



Call for Applications Champions for Vibrant Health Leadership Network

A two-year leadership development program, with potential for up to \$150,000 in general operating support funds, for Inland Empire community-based organizations that address the social determinants of health. To apply, [click here](#).

Overview

At IEHP Foundation, we are on a mission to inspire and ignite the health of the Inland Empire. However, we recognize that we can't do this work alone. We will only make a long-lasting impact through collaboration with our on-the-ground partners, who are actively working to improve the health and well-being of their communities. That is why we proudly partner with community-based organizations and nonprofits to help advance health equity across San Bernardino and Riverside counties. We consider these vital partners, Champions for Vibrant Health.

IEHP Foundation is requesting applications for our inaugural Champions for Vibrant Health Leadership Network. This is an opportunity for leaders in local community-based organizations to join together and commit to improving health outcomes in the Inland Empire. Through collective discussions and learning, organizational and leadership development training, and direct grant support from IEHP Foundation, our goal is to build regional capacity, increase collective advocacy and improve health equity throughout San Bernardino and Riverside counties.

We recognize that local nonprofits are well-positioned as trusted messengers to the community members they serve, and we aim to invest in organizations addressing the social determinants of health, that will also be committed to delivering core health information to their clients.

After engaging in conversations with 100+ community-based leaders and conducting an analysis of the nonprofit landscape *in the Inland Empire, we recognize a significant need to invest in organizational infrastructure, nonprofit leadership and shared advocacy within the region.*

The Champions for Vibrant Health Leadership Network is more than a grant — it's joining together to amplify our voices and expand resources to build vibrant health across the IE.

This opportunity will span two years (2025 -2026) and include four primary activities:

1. **Quarterly Vibrant Health Forums** focused on building capacity, gaining new tools for improving health equity and identifying strategies for collective action.
2. **Opportunities for collective advocacy** as we lift our voices in support of policies and funding to drive Vibrant Health in the IE.
3. **Opportunities to join spaces for developing leadership** skills and practices to strengthen personal and organizational health and performance.
4. **Direct funding** to support ongoing mission critical activities and growth.



Goals & Key Measures of Success

The overall goal of the **Champions for Vibrant Health Leadership Network** is to develop an informed and engaged network of emerging and established nonprofit organization leaders committed to helping build Vibrant Health across Riverside and San Bernardino counties through partnership, collective advocacy and organizational capacity building. This overall goal will be accomplished as the following measures of success are achieved by the participating organizations:

- **Increased organizational capacity**, including strengthened intraorganizational leadership at multiple levels that promotes long-term, sustainable success.
- **Increased collective advocacy** leading to a regionally shared narrative that promotes health equity in the Inland Empire.
- **Expanded private and public funding to the Inland Empire** that improves regional capacity and sustainable sources of funding to local community-based organizations.
- **Expanded health equity in the Inland Empire** as community members' core health needs are met by being better connected with information, resources and services necessary for experiencing Vibrant Health.

Leadership Network Expectations

In order for the Champions for Vibrant Health Leadership Network to be successful, it is crucial that the organizations selected to participate are able to identify an executive leader and emerging leader to commit to engage in all activities over the course of 2 years (January 2025 – December 2026).

- **Executive Leader:** Preferably the highest-level staff member at an organization, typically an Executive Director, President or Chief Executive Officer, or another key senior executive leader such as COO or Vice President.
- **Emerging Leader:** A mid-level staff member at an organization who demonstrates the potential to emerge into an executive leader for the organization, typically a vice-president, director or manager role.

Both leaders must be able to commit to the following each year:

- Attending six annual gatherings (approximately one every other month) as outlined below:
 - 4 in-person local half-to-full day convenings
 - 1 in-person advocacy trip to Sacramento (2 days, 1 night)
 - 1 in-person leadership retreat (3 days, 2 nights)
- Completing two biannual progress reports



Grant Award Details

As part of the leadership network, organizations will be awarded a two-year, general operating support grant:

- For organizations with an annual operating budget **less than \$1 million**, the grant award amount will be up to **\$25,000 per year (\$50,000 over two years)**.
- For organizations with an annual operating budget **over \$1 million**, the grant award amount will be up to **\$75,000 per year (\$150,000 over two years)**.

Grants will be disbursed in two equal payments in December 2024 and December 2025, with the second payment contingent upon performance and engagement of the organization in the first year of the grant cycle.

Eligibility

Nonprofit, public benefit organizations with evidence of tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and not classified as a private foundation:

- Have been operating for no less than 3 years.
- Have an annual operating budget no less than \$250,000.
- Provide direct services and/or engage in advocacy efforts focused on at least one of the following Vital Conditions for Health and Wellbeing. For more information about Vital Conditions, [click here](#).
 - Basic Needs for Health & Safety
 - Humane Housing
 - Meaningful Work & Wealth
 - Lifelong Learning
- Are headquartered and/or have a significant presence in Riverside and/or San Bernardino County and who primarily serve **Inland Empire families with children (18 years and younger)** from one or more of the following priority populations:
 - Low-income households and/or those living in poverty
 - Communities of Color
 - Communities furthest from health equity. This includes cities with a Healthy Places Index (HPI) score lower than the 25th percentile. For more information about HPI [click here](#).
 - Communities that are remote or rural
- Have executive and emerging leadership staff that have worked with the organization for no less than 1 year and intend to engage in leadership development activities throughout the duration of the 2-year program.
- Have a [2024 Candid Guidestar Seal of Transparency](#) rating of either gold or platinum.



- Fiscally sponsored organizations are **not** eligible to apply.

Evaluation of Applications

Applications will be reviewed by IEHP Foundation staff and volunteers, with evaluation criteria guided by principles aligned with IEHP Foundation’s mission and values. These principles include:

- **Equity:** Prioritizing populations furthest away from health equity that are in alignment with IEHP Foundation's target populations, which include families with children (18 years and younger) in the Inland Empire from one or more of the following: Low-income households and/or those living in poverty; Communities of Color; Communities furthest from health equity (Healthy Places Index score in bottom quartile); communities that are remote or rural.
- **Collaboration:** Leveraging stakeholder and community partner support and advocacy at individual, organization, community and systems levels.
- **Learning:** Organizational practices that value data-driven decision-making, outcomes evaluation and adapting strategy based on continual learning.
- **Trust:** Demonstrating fiscal responsibility, in addition to a commitment and success as trusted messengers to families with children in the Inland Empire.

Timeline

- **Virtual Information Sessions:** June 21, 2024 (10am – 11am) and June 27, 2024 (3pm – 4pm)
- **Applications due:** July 15, 2024 (5pm)
- **Invitations to Final Round Applications:** Late August (no later than August 30, 2024)
- **Final Round Application due:** October 4, 2024 (5pm)
- **Interviews and site visits scheduled, as needed:** October 7 – November 15, 2024
- **Awards announced:** December 2, 2024

Virtual Information Sessions

We will hold two optional virtual information sessions to provide an overview of IEHP Foundation, the application process and how to manage the grant portal system.

- **Friday, June 21 at 10am** – [Register here.](#)
- **Thursday, June 27 at 3pm** – [Register here.](#)

How To Apply

Applications must be submitted in IEHP Foundation’s grant management system. To access the grant management system, [click here.](#)



Additional Questions

For any additional questions, comments or accommodation needs, please email Sara Omari, Strategy Program Administrator, at grants@iehpfoundation.org.