

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

**CIC-START:
Community Impact Contracts:
Strategic, Timely, Actionable,
Replicable, Targeted**

Applications due by December 6, 2019

**Data Across
Sectors for Health**



DATA ACROSS SECTORS FOR HEALTH (DASH)

NATIONAL PROGRAM OFFICE

Empowering Communities Through Shared Information

DASH CIC-START: CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Proposal Deadline: December 6, 2019, 3:30pm Eastern Time

CIC-START: Community Impact Contracts - Strategic, Timely, Actionable, Replicable, Targeted

SUMMARY

Data Across Sectors for Health (DASH) is making contracts of up to \$25,000 available to community collaborations to support targeted, short-term activities that build skills and capacity at the community or regional level to:

- Engage partners from multiple sectors in planning for shared data systems that promote health equity,
- Systematically share data across sectors, and/or
- Design or implement initiatives based on shared multi-sector data that support community goals.

Proposals are due by 3:30pm ET on December 6, 2019. The contracts will begin on February 1, 2020 and must be completed within six months.

CONTEXT

There is a growing recognition that strengthening the health and well-being of communities — and [building a Culture of Health](#) — requires collaboration and coordination among the different sectors and professions that influence the health and well-being of individuals and communities. Connected information systems and access to integrated data from different sectors can improve communities' capacity to plan, monitor, innovate, and respond for individual and community health improvement. DASH works to enable strong cooperation and connections among community members, public health, health care, community-based human services, and other sectors that contribute to stronger safety nets for individuals and more powerful collective approaches to address systemic racial, economic, and gender oppression and enable all Americans to live longer, healthier, and more productive lives.

DASH supports collaborations that work together to improve the health of their communities, promote health equity, and contribute to a Culture of Health by strengthening information-sharing systems, engaging additional sectors and community members, and building sustainable capacity to work collaboratively toward community goals. DASH shares lessons learned from awardees to create a body of knowledge and advance this 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 home for this network of dissemination is [All In: Data for Community Health](#).

DATA ACROSS SECTORS FOR HEALTH (DASH) | dashconnect.org | info@dashconnect.org

The DASH National Program Office is led by the Illinois Public Health Institute in partnership with the Michigan Public Health Institute and funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

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DASH partners with other national and state program offices to co-create an [online community](#) for *All In: Data for Community Health*, hosting a peer learning collaborative with the goal of transforming health and achieving equity through strong, multi-sector partnerships that share data. We learn along with participating communities about what works, co-develop practical resources, and increase the impact of innovations amongst and beyond our funded communities.

Membership in the *All In* online community is both a prerequisite for funding and a primary mechanism by which we learn from each other's progress and grow the field. "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 *All In* network can be a valuable resource for peer learning and gathering data on successes and challenges.

PURPOSE OF AWARD PROGRAM

The purpose of this Call for Applications is to offer multi-sector collaborations access to direct technical assistance and/or targeted funds in the form of contracts to build their community's capacity to form multi-sector collaborations that share and use data to coordinate activities and work toward shared outcomes and improve health equity. **This is not intended to be a grant to support multiple stages of work, but rather, an opportunity to access funds that will enable specific activities or next steps in an existing plan for sharing data, or to overcome specific challenges.** This targeted support is intended to:

- Build skills and capacity at the community or regional level to (a) engage partners from multiple sectors in coordinated planning for sharing data, (b) systematically share data across sectors, and/or (c) design or implement evidence-based interventions that support community goals for improved health and equity based on shared multi-sector data.
- Develop the evidence base for the field by creating documented lessons, insights and artifacts from the project activities that can be disseminated to peer communities and the field through the All In network.
- Promote relationships among experts, practitioners, and public and private sector leaders to co-create and extend a national movement in support of local, community-based initiatives.

TOTAL AWARDS

DASH plans to contract with up to fifteen organizations (each representing a distinct community collaboration) which will receive up to \$25,000 for a project duration no greater than six months. Contracts will begin on February 1, 2020.

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USE OF CONTRACTS

Contracted activities should be clearly defined in the proposal and completed during the 6-month contract period. One or two specific products or deliverables are expected. A non-exhaustive list of example activities that the contract or technical assistance could support includes:

- Building a shared language and buy-in across members of a collaboration representing different sectors; building a common vision and shared outcomes; understanding data assets, needs, and technological capabilities across the collaboration.
- Advancing the accessibility, transparency, or analytic capability of an existing multi-sector data system. E.g. developing or pilot-testing an app, connecting with an API, leveraging an open data platform, or adding a data source from a new sector.
- Providing training (e.g. design systems thinking, community-based participatory engagement) for community members and other partners to plan for or engage with a shared data system.
- Using data from a multi-sector system to support the collaboration's goals to prioritize or achieve shared outcomes, build partner capacity, etc.
- Developing, testing, and/or implementing a collaborative multi-sector data governance or a group decision-making model.
- Implementing strategies to engage community members as leader or decision-makers, in developing aspects of the data sharing effort (e.g. data system design, priority use cases, consent mechanisms, etc.)
- Engaging individual consultants or other subject matter experts to address a problem or an opportunity (e.g. legal, collaboration, governance, etc.).
- Convening meetings, for example: 1) among organizations from two or more sectors who are new or ongoing collaborators; 2) with stakeholders from various institutions that have knowledge about the systems and policies that impact data sharing; 3) with community members who may be impacted by the desired data sharing initiative.
- Creating internal or external communication or educational materials, such as case examples, processes, data flow or workflow diagrams, or how data will be joined, stored and shared in a future state. Documenting or codifying processes associated with shared or multi-sector data systems.
- Leveraging additional and complementary funds leading to a greater but still specific outcome that can be achieved during the contract period.

Other concrete proposals to use the contracts or request technical assistance are encouraged, especially as they relate to the overall purposes described above. The products or activities should engage and benefit multiple sectors (inter-organizational data sharing within a single sector is not a good use of funds unless the results meaningfully support multiple sectors' engagement in the collaboration).

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PROGRAM OFFICE SUPPORT AND EXPECTATIONS OF SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS

DASH strives to provide meaningful support and opportunities for our awardees without creating undue administrative burden. The application, activities, and reporting requirements are meant to be straightforward, easily accomplished, and to support the ultimate success of the initiatives.

Upon awarding of contract, awardees and initiative participants will be expected to create or update a project profile for the *All In* peer learning community, complete the *All In* Capacity Assessment, and participate in the online community. The NPO will provide support to awardees to document and share their learnings and work through the All In network during or after the contract period. Dissemination opportunities may include: publications (case studies, recommendations, reports, etc.); webinars, podcast interviews, conference presentations, etc.

During the contract period, awardees will participate in short check-in calls with DASH National Program Office (NPO) staff. NPO staff will be available as requested by the awardee. Awardees will also have the opportunity to apply for additional travel support for peer-to-peer site visits or conferences and meetings.

Upon completion of the contract, awardees will submit a final narrative report (template provided) on findings suitable for sharing in the *All In* online community. Awardees will also participate in an exit interview to discuss their contract successes and challenges.

Additional DASH NPO support may include:

- Technical assistance and support for engaging with the *All In* peer learning community, including identifying peer communities and opportunities to collaborate, or leveraging *All In* resources for the local initiative.
- Support for communications planning and materials development.
- Support for the documentation of the contracted activities and outcome(s).
- Support for speaking and presenting at conferences and meetings.
- Depending on the composition of the selected awardees, small peer learning cohort/s may be created based on common proposals or themes.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

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

- Demonstrate strong, active, documented relationships, including collaborative relationships and/or data sharing, among **organizations in two or more sectors** that have roles relevant to specific, mutually acknowledged health or community wellbeing goals or objectives. Include organizations from public health and/or health care and **at least one other sector**, such as housing, human services, community development, education, transportation, criminal justice,

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public safety, the private sector, public health, behavioral health, or others that have a stake in or influence on individual and community health and equity.

- Have a **multi-sector shared data project** documented to be in the planning, implementation, scaling, or evaluation phase of sharing data or using connected information systems.
- Have a clearly defined “use case” (problem or opportunity that contract activities would address), associated with the collaboration or shared data project.
- Have at least one active team member profile in the All In online community at allin.healthdoers.org.
- Be either public entities or nonprofit organizations that are tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and must not be private foundations or non-functionally integrated Type III supporting organizations.
- Based in the United States or its territories.

SELECTION CRITERIA

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

- Evidence of achievements or experience of engaging stakeholders from community members, health care, public health, social services, and other sectors around collaborative efforts and shared outcomes.
- A well-defined and articulated project plan and timeline, limited to one or two specific outcomes or deliverables, responsive to the “START” criteria: Strategic, Timely, Actionable, Replicable, and Targeted.
 - Strategic – Degree to which the contract advances the overall collaboration purposes and goals.
 - Timely – Degree to which the proposed contract addresses an immediate or urgent need or opportunity.
 - Actionable – Likelihood that the contract is practical and can be accomplished as planned in 6 month timeframe.
 - Replicable – Likelihood that the lessons generated in the contract will be instructive or relevant for other communities.
 - Targeted – has a specific aim and direction, either relationally, systematically or geographically.
- A variety of non-health sectors represented in the collaboration. Priority will be given to proposals that include community-based social services, health care and public health, particularly those that consider how data-sharing capacity is increased for the non-health care partners.
- Thoughtful consideration of the proposed activities’ impact on equity, with special consideration given to collaborations that meaningfully engage community members and persons with lived experience of inequity in all parts of the data-sharing work.

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- Specificity about how this scope of work meaningfully contributes to a larger vision or existing effort, and can be completed in the time and budget described.
- Project budget and budget narrative that clearly support the deliverables and work plan.
- Evidence that the deliverables will contribute to the progress of a broader community plan for shared data, improved health and greater equity.
- Evidence that the contract will create or contribute to infrastructure, skills, and/or processes that can be sustained. Priority will be given to projects that can demonstrate some relevance to policy development or systems change.
- Description of benefits or increased capacity for associated community organizations and sectors from the contract.
- Intention to share lessons and experience or appropriate deliverables in the All In network, evidence of engagement and participation in the All In online community, including participation in discussion forums, postings, calls, webinars, and meetings.

HOW TO APPLY

Applications for this program must be submitted via the RWJF online system by the application deadline: December 6, 2019 at 3:30 pm ET. Please note the character limits per question and be brief in your responses. All applicants should log into the system to familiarize themselves with online submission requirements well before the submission deadlines as this will help streamline the process. This application can only be accessed via a special link which you will find at <http://www.dashconnect.org/cic-start> starting November 18, 2019.

DASH will host an [interactive Q&A webinar](#) for applicants at 3pm Eastern Time on November 22, 2019. The webinar will be archived and available online at www.dashconnect.org. Any questions and their answers will also be posted at www.dashconnect.org/cic-start. The DASH staff does not guarantee answers to questions asked after December 4, 2019. In fairness to all applicants, the program will not accept late submissions.

Please direct inquiries to info@dashconnect.org with the subject "CIC-START 5."

TIMELINE

- *November 18, 2019* - Application system opens. Register at the link provided on the [program website](#) to download the questions, add collaborators to your application so that several people can work on it at once, and be better prepared for a successful submission.
- *November 22, 2019, 3:00pm ET* - Optional applicant webinar. Please visit the [program website](#) for complete details and to [register](#).
- *December 6, 2019, 3:30 PM ET* - Application deadline
- *January 2020* - Awardees notified
- *February 1, 2020* - Contracts initiated

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- *August 14, 2020* - Contracts end
- *September 14, 2020* - Final reports and deliverables due