**Purpose:** This tool will help you assess applications in preparation for our discussion to select applicants to fund. As you review, please keep in mind the six core principles and this initiative’s goal below. The principles and goal are meant to serve as the foundation for how the funds should be used.

**Core Principles**

1. Foster children’s health equity
2. Support and build community capacity
3. Foster cross sector collaboration and alignment
4. Build on existing strengths and encourage new ideas
5. Strengthen the integration of social and community health services, systems, and policies
6. Encourage sustainability of efforts

**Initiative Goal**

Through this funding opportunity, Boston Children’s Hospital aims to facilitate creative community partnership efforts that expand and diversify the pipeline of trained mental and behavioral health professionals and graduate students who work with children and youth. Projects must focus on one of two areas:

1. **Expand pathways for mental and behavioral health paraprofessionals[[1]](#footnote-1) serving children, youth, and families to enter, stay, and grow in the field.** Projects may seek to expand the use of peer paraprofessionals or coordinate a systematic approach to work and trainingfor staff in community or inpatient settings.

**Or**

1. **Help educational institutions attract and prepare diverse underrepresented graduate students or early career graduate professionals to:**

1) pursue a master’s or doctoral degree in mental and behavioral health at a waived or reduced rate with onsite or online learning options and/or

2) provide cohort-based supervision and/or licensure support in community, outpatient, or inpatient settings.

Grants will support educational institutions to work in partnership with community-based organizations serving children, youth, and/or families.

**Priority Areas**

Projects should engage students or paraprofessionals from underrepresented backgrounds including racial, ethnic, cultural, LGBTQ+, and language backgrounds.

Priority will be given to the Boston neighborhoods listed below. They have been identified as high priority neighborhoods for Boston Children’s overall funding strategy given their higher concentration of children of color and who live in low-income households.

* Allston
* Brighton
* Dorchester
* East Boston
* Hyde Park
* Jamaica Plain
* Mattapan
* Mission Hill
* Roxbury

Questions? Contact [Debbie.lay@childrens.harvard.edu](mailto:Debbie.lay@childrens.harvard.edu)

**Applicant name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

* **Abstain: Select this box if you wish to recuse yourself from reviewing this application due to a conflict of interest. DO NOT SCORE THIS PROPOSAL. Briefly describe the conflict then scroll down and click Submit.**

| **Selection Criteria** | **Weighted Scale** | | | | | **Comments (optional)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1. Applicant has track record of meaningful training, supervision, and support of diverse professionals and connection to the community.  *Q 2, 9, 10, 15, Letters of Support under Required Uploads* | 5.  Very Good | 4.  Good | 3.  Average | 2.  Below Average | 1.  Poor |  |
| 2. Project aligns with initiative’s strategy, priority populations, and priority geographies.  *Q 4, 5, Scope of Services in Required Uploads* | 5.  Very Good | 4.  Good | 3.  Average | 2.  Below Average | 1.  Poor |  |
| 3. Applicant clearly and comprehensively describes the need and how the proposed project will address it with an equity focus.  *Q 7* | 5.  Very Good | 4.  Good | 3.  Average | 2.  Below Average | 1.  Poor |  |
| 4. Project has high potential for positive impact on expanding and diversifying the children’s mental and behavioral health workforce.  *Q 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, Scope of Services in Required Uploads* | 10.  Very Good | 7.  Good | 4.  Average | 2.  Below Average | 1.  Poor |  |
| 5. Proposed outcome metrics are relevant, measurable, and achievable.  *Q 11, 12, Scope of Services in Required Uploads* | 10.  Very Good | 7.  Good | 4.  Average | 2.  Below Average | 1.  Poor |  |
| 6. Project demonstrates strong community partnerships.  *Q 8, 13, Partnership Letter in Required Uploads* | 5.  Very Good | 4.  Good | 3.  Average | 2.  Below Average | 1.  Poor |  |

| 7. Applicant outlines a strong, realistic plan with appropriate level of staff capacity to implement project.  *Q 14, 16, Project Budget, Scope of Services and Resumes/CVs in Required Uploads* | 10.  Very Good | 7.  Good | 4.  Average | 2.  Below Average | 1.  Poor |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 8. Project budget accurately reflects the level of project effort and shared financial commitment with strong plans to embed the project into ongoing work.  *Q 16, Project Budget in Required Uploads* | 10.  Very Good | 7.  Good | 4.  Average | 2.  Below Average | 1.  Poor |  |
| **Total Points** | **/60** | | | | | |
| **Overall Strengths (required)** | | | | | | |
| **Overall Weaknesses (required)** | | | | | | |
| **Indicate your final recommendation:**   * Recommend funding * Unsure, warrants further discussion with committee * Decline for funding | | | | | | |

1. Examples of paraprofessional roles include but are not limited to: Behavioral Health Technician, Certified Nursing Assistant, Clinical Assistant, Care Companion, Behavioral Health Counselor, Mental Health Specialists, Family Partner, Community Health Worker, etc. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)