DIHI RFA 2020 – 2021

Request for Applications (RFA) for Innovation Pilots

Applications due October 4, 2019
Seeking Innovations in Care Delivery

The Duke Institute for Health Innovation (DIHI) is excited to announce the next emerging ideas and innovation funding cycle. Applications are open to faculty, staff, trainees and students of Duke University and Duke University Health System and are due by 6:00 PM on Friday, October 4, 2019.

The mission of the DIHI is to promote transformative innovation in health and healthcare, and help cultivate a community of innovation and entrepreneurship across Duke University and the health enterprise.

Proposed demonstration projects should address actual and important problems encountered by care providers, patients and their loved ones in the Duke University Health System (DUHS), and represent urgent health challenges nationally. For the upcoming funding cycle, priority will be given to problems and solutions that are aligned with the following thematic areas:

1. **Novel strategies (care models) to improve value of care delivery:** Implementation of new models of care that leverage different care providers, and that working collaboratively with patients and caregivers to improve outcomes. We are seeking proposals around innovative models of care that leverage two or a team of providers who are responsible for a patient’s care.

2. **Enhancing provider and staff experience and well-being:** We are seeking innovation initiatives to build skills to harness the inner strength to handle the challenges and pace of the current healthcare environment. These projects may aim to reduce burnout and improve the ability to respond to change and/or reduce stress while continuing to provide quality care to patients.

3. **Enhancing patient engagement and experience:** Incorporating the voices of patients, families, and caregivers is essential to transforming and improving our healthcare system. We are soliciting new approaches that extend care, education and engagement through digital technologies, structures and processes.

4. **Accelerating population health solutions and strategies:** Projects should support development and incorporation of new and emerging intervention concepts to improve the health and outcomes of populations we serve. The scope may include the development of capabilities, analytics, and technology tools to support population health improvement and management.
Applications are open to faculty, staff and students of the Duke University and health enterprise. Up to 9 applications will be selected for support, with a total budget allotted for all selected projects not to exceed $450,000. Most proposals are expected to request funding in the range of $25,000 to $70,000 over a one-year period.

### DIHI 2019 RFA TIMELINE

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Please forward this announcement to your collaborators and others who might be interested in applying. Please direct your questions to Suresh Balu (suresh.balu@duke.edu) or Will Ratliff (william.ratliff@duke.edu).

Please visit [dhi.org/funding](http://dhi.org/funding) for more information on how to submit your application.
Proposals should use the following section headings and adhere to a strict three (3) page limit, excluding references. Margins should be a minimum of 0.5” all around and font size no smaller than Arial 11 pt (excepting tables and figures). Please visit dihi.org/funding for more information on how to submit your application.

Proposal Template

**Problem:** What problem(s) does the idea solve? Why is it a problem? Who is affected by and how large is the problem? How is the problem being dealt with today? How is this aligned with the DIHI RFA priorities and other Duke University Health System initiatives?

**Technology/Intervention/ Process Description:** In one or two sentences, describe the innovation. Please be concise, but also clear. Use simple terms; assume the reader is not an expert in the field.

**Relevant Background and Prior Work:** Describe your individual or team experience as it relates to understanding the current problem and developing/implementing your proposed innovation.

**Proposed Project:** What are you proposing to do? How does the innovation (technology, intervention, or process innovation) work to solve the target problem? Tell us a little bit about the clinic or part of the Health System where you would propose testing your idea? How would this be implemented in the proposed setting? Give us a sense for the relative magnitude of your solution. Does your solution completely eliminate the problem or does it solve it partially?

**Innovation:** In one or two sentences, why is what you are proposing innovative?

**Milestones, Metrics, Impact and Hurdles:** What are the significant milestones and timeline during the grant period? (The term "grant period" refers to the period of time during which the awarded grant money will be spent, or one year.) Include target dates for each milestone, and use measurable milestones only. Identify the quantifiable success metrics for this project. What specific outcomes will you be assessing?

**Risks and Mitigation Plans:** What two to three specific hurdles or risks do you foresee that must be addressed for this project to succeed?

**Funding Request and Use of Funds:** For a one-year period, how much funding are you and your team seeking? What is the intended use of the requested funds? What business questions are you trying to answer and how will winning a grant help you find the answer(s) to these questions? Please be specific.

**Other Assistance Required:** In order for the proposed innovation to be successful, what other specific nonfinancial needs would you have?

**References:** No more than 20 (does not count against page limit).