



## WINNEBAGO COUNTY COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH BOARD

### ACCELERATOR AWARDS

#### PROGRAM YEARS 4-6 | NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

##### Description

The Winnebago County Community Mental Health Board (WCCMHB) is dedicated to being responsible to the emerging needs of the community we serve. Accelerator Awards are designed to be funds that accelerate time-sensitive work and launch impactful capital improvement projects regarding improving mental health and substance abuse services, specifically in Winnebago County. Accelerator Awards will support innovative, responsive, and transformative initiatives. Accelerator Awards can support ventures into new areas or can help individual entities, who have worked independently, collaborate around a theme. WCCMHB is seeking proposals that impact one of the following types of capital improvements to increase the capacity of the mental health service delivery system in Winnebago County:

**Human Capital:** The skills, knowledge, and experience possessed by an individual or population, viewed in terms of their value or cost to an organization or community.

**Examples:** Workforce development, education pathways, mental health workforce retention, mental health training for non-traditional mental health providers (i.e. law enforcement, teachers, Primary Care Physicians, etc.).

**Social Capital:** The networks of relationships among people who live and work in a particular community, enabling that community to function effectively.

**Examples:** Initiatives aimed to better address how underserved populations access services or initiatives bringing services to one's community (where and when they need them). Also, strategies which seek to strengthen the network of grassroots groups by building resources, connections, partnerships, engagement, and trust amongst institutional leaders and organizations.

**Physical Capital:** Tangible and human-made goods or assets such as buildings, materials, and supplies.

**Examples:** Constructing a building, remodeling an existing building, and initiatives to increase system capacity such as mobile services.



## WCCMHB

Winnebago County  
Community Mental  
Health Board

### Funding Availability:

Up to \$10 million total funding availability. Up to \$2 million per proposal, to be expended within 24 months.

### Who May Apply:

- Not-for-Profit Corporations: Must be registered as a not-for-profit in good standing with the State of Illinois and established as a Section 501(c)3 under the Internal Revenue Code\*
- For-Profit Businesses (including properly licensed and insured sole proprietorships and individually-owned LLCs)\*
- Hospitals and health care organizations including Federally Qualified Health Centers\*
- Governmental Entities and Departments within Winnebago County Government\*

\* The lead organization must be established for at least three years prior to applying for funding.

All organizations must submit a recent audit or provide rationale if no audit was completed.

### Proposal Submission Details:

Organizations seeking Accelerator Awards must complete an “Interest in Funding Form” located on WCCMHB website. If the Accelerator Awards proposal is aligned with the WCCMHB mission and strategic plan, the organization will be contacted to complete an application for consideration by WCCMHB. Applications will only be accepted through the Foundant grant platform and instructions on how to do so will be provided to the organization.

For questions related to submissions, or to sign up for email notifications, please check the [WCCMHB Funding Resources Page](#) or email [info@mentalhealth.wincoil.us](mailto:info@mentalhealth.wincoil.us).

### Application Selection:

Once an application has been received, the application will be placed into one of three categories; 1) Ready for Review, 2) Ineligible for Review, or 3) Needs Follow-Up Before Review.

- 1) *Ready for Review*: Able to be reviewed and scored by Accelerator Champions
- 2) *Ineligible for Review*: Organization will be notified and provided feedback on the ineligibility of their proposal submission
- 3) *Needs Follow-Up Before Review*: Organization will be contacted to discuss additional information needed in order to review. A formal presentation to the WCCMHB may also be requested of these proposals.



All applications who reach *Ready for Review* status will be made available to and scored by multiple Board members, serving as Accelerator Champions. Decisions will be based on eligibility, ranked score from Accelerator Champions, goals of Accelerator Awards, and final Board vote.

### **Evaluation of Proposals:**

WCCMHB allocation and contracting decisions are made in meetings open to the public (they can be live-streamed on the [WCCMHB Youtube Page](#)). Accelerator Award decisions will be based on statutory mandates and community priorities as laid out in the WCCMHB Strategic Plan.

Emphasis will be placed upon the proposal's strength in addressing each of the following criteria:

- 1) Individuals to be served by Accelerator Award
- 2) Transformative impact of Accelerator Award in Human, Social, or Physical Capital
- 3) Capacity / Scale of Organization in relation to proposal
- 4) Timeline of proposal
- 5) Organization Budget

The WCCMHB Accelerator Award Rubric will be used as a guide in reaching funding allocations. WCCMHB reserves the right to not select a proposal or to submit a new notice of funding for re-defined services. WCCMHB also reserves the right to enter negotiations with selected providers for all or part of the proposal components based on its selection criteria.