

Call for Co-Sponsorship Proposals- Initiatives that Advance Health Outcomes

The VCU Office of Health Initiatives (OHI) connects faculty, staff, team members and partners with funding opportunities to support innovative initiatives at VCU and VCU Health that advance health outcomes and support the highest quality care for all patients.

Purpose and Priority Areas

We are pleased to provide co-sponsorship funding to a variety of events, programs, and educational opportunities that align with our goal to address patients' health-related social needs and identify and reduce long standing health disparities. Preference will be given to submissions that address the following focus areas identified in the FY 25-27 Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) for [Tappahannock Hospital](#) and [Community Memorial Hospital](#):

1. Chronic Cardiac Conditions
2. Mental Health
3. Cancer Mortality
4. Heart Disease
5. Maternal and Infant Health

Priority will be given to proposals that 1) address these focus areas and 2) demonstrate a partnership between VCU or VCU Health and a community-based organization. Potential matching funds may be available to proposals that meet these criteria; matching fund determinations will be made during the review process.

Awards

OHI will award up to ten \$2,000 projects and events that occur between May 2026-May 2027, with a limited number of awards greater than \$2,000. All awards are dependent upon the merit of the project and the strength of the application submitted.

Eligibility Requirements

To apply for this funding, applicants can either be:

- A VCU or VCU Health unit or department.
- A 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization OR have a fiscal sponsor with 501(c)(3) status who agrees to manage the funds on your behalf. If applying with a fiscal sponsor, a letter of commitment from the fiscal sponsor is required.

Required Application Components

1. Project Title or Name of Event
2. Project or Event Director/Leader: Name and Contact information (address, phone number, email) for Organizational Leader/Institutional Authority who will be the primary liaison with OHI regarding the co-sponsored activities.
3. Lay Abstract: Please provide a brief abstract of your project or event - who, what, where, when, why, and how - written for a lay audience. No more than 150 words max.

4. **Impact Statement:** Briefly describe your event/project and how it connects to the goal and focus areas outlined above. Include program goals, objectives and target audience. No more than 250 words max.
5. **Budget:** Include the total project or event budget, the amount you are requesting from OHI, and other funding you have secured.
6. **Anticipated Outcomes:** What outcomes (academic, social, civic, health, etc.) do you anticipate as a result of engaging in this project/event? Will this be a one-time event or program, or if it will continue, please describe how it will be sustained. How will you continue to engage with OHI? No more than 250 words max.

Budget Guidelines

Co-sponsorship funds do not cover expenditures related to salary and fringe or indirect costs.

How to Apply

Applications must be submitted electronically via [Google Form](#) by 11:59 pm on Monday, March 23, 2026

Expectations and Terms

1. The official start date of the award and the release of funds will begin after an agreement between OHI and the community partner has been made.
2. All funds will be released at the time of the award.
 - a. For 501(c)(3) organizations: the expectation is that successful applicants will completely utilize the full amount of funding during the term of the award.
 - b. For VCU units and departments: these funds, if awarded, must be spent by June 9, 2026.
3. Acceptance of funds implies a firm commitment to provide a brief mid-term progress report at 6 months, attend a virtual meeting and a final evaluative report at the end of the program period. Both the mid-term and final reports will be submitted via Google Forms.

Timeline

Date	Activity
February 18, 2026	Application Release
March 3, 2026	Information Session via Zoom at noon Registration: https://forms.gle/J5ErabSCC594Zu326
March 23, 2026	Proposals Due
April 13, 2026	Awardees Announced
May 1, 2026	Project Start Date/Grant Initiation Date
October 15, 2026	Six Month Progress Report and Virtual Meeting
April 30, 2027	Project Completion Date

May 1, 2027	Final Written Report Due
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Review Panel and Criteria

A review committee composed of members of the Office of Health Initiatives, the VCU Health Division of Community Engagement, representatives from Tappahannock and CMH hospitals, and at least one community organization member will review the applications for eligibility, completeness, and merit of the proposed plan.

Questions

For questions, please contact us at ohiconnect@vcu.edu