Overview

Point of contact: Rachel Sehr, Administrator Office of Community Engagement South Dakota Department of Health	**Application Submission Deadline:** October 18, 2024, 5:00 pm CT
	Tentative Award Notification: December 1, 2024
Funding available: Up to $10,000 per awardee	**Project Period:** January 1, 2024-May 31, 2025

Apply via electronic submission to Rachel Sehr at Rachel.Sehr@state.sd.us

Definitions

- **Frontier** counties include those with a population density of six or fewer people living in a square mile
- **Health Equity** is the attainment of the highest level of health for all people.
- **Health Literacy** is comprised of two components, personal health literacy and organizational health literacy.
  - **Personal health literacy** is the degree to which individuals have the ability to find, understand, and use information and services to inform health-related decisions and actions for themselves and others.
  - **Organizational health literacy** is the degree to which organizations equitably enable individuals to find, understand, and use information and services to inform health-related decisions and actions for themselves and others.
- **Health Professional Shortage Area** is a shortage of providers for an entire group within a defined geographic area.
- **Health People 2030** identifies public health priorities to help individuals, organizations, and communities across the United States improve health and well-being.
- **Rural** areas encompass all people, housing, and territory not within an urban area. Urban areas are territories consisting of at least 2,000 housing units or a population of at least 5,000.
- **Social determinates of health (SDOH)** are the conditions in the environments where people are born, live, learn, work, play, worship, and age that affect a wide range of health, functioning, and quality-of-life outcomes and risks.

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Background

- Social determinates of health have been shown to account for as much as 80% of a person's health outcomes.
- Rural residents are even more susceptible
  - All but two SD counties are considered either rural or frontier
- Additional SD barriers:
  - 13% of households living below 100% of the federal poverty level
    - Reservations experience higher poverty rates
    - Three counties are amongst the highest poverty rates in the nation
      - Oglala Lakota (55.8%)
      - Todd (52.2%)
      - Mellette (49.1%)
  - 12.2% of SD residents under 65 years of age experience a lack of health insurance
  - 8.3% of residents have less than a high school diploma/GED
  - 2/3 of the state is designated as a Health Professional Shortage Area

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Purpose

- Address health equity and social determinates of health to improve health outcomes through the implementation of Nexus SD
  - Statewide collaboration of health care, human and social service providers sharing information using an integrated technology platform and referral system to coordinate whole-person care
  - Streamline connection between multi-sector providers to address social needs and drive positive outcomes among populations at higher risk and that are underserved

Eligibility

- Must have reviewed the Nexus SD Policy and System Operation Manual found at nexus.sd.gov and be ready to execute a membership agreement at the time of award
- Either send, receive, or send *and* receive referrals related to addressing social determinates of health
- This funding opportunity is open to:
  - Organizations with a 501(c)3 tax status (or equivalent status) and government entities:
    - Examples: Community groups/civic/service organizations ▪ Tribal and/or municipal government offices/programs ▪ Programs that meet basic needs: such as shelter, food, and clothing ▪ Programs that provide emergency services ▪ Primary health care services ▪ Support groups ▪ Health and human services ▪ Youth programs ▪ Disability services ▪ Substance use services
  - For-profit businesses providing a critical health or human service if they offer a free (or reduced cost) service to the community or accept Medicaid or Medicare

Available Funding

- The total funding allotted for this opportunity may vary depending on overall interest from potential awardees
- Receive up to $10,000 based on completion of various milestones.
- 100% funded by federal funds

Funding Parameters

- Project period begins one-month post-award and lasts through May 31, 2025.
- Organizations may be awarded before the submission deadline.
- Funding amounts will remain the same regardless of the awardee's start date.
- Continued funding will not be available. Any awarded funding not utilized will be forfeited.
- Funding will be remitted based on the completion of key milestones.
- All onboarding milestones must be completed for new Nexus SD members before reimbursement is dispersed.
- Members do not need to complete all milestones and will be reimbursed according to the milestones they achieve.
- Implementation and recruitment milestones may be reimbursed as soon as the milestone is reached.
- Implementation and recruitment milestones may occur concurrently.
- Recruitment reimbursement will be dispersed after each recruited organization successfully completes onboarding.

Funding Restrictions

- Organizations awarded through this opportunity must be physically located in South Dakota and target South Dakota residents and/or tribal communities.
- Funding will be awarded to an organization only and not to an individual(s).
- A single organization may be awarded only once, regardless of the number of physical locations.

Application Guidelines

- SD DOH will approve or deny applications. All decisions will be final. A denial of an award does not equate to a denial of Nexus SD membership.
- The maximum funding award will be $10,000 based on completion of milestones.
- The past performance of organizations previously receiving SD DOH funds will be considered when reviewing applications.
- Applications received after the submission deadline will not be considered for award but are still encouraged to join Nexus SD.

Scoring Criteria

- Submissions will be rated based on the completeness and relevancy of the information supplied.
- Organizations serving the highest need populations in South Dakota will be prioritized.
- The following point values have been assigned to the sections within the application.
  - Contact Information...20 points
  - Contract Requirements...10 points
  - Organizational Background..20 points
  - Population Served...80 points
  - Pre-Implementation Considerations..20 points
  - Nexus SD Utilization...80 points
  - Project Team...20 points

Reporting Requirements

- Submit user feedback via the 30-day and 90-day post-onboarding surveys.
- Submit a progress report with every milestone reimbursement request. SD DOH will provide a template.
- Submit a final, cumulative report by June 10, 2025. SD DOH will provide a template.

Award Requirements

- Submit invoices within one month of achieving milestone completion.
- Submit at least one success story by the end of the funding cycle. SD DOH will provide a template.
- Participate in one panel discussion or presentation as requested by SD DOH.
- Participate in other evaluation activities requested by the SD DOH.

Technical Assistance

- The Nexus SD team will provide technical assistance throughout the application period and project period.

Objective Specific Requirements

New Nexus SD Members		
Category	Milestone	Reimbursement
Onboarding	Sign contract and Nexus SD membership documents	$2,000.00
	Create program card(s)	
	Claim program(s)	
	Complete staff training	
Implementation*	Provide services for at least 10 seekers	$1,000.00
	Provide services for at least 25 seekers	$1,000.00
	Provide services for at least 50 seekers	$1,000.00
Recruitment**	Refer up to 10 member organizations who join Nexus SD	$500 per member

Objective Specific Requirements

Existing Nexus SD Members		
Category	Milestone	Reimbursement
Implementation*	Provide services for at least 10 seekers	$1,000.00
	Provide services for at least 25 seekers	$1,000.00
	Provide services for at least 50 seekers	$1,000.00
	Provide services for at least 75 seekers	$1,000.00
	Provide services for at least 100 seekers	$1,000.00
Recruitment**	Refer up to *10* member organizations who join Nexus SD	$500 per member

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Objective Specific Requirements

* Eligible implementation services include:
- Completing the intake process for a new seeker
- Sending one or more referrals on behalf of a new seeker
- Receiving a referral for a new seeker and documenting a positive (green) completion status indicating your organization was able to provide a service (assist with rent, transportation, food procurement, etc.) for that seeker.
- For unsuccessful (red) outcomes, due diligence must be documented, showing the member attempted to provide a service before it can count toward your overall implementation milestones.

** Eligible recruitment efforts include referrals of new members who join Nexus SD in response to your recruitment efforts. Awardees may not receive reimbursement for recruitment of existing members or recruitment of organizations who are ineligible or don't join Nexus SD.

Budget

- No budget submission is required for this funding award.
- A maximum of $10,000 will be dispersed to awarded organizations based on completion of the specified milestones.

Application – Contact Information

- Organization name
- Organization address
- Organization HIPAA status
  - HIPAA-covered
  - Not HIPAA-covered
  - Unknown
- Organization tax status
  - 501(c)3/nonprofit
  - For-profit
  - Unknown
- Organization sector
  - Healthcare
  - Human Services
  - Social Services
  - Community-Based Organization
  - Other

- What population(s) does your organization serve?
  - Medicaid
  - Medicare
  - Uninsured
  - Underinsured
  - Insured
  - Other
- Primary contact name
- Contact title
- Contact phone number
- Contact email address

Application – Contact Information Continued

- Have you previously been awarded funding or been in a contract with the SD DOH?
- Indicate if you are a current member/user of the following:
  - Nexus SD
  - Findhelp
  - Helpline Center Network of Care (HCNC)
  - Unite Us
  - Unknown
  - Other
- What software system do you use for documentation?
- Do you have interest in integrating your software with Nexus SD?
- How did you hear about this opportunity?
  - SD DOH website
  - Newsletter
  - Outreach from Nexus SD team/Helpline Center
  - Outreach from SD DOH
  - Current Nexus SD member
  - Other

Application – Contract Requirements

- Documents to sign/provide:
  - Contract with SD DOH
  - Proof of insurance
  - Alternate W-9 form
  - [SB189 Vendor Certification Form](#)
  - [Nexus SD Partner Agreement](#)
  - [Nexus SD Associate Agreement](#) (non-HIPAA covered organizations)
  - Nexus SD Participant Customer Agreement with findhelp (HIPAA-covered organizations)
- Organization point of contact info (if different from submitted in contact information section)
- Signatory name information

Application – Organizational Background

- Please describe in detail the type(s) of work completed by your organization. This may include programs within your organization, services offered, etc.

Application – Population Served

- What is the total number of individuals served by your organization in the past year?
- Please describe the demographic makeup of the population your organization services. (e.g., sex, age, ethnicity, insurance status, etc.)
- Please describe the geographic area your organization serves (i.e., statewide, Pennington County, etc.).
- Please describe the barriers and challenges faced by the population your organization serves, particularly as they relate to social determinates of health.

Application – Pre-Implementation Considerations

- Please describe any steps that must be taken prior to implementation of Nexus SD (i.e., security scan, policy development, etc.).

Application – Nexus SD Utilization

- Please describe the anticipated level of staff participation within your organization, including how many and what type of staff (case managers, community health workers, etc.) would utilize Nexus SD.
- Please describe how the use of Nexus SD aligns with existing or planned workflow or processes within your organization.
- Please describe any anticipated **benefits** your organization will experience with Nexus SD implementation.
- Please describe any anticipated **barriers** your organization will experience with Nexus SD implementation.

Application – Project Team

- Please describe the team that will lead your internal Nexus SD implementation efforts.

Point of Contact

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