The Community Health Innovation Awards are supported by The University of Alabama at Birmingham and UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences (National Institutes of Health Grant UL1 TR000165)
The Community Health Innovation Awards provide a unique chance for participants to design, develop, and implement innovative ideas for solving their most challenging community health needs—an opportunity to demonstrate Birmingham’s forward thinking.

Join this innovative movement to make Birmingham even greater!
We are 23 communities, 99 neighborhoods, the birthplace of civil rights, a historic steel town, and home to a world-class medical center, and we are all in this together. We are *One Great Community*. We share the same obstacles and want the best for our communities.

When asked about the biggest concerns our communities face, neighborhood leadership replied with an array of health and social issues. Despite these challenges, we continuously strive for improvement. CHIA supports out-of-the-box thinking and new approaches to improve education, advance health care, promote safety in our communities, and strengthen our most valuable community asset - *its people*. By sharing and imagining new possibilities, we can create the impact needed to make our communities better for future generations. Are you willing to take that innovative leap? If so, bring your new ideas and creative power to the table as we work to craft new possibilities for ourselves.

The Community Health Innovation Awards offer us the chance to creatively tackle problems that impact the entire Birmingham community.
About the Grant Award

One Great Community established the Community Health Innovation Awards as an annual grant competition for area organizations in the greater Birmingham area. The Community Health Innovation Awards are envisioned as a way for participants to think boldly and creatively about solutions to “on the ground” health challenges communities face, to work in partnership with some of the best minds in our area, and to collaborate with local organizations to complete a project. These awards offer a way for UAB, local leaders and our communities to share resources and expertise. Grants ranging from $5,000 to $25,000 will be awarded to local organizations whose ideas innovatively address community issues.

CHIA Grantee Highlights

Norwood Learning Gardens is creating a culture of family gardening in a community setting by teaching gardening skills to local residents (children and adults alike) and by utilizing empty plots of land throughout the neighborhood for community-driven gardens.

Birmingham Walking Buses encourages Birmingham residents to walk to their destinations instead of relying on motor vehicles for transportation. Like traditional buses, walking buses are guided by “drivers” and walk passengers on a course with fixed routes and stops to increase physical activity and promote the walkability of the community.

Community Carpentry Project identifies young men and women between the ages of 18-25 in the Inglenook Neighborhood to participate in a 6-month initiative that introduces them to the field of carpentry. Participants learn the fundamentals of carpentry and then build and sell structures that they construct. Upon completion of the course, the students are employable as Carpenter’s Helpers.

Walk Birmingham, created in partnership by Freshwater Land Trust, Childcare Resources and Safe Routes to School, is an interactive and educational resource fostering healthier lifestyles in Birmingham. The designed walking cards encourage the community to take a walk around the neighborhood and experience scenic paths across the Magic City.

The Color Project is creating a “living” mural on the side of the Bethesda Life Center in downtown Ensley. The Color Project will use public art, gardens, light and sound to address issues of health, blight, and healthy food access in Ensley.

First Responders Youth Training Program introduces high school students to careers in sports medicine and athletic training. The program serves as an outlet for students and adds an additional layer of observant, trained eyes and ears during impact sports across the city.
COMMUNITY HEALTH INNOVATION AWARDS STRUCTURE

Project Phases
The process of applying for a Community Health Innovation Awards is divided into three phases.

**PHASE ONE: Project Team Formation**

- **MON AUG 10**  
  **Community Health Innovation Awards Information Available.** Informational booklets will be available at www.uab.edu/ccts/chia and also by email or direct mail by request.

- **WED SEPT 16**  
  **Community Health Innovation Awards Workshop Registration.** All interested participants must submit the Workshop Registration Form by mail or register online at www.uab.edu/ccts/chia no later than 5pm on Wednesday, September 16.

- **SAT SEPT 19**  
  **Innovation Workshop.** This is a mandatory workshop at UAB’s The Edge of Chaos from 9:00am to 1:00pm. Lunch will be provided. Workshop activities include learning more about the award process, understanding innovation, and practicing new ways of thinking about and solving community problems.

**PHASE TWO: Project Idea Development**

- **MON OCT 19**  
  **Draft of Project Proposal Due.** Drafts must be submitted to the CHIA Project Team via the website, www.uab.edu/ccts/chia, by 5pm on Monday, October 19. An external team will review each proposal and assign a score based on the evaluation criteria. **Project ideas that strongly demonstrate thoughtful consideration of the awards criteria will move forward and be invited to participate in the November 7 Refinement Workshop.**

- **SAT NOV 7**  
  **Refinement Workshop.** At this workshop, participants will work closely with mentors to develop and refine their project proposal drafts and presentation strategy.

**PHASE THREE: Project Idea Presentation**

- **MON NOV 16**  
  **Final Copy of Project Proposal Due.** A final electronic proposal must be submitted to the CHIA Project Team via the website, www.uab.edu/ccts/chia, by 5pm on Monday, November 16.

- **WED DEC 2**  
  **Presentation to Panel of Judges.** Teams will give a 10-minute presentation of their innovative project idea to a panel of judges. There will be a brief Q&A after each presentation.

- **TUES DEC 15**  
  **Community Health Innovation Awards Ceremony.** Recognition of award recipients.
Project Timeline

Please note that this is a rapid process, geared towards translating an innovative idea into a fundable project. Participants should be prepared to work within this timeline.

**EVENT DATES**

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<td>Innovation Workshop</td>
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<td>Refinement Workshop</td>
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<td>Awards Ceremony</td>
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**PHASE ONE: Project Team Formation**

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All project ideas will be evaluated based on the following five categories.

**INNOVATION**

*Projects should:*
- Demonstrate creativity and uniqueness
- Present a fresh approach to address an identified community concern

**THOUGHTFUL UNDERSTANDING**

*Projects should:*
- Be based on reliable data and information
- Provide a deep understanding of existing problems

**INvolvement**

*Projects should:*
- Be open to general participation
- Demonstrate collaboration

**Community Strength**

*Projects should:*
- Reflect the natural strengths of your community
- Use resources and people in developing project plans

**Application & Results**

*Projects should:*
- Have a process in place to monitor progress
- Demonstrate how the idea will be sustained
COMMUNITY HEALTH
INNOVATION AWARDS GUIDELINES

Project Proposal Guidelines
Draft proposals are due Monday, October 19, 2015. Final proposals are due Monday, November 16, 2015. For the draft and final proposals, all teams are expected to answer the following questions in complete, thoughtful sentences. After the Innovation Workshop, a digital template for completing the draft and final proposals will be made available on the website, www.uab.edu/ccts/chia. Proposal evaluations will be based on your team’s ability to provide detailed answers to these questions. Draft proposals will be used to determine a team’s eligibility to continue competing for a CHIA grant. Responses for each question must range between a 250 word minimum and 500 word maximum.

INNOVATION
1. Explain what makes your project different and unique for your community or the community you work in or serve.

THOUGHTFUL UNDERSTANDING
2. How will your project use reliable information to develop and carry-out your innovative project?

3. How will you share and report any new information that you obtain?

IN Volvement
4. How does your project demonstrate community involvement and collaboration? (i.e. use of organizational partnerships, volunteers, etc.)

COMMUNITY STRENGTH
5. How does your project demonstrate the use of the community’s natural strengths and assets?

APPLICATION & RESULTS
6. Clearly explain your project’s plan for delivering results. What does success look like for your innovative project?

7. Provide a 12-month timeline and estimated budget plan for your proposed project. (Proposed budgets cannot exceed $25,000)
Funding and Requirements

Total budgets for each project can range from $5,000 to $25,000. Proposed budgets cannot exceed $25,000. If an applicant has additional funding secured, please be clear in reporting external funds in your team’s budget submission. Final award amounts will be determined by the independent panel of judges.

Project funds cannot be applied to the following expenses:
• Activities that are not clearly listed and justified in the applicant’s submitted budget
• Activities that are not advertised and open to the general public
• Accumulated deficits
• Scholarships or endowment funds
• Investments of any kind
• Contingency funds
• Lobbying or political advocacy
• Sectarian or religious activities. An organization that has a faith-based mission may apply for a Community Health Innovation Award with a project that has no religious purpose.
• Awards or cash prizes

Eligibility

Teams and participants who are eligible to participate in the Community Health Innovation Awards are:

• Local 501(c)(3) organizations. In order to receive funding, organizations must have 501(c)(3) designation or the ability to partner with an organization with that status.
• Individuals or organizations who are willing to partner with a 501(c)(3) to develop a project idea

Evaluation Guidelines

• Each project idea will be evaluated based on the submitted final project proposal and presentation to the panel of judges. Proposals are worth 50%, and presentations are worth 50% of a team’s final score.

• Written project proposals will be scored by an independent panel of judges using the following criteria:
  • Innovation
  • Thoughtful Understanding
  • Involvement
  • Community Strength
  • Application and Results

• Presentations will be evaluated using the following criteria:
  • Structure & Organization
  • Creativity/Innovation
  • Visual Aids
  • Delivery
  • Overall Impression

• Presentations will occur on Wednesday, December 2 at The Edge of Chaos. Each team will have 10 minutes to make a presentation to the panel of judges.
About Us

The UAB Center for Clinical and Translational Science (CCTS), www.uab.edu/ccts, a NIH-funded center that is part of the Clinical and Translational Sciences Awards national network, was established to streamline new discoveries in order to impact our lives more quickly. The CCTS is organized around several components to address this translational process from drug discovery to community engagement. One Great Community, the community engagement component of the CCTS, was established to build a balanced relationship with the greater Birmingham community with the goal of developing trust around biomedical research.

If you have any questions, please contact the CHIA team.

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Email
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Join us in the CHIA process this year as we create innovative ways to address our most pressing community problems!