

**Request for Proposals: Community
Harm Reduction Projects
Informational Webinar
May 21, 2020**

**Proposal submission
deadline: June 19, 2020**

Agenda

- Background
- Overview of RFP
 - Program Framework
 - Project Parameters
 - Proposal Requirements & Selection Criteria
 - Timeline & Contact
- Questions

Please add questions to the Q & A box at any time. Note that all chat messaging, including 'private messages' will be seen on the recording transcript.

Overdose Prevention Program Community Mobilization Projects for Harm Reduction Services

- Vital Strategies is funded by Bloomberg Philanthropies to offer comprehensive technical assistance and support for reducing overdose deaths in targeted states with high rates of overdose deaths
- In November 2018, Governor Wolf and Mayor Bloomberg announced Pennsylvania as a state targeted for \$10M over three years
- Partnering with the University of Pittsburgh, School of Pharmacy – Program Evaluation and Research Unit (PERU) to support coalitions in advancing harm reduction strategies

RFP - Community Mobilization Projects for Harm Reduction Services

- \$50,000 is available per coalition
- One-time funding—non-renewable
- 12-month project period: July 2020 – June 2021
- Allowable for one or more harm reduction strategies
- Up to 15 coalitions will be funded
- **Pitt-PERU is assisting with delivering guidance on proposal development and administration of the subgrants – use them!**

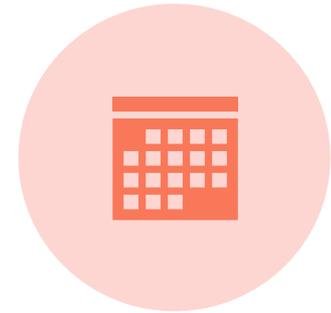
Timeline



APPLICATION
DUE:
JUNE 19



NOTIFICATION
OF SELECTION:
JUNE 29



ANTICIPATED
PROJECT DATE:
JULY 1

Regarding COVID-19, we will monitor this changing landscape and make accommodations while supporting the progress of this work as best we can.

Please feel free to share any concerns or questions at

vvargas@vitalstrategies.org.

Program Framework

- **Harm Reduction:** Pragmatic public health approaches to
 - Minimize risk
 - Take precautions
 - Reduce negative consequences
- **Health Equity:** everyone has a fair opportunity to be healthy as possible, and promotes practices that aim to eliminate disparities in health and its determinants that affect marginalized groups
- **Racial equity:** eliminating racial disparities by applying strategies targeted to close the gaps in services access, delivery, and quality (Toolkit: <https://www.racialequityalliance.org/resources/racial-equity-toolkit-opportunity-operationalize-equity/>)

What do we mean by a harm reduction approach to drug use?

Pragmatic public health approach to **drug use**

- minimize risk
- take precautions
- reduce negative consequences



Program Framework - Scoring

Criteria Dimensions	Scale
Harm Reduction Framework: How strongly does the proposal align with a harm reduction framework and principles?	10
Racial Equity Commitment: How clear is the plan for the proposed activities to advance racial equity?	10
Inclusion plan: To what degree are harm reduction providers and people with lived experience involved in guiding and decision-making for the proposed project?	10



Fidelity to and commitment to harm reduction framework and health and racial equity approach



Quality and clarity of the proposal



Reach and Impact



Sustainability and Continuity

Project Parameters— Harm Reduction Strategies

1. Direct services to impacted populations



Naloxone distribution to people who use drugs and their networks



Syringe Service Programs

2. First responder partnerships



Law enforcement pre-arrest/pre-booking diversion to supportive services



Emergency medical service (EMS) leave-behind naloxone

Project Parameters & Activities

- **Project Implementation:** Direct funding to scale-up or support existing programs and services
 - New program or service
 - Meaningful expansion of current program or service
 - Planning and service delivery activities & deliverables
- **Planning and capacity-building:** Planning and coalition-building efforts to lay the groundwork for service implementation
 - Training, site visits, and community/stakeholder education
 - Policy, protocol and infrastructure development
 - Coalition-building, advocacy and community engagement



Syringe Service Programs



- **Project implementation**
 - Partnerships and support of HR providers in operations
 - Fixed site (including healthcare provider)
 - Mobile services
 - Street outreach

- **Planning and capacity-building**
 - Conduct community & stakeholder education
 - Develop service plan including needs assessment and approach to fill those needs, policies and procedures, staffing needs, outreach and recruitment methods, monitoring mechanisms, fundraising strategy, and budget
 - Development and education on model local ordinances.

Proposal Requirements & Selection Criteria

I. Cover page

II. Project Narrative

- a. Agency capacity
- b. Scope of work
- c. Workplan
- d. Evaluation
- e. Letters of support (optional)

III. Budget



Fidelity to and commitment to harm reduction framework and health and racial equity approach,



Quality and clarity of the proposal



Reach and Impact



Sustainability and Continuity

Proposal Requirements & Selection Criteria

Scope of Work

- a. Need statement
- b. Proposed project activities
- c. Resources needed
- d. Population to be served
- e. Jurisdictional level of focus
- f. Racial equity approach
- g. Sustainability and continuity plan



Fidelity to and commitment to harm reduction framework and health and racial equity approach



Quality and clarity of the proposal



Reach and Impact



Sustainability and Continuity

Budget Parameters

- **Must be directly related to project activities** (not supporting indirect cost or providing general operating support)
 - Staff support
 - Direct assistance to individuals (e.g. stipends, fees and incentives)
 - Hiring of a consultant to develop or review policies and protocols for improvements to better serve people who use drugs, and
 - Event space and other costs (e.g. trainings, community engagement, etc.)
 - Equipment & supplies (including naloxone & syringes)*
 - Marketing and promotion for community engagement and patient education
 - Other operations support directly related to project (e.g. travel, office supplies, technology, printing/copying, etc.)

Budget Parameters

- **Must be directly related to project activities** (not supporting indirect cost or providing general operating support)
- How strongly are the proposed expenditures appropriate, feasible, and focused on
 - (1) capacity building activities that will likely result in implementation (for planning projects), or
 - (2) service delivery to the priority population (for implementation projects)?



Fidelity to and commitment to harm reduction framework and health and racial equity approach



Quality and clarity of the proposal



Reach and Impact



Sustainability and Continuity

Scoring Algorithm

	Criteria Dimensions	Scale
Fidelity to and commitment to racial equity approach, harm reduction framework	Harm Reduction Framework: How strongly does the proposal align with a harm reduction framework and principles?	10
	Racial Equity Commitment: How clear is the plan for the proposed activities to advance racial equity?	10
	Inclusion plan: To what degree are harm reduction providers and people with lived experience involved in guiding and decision-making for the proposed project?	10
Quality and clarity of the proposal	Agency capacity: What is the level of the applicant's capacity, buy-in from essential partners, and relationships with the population to be served, to perform the proposed activities?	10
	Scope of work: To what degree are the proposed activities grounded in evidence, reflecting best practices, and aligned with priority harm reduction strategies?	15
	Workplan and timeline: To what degree does the workplan have clear deliverables and appropriate timelines?	10
	Evaluation plan: How clear is the data collection plan to evaluate project objectives?	5
	Budget: How strongly are the proposed expenditures appropriate, feasible, and focused on (1) capacity building activities that will likely result in implementation (for planning projects), or (2) service delivery to the priority population (for implementation projects)?	5
Reach and impact	Focus and reach: To what degree is the proposed project likely to reach people who are highest risk in the community, and does it serve to reduce health disparities?	10
	Jurisdictional level of need: To what degree does the relevant jurisdiction show indicators of need, e.g. fatal and nonfatal overdose rates and other key health indicators?	5
Sustainability and continuity	Sustainability: How clear is the sustainability and continuity plan?	10

Timeline



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OF SELECTION:
JUNE 29



ANTICIPATED
PROJECT DATE:
JULY 1

Submit completed application to Veronica Vargas
(vvargas@vitalstrategies.org)

Resources

- **Racial equity** - https://www.racialequityalliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/GARE-Racial_Equity_Toolkit.pdf
- **Harm Reduction Coalition resources and toolkits** - <https://harmreduction.org/our-resources/>
- **Pre-arrest/pre-booking diversion** - <https://www.leadbureau.org/>
 - https://www.katalcenter.org/community_based_pre_arrest_diversion
- **Syringe Service Programs** - <https://www.cdc.gov/ssp/index.html>; <https://www.hiv.gov/federal-response/policies-issues/syringe-services-programs>
- **Naloxone Distribution** - <https://harmreduction.org/?s=naloxone>
 - **Leave Behind:** <https://www.nycremsco.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/2018-07-REMAC-Advisory-OD-Leave-Behind-Kits.pdf>

Thank you!

Please submit any additional questions to
vvargas@vitalstrategies.org