



## PHS COMMISSIONED OFFICERS FOUNDATION

FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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### PHS Commissioned Officers Foundation Awards Seed Grants

The PHS Commissioned Officers Foundation for the Advancement of Public Health (COF) has awarded \$125,000 to sixteen organizations for the Fall 2022 cycle of the Barclay-Giel Seed Grant program. The funded proposals address a wide range of public health issues. The grant recipients include:

**Alaska Seeds of Change**, Anchorage, Alaska - combine mental health focus and vocational training for employment, basic needs, and mental health services for at-risk youth.

**Borough of New Providence**, New Providence, New Jersey - reduce mental health stigma by promoting understanding through education and advocacy, and to support programming for at-risk youth.

**Care and Counseling**, St. Louis, Missouri - implement an active, primary prevention approach to screening, identification of and connection to mental health resources in local middle and high schools.

**C-ASSIST**, Garden City, Michigan - address misinformation, disinformation, and vaccine hesitancy surrounding COVID vaccination among Arabic-speaking refugees and immigrants.

**First 5 Yuba County Children & Families Commission**, Marysville, California - focus on maternal/paternal/youth mental health by supporting internships, providing weekly peer groups, and offering ambassador training.

**Frontline Workers Counseling Project**, San Francisco, California - increase outreach and awareness of program that connects frontline health workers with free, confidential psychotherapy and counseling.

**Liv Sober Recovery Living**, St. Louis, Missouri - provide a community-first opioid overdose prevention and health education program in North City, St. Louis.

**Mayes County HOPE Coalition**, Pryor, Oklahoma - focus on peer-to-peer prevention in 7-12 graders, education and campaigns to reduce youth tobacco and vaping use.

**Portland Public Health Division**, Portland Maine - confront vaccine hesitancy and misinformation by recruiting and training trusted leaders from within the homeless community to be vaccination advocates/ambassadors.

**REBOOT Recovery**, Pleasant View, Tennessee - expand sites offering peer-led, community focused programs that create connections with empathetic peers to reduce burnout and suicides among health care workers.

**Scenic Rivers Area Health Education Center**, Cashton, Wisconsin – support three internships for college students with an interest in public health to work in three counties in Wisconsin.

**Step-Up, Inc.**, Indianapolis, Indiana - certify peers as part of prisoner education and reentry program to spread public health information, challenge misinformation, encourage testing, and promote harm reduction.

**The Clay Counts Coalition**, Clay Center, Kansas - prevention of youth suicide by targeted training, "Operation Strengthen from Within," in middle and high schools in a poor, small, rural county.

**Waco Family Medicine**, Waco, Texas - primary care intervention for traumatized children using a therapy room that permits active "coaching" sessions of parents by a therapist during observed interactions with children.

**Youth Crisis Center**, Casper, Wyoming - outreach to broaden knowledge of and make youth mental health and crisis intervention services more readily identifiable.

**Youth Crossroads**, Berwyn, Illinois - support trauma-informed care for youth/families in communities of color through the training of bilingual Youth Health Ambassadors who provide accurate information.

The Seed Grant program is named after the late Martha Barclay-Giel, a retired Captain of the Commissioned Corps of the U.S. Public Health Service. Captain Barclay-Giel dedicated her life's work to advancing the health of Americans. After retiring, she generously supported COF through a considerable charitable donation. This is the fifth year that seed grant funding has been awarded to organizations impacting the health of the public.

The PHS Commissioned Officers Foundation for the Advancement of Public Health (COF) is the foundation arm of the organization that represents members of the Commissioned Corps of the U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS), one of the nation's eight uniformed services. Comprised of health professionals, the USPHS provides services to promote, prevent, and advance public health efforts. They also serve on the frontlines of disease outbreaks including the COVID-19 pandemic. For more information about the Seed Grant program, visit <https://www.phscof.org/seed-grants.html>.

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