



# Health Equity Innovation Award

## 2023 Call for Nominations

**KFMC Health Improvement Partners** is pleased to announce the inaugural Health Equity Innovation Award. The Health Equity Innovation Award will be presented annually to recognize organizations, affiliated groups, partnerships, or individuals that have developed and implemented novel approaches, strategies, and interventions aimed at reducing health disparities and promoting health equity in their community. Award winners think outside the box, challenge existing systems, and implement creative solutions to ensure that everyone has a fair and equitable opportunity to achieve optimal health.

This **is not** an exhaustive list of potential innovations. All submissions will be evaluated and assessed using the criteria included on page 2. Nominations will be judged by a group of independent evaluators from multiple sectors impacted by health disparities and inequities. The award will be presented at the Kansas Health Equity Summit, October 27, 2023, in Topeka, Kansas.

**The Innovation Award Winner will be granted free registration to the Kansas Health Equity Summit, be recognized at the event and in subsequent social media and marketing campaigns, and receive a \$500 cash award.**

Examples of health equity innovation may include:

- **Technology-based solutions:** The use of technology, such as mobile health apps, telemedicine, and wearable devices, can improve access to healthcare services and health information for populations in remote or underserved areas.
- **Community Health Worker programs:** These programs train individuals from the community to serve as liaisons between healthcare providers and community members. Community health workers can provide culturally competent care, health education, and advocacy, helping to bridge the gap between healthcare systems and marginalized populations.
- **Culturally tailored interventions:** Designing interventions that consider cultural beliefs, values, and practices can improve engagement and health outcomes. This includes adapting health education materials, providing language services, and ensuring representation of diverse communities in healthcare decision-making.
- **Social determinants of health interventions:** Recognizing that health disparities are influenced by social determinants such as education, housing, employment, and income, innovative programs can address these underlying factors. For example, initiatives that provide access to affordable housing, education and job training, or income support can have positive impacts on health equity.
- **Collaborative partnerships:** Building partnerships among healthcare providers, community organizations, government agencies, and other stakeholders can foster innovative approaches to address health disparities. Collaborative efforts can leverage resources, expertise, and collective action to tackle complex health equity challenges.

## Criteria for the Health Equity Innovation Award

- 1. Impact on health disparities:** Degree to which the nominee addresses and reduces health disparities among different populations, particularly those that are marginalized and underserved. Include why the population was targeted.
- 2. Reach and accessibility:** The nominee's ability to reach and benefit their targeted population, taking into account how they improve access to healthcare services, health information, and/or resources for marginalized communities, including those facing barriers such as geographic location, language, and/or socioeconomic status.
- 3. Cultural competence:** The nominee demonstrates cultural competence and sensitivity by considering the unique needs, beliefs, and values of the target population, including how they address cultural barriers and promote inclusivity and understanding.
- 4. Sustainability and scalability:** The potential for the intervention to be sustained over time and replicated in different settings or communities. This includes its feasibility, cost-effectiveness, scalability, and potential for long-term impact.
- 5. Collaboration and partnerships:** The nominee promotes collaboration and partnership among stakeholders, such as healthcare providers, community organizations, policymakers, and individuals from the affected communities.
- 6. Evidence base (if applicable):** There is evidence supporting the innovation, including research, data, and/or evaluation studies demonstrating its effectiveness in improving health equity outcomes if available.

## How to Submit a Nomination

Any organization or individual may submit a nomination for themselves or for a third party. Nominations should highlight organizations, individuals, or groups promoting health equity in Kansas. All nominations will be reviewed to ensure recognition or award would not create an appearance of conflict with KPMC's mission or contract work.

- [Nomination form](#)
- [Submit completed form](#). You may also attach additional description, photos, documents, links, etc.



More information about the Health Equity Summit and the Health Equity Innovation Award can be found on our [website](#).

Questions: contact Tammy Elliott at [telliott@kfmc.org](mailto:telliott@kfmc.org) or (785) 271-4152.

**Nominations are due by Friday, July 14, 2023.**