

Communities of Solutions

Implementation Application

Frequently Asked Questions

Important Dates

- **When is the application due? When will I know?**
 - Implementation application opens: August 7, 2023
 - Deadline for Implementation applications: September 22, 2023
 - Coalitions will be notified of decisions: December 2023
 - Cohort 3 Implementation begins in January 2023

Application and Selection

- **What am I applying for?**
 - This application is for coalitions who completed the PJTT Learning Collaborative and were invited to be considered for PJTT implementation. Coalitions funded in the Implementation Phase will receive continued support through convenings, coaching, peer learning, funding, and focused capacity-building. Coalitions will self-identify the support they need. Support will be for the purpose of advancing each coalition's health equity strategy.
- **How are coalitions selected for Implementation**
 - Coalitions are selected based upon their participation in the PJTT Learning Collaborative and on the strength of their Implementation application.
- **My coalition has changed - what do I do?**
 - We understand the dynamic nature of coalitions. We are more than willing to work with you through whatever situation has arisen. Please contact the Communities of Solutions team for support and guidance on next steps at thrivingcommunities@mhm.org or reach out to your designated Point of Contact.
- **How much funding for Implementation can be expected?**
 - In developing your application and budget, coalitions should plan for a three-year timeframe. We encourage coalitions to propose a three-year budget between \$450,000 and \$1,050,000 (annually \$150,000 to \$350,000), although we will also consider higher or lower proposals.
- **If I need help, who do I contact and how?**
 - Please contact us at thrivingcommunities@mhm.org or reach out directly to your coalition's designated point of contact.

Implementation

- **When does the Implementation Phase start?**

It begins early January 2024.

- **What will our coalition be doing in the Implementation phase?**

The Implementation phase of Prosperemos Juntos | Thriving Together is focused on implementation of your coalition's health equity strategy. Through capacity-building, convenings, and other forms of support, Methodist Healthcare Ministries is committed to strengthening each coalition's ability to use the tools and processes that were highlighted in the Learning Collaborative.

- **What are the expectations?**

- For coalitions:

- Transparency
 - Effective and ongoing communication – prompt responses
- Participation in monthly and quarterly check-ins; attendance at biannual convenings
- The shifting of power: Persons with current or recent lived experience are centered in the process of co-designing, co-implementing, and co-evaluating the coalition's health equity strategy.
- Diversity: Through ongoing assessment of the coalition's strengths and opportunities, new organizations and partners are added to the coalition
- Transformational: Ongoing utilization of the Assessment for Advancing Community Transformation (AACT) to identify, prioritize, and drive transformation
- Reporting - complete and timely reporting on tracked progress and metrics

- Community of Solutions Team

- Transparency
 - Effective and ongoing communication - prompt responses
- Timely follow-through
- Notion announcements and updates
- Meeting and event reminders
 - Partnership - A commitment to walk alongside the coalitions, respecting their expertise and always striving to co-design, co-implement, and co-author whenever possible.

- **What kind of support can I expect?**

- Continued support through convenings, coaching, peer learning, funding, focused capacity-building, and access to community experts

- **How can our coalition spend any funding we receive?**

- All funding must be used to advance the health equity strategic plan presented in your application via your proposed budget.

- **How often should I meet with my coalition?**

As often is appropriate and your schedules allow. Most coalitions meet weekly; we recommend planning to meet at least every other week. Note that this work is highly relational and requires collaboration from all members of the coalition, as well as input from the community. Discussion and engagement are essential for reflection, growth, and transformation.

Capacity Building

- **What is the goal for capacity-building during the Implementation Phase?**

- The goal of providing opportunities for capacity-building is to strengthen the ability of each coalition to implement its community-driven health equity plan and maximize impact on the vital community conditions.
- Capacity-building priorities will be identified by each coalition, and MHM will help identify resources and provide payment to vendors.

- **How do you define capacity-building?**

- Within Prosperemos Juntos | Thriving Together, we differentiate between leadership development (focused on individual skill development) versus capacity-building (focused on strengthening the coalition and its abilities as a whole). We define capacity building as both:
 - A process of building and strengthening the systems, structures, cultures, skills, resources, and power that coalitions need to serve their communities.
 - An action to bring a coalition to the next level of operational, programmatic, financial, or organizational maturity, so it may more effectively and efficiently advance its mission. Capacity building is not a one-time effort to improve short-term effectiveness, but a continuous improvement strategy toward the creation of a sustainable and effective coalition

- **What areas could we receive capacity-building support for?**

- Popular topics have included:
 - Impact measurement
 - Coalition governance
 - Marketing
 - Information technology services
 - Strategic planning
- We are open to other topics as well. Capacity-building priorities will be identified by each coalition.

- **Do we need to budget for capacity-building and include it in our proposal?**

- No, MHM will budget for this separately and begin conversations to identify your coalition's priorities after you move into Implementation.

Reporting

- **What is the frequency of reporting?**
 - Our team will schedule a check-in with every coalition once a month. We will type notes from the check-in and share them with all participants for editing.
- **What type of reporting is expected?**
 - In addition to monthly check-ins, each coalition is expected to complete a year-end reflection/report about their learnings over the previous 12 months.