



The  
**BUILD  
HEALTH**  
Challenge

**Improving Health  
Through Innovative  
Collaborations**



## » A Call for **Collaboration**

In the United States, more than 95 percent of health care spending is attributable to direct medical services; however, medical care accounts for only a fraction of our nation's health and well-being. A far greater share, as much as 70 percent, can be attributed to the interplay and influence of our social, physical, and economic environments. These upstream factors—often referred to as the social determinants of health—include influences as diverse as early childhood development, employment opportunities, food availability, air and water quality, transportation, educational attainment, public safety, housing and a myriad of others. No one organization in a community can address these alone.

Too often, efforts to improve community health are conducted in silos, seeking to address big picture problems with narrowly focused interventions. In 2015, the **BUILD Health Challenge** committed to supporting communities to change this, by investing in bold, locally-driven community partnerships that leveraged integrated data to create institutional change, promote health equity, and reduce downstream health care costs. For the communities that received funding and technical assistance, it required a fundamental reorientation of how local leaders in health care, public health, and community worked together to improve health and wellness. For most, it required re-imagining their roles in community health, sharing their data and resources, and partnering in new and creative ways. The challenges—logistical, financial, and strategic—were real, but offered opportunities to catalyze systematic change that is set to last well into the future.

True health transformation requires a broad network of national, state, and local support throughout the country. To that end, the BUILD Health Challenge is pleased to have new grantmaking organizations partnering in this effort, lending valuable regional and issue-specific expertise that is allowing this initiative to broaden its reach and impact into new communities nationwide. Joining Advisory Board, the de Beaumont Foundation, the Colorado Health Foundation, The Kresge Foundation, and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation in support for the BUILD Health Challenge are the Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina Foundation, Episcopal Health Foundation, Mid-Iowa Health Foundation, New Jersey Health Initiatives and Telligen Community Initiative. This collaboration blends national perspective with regional expertise, and aims to inspire similar teamwork among organizations at the local level that will help to uncover tomorrow's best practices for community health.

# About the Awards

The BUILD Health Challenge awards are designed to support the advancement of community collaborations that are ready to put their bold, upstream, integrated, local, data-driven plans into action. Organizations jointly applying for a BUILD Health Challenge award should have a strong track record of working together and have developed their joint priorities and implementation plans with strong levels of community engagement and leadership. The BUILD Health Challenge awards are most appropriate for collaborations that have already developed a well-defined action plan with clear roles, strategies, and goals, and where an infusion of philanthropic support could accelerate their work.

## The BUILD Health Challenge plans to make the following award distributions:

**17** Total Awards | **\$250K** Two-year period

- |                                                        |                                                                                                                 |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>8</b> Awards in cities of 150,000 residents or more | <b>1</b> Award in central Iowa <sup>1</sup> that focuses on social determinants of children's health (age 0-21) |
| <b>3</b> Awards in Colorado                            | <b>1</b> Award in the 57-county service area of the Episcopal Diocese of Texas <sup>2</sup>                     |
| <b>3</b> Awards in New Jersey                          | <b>1</b> Award in North Carolina                                                                                |

### Sample activities covered could include, but are not limited to:

- » Advancing local policy solutions that will create better opportunities for health
- » Expanding the range of committed partners to bring complementary sets of expertise, resources, and capacities to the table
- » Supporting staff to manage the initiative, organize the community, and keep all partners on track (sometimes referred to as the "backbone organization" or "quarterback")
- » Developing robust data-sharing agreements to inform intervention strategies and track results for continuous improvement
- » Engaging community members to inform strategy and guide activities
- » Strategic communications
- » Program evaluation

To be eligible for a BUILD Health Challenge award, the participating hospital(s) or health system(s) must demonstrate a 1:1 match met through direct cash support or a combination of cash and in-kind support. Innovative and transformative approaches to leveraging hospital community benefit investments in meeting the match requirement will strengthen the applicants' competitiveness. Matching commitments do not need to be in place by the Feb. 21 deadline for Round 1 proposals, but should be articulated by the time Round 2 proposals are due in May. More information about the hospital match is included in the FAQ section of [buildhealthchallenge.org](http://buildhealthchallenge.org).

<sup>1</sup> Dallas, Polk, and Warren counties

<sup>2</sup> Anderson, Angelina, Austin, Bastrop, Bell, Brazoria, Brazos, Burlison, Burnet, Chambers, Cherokee, Colorado, Coryell, Falls, Fayette, Fort Bend, Freestone, Galveston, Gregg, Grimes, Hardin, Harris, Harrison, Houston, Jasper, Jefferson, Lampasas, Lee, Leon, Liberty, Limestone, Madison, Marion, Matagorda, McLennan, Milam, Montgomery, Nacogdoches, Newton, Orange, Panola, Polk, Robertson, Rusk, Sabine, San Augustine, San Jacinto, Shelby, Smith, Travis, Trinity, Tyler, Walker, Waller, Washington, Wharton, and Williamson Counties

# Join the BUILD Health Challenge

The BUILD Health Challenge will support at least 17 communities in leveraging hospital-community-public health partnerships to address upstream problems, reduce downstream health care costs, and promote health equity. **B**old, **U**pstream, **I**ntegrated, **L**ocal, and **D**ata-driven strategies are cornerstones of the approach. In addition to funding, awardees will gain access to a robust array of coaching and support services, as well as a network of peer communities engaged in similar work that are sharing successes, learnings, and challenges along the way.

## Who is eligible?

**To be eligible for a BUILD Health Challenge award, the lead applicant must meet the following criteria:**

- » Be a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit community organization;
- » Assemble a partnership including (at minimum) a hospital or health system, a local health department, and a nonprofit community organization or coalition of organizations;
  - » *The participating hospital(s) or health system(s) must demonstrate a 1:1 match met through direct cash support or a combination of cash and in-kind support. For more information about the match, refer to the About the Awards section or visit the FAQs posted on [buildhealthchallenge.org](http://buildhealthchallenge.org).*
- » Focus activity within a delineated zip code(s), census tract(s), or neighborhood(s) experiencing significant health disparities within a city of 150,000 residents or more\*;
  - » *\*Applicants from Colorado, New Jersey, North Carolina, areas of central Iowa, and 57 counties in Texas are exempt from this population requirement. For a comprehensive list of eligible counties from Iowa and Texas, refer to the About the Awards section on page 3.*
- » Be willing to participate in learning/evaluation activities and convenings, openly sharing challenges, results, and outcomes.

## Is your partnership BUILD-ready?

Applications that clearly address the principles of the BUILD Health Challenge will be considered most competitive.

**Does your partnership:**

<b>BOLD</b>	Aspire toward a fundamental shift beyond short-term programmatic work to longer-term influences over policy, regulation, and systems-level change?
<b>UPSTREAM</b>	Focus on the social, environmental, and economic factors that have the greatest influence on the health of your community, rather than on access or care delivery?
<b>INTEGRATED</b>	Align the practices and perspectives of communities, health systems, and public health under a shared vision, establishing new roles while continuing to draw upon the strengths of each partner?
<b>LOCAL</b>	Engage neighborhood residents and community leaders as key voices and thought leaders throughout all stages of planning and implementation?
<b>DATA-DRIVEN</b>	Use data from both clinical and community sources as a tool to identify key needs, measure meaningful change, and facilitate transparency among stakeholders to generate actionable insights?

Taken together, do you believe the shifts your partnership is proposing can bring about improvements in community-level health outcomes? If you've answered yes to all of the above, **you're ready to take the BUILD Health Challenge!**

For a comprehensive list of FAQs,  
visit [buildhealthchallenge.org](http://buildhealthchallenge.org)

# How Do I Apply?

The application portal will open on Jan. 10, 2017. All applications must be submitted via the BUILD Health Challenge portal at [buildhealthchallenge.org](http://buildhealthchallenge.org) no later than 5 p.m. ET on Tuesday, Feb. 21, 2017.

## ROUND 1 APPLICATION QUESTIONS

### 1 Proposal Overview

In 100 words or less, describe the work you are proposing to carry out with the support of BUILD Health Challenge funding.

*Responses to the questions below are limited to 4,000 characters or less (with spaces).*

### 2 Community Profile

Describe the community or neighborhood at the focal point of your implementation plan, as well as the specific health disparities or inequities being addressed by this proposal. What methods or data were used to identify these priorities? Include relevant demographic and health disparity data, as well as community data, highlighting the specific social determinant(s) of health that contribute to this issue.

### 3 Partnership Profile

Describe the organizations that are partnering to address this challenge, as well as the history of collaboration between the partnering entities particularly on upstream factors that impact health. How are the complementary resources, expertise, and capacities of each organization being aligned to address the specific health priorities of focus in this community?

### 4 Implementation Plan

Provide a brief narrative description of the bold, upstream, integrated, local, data-driven strategies you are proposing. How will the BUILD Health Challenge opportunity enable you to implement these strategies? Why do you believe your proposed strategies will be effective?

### 5 Impact

Describe the anticipated short-term and long-term impacts on your community, recognizing that the long-term impacts may be realized beyond the term of a two-year award period. What new learning may result from the implementation of this work that may be of value to other communities tackling similar challenges?

## Additional Documents/Letters of Support Required

Applicants that are invited to participate in Round 2 of the application process will be required to upload signed letters of support and commitment from the following key constituents:

- » Executive director of the lead nonprofit community-based organization (including a statement that affirms ability to be recipient of the funding)
- » CEO of the lead hospital or health system (including a statement that affirms commitment to match the \$250,000 award)
- » Local health department official

## Key Dates and Deadlines

<b>December 12, 2016</b> <i>3 p.m.–4 p.m. ET</i>	Informational webinars for prospective applicants (Visit <a href="http://buildhealthchallenge.org">buildhealthchallenge.org</a> to register)
<b>December 15, 2016</b> <i>1 p.m.–2 p.m. ET</i>	
<b>January 31, 2017</b> <i>1 p.m.–2 p.m. ET</i>	
<b>January 10, 2017</b> <i>9 a.m. ET</i>	Application portal opens
<b>February 21, 2017</b> <i>5 p.m. ET</i>	Round 1 application due
<b>April 4, 2017</b>	Invitations extended to select applicants for Round 2
<b>April 18, 2017</b> <i>2 p.m.–3 p.m. ET</i>	Informational webinar for Round 2 applicants
<b>May 23, 2017</b> <i>5 p.m. ET</i>	Round 2 application due
<b>July 11, 2017</b>	Successful Round 2 applicants notified
<b>September 12, 2017</b>	Public announcement of awardees in Washington, DC and first convening of sites with the coaching and supporting partners

## FAQs

### You've got questions? We have answers.

Visit [buildhealthchallenge.org](http://buildhealthchallenge.org) for a comprehensive list of frequently asked questions.

### Don't see your question listed?

Submit it to [info@buildhealthchallenge.org](mailto:info@buildhealthchallenge.org) with the subject line FAQ and your question will be added to the FAQ list. While we welcome questions regarding the intent, design, or goals of the Challenge, please note that we will not be able to provide individual guidance on ideas for proposals.

# About the Funders



**Advisory Board**, a division of The Advisory Board Company, is a best practices organization that uses a combination of research, technology, and consulting to improve the performance of more than 4,400 health care organizations. Headquartered in Washington, D.C., with offices worldwide, Advisory Board forges and finds the best new ideas and proven practices from its network of thousands of leaders, then customizes and hardwires them into every level of member organizations, creating enduring value.



The **Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina Foundation** is an independent, charitable foundation with the mission of improving the health and well-being of North Carolinians. Since its founding in 2000, BCBSNC Foundation has invested more than \$110 million in North Carolina communities through nearly 870 grants. BCBSNC Foundation grantmaking and special initiatives are focused in three key areas: improving health outcomes of populations served by safety net organizations through improved access to medical and dental care; increasing physical activity and access to healthy, local foods; and increasing the effectiveness of nonprofit organizations and their leaders. More information is available at [www.bcbsncfoundation.org](http://www.bcbsncfoundation.org).



The **de Beaumont Foundation's** mission is to transform public health in the United States by improving the effectiveness and capacity of local and state health departments. The de Beaumont Foundation believes that a strong public health system is essential. The Foundation works to transform the practice of public health through strategic and engaged grantmaking. Programs funded by the Foundation build the capacity and stature of the public health workforce, improve public health infrastructure, and advance the distribution and relevancy of information and data in the field. For more information, visit [www.debeaumont.org](http://www.debeaumont.org).



The Colorado Health Foundation™

The **Colorado Health Foundation** works to make Colorado the healthiest state in the nation by ensuring that all Colorado kids are fit and healthy and that all Coloradans achieve stable, affordable and adequate health coverage to improve their health with support from a network of primary health care and community services. To advance our mission, the Foundation engages the community through grantmaking, public policy and advocacy, private sector engagement, strategic communications, evaluation for learning and assessment and by operating primary care residency training programs. For more information, please visit [www.ColoradoHealth.org](http://www.ColoradoHealth.org).



The **Episcopal Health Foundation (EHF)** believes all Texans deserve to be healthy. EHF is committed to transform the health of our communities by going beyond just the doctor's office. By providing millions of dollars in grants, working with congregations and community partners, and providing important research, we're supporting solutions that address the underlying causes of poor health. EHF was established in 2013 and is based in Houston. With more than \$1.2 billion in estimated assets, the Foundation operates as a supporting organization of the Episcopal Diocese of Texas and works across 57 Texas counties. #HealthNotJustHealthcare



The **Kresge Foundation** is a \$3.6 billion private, national foundation that works to expand opportunities in America's cities through grantmaking and social investing in arts and culture, education, environment, health, human services, and community development in Detroit. In 2015, the Board of Trustees approved 371 grants totaling \$125.2 million, and nine social investment commitments totaling \$20.3 million. For more information, visit [kresge.org](http://kresge.org).



Strengthening the community's health has been the focus of the **Mid-Iowa Health Foundation** (MIHF) since it began in 1984. The Foundation's mission is to serve as a catalyst and partner for improving the health of our community's most vulnerable people. MIHF's HealthConnect strategic priority strives to connect non-traditional partners with the mutual goal to create opportunities and reduce social barriers to ensure healthy development for our most vulnerable children and youth. Mid-Iowa Health Foundation commits resources to improving health in greater Des Moines, Iowa.



Recognizing a special commitment and responsibility to its community and to its state, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) established the **New Jersey Health Initiatives** (NJHI) program more than 25 years ago to honor the philanthropic legacy of RWJF's founder, Robert Wood Johnson. Like the rest of the nation, New Jersey faces an array of challenges that prevent those working and residing in the state from living the healthiest life possible, and RWJF, through NJHI's grantmaking programs, is committed to supporting initiatives that address those problems in the state. NJHI's mission mirrors that of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation — to improve the health and health care of all Americans. NJHI does this by striving to build a Culture of Health right here in New Jersey, the Foundation's home state, that will enable all to live longer, healthier lives now and for generations to come. For more information, visit [www.njhi.org](http://www.njhi.org).



**Telligen Community Initiative** (TCI) works to provide financial support to projects and organizations that strive to improve the health of communities. TCI's overall goal is to ensure opportunities for health are available and accessible to everyone. Our vision is to empower organizations and citizens to improve their individual and overall community health. Our mission is to initiate and support innovative and forward-looking health-related projects aimed at improving health, social well-being and educational attainment. The foundation provides funding to health-related projects and organizations in Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, and Oklahoma.



For more than 40 years the **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation** has worked to improve health and health care. We are working with others to build a national Culture of Health enabling everyone in America to live longer, healthier lives. For more information, visit [www.rwjf.org](http://www.rwjf.org). Follow the Foundation on Twitter at [www.rwjf.org/twitter](https://twitter.com/rwjf) or on Facebook at [www.rwjf.org/facebook](https://www.rwjf.org/facebook).