

June 20, 2023

## Supporting Youth Wellbeing grant opportunity

Cooley Dickinson Hospital wishes to fund projects in our service area that support youth wellbeing. The Cooley Dickinson service area communities are listed below as a reference. Please note that we are giving priority to projects that support BIPOC youth in Amherst.

### Primary:

Amherst	Florence	Haydenville	Northampton
Chesterfield	Goshen	Leeds	West Hatfield
Cummington	Hadley	North Amherst	Whately
Easthampton/Westhampton	Hatfield	North Hatfield	Williamsburg

### Secondary:

Ashfield	Leverett	South Deerfield	West Chesterfield
Belchertown	Plainfield	Southampton	Worthington
Huntington	Shutesbury	Sunderland	

### About this grant

This grant opportunity supports multiple projects aimed at supporting youth wellbeing. Wellbeing includes having a unified community that listens to, cares for, advocates, and supports all members to live the most fulfilling, holistic lives possible. Projects that propose to address racial trauma, intergenerational trauma, and the impacts of systemic racism in ways that center the voices of BIPOC Amherst youth\* will be prioritized. Projects that focus on other communities of concern such as LGBTQ+, or youth with disabilities will also be considered.

Wellbeing is defined broadly and may include supports for social activities, mental health, mentoring, skill building and may include activities that are based on the arts and music, sports or recreational, nature, or other projects. Applicants are encouraged to be creative. Expanding or building on current projects is welcome.

Priority target populations include those that focus on Amherst BIPOC youth\*. Proposals including an intersectional lens and that provide universal access (e.g., open to all youth in the community) will also be considered.

*\*Note that additional funding may be available for additional projects and communities in the fall, 2023. This round is intended to prioritize Amherst BIPOC youth.*

Through its Healthy Communities Committee, Cooley Dickinson Hospital conducts tri-annual health assessments. The 2022 assessment identified the need for supporting youth wellbeing and mental health as a priority.

For health assessment results and reports, visit the link below:

[Benefiting Our Community | Cooley Dickinson Hospital](#)

Applicants are encouraged to request funds based on project capacity and scope of the proposal.

Applicants may request up to \$10,000 per year for three years (\$30,000 total). Funding for years two and three will be dependent on submission of an annual report showing progress toward goals and availability of funds. Requests for less than \$10,000 are welcome.

### **Who can apply?**

Any non-profit or municipal department is eligible to apply. We require confirmation of 501(c) 3 non-profit or municipal status. Projects without that status will be required to partner with a 501(c) 3 organization.

Evidence of collaboration with other non-profits, business, or government entities is encouraged, but not required.

### **Application Details**

Complete a cover sheet for your proposal.

Submit typed responses to the following questions. Each question is worth up to 10 points.

1. Describe your vision for this project and how it supports your larger vision for youth wellbeing.
2. What is your program or organization and what are you planning to do (what is your project)?
3. Who is your target population and how many people will benefit from your project?
4. Describe how you involved or will involve youth in the creation of your project.
5. Describe program or organizational strengths and capacity that will lead to a successful project(s)?
6. Describe the need for this project. You may use local data, stories, and other information that supports your request.
7. Who will be involved and who will you partner with to help make the project go well?
8. What are your goals (what do you hope to accomplish)?

9. As a result of this project, what will change? How will you measure results?
10. How will positive outcomes be sustained after the grant ends?

Please include:

A budget and the time frame in which the money is to be spent, including other revenue resources (if any) that will support this project.

An implementation plan showing timeline and significant project activities and milestones.

Contact information, including email, phone, and mailing address.

Please keep your response to these questions to a 4-page limit. The budget and a project implementation plan do not count toward the page limit.

### **Submitting your Proposal**

Questions may be emailed by **August 14, 2023**, to [JHarness@cooleydickinson.org](mailto:JHarness@cooleydickinson.org)

Applications are due on **September 8, 2023**; emailed to [JHarness@cooleydickinson.org](mailto:JHarness@cooleydickinson.org)

All applications will receive an email confirmation of receipt. If you do not receive a receipt within 48 hours, please call 413-582-2035.

Applications will be reviewed by the Healthy Communities Committee and staff with award notification by **September 15, 2023**.

A W-9 form will be required for funded projects.  
Projects may begin right away after awards are announced.

All project recipients will participate in an evaluation process to be determined by the Healthy Communities Committee.

### **Application Evaluation Criteria**

The Healthy Communities Committee will review your application answers and will weigh and balance the following criteria:

- Supports youth wellbeing
- Serves youth in Amherst
- Engages youth of color
- Engages youth in project development
- Collaboration
- Feasibility

- Inclusiveness
- Ability to lower barriers to participation
- Ability to offer marked improvement to quality of life
- Uses local data to identify needs and solutions
- Sustainability of positive work

### **End of Project Reporting**

Grant funded projects may be invited to present to the Healthy Communities Committee in 2024.

A three-page final report must be submitted by May 17, 2024. It must answer:

- What were the results of your project? Did your project change from your initial proposal? If yes, how?
- Did the project reach its goals and objectives?
- What outcome data can you show as a result of this funding? What has actually changed or been improved?