



AT THE FOREFRONT

**UChicago
Medicine**

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

BHC Collaborative for Family Resiliency - Building Trauma Resiliency Grants

Q: Is a Letter of Intent (LOI) required?

Yes. An LOI is due by **Monday, February 16, 2026, 5PM CST** to be eligible to complete the full RFP. The LOI must include the name of your organization, the contact person information (name, title and email address) and a short description (no more than 50 words) of your proposed program.

Email the LOI to communitybenefit@uchicagomedicine.org

Q: Will there be an invitation to apply after the submission of LOI?

No, there will be no formal invitation to apply. All applicants that meet the LOI deadline are eligible to submit a full application.

Q: Once the LOI has been submitted, do we just submit the application?

Yes. All applicants that submit an LOI with the required information by the deadline can submit an application for the grant.

Q: What is the website address where the Request for Proposals (RFP) is located?

<https://www.uchicagomedicine.org/about-us/community/grants-sponsorships>

Q: How do I submit my application documents?

Submit the grant application and documentation (i.e., proposal and appendices) using this link: <https://redcap.link/BHCgrant2026>

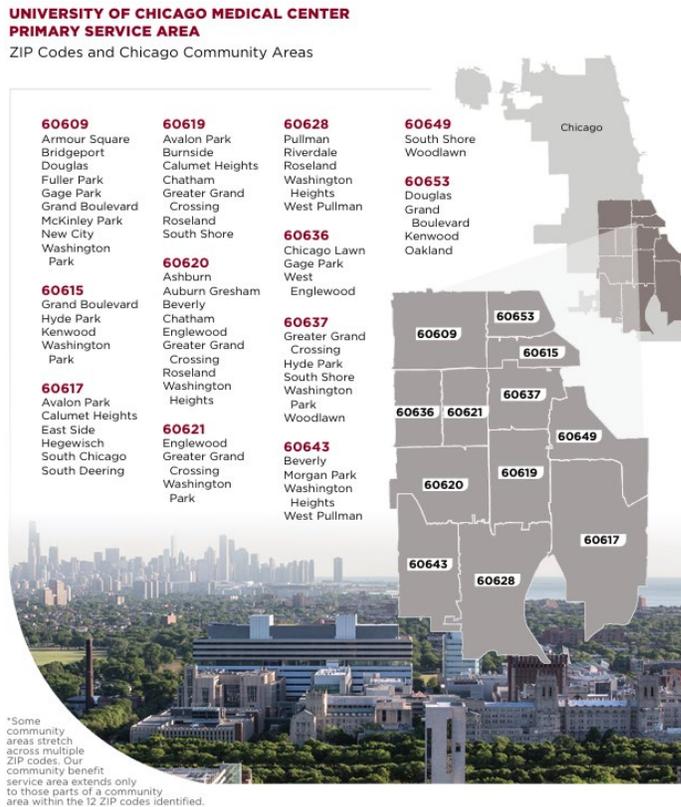
Please read and review the RFP for detailed instructions on the application including file types and page limitations.

Q: Will the team be sharing the slides from the Informational Webinar?

A PDF of the PowerPoint slides will be posted to the [grants website](#).

Q: Where is the map of UChicago Medicine’s community area located?

The map is provided below. It is also located on page 15 of the [2024-2025 Community Health Needs Assessment \(CHNA\)](#)



Q: Is the 12-zip UCM Service Area a priority or the only geographic area eligible?

The BHC Grant is to implement programs or services in the University of Chicago Medical Center Service Area (UCMSA). The UCMSA is comprised of the following 12 zip codes: 60609, 60615, 60617, 60619, 60620, 60621, 60628, 60636, 60637, 60643, 60649, and 60653.

All programs or services funded by the BHC grant must be provided in the UCMSA, whether that be provided to persons residing in the UCMSA or at a location (i.e., office, facility, event or mobile unit) in the UCMSA.

Q: Can we apply if we’re an organization that works in other areas of the city/state/country AND serves the UCM Service Area?

Yes. In order to qualify for grant funding, organizations must deliver 100% of the specific program outlined in their proposal in the UCM Service Area.

Q: What is the target audience for the grants? Is it prioritizing youth, adults or a specific age?

The target audience is children and/or families within the UCM Service area that have experienced or been impacted by gun violence, physical violence, family and domestic violence, sexual abuse, and/or child abuse and or neglect. *Children are defined as anyone age 26 and younger. Family is not strictly defined in recognition of varied family structures organizations serve.*

Q: Is there a preference on size of organization that will be funded? Larger, longer history vs. grassroots?

No. There will be no preference given to organizations based on size. All applicants that meet the standard eligibility requirements are encouraged to apply.

Q: I see there is a maximum number of pages for certain documents, is there a minimum number of pages per section? Will I be penalized if shorter?

There is not a minimum page requirement per section. No organization will be penalized for submitting an application below the maximum number of pages.

Q: Is there a limit on the number of grant applications an organization can submit?

Yes. We will accept only one application per organization for this grant cycle. In the event an organization submits more than one proposal, we reserve the right to select the application with the earliest date and time stamp.

Q: Are you allowed to apply as separate organizations *and* as a collaborative or collective?

No. Organizations can apply as either: 1) an individual entity or 2) a collaborative/collective with other organizations.

If applying as a collaborative, a lead agency should be listed on the application. Collaboration and partnership is encouraged for all grantees, however, organizations are not eligible for cumulative funds as both individual organizations and as part of a collective.

Q: If you apply as a collaborative/collective can you ask for a greater amount?

No. Proposed collective efforts will be considered as one applicant. Collective applications do not automatically determine higher award amounts.

Q: How will final decisions be made on the grants?

Proposals that meet the LOI requirement and are submitted by the deadline will be reviewed by the UCM Grant Review Workgroup, which will include leadership from UChicago Medicine, as well as community representation with the Trauma Care and Violence Prevention Workgroup.

The UCM Grant Review Workgroup adheres to a strict conflict of interest policy and selects potential grantees based on the merits of each proposal.

Successful proposals will be reviewed first to ensure eligibility criteria and page limits are met. Materials over the page limit will not be reviewed. Proposals meeting these requirements will then be evaluated and scored as outlined in the RFP.

Q: What are the required metrics/outcomes for the grant?

Applicants must align their proposed program or service objectives with the following goal and objectives.

- Goal: Prevent, manage and promote recovery from trauma
- Objectives:
 - Reduce violent re-injuries among the following target audiences: children and/or families. *Children are defined as anyone age 26 and younger. Family is not strictly defined in recognition of varied family structures organizations serve.*
 - Increase children and family engagement in violence prevention and/or recovery programs or services.
 - Provide wraparound resources to support the holistic needs of children and families experiencing trauma.
 - Embed trauma-informed care across systems.
 - Increase access to mental health services (e.g. comprehensive social services, mental health, substance abuse programs or services)
 - Reduce inequities caused by social determinants of health.

In addition to those above, applicants can include their own program-specific objectives in the evaluation section.

Altogether, the results of grantees' collective efforts will impact progress towards the BHC Collaborative goal of ensuring children and families receive services necessary for long-term, holistic recovery from both immediate and long-lasting effects of trauma

caused by gun violence, physical violence, family and domestic violence, sexual abuse, and/or child abuse and or neglect.

Q: Must all outcomes be achieved?

No. It is not required that all 5 UCM/BHC outcomes be incorporated into the proposed program. However, proposals will be assessed based on depth of program/services described to address outcomes as well as the number of UCM/BHC outcomes addressed.

Q: Must all participants disclose types of violence/trauma experienced?

UCM does not require program participants to provide record or disclosure of their experiences. Organizations should communicate the program goals and intended audiences during recruitment, however there is no disclosure expectation or requirement for UCM grant reporting.

Q: Define “Family of Choice”.

Family of choice is used to recognize all family structures and extend funding opportunities to organizations serving families that do not fit the definition of “immediate” or “biological” families.

The concept is intended to capture the commitment of chosen, rather than fixed, relationships and ties of intimacy, care and support. The 'non-heterosexual' form of families of choice is often seen as the clearest example of this phenomenon. More information can be found [here](#).

Q: Do community-based programs that serve multi-generational families meet the edibility requirements?

Yes. Please see the definition of “family of choice” also addressed in this FAQ.

Q: Do we have literature on all this information and required documents to give to organizations that might benefit from this?

The RFP contains a background section with footnotes, a glossary, and references section for some brief and helpful information. In addition, all applicants are highly encouraged to review the [2024-2025 Community Health Needs Assessment \(CHNA\)](#). This in-depth assessment is conducted every 3 years, generating a substantial report on areas of greatest need in UCM Community Service Area.

Q: Is there an internal discussion of how many youth and/or family member this grant aims to serve? Or will high-quality programs serving smaller numbers of trauma-affected youth also be competitive for funding?

As stated in the RFP, grant amounts will be based on how many clients are served with the funding, and/or on the depth of service engagement with participants from the identified audiences. Both types of proposals will be given full consideration and are both competitive for funding.

Q: Does the applicant for this grant need to be a 501(c)3 CBO?

Yes. Applicants must provide their tax ID number in the applicant information section of their narrative.

Q: Can this grant be used to fund ongoing operations or does this also include program expansion?

Yes. This grant can be used to fund ongoing operations or to expand an existing program. Proposed programs/services must be implemented within the UCM Service Area, serve residents of the UCM Service Area, and demonstrate a readiness to serve.

Q: Must the grant budget request be for the total cost of the project or can it be for a portion of the total program cost?

The budget does not have to be for the total program cost. Provide a clear justification for each item listed in the budget section of the application.

Q: Can indirect costs such as professional development, staffing, or technology support be covered through this grant?

The primary purpose of this grant is to fund direct programs or services for community members, so you may not include your indirect rate and corresponding dollars in your budget. Applicants may include minimal administrative expenses but should not apply for funds solely for technology, program space, or other indirect costs.

Staff positions that drive the program can be included as a budget line item. However, they need to be solely focused on the program and this needs to be detailed in the budget included in the application. It is important that you include details on the budget to justify all expenses and make the case for the requested funding.

Q: How much of the grant can be used towards administrative fees, rent, insurance?

Minimal administrative expenses are permitted. Provide a clear justification for each item listed in the budget section of the application.

Q: Does UCM or a partner have a resource list of professional organizations working on violence recovery/prevention, or is this best researched by applicant independently?

Our partners at the Chicago Center for Youth Violence Prevention have shared a helpful resource for applicants, [The Bronzeville Youth Program and Youth Resource List](#), created as part of the Greater Bronzeville Action Planning process.

Q: Will there be any collaboration with the South Suburban region?

For this specific RFP, there will not be collaboration with the South Suburban region or our Ingalls campus. We recognize that the impacts of trauma and violence extend beyond our UCM Service Area, and work closely Ingalls to support the broader southland area.

Q: Who should I contact with questions?

Please email questions to communitybenefit@uchicagomedicine.org