

Community Impact Mini-Grants Request for Proposals (RFP) January 2026

Background

Kansas communities have experienced significant impacts from the rise in youth and community use of commercial tobacco and nicotine products, including e-cigarettes. In response to these harms, Kansas joined a multistate legal settlement with JUUL Labs that addressed unlawful youth-focused marketing practices and provided resources to support prevention and public health efforts.

While the settlement held JUUL accountable, it created an opportunity for Kansas to invest in community-driven strategies that prevent future harm. **The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE)**, through its **Bureau of Health Promotion (BHP)**, is committed to using these resources to strengthen local capacity, elevate youth voice, and advance prevention-focused approaches that reflect community needs and priorities.

Local coalitions and community-based organizations play a critical role in advancing health promotion and prevention efforts across Kansas. Strong partnerships, engaged youth leadership, and coordinated community action are essential to addressing commercial nicotine use and related health outcomes. These **Community Impact Mini-Grants** are intended to provide flexible, short-term funding to support communities in strengthening their local capacity, elevating youth voice, and advancing prevention-focused activities.

This grant opportunity is administered by **WSU Community Engagement Institute (WSU CEI)** in a contractual relationship with **KDHE**.

Purpose

The purpose of the Community Impact Mini-Grants is to support short-term, community-driven projects that: -

- **Strengthen the capacity and effectiveness of local coalitions** by supporting planning, coordination, leadership development, and systems that help coalitions function more effectively and respond to local needs.
- **Engage youth in meaningful leadership and decision-making roles** by creating opportunities for young people to contribute their perspectives, develop skills, and play an active role in shaping prevention and health promotion efforts in their communities.
- **Support youth mental health and well-being** by supporting projects that promote protective factors such as connection, resilience, coping skills, and supportive environments, helping reduce risk factors that can contribute to negative health outcomes.
- **Advance commercial nicotine prevention and broader health promotion efforts** through activities that raise awareness, build protective factors, and support

community-driven strategies to reduce exposure to and use of commercial tobacco and nicotine products.

Projects should be actionable, feasible within the grant period, and aligned with local community needs.

Award Information

- Number of awards: **Up to 20 mini-grants**
- Award amount: **\$1,000 per grant**

Eligibility

KDHE BHP believes that community coalitions and nonprofit organizations are uniquely qualified to advance community-driven prevention efforts because of their strong local partnerships, trusted relationships, and ability to convene diverse stakeholders. These entities are well-positioned to identify local needs, engage community members and implement responsive strategies that reflect the priorities and strengths of their communities.

- Eligible applicants must be based in Kansas and include one or more of the following:
 - Nonprofit organizations
 - Community coalitions
- Organizations with active debts in the Kansas Setoff Program are not eligible to receive funding.

Only **one application per organization** may be submitted.

Organizations without 501(c)(3) status are eligible to apply if they partner with an approved fiscal agent.

Priority Areas

Proposed projects must address **one** of the following priority areas:

- Coalition capacity building
- Youth engagement
- Youth mental health and well-being
- Recreational tobacco prevention/cessation

Funding Restrictions

Grant funds may **not** be used for:

- Food or refreshments
- Lobbying expenses

Grant Timeline

- Application portal opens **January 20, 2026**

- Application portal closes **February 3, 2026**
- Grant awards announced on or before **February 9, 2026**
- WSU aims to release funds to grantees by **March 2, 2026**
- All grant funds must be expended by **April 17, 2026**

Application Requirements

Each application must include the following:

- Primary contact information
- Fiscal agent information, including a W-9
- Description of the identified community need
- Project description, including activities and anticipated impact
- Detailed project budget and narrative

Applications must be submitted through the following link: <https://wkf.ms/4qmQqqT>

Reporting Requirements

Reporting requirements apply to all grantees and are due by **April 17, 2026**. Required reporting components, which will be provided to grantees, include:

- Expenditure report
- Project summary and impact statement, including photos when available
- Completed post-project feedback survey

Termination and Funding Contingency

WSU CEI serves as the administrator of this grant opportunity and carries out these functions in a contractual relationship with KDHE. Extension of grant awards through this Request for Proposals is contingent upon the availability of funds from KDHE.

KDHE will monitor the performance of WSU CEI against the terms outlined in the contract. WSU CEI shall provide KDHE with all necessary reports as required by the contract to allow for effective administration and review of project progress.

Questions

Questions regarding this funding opportunity should be submitted to: **cphi@wichita.edu**.

WSU CEI and KDHE encourage eligible organizations and coalitions to apply and look forward to supporting community-led efforts across Kansas.