



NEW MEXICO HEALTH EQUITY PARTNERSHIP

New Mexico Health Equity Partnership

Community Driven Research Projects to Advance Health Equity

Application

NMHEP: WHAT DO WE CARE ABOUT? We believe all people should have the opportunity to lead a healthy life, to live in neighborhoods where our children and families thrive and have a say in the decisions that impact their communities and their lives.

WHAT IS OUR PURPOSE? NMHEP's purpose is to strengthen the capacity of communities to shift power relations and advocate for policy and systems change to create healthy and just communities.

WHO ARE WE AND WHAT DO WE DO? NMHEP currently consists of [two Co-Directors](#), [four technical assistance providers](#), a [diverse steering committee with ten members](#), graphic illustrators, and a strong network of community-based organizations who are a galvanizing force to offer creative policy and systems change solutions to advance health equity and racial justice. NMHEP connects people, community groups and decision makers. We build infrastructure through trainings, coaching and by sharing tools that allow both residents and community groups to hold policymakers accountable. We elevate the community's voice, so residents drive change.

HOW WE DO IT? NMHEP trains residents and community groups on how to make a more compelling case with greater impact when engaging policymakers on issues they care most about. One critical tool that we provide and teach is the Health Impact Assessment (HIA). Through the HIA, advocates and residents learn how to collect and utilize data to drive and influence policy change, and hold decision makers more accountable. The HIA is an effective means in building community power and elevating community members' voices. HIA takes into consideration the current health status of a community, predicts how this will change if a proposed plan or policy is implemented and provides recommendations based on community knowledge, stories and quantitative data to inform and improve decision making processes. Current HIAs completed in New Mexico have focused on the impact of proposed plans or policies on community health. Policy topics have included but are not limited to: trails, wage theft, uranium mining, reintegration center, language and cultural access, and transportation projects. You can view NMHEP partners HIA reports [here](#). In recent years, HIA teams have engaged in smaller community driven research efforts to update maps and data, uplift narratives via photovoice, create time-lapse videos as part of monitoring and evaluation, etc. HIA and other community driven research efforts have produced the following results:

- Built leadership. Community members learn how to navigate the political system. They become more knowledgeable about decision making processes, and they become more comfortable with speaking before decision makers.
- Command attention from decision makers and leads to the adoption of community recommendations.
- Foster communication and collaboration among groups that previously did not have good relationships.



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Community Driven Research Projects to Advance Health Equity: As a result of HEP's [harvesting of insights process](#) in 2021 to develop a [new business model](#), NMHEP is committed to partnering with organizations to support smaller community-driven research efforts to advance health equity. These efforts will be an opportunity to go deeper into utilizing creative tools such as mini reports, photovoice, graphic harvesting, time lapse videos, and other creative storytelling methods for communities to tell their narratives and utilize creative tactics to organize for policy change. The projects may serve as seed for future Health Impact Assessments, be a follow up to a recently completed Health Impact Assessment or be a standalone project.

On a rolling basis, between June 2022 and December 2022 (or when the funds run out), HEP will select two organizations to receive up to \$10,000 to conduct a small community driven research project to advance health equity. Technical support may be provided upon request. The applications funded will have a **strong racial justice lens**.

WHAT ARE THE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA? Eligibility criteria includes:

- Organizations that are considered tax-exempt as described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, are in the process of applying for 501(c)(3) status, or that can demonstrate a connection with at least one organization that has 501(c)(3) status and will serve as a fiscal sponsor.
- Organizations must be in New Mexico.
- Applicants that are aligned with the NMHEP's purpose, shared value, and approach.

WHAT ARE THE SELECTION CRITERIA? Selection will be based on the following:

- Efforts led by Black, Indigenous, other People of Color communities, as well as other groups most directly impacted by inequities.
- Applicants working in rural, tribal, immigrant and refugee communities will be prioritized.
- Applicants working with youth and intergenerational groups will also be prioritized.
- Applicants from the Northwest, Southwest, and Southeast regions of NM are strongly encouraged to apply.
- The small community driven research projects have the potential to advance health equity, impact policy, build community power, bridge relationships across communities, or strengthen leadership capacity. applications funded will have a strong racial justice lens.

WHAT IS THE SUBMISSION PROCESS? HEP asks applicants to complete the application and submit the applications by email to David Gaussoin (dgaussoin@nmhep.org). If you are not able to submit your application via email, please contact David for alternative methods for submitting the application. Applicants are encouraged to reach out to NMHEP with their ideas before completing the application so we can provide guidance and feedback.

7. Share the proposed impact your effort will have on policy, power building, relationship building, leadership development to advance health equity. If have a strong emphasis on racial justice, please highlight this here. (200 words or less)

8. In which counties, will the community driven research funds be utilized? _____

9. What is the amount you are requesting? _____

Approximately, up to \$10,000 is available per group funded. Please include a simple itemized budget below.

10. Would you like to receive technical assistance along with the request for funding? (A HEP TA provider can be provided upon request to offer guidance/feedback)

Yes_____ No_____