend and present on national webinars, contribute to the development of products and resources, join

online affinity groups, and share lessons learned with other communities in the network working to advance their own multi-sector data sharing work. The program creates an opportunity for DASH to support a larger set of communities on a pathway to using multi-sector data that advances collective priorities for improving health and equity.

Mentee Collaboration Model

In order to accelerate local multi-sector data sharing efforts, collaborations of at least two participating organizations are strongly encouraged to apply.* Funding for a maximum of four organizations is available per Mentee team. In addition, each Mentee organization is encouraged to have at minimum two staff from the lead organization, and one staff from each partner organization, participating in all Mentor program activities.

Mentee teams can include stakeholders that have worked together previously or those that are just beginning their partnership, but ideally each organization on the Mentee team should represent different sectors. Staff from each organization on the Mentee team will participate in various Mentor program activities, collectively and individually, depending on the circumstances. Please review the specific requirements in particular the “eligibility & fit” section for each specific Mentorship regarding the expectations for participation from partner organizations.

**Note: The United Way WorldWide Mentorship offers two tracks: Getting Started for which a partner organization is strongly encouraged but not required, and Accelerating Partnerships for those United Ways with more established collaborations.*

The DASH Mentors

DASH Mentors are highly recognized regionally and nationally for their areas of expertise, have experience sharing their learnings with others, and bring enthusiasm to help grow and expand the *All In* network. The Mentor Profiles below describe each Mentor’s areas of expertise, program learning goals and ideal Mentee applicant. Carefully review these materials to determine which Mentor/s can best meet the needs of your Mentee team and your goals for participation in the Mentor program.

1. [2-1-1 San Diego/ Community Information Exchange](#)
2. [The Civic Canopy](#)
3. [Corporation for Supportive Housing \(CSH\)](#)
4. [Center for Outcomes Research and Education \(CORE\) at Providence Health and Services](#)
5. [Elevate Health](#)
6. [University of Pittsburgh Center for Social and Urban Research and the Urban Health Collaborative at Drexel University School of Public Health](#)
7. [United Way Worldwide \(UWW\)](#)

Total Awards

Collaborations will receive \$2,500 per participating organization (a minimum of two organizations is required for most Mentorships, strongly encouraged for all). A total of \$10,000 is available for collaborations with a maximum of four partners to support participation in the DASH Mentor program for ten months.

Use of Contracts

The funds contracted to Mentees are intended to support staff participation in the Mentor program activities (check-in calls, webinars, etc.) and travel to in-person meetings or registration fees for virtual meetings that may include attendance at national conferences, such as those hosted by Mentor organizations (2-1-1 San Diego's CIE Summit, Corporation for Supportive Housing, Civic Canopy, etc.) or others as directed by the Mentor.

DASH Program Office (PO) Program Expectations

Each Mentor-Mentee relationship will be unique and based on the needs, personnel and desired outcomes of the group members. After initial selection and contracting activities with the DASH PO, Mentees will communicate primarily with their assigned Mentor and peer cohort rather than the PO. The PO will rely upon the Mentors to establish the expectations and processes for their respective groups, within a general framework established by the PO.

Mentees will be expected to participate in a set of core activities that include:

- Attending a kickoff webinar for their cohort.
- Attending at least two cross cohort webinars hosted by the Program Office that feature DASH Mentor speakers presenting on cross-cutting themes and topics.
 - Topics may include: CIE 101, stakeholder buy-in, sustainability, etc.
- Completing a high level work plan with 1-2 goals, a set of related activities and timeline.
- Identifying, documenting and measuring success towards an individual goal for how to build capacity, knowledge, or advance some aspect of work in their local collaboration.
- Participating in cohort group webinars (bi-monthly to quarterly), or other activities as directed by the Mentor.
- Attending individual check-in calls with Mentors and/or completing activities during “Action Periods” (designated time for Mentees to move forward between group webinars).
- If relevant, attending a virtual (or in-person) National Meeting hosted by *All In Data for Community Health*
- Completing two surveys (midpoint and end of project) to anonymously share feedback with the PO about the Mentor Program; some Mentees may be asked to participate in a smaller focus group.
 - One person from each organization on the Mentee team should complete evaluation activities. Mentees will designate a primary and secondary contact for

participation in the program, but are also encouraged to invite other team members to participate in the closing interviews or focus groups.

- Notifying the DASH PO of any changes in personnel participating in the Mentorship.
- At minimum, it is expected that Mentees will share learnings from their experiences or facilitate activities with their colleagues and/or collaborative partners during 'Action Periods.'

Upon awarding of contract, each person on the Mentee team will be expected to update their profile on the *All In* online community platform (community.allindata.org), complete the *All In* Capacity Assessment, and participate in the online community.

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for this contract, the applicant must satisfy all of the following requirements:

1. Applicant has a clearly defined learning goal for the Mentorship program.
2. In order to accelerate local multi-sector data sharing efforts, Mentee collaborations of at least two participating collaborating organizations are required for most Mentorships.
 - a. Funding for a maximum of four organizations is available per Mentee team.
3. Applicant organization must be either a public entity or nonprofit that is tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
4. The Application organization is responsible for distributing funds to team members. A written statement from the Applicant organization, naming their Mentee partners and agreeing to distribute the funds accordingly is required.
5. The applicant organization must be based in the United States or its territories.
6. The applicant organization is a member of an existing community or regional collaboration - or has the opportunity to convene a multi-sectoral community collaboration.
7. The partnering organizations must demonstrate interest in participating in the program, even if the relationships are just forming.
8. The applicant organization will have strong, active relationships with organizations in two or more other sectors relevant to community health improvement objectives (broadly understood); encompassing health care, public health, behavioral health, housing, human services, community development, education, transportation, criminal justice, public safety, the private sector, or other sectors that have a stake in or impact on community health. If the applicant organization is in health care, it should have relationships in at least two other sectors.

Selection Criteria

Successful applicants will demonstrate and be scored based on the following:

- Satisfaction of all eligibility criteria.
- Mentee collaborations of at least two participating organizations (maximum of four).
- Demonstrated interest in participating from partnering organizations.
- Evidence of interest or past experience engaging stakeholders from health care, public health, social services, and other sectors.
- Variety of non-health sectors represented among partners/collaboration, including those that in the broader collaboration that may not be participating in the Mentee team.
- Responsiveness to all application questions.
- Demonstrated desire and need for guidance on a collaborative data sharing project from a Mentor and cohort peers.
- Thoughtful consideration of the proposed activities' impact on equity, with special consideration given to collaborations that engage community members and persons with lived experience as defined in the "program summary" section of this brochure.
- Demonstration of how completing the contract will contribute to a broader collaborative plan for shared data and improved health.
- How the project will create or contribute to infrastructure, skills, and/or processes that can be sustained.
- Applicant has or agrees to create a member profile on the *All In* online community at community.allindata.org.
 - Note: An organization or collaboration does not have to join *All In* in order to apply to be a Mentee, but will join as a condition of acceptance.
- Intention to share lessons and experience or appropriate deliverables in the *All In* network.

How to Apply

The application will go live on **December 7, 2020**. Applications for this program must be submitted via the application available at <https://dashconnect.org/mentor-program/> by the deadline of **February 19, 2021**.

The DASH PO along with representatives from participating Mentor organizations hosted an interactive Mentor Pitch Webinar for applicants on December 16, 2020 from 3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. EST. If you were unable to attend the webinar, the webinar along with any questions and their answers will be archived and updated in the "FAQs" section of <https://dashconnect.org/mentor-program/> each Friday.

The DASH PO staff does not guarantee answers to questions asked after February 17, 2021. In fairness to all applicants, the program will not accept late submissions.



Please direct inquiries to info@dashconnect.org with the subject “DASH Mentor Program.”

Timeline

- November 18, 2020 – Announcement for the DASH Mentor Program 3
- December 7, 2020 – Applications for the DASH Mentor Program 3 opens
- December 16, 2020 – Informational ‘Mentor Pitch’ webinar at 3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. EST with interactive Q&A. [View it here](#)
- NEW deadline: February 19, 2021, end of day
 - Rolling responses to FAQs until February 17
- Early March 2021 – Applicants notified of acceptance status and award letters initiated
- Late March 2021 – NEW Program Start Date
- April – November 2021 – Cross-cohort learning opportunities
- December 5, 2021 – Final evaluations due
- December 15, 2021 – End of award period