



The Baxter International Foundation Health Restoration Fund

The Mid South Health Initiative of the Foundation for the Mid South is pleased to announce a regional grants competition. Due to the generosity of the Baxter International Foundation and the Robert W. Johnson Foundation, our grant making seeks to develop or expand the impact of **community based health care providers** on the health status of Mid South residents.

After the hurricanes that hit our region in 2005, the world witnessed not only the devastation of the storms but what they revealed about our systems and services. Over the last year, much good work has helped to alleviate the impact of the destruction of systems, disruption of health services, and overburdened health professionals. As we continue to move forward our challenge is to not only improve but transform the health status of our region. To aid in the transformation, the Baxter Restoration Fund will award grants to entities that have innovative ideas, approaches and or plans that will decrease the health inequities of the vulnerable and socially disadvantaged residents of our region.

The guidelines for this funding were developed by the Mid South Health Advisory Committee based on feedback from the Regional Health Convening held in January 2006. The approximately 150 participants emphasized five priority areas –Health Promotion and Disease Prevention, Community Capacity Building, Health Policy, Technology, Racism and Cultural Sensitivity. To learn more about the convening, review the [**Regional Convening Report**](#). Successful proposals will be evaluated on their work in **health** with special emphasis given to the five areas identified above, **partnerships** between entities of varied geographic scope, and that address one or more of the **social determinants** that impact health status and that improve the quality of life.

Health is more than a medical issue. In both affluent and poor communities, people's health largely depends on the social conditions in which they live and work. Health inequities continue to grow across social classes, occupations, and ethnic groups within communities, even where more resources are made available. Social determinants of health addresses this challenge by seeking ways to shift from disease-focused solutions to people-focused solutions, taking into account the realities of people's daily lives and the communities in which they live. In order to move toward a healthier Mid South, we must take the social determinants of health into account.

Social determinants of health are the social conditions in which people live which have a major impact on their health. The term social determinants of health grew out of the search by researchers to identify the specific exposures by which members of different socio-economic groups come to experience varying degrees of health and illness. Social determinants of health, which include, but not limited to, socioeconomic status, social and environmental stressors, and racial equity are challenges we face in the Mid South.

Additional consideration will be given to organizations impacted by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

A total of \$932,000 will be awarded to community based health care providers. No grant request should exceed \$200,000 (18 month grant cycle). Concept papers (3-5 pages) **must** demonstrate all of the following:

- A bold and innovative vision to improve health status;
- A current or future partnership/collaboration with a policy or research group;
- Clear focus on the target population;
- The social, behavioral and/or economic impact;
- An evaluation component to measure impact; and
- Status as a 501(c)(3) organization.

This grant will not cover the following: capital campaigns, hospitals, disease specific programs, residential services, entities outside of the Mid South states of Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi, conferences, media productions, membership fees, religious activities, political organizations or candidates, direct fundraising efforts, telephone solicitations, courtesy advertising, and memorial projects.

Concept Paper Check List: Organizational information (Name, Address, Website, Email, Executive Director/Paid Head Staff, Primary Contact, if other for this Project), total concept budget and time period, and copy of the current IRS determination letter indicating 501(c)(3) and 509(a) tax exempt status. These items are not included in the 5 page limit.

The deadline for concept papers is September 15, 2006. Anything over 5 pages will not be read. Concept papers will only be accepted via email or fax. Please review the Mid South Health Initiative Resource Report and the Regional Convening Report. The concept papers will be reviewed by the Mid South Health Initiative Advisory Committee and those chosen will be invited to submit a full proposal with grants awarded in December.

Questions should be directed to contact our Grants Manager, Denise Ellis at grants@fndmidsouth.org or 601.355.8167. Submit concept papers to grants@fndmidsouth.org or 601.355.6499.

The Foundation for the Mid South invests in people and strategies that build philanthropy and promote racial, social, and economic equity in Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi.