

# 2023 COMMUNITY HEALTH IMPROVEMENT GRANTS PROGRAM

The Dignity Health Community Health Improvement Grants Program is funded by contributions from our member hospitals. In awarding community grants, Dignity Health actively partners with non-profit organizations working to improve health status and quality of life in the communities we serve.

Grant funds are used to deliver services and strengthen service systems, to improve the health and well-being of vulnerable and underserved populations. The program is one way Dignity Health puts its mission and values into practice.



## Funding Criteria

The Community Health Improvement Grants Program uses funding criteria to ensure that its charitable resources address health needs in ways that demonstrate accountability for impact. Grant applicants should ensure that their proposed projects:

- Address one or more prioritized significant needs in the local hospital’s Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) and Implementation Strategy.
- Serve identified vulnerable or underserved populations, to help address health disparities.
- Include three or more collaborating organizations (an “Accountable Care Community”) with distinct, complementary and substantive project roles.
- Work in some capacity with the local Dignity Health hospital.
- Integrate one or more of the following principles:
  - Focus on disproportionate unmet health-related needs;
  - Emphasize prevention, including activities that address social determinants of health;
  - Contribute to a seamless continuum of care;
  - Build community capacity; and
  - Demonstrate collaboration.
- Identify – and plan to evaluate and report on – specific and measurable outcome goals.

2023 COMMUNITY HEALTH IMPROVEMENT GRANTS PROGRAM TIMELINE	
<b>September 13, 2022</b>	Project Proposal Forms due
<b>December 9, 2022</b>	Applicants notified whether they have been selected for funding
<b>January 1, 2023</b>	12-month project year begins
<b>December 31, 2023</b>	Project year ends

**The Community Grants Program has awarded nearly \$91 million to over 3,800 health improvement projects since 1991.**

## Eligibility and Parameters

- Lead applicant in Accountable Care Community collaboration must be a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.
- Grant project awards are from \$20,000 up to \$75,000, at the discretion of the local Dignity Health hospital.
- Grant project performance period is 12 months from January 2023 – December 2023.
- Projects can serve specific community and/or patient populations.
- Mid-year and final written reports are required.

## Application Process

1. Review the prioritized significant needs in the Dignity Health hospital's CHNA report and Implementation Strategy (Download from: <https://www.dignityhealth.org/about-us/community-health/community-health-programs-and-reports/community-health-needs-assessments>).
2. Prospective applicants are encouraged to contact the Grant Representative to inquire about specific funding priorities. Proposals addressing needs exacerbated or created by the coronavirus pandemic (including physical or mental health, and health-related social, economic and human needs) will be considered, in addition to those addressing needs in a hospital's community health needs assessment.
3. Request a Project Proposal Form from the Grant Representative.

### Grant Representative

Donna Sharp  
Regional Director, Special Needs and  
Community Outreach  
**Mercy and Memorial Hospitals**  
2215 Truxtun Avenue  
Bakersfield, CA 93301  
[Donna.Sharp@DignityHealth.org](mailto:Donna.Sharp@DignityHealth.org)

## About Dignity Health

Dignity Health hospitals in California, Nevada and Arizona are a part of CommonSpirit Health. CommonSpirit was created by the alignment of Catholic Health Initiatives and Dignity Health as a single ministry in early 2019.

CommonSpirit Health is committed to building healthier communities, advocating for those who are poor and vulnerable, and innovating how and where healing can happen—both inside our hospitals and out in the community. As CommonSpirit Health, we make the healing presence of God known in our world by improving the health of the people we serve, especially those who are vulnerable, while we advance social justice for all.

The Community Health Improvement Grants Program embodies CommonSpirit Health's values of compassion, inclusion, integrity, excellence and collaboration.

Our commitment to serve the common good is delivered through the dedicated work of thousands of physicians, advanced practice clinicians, nurses, and staff; through clinical excellence delivered across a system of hospitals and other care centers covering 21 states, and accessible to nearly one in four U.S. residents; and through more than \$5 billion annually in charity care, unpaid cost of Medicaid, other community benefits, and government program services.

For more information, please visit [www.dignityhealth.org/communitygrants](http://www.dignityhealth.org/communitygrants)