

2008 Call for Proposals—Round 3

Brief Proposal Deadline

September 18, 2008



Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Finding Answers Disparities Research for Change

Purpose

Finding Answers: Disparities Research for Change seeks to improve the quality of health care provided to patients from racial and ethnic backgrounds likely to experience disparities.

Finding Answers will:

- grant funds to discover and evaluate practical and replicable solutions designed to reduce and eliminate disease-specific racial and ethnic health care disparities;
- focus on interventions aimed at health care delivery for one or more of the following health concerns: cardiovascular disease, depression and/or diabetes;
- conduct systematic reviews of the literature regarding racial and ethnic health care disparities interventions; and
- disseminate results from these research efforts and systematic reviews to encourage health care systems to address racial and ethnic gaps in care.

Eligibility Criteria

- Only organizations that administer and directly provide an intervention to the target population are eligible to apply. All interventions proposed for evaluation must occur within the direct context of a consistent source of health care or delivery. For example, interventions based solely in a community setting, outside the context of a consistent source of health care, are not eligible to receive evaluation support from Finding Answers.

The following types of organizations are eligible as primary/lead applicants:

- Provider organizations (e.g., medical groups, hospitals, community health centers).
- Health plans and employers.
- Other organizations directly involved in health care provision or administration (e.g., a network or consortium of provider groups).

Applicants must be located in the United States and preference will be given to applicants that are public agencies or are tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and are not private foundations as defined under Section 509(a).

Selection Criteria

Applicants must demonstrate the ability to produce clear, systematic analyses or program evaluations that will inform decision-makers about promising interventions to address racial and ethnic health care disparities and how these interventions can be replicated in other settings. Applicants may define a specific population group or subgroups to be targeted. At a minimum, proposals must:

- involve health care delivery for one or more of the following health concerns: cardiovascular disease; depression and/or diabetes; and
- include the collection and reporting of patient-level data by race and ethnicity. Characterization of ethnic subgroups is encouraged where the study population and sample size justifies this sub-division, for instance, breaking out Hispanic patient

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Key Dates and Deadlines

- **July 30, 2008 (3 p.m. CT) and August 1, 2008 (10 a.m. CT)**
Optional applicant Web conference calls. All participants must register online at www.solvingdisparities.org.
- **September 18, 2008 (2 p.m. CT)**
Deadline for receipt of brief proposals.
- **December 11, 2008**
Applicants notified if selected to submit a full proposal.
- **February 5, 2009 (2 p.m. CT)**
Deadline for receipt of full proposals.
- **June 26, 2009**
Notification of Awards.

Inquiries

For information on the program, eligibility criteria and the proposal process please contact the NPO:

Phone: (866) 344-9800

E-mail: info@solvingdisparities.org

www.solvingdisparities.org

We encourage all applicants to read the complete details about the program found in the call for proposals brochure at www.rwjf.org/cfp/findinganswers.

For more information about funding opportunities from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, visit www.rwjf.org/grants.

Sign up to receive Funding Alerts on upcoming calls for proposals at www.rwjf.org/services.



populations with Mexican and Puerto Rican heritage or by stating whether an Asian-American population is Chinese or Korean in origin.

Additional selection criteria are outlined in the full call for proposals available online.

Total Awards

- Approximately \$8 million will be awarded overall in Rounds 1, 2 and 3 of funding.
- Our plan is to award approximately 6-8 grants totaling approximately \$1.7 million in this round of funding.
- Grant awards will range between \$100,000 and \$275,000 for projects of 24 months or less, including start-up, data collection and analyses.

Use of Grant Funds

Grantees may use funds for project staff salaries, consultant fees, data collection and analysis, meetings, supplies, project-related travel and other direct project expenses, including a limited amount of equipment deemed essential to the project. Grantees may also use funds for limited purchases of information technology, such as software to assist in managing the project's data and information flows. In keeping with RWJF policy, grant funds may not be used to subsidize individuals for the costs of their health care, to support clinical trials of unapproved drugs or devices, to construct or renovate facilities, for lobbying, or as a substitute for funds currently being used to support similar activities.

How to Apply

All applicants must submit proposals for this program only through the RWJF Grantmaking Online system. There are two stages in the proposal process:

- 1) the submission of a brief proposal that will describe the project and, if invited;
- 2) the submission of a full proposal.

The national program office (NPO) will provide technical support for the online application and grantee selection process. Please contact the NPO directly with inquiries by e-mail at info@solvingdisparities.org or by calling (866) 344-9800.

Complete details on the submission process are available on the program's Web site at www.solvingdisparities.org.

Optional Web Conferences

Two Web conferences will be held to provide information on the project goals and to assist applicants with the proposal process. Each conference will have the same agenda. The first conference is scheduled for Wednesday, July 30, 2008 at 3 p.m. CT and the second for Friday, August 1, 2008 at 10 a.m. CT. Applicants should attend only one conference. Participation in a Web conference is not mandatory, but is highly encouraged. Registration is required. To learn more about the Web conferences and to register, please go to www.solvingdisparities.org/apply/web_conferences.

www.solvingdisparities.org