



NC DHHS Notice of Funding Availability

Reporting Form

DHHS Division/Office issuing this notice: Division of Public Health, Chronic Disease and Injury Section, Injury and Violence Prevention Branch

Date of this notice: June 24, 2024

RFA Title: Rape Prevention and Education: Community Led Innovations in Prevention

Purpose:

The purpose of Rape Prevention and Education (RPE): Community Led Innovations in Prevention is to prevent sexual violence perpetration and victimization in North Carolina by implementing primary prevention strategies. The North Carolina RPE Program centers health equity and a shared risk and protective factor approach in the primary prevention of sexual violence. The NC RPE Program believes that addressing related health-equity issues like access to housing, food, and stable employment is necessary in sexual violence prevention. Activities focused on changing characteristics of individuals or relationships may be considered if the applicant braids them into activities that improve communities. The NC RPE Program aims to change the above-mentioned norms through funding community-based organizations and local health departments to engage in community- and societal-level approaches that address the shared risk and protective factors of sexual violence. Through direct funding, this RFA will support selected programs to hire and retain one full time employee and up to 20% of another staff person's time to lead the primary prevention efforts for the agency and their community, to enact and evaluate the chosen strategy. Funding will also be used for community mobilization efforts.

This RFA will result in up to nine (9) contracts beginning February 1, 2025 through January 31, 2026. Pending satisfactory performance and available funding, the contracting agencies may be renewed for two additional one-year terms beginning February 1, 2026 through January 31, 2028. In efforts to support the continuity of services provided by nonprofit grantees receiving state and federal funds, the Department of Health and Human Services (Department) shall enter into a minimum of a two-year contract agreement with nonprofit grantees/recipients if certain requirements are met in accordance with Session Law 2022-52.

Description:

All funded projects will be required to engage in community mobilization efforts, a coalition, and/or task force to carry out proposed strategies. Organizations must implement one strategy from the list here:

- **Strategy 1: Strengthen Economic Supports** so that people have resources to provide for themselves and their families' basic needs and opportunities to improve their economic status. Programs implementing this strategy should describe how they plan to engage the priority

populations and which partners they will work with to carry out strategies. Applicants under this strategy will identify key multi-sector partnerships and show their current capacity to implement programming, or their plans to build capacity for this programming in year 1 of the contract.

- **Strategy 2: Create Protective Environments** by changing aspects of the community (policies, institutional structures, or the social/ physical environment) to reduce sexual violence and to increase protective factors, such as how connected people feel to their communities, how positive a school climate is, or belongingness at school or in community. These strategies aim to help people feel supported, welcomed, engaged, and cared for in their communities and schools. Programs implementing this strategy should describe what community in which they plan to work, what they want to change about that community, who their partners will be, and how this will increase safety & well-being for priority populations.
- **Strategy 3: Promote Social Norms that Protect Against Violence** by addressing what may be considered normal about accepting or allowing violence, with a specific focus on identity-related power imbalances. We all get messages about who deserves safety, dignity, and respect, and who does not. These messages shape our beliefs, expectations, and actions, and can lead to sexual violence. This strategy aims to change what a group of people believe and expect, so that people of all genders, races, classes, abilities and disabilities can be safe, well, and free from violence.

Eligibility:

The *Rape Prevention and Education: Community Led Innovations in Prevention* funding is open to non-profit 501(c)3 organizations and public or local governmental agencies located and licensed to conduct business in the state of North Carolina that can clearly demonstrate a commitment to the primary prevention of sexual violence. Colleges and universities are excluded from this funding opportunity. Although North Carolina colleges and universities are ineligible to apply for this cycle of Rape Prevention and Education funding, the NC RPE Program is committed to the continued support of North Carolina's colleges and universities through training and technical assistance provided by the North Carolina Coalition Against Sexual Assault (NCCASA) and the NC Campus Consortium.

How to Apply:

Applications must be submitted by email only to sara.crouch@dhhs.nc.gov as one consolidated PDF file including the Summary Page, Application Face Sheet, Project Narrative, Indirect Cost Rate Approval Letter, and Letter(s) of Commitment/Support. **The Budget with Narrative must be submitted as a separate excel document using the provided template.** Incomplete applications and applications not completed in accordance with the instructions will not be reviewed.

Deadline for Submission: August 23, 2024

How to Obtain Further Information: Direct all inquiries concerning this RFA to Sara Crouch at sara.crouch@dhhs.nc.gov.

RFA Website: <https://injuryfreenc.dph.ncdhhs.gov/AA414.htm>