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 UL1TR001417)
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

Bib & Tucker Sew-Op is a non-profit with the mission of cultivating skills for those who sew or want to sew. During the CHIA project period, they are actively teaching trainees sewing skills and are working with UAB Highlands Acute Care for the Elderly unit to prototype and manufacture a therapy tool for patients with dementia. Bib & Tucker hopes to create a training program where participants will acquire not only sewing skills but will be prepared to work for clients in the future.

No More Martyrs: Mosaic Mental Health Awareness Project seeks to provide mental health awareness training through churches in the Birmingham area as well as host on-site support groups for individuals living with or caring for someone with mental health concerns. The project goals include training pastors, church officials and church members as well as the general public in Mental Health First Aid and offering monthly support groups to reduce the stigma associated with mental health and connect the community to licensed mental healthcare professionals.

Redemptive Cycles is a non-profit bike repair shop serving many downtown-based homeless missions by providing a means of transportation, which is sustainable, economical, efficient, and healthful for those community members living on the margins. The goal of their CHIA work is to implement, expand, and sustain Birmingham’s first Earn-A-Bike program that enables an individual with a self-declared economic hardship to exchange 12 hours of their time for a bicycle that is theirs to keep. During their training, bike recipients will learn basic bike mechanic skills, help out in the shop and become a member of the growing Redemptive Cycles family.

Woodlawn High School and Jones Valley Teaching Farm have collaborated to launch Woodlawn Connection, a series of three neighborhood community health nights in 2016 named and designed by students and hosted at Woodlawn High School’s Urban Farm. The overall goal of Woodlawn Connection is to create an opportunity for high school students to organize an event to bring their community together to learn about lifelong health and wellness through food. Each connection night will include cooking classes and community meals, entertainment, targeted health screenings and connections to providers that will help community members better understand and manage their health.
Project Phases
The process of applying for a Community Health Innovation Awards is divided into three phases.

**PHASE ONE: Project Team Formation**

**MON JAN 30**  Community Health Innovation Awards Information Available. Informational booklets will be available at [www.uab.edu/ccts/chia](http://www.uab.edu/ccts/chia) and also by email or direct mail by request.

**WED FEB 22**  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](http://www.uab.edu/ccts/chia) no later than 5pm on Wednesday, February 22.

**SAT MAR 4**  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 APR 3**  Draft of Project Proposal Due. Drafts must be submitted to the CHIA Project Team by 5pm on Monday, April 3. 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 April 29 Refinement Workshop.*

**SAT APR 29**  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 MAY 8**  Final Copy of Project Proposal Due. A final electronic proposal must be submitted to the CHIA Project Team by 5pm on Monday, May 8. No late submissions will be accepted.

**WED MAY 16**  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.

**TBD**  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.

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**EVENT DATES**

- **INNOVATION WORKSHOP**
  - MAR 4

- **REFINEMENT WORKSHOP**
  - APR 29

- **AWARDS CEREMONY**
  - TBD

**DEADLINE DATES**

- **PROPOSAL DRAFT DUE**
  - APR 3

- **FINAL PROJECT PROPOSAL DUE**
  - MAY 8

- **PANEL PRESENTATION**
  - MAY 16

**PHASE ONE:**

- **March 4**
  - Workshops registration due by 5pm

**PHASE TWO:**

- **April 3**
  - Proposal draft due by 5pm

**PHASE THREE:**

- **May 8**
  - Final project proposal due by 5pm

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**COMMUNITY HEALTH INNOVATION AWARDS TIMELINE**
All project ideas will be evaluated based on the following five categories.

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

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

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

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

**Projects should:**
- Have a process in place to monitor progress
- Demonstrate how the idea will be sustained
Project Proposal Guidelines

Draft proposals are due Monday, April 3, 2017. Final proposals are due Monday, May 8, 2017. 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. 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?

INVolVEMENT

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, May 16** 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](http://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.

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