The Rita **Hillman** and Alex **Foundation**

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Request for Proposals

2022 Hillman Emergent Innovation: Serious Illness and End of Life (HSEI)

$50,000 | 12-18 months

Letters of Intent due on Tuesday, March 8, 2022

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The Rita and Alex Hillman Foundation

The Rita and Alex Hillman Foundation's mission is to improve the lives of all patients, families, and communities through nursing-driven innovation. We focus our grantmaking on elevating the health and healthcare of marginalized populations because we believe that by improving care to populations who experience inequity, discrimination, oppression, and indifference, we improve care for all. To this end, we invest in the development of new and better ways of delivering care, and the cultivation of a vibrant ecosystem of nurse innovators, grantees, and partners dedicated to building a healthier, more equitable future.

Hillman Emergent Innovation: Serious Illness and End of Life

The Hillman Serious Illness and End of Life Emergent Innovation (HSEI) program provides grants to accelerate the development of bold, nursing-driven interventions that will improve the health and healthcare of marginalized populations. These populations include the economically disadvantaged, racial and ethnic minorities, LGBTQ+ people, people experiencing homelessness, low-income rural populations, and other groups that encounter obstacles to accessing quality healthcare services.

The HSEI program seeks proposals for creative, early stage nursing-driven interventions that:

- Improve health outcomes for marginalized populations
- Narrow gaps in health equity
- Challenge conventional strategies for delivering and improving care to marginalized populations
- Show potential for scalability

Additional priority consideration will be given to proposals that include one or more of the following:

- Build trust and credibility in programs or systems of care
- Engagement of patients, families, caregivers, and/or community organizations
- Inter-professional or multidisciplinary collaboration
- Institutional and community partnerships
- Provision of care in non-hospital settings
- Measurable goals and outcomes

The Foundation will not consider:

- White papers, literature reviews, or support for publishing
- Basic science or research
- Capital projects or improvements
- Training programs
- Development of stand-alone technology including medical devices and mobile apps not integral to the overall design of the program
- Projects outside the United States and its territories

To see our current list of grantees, please visit our website.

Grant Award

Thanks in part to the ongoing partnership with The Arthur Vining Davis Foundations, this program will award a $50,000 grant each to up to ten (10) organizations. Project duration is 12–18 months, with an expected start date of January 1, 2023. Grant payment will be made in full by December 31, 2022.

Application Schedule

Grant Portal Opens	Tuesday, February 1, 2022
Informational Webinar *(optional)*	Tuesday, February 15, 2022 (1:00 pm EST)
Letters of Intent Due	Tuesday, March 8, 2022 (11:59 pm EST)
Finalists Invited to Submit Full Proposals	Tuesday, April 5, 2022
Full Proposals Due	Tuesday, May 10, 2022 (11:59 pm EST)
Awards Announcement	Tuesday, September 27, 2022

Schedule is subject to change. Adjustments to dates will be announced to applicants via email and posted to the Foundation's website.

Who Should Apply?

We believe that transformative ideas are as likely to come from community health clinics as they are from major academic research centers.

We welcome applications from institutions and care settings from across the spectrum of care, and from practitioners representing a diverse range of backgrounds.

Who is eligible?

- U.S. 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations that are not classified as private foundations (proof of qualifying non-profit status, such as a tax-exempt determination letter from the Internal Revenue Service, is required)
- International organizations that are the equivalent of U.S. 501(c)(3) organizations that are submitting a project that focuses within the United States
- Government entities
- Faith-based organizations that welcome and serve all members of the community regardless of religious belief

Who is not eligible?

- Individuals
- Organizations that discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, citizenship status, age, disability, sexual orientation, or veteran status

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Application Instructions

Letters of Intent (LOIs) must be submitted through the Foundation's online grant portal. The application consists of three parts:

Project Profile

- Organization/institution contact information
- Principal Investigator(s) contact information
- Brief description of organization or institution (250 words maximum)
- Executive summary of proposed project (200 words maximum)

Letter of Intent (1,000 words maximum)

While the substance and style of narratives will vary depending on the nature of the project, LOIs should accomplish the following:

- Describe the main issue, problem, or opportunity and why it is important
- Identify the marginalized population or populations served

- Describe the proposed intervention/model of care/approach/prototype
- Describe how the proposed intervention is rooted in nursing's strengths and holistic approach to care
- Explain how the proposed intervention relates to others in the field and why it is bold and innovative
- Explain how the grant funds will be used
- Explain why the Principal Investigator(s), organization and project collaborators are uniquely qualified to address the issue or problem
- Explain briefly the anticipated measurable outcomes and benefits of the project, including potential long-term impact

Supporting Materials

- Short biographies (½ – 1 page) of each person on the project team. Full curriculum vitaes (CVs) are discouraged.
- Up to three (3) letters of support

Allowable Costs

Grant funds may be used for the following cost categories:

- Personnel
- Travel
- Consultants
- Direct Supplies
- Equipment
  Please note, partial or full support for equipment may be requested. Funding for infrastructure will be limited.
- Other Research Costs
- Sub-grants/ Subcontracts
- Indirect Costs
  Please note, The Rita and Alex Hillman Foundation will provide a limited amount of funding for indirect costs, based on the nature of the applicant organization, to a maximum of 15% of direct costs (above outlined items) of the project's administered grant value. The sum of direct and indirect costs must equal the total grant amount awarded ($50,000).

Evaluation Criteria

Health Impact: Does the project have the potential to significantly impact the health of marginalized populations? Does the proposal clearly explain possible pathways to impact, including how it will improve health and the provision of care?

Boldness and Creativity: Does the proposal present creative solutions that address significant health and healthcare problems in a new way? Does the proposed intervention have the potential to leapfrog conventional approaches?

Nursing-Driven: Is the proposed intervention rooted in nursing's strengths and holistic approach to care? Does the proposal clearly explain why a nursing approach is especially well-suited to address the defined health/healthcare problem?

Scalability: Can the innovation and delivery mechanisms be readily implemented in systems and/or communities to improve health or healthcare?

Evidence/Execution Plan: Are the proposed concept and approach based on sound analysis? Are feasible activities and reasonable measurable outcomes set out for the timeline of the grant?

Health Equity: Does the project have the potential to significantly impact health equity within the target population? Does the proposal clearly explain the metrics and approach to improving health equity?

Inclusion: Does the team include diverse perspectives? Are members of the target community meaningfully included in the design, implementation and evaluation of the project?

Leadership: Do the leaders and key team members demonstrate the commitment, skills, and rapport necessary to successfully pilot emerging work?

Institutional/Community Support: How does the host organization bring demonstrable support and commitment to the proposed project?

Deliverables

The project leaders funded under this effort will be expected to provide the deliverables listed below:

- Provision of one (1) written report to demonstrate project progress and success. This report will capture a clear assessment of the impact of the project and identify social, cultural and other barriers to expanded implementation.
- Provision of periodic updates, including conversations via teleconference and (in special circumstances) informal site visits.
- Dissemination of knowledge through publications in peer-reviewed literature, etc.
- Active participation in meetings or workshops that bring together grantees to share learning and best practices
- Participation in public engagement activities

Additional Resources

Due to the volume of submissions (over 300) and our limited staff of 4 people, it is difficult to provide personal feedback for each individual applicant and project. We have compiled the following resources:

- An optional, informational webinar on this year's Hillman Innovation Programs, taking place on Tuesday, February 15, 2022 at 1:00 pm EST, to explain the particulars of each program and how to assess which might offer the best match for a given project. Please register in advance for the informational webinar.
- A detailed Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) to answer any additional questions.
- A detailed guide with instructions on navigating the Foundation's online grant portal. Please contact us at innovationsincare@rahf.org if you experience technical issues. We encourage you to begin your application early because Foundation staff have limited availability to respond to inquiries as application deadlines approach.

Privacy Notice

To help us in the evaluation and analysis of projects, all proposals, documents, communications, and associated materials submitted to The Rita and Alex Hillman Foundation (collectively, "Submission Materials") will become the property of the Foundation and will be shared with other members of the Advisory Committee, Board of Directors, and

other funding partners or potential funding partners. We will report publicly on the number of applications received.

The proposals, in addition to analysis by our staff and consultants, may be subject to confidential external review by independent subject-matter experts, potential co-funders, and (for educational purposes only) participants in the Hillman Scholars Program for Nursing Innovation. Please carefully consider the information included in the Submission Materials. If you have any doubts about the wisdom of disclosure of confidential or proprietary information, we recommend you consult with legal counsel and take any steps you deem necessary to protect your intellectual property. You may wish to consider whether such information is critical for evaluating the submission, and whether more general, non-confidential information may be adequate as an alternative for these purposes.

We respect confidential information we receive. Nonetheless, notwithstanding your characterization of any information as being confidential, we may publicly disclose all information contained in Submission Materials to the extent as may be required by law and as is necessary for potential co-funders and external reviewers to evaluate them and the manner and scope of potential funding, consistent with appropriate regulations and their internal guidelines and policies.