Healthy Youth, Healthy Community Grant Opportunity

Five racial equity grants of $20,000 each are available to organizations led by Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) that support and work with BIPOC youth in Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine or New Hampshire to help create a healthy and equitable community for all.

Applications are due February 1, 2021, via our Grant Partner Portal (link below).

Funding Overview
Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Foundation will award a one-time grant of $20,000 to five nonprofit (501c3) BIPOC-led organizations that work primarily with BIPOC youth under 21. Funding is for a year-long project (new or ongoing) that youth design and implement to improve the overall health and racial equity of their community.

Grant funds will be used by and for BIPOC youth to create or enhance an existing project in any medium that they believe will make their community healthier.

Projects should respond to a community challenge identified by youth. Examples include:
- Helping to provide basic needs for community members — food, shelter, health services
- Creating job opportunities
- Fostering community partnerships for advocacy or social justice
- Designing an art installation, music event or other cultural productions

Youth must be supported by the grant recipient organization to actualize their ideas. Such support could include staff/volunteer guidance, facilities, materials, stipends and so forth.

Guiding Principles
Through this grant, Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Foundation wants to support engaging and advancing future leaders of underrepresented communities in the health of these communities as they envision it.

The Foundation shares with these young leaders the goals of:
- Supporting the unique differences and healthy well-being of BIPOC youth based on culture, ethnicity and race by addressing inequities that create barriers to opportunity
- Supporting youth development and recognizing them as an important part of their community
- Encouraging healthy gender inclusivity beyond the binary categories of male and female
- Recognizing that advocacy, arts, creative engagement, culture, economic well-being, transportation and safety are all aspects of a healthy community
- Advocating on their own behalf to ensure they receive the resources necessary for the healthy development of all
General Eligibility and Criteria
BIPOC-led * organizations serving predominantly BIPOC youth in Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine or New Hampshire are eligible to apply. Successful applicant organizations will work directly with BIPOC youth and have experience in:
- Elevating the ingenuity of BIPOC youth
- Supporting and promoting the social justice advocacy of BIPOC youth
- Facilitating healthy BIPOC communities
- Increasing youth-based thought leadership and action in local communities
- Reducing the inequitable impacts of social determinants of health for all communities, particularly BIPOC communities

* BIPOC-led is defined as having a BIPOC executive director/president or youth program director, having a majority of BIPOC members on its board of directors, and/or having a demonstrated history of meaningfully engaging and centering the experiences of BIPOC in their decision-making process.

Grant Application Deadline
February 1, 2021, via our Grant Partner Portal (link below)

How to Apply
Fill out the application online for the Healthy Youth, Healthy Community short grant (approximately 15 minutes).

Timeline
Proposal released December 21, 2020
Proposal returned February 1, 2021
Proposal reviews February 2–26, 2021
Awards Week of March 1, 2021
Progress/final report due September 2021
(oral or written)

What to Expect When You Work With Us
Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Foundation envisions this as a partnership. We want to work together, learn from each other and help support you on this project.

This includes connecting regularly and providing feedback and answering questions about your project, as well as bringing together all of the funded organizations to share and learn from one another. Where possible, we will connect you with other leaders and mentors within our organization for development and leadership opportunities, and we will help provide ideas for increasing visibility to amplify your work.

Foundation staff members will attend a progress report presentation by your group to be scheduled for September 2021.

For any questions, please contact:
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“The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members”.  
Coretta Scott King