

Community Health Equity Catalyst Strategy (CHECS) Fiscal Year 2022 Summary Report

Mission

Supporting organizations that work to improve health outcomes among populations experiencing health disparities.

Vision

Everyone has a fair and just opportunity to be as healthy as possible.

During its inaugural year, the Community Health Equity Catalyst Strategy (CHECS) team learned a lot about the Tulsa community. This summary presents an overview of efforts in FY22 to increase opportunities for all Tulsans to be as healthy as possible.

CHECS supports programs across a range of factors that affect health outcomes. The strategy prioritizes upstream approaches that create conditions for good health.

In its first year of operation, CHECS awarded a total of **\$9,584,946** to **35** applicants. The FY22 target area of north Tulsa, west Tulsa, and Kendall-Whittier received awards totaling **\$3,584,889**.

Grant Types

CHECS offers three main grant types:

Medical Access Program (MAP)

MAP began in 2009 as part of a community effort to increase access to care for low-income uninsured individuals. MAP

supports primary care clinics that offer care free of charge; pays for diagnostic and specialty care; and supports the Dispensary of Hope so uninsured patients can access medications at no cost.

In FY22 MAP spent **\$1,799,043** on specialty care vouchers to serve over **2,600** patients and **\$2,154,384** to support 5 local safety net providers.

“Everyone has ups and downs and I’m no better than anyone else. Life just breaks down. I’m divorced, unemployed. I lost my career because of a surgery. I have high blood pressure and after scraping money to see a doctor somewhere else, they wanted \$600 for lab work before I could get blood pressure meds. Good Samaritan saw me, did labs, and got me on meds so I could stay alive and continue toward restoring my life! Thank you!”

~Good Samaritan Patient



Good Samaritan patient with Dr. Nick Carroll

Invitational Grants

These are large, multi-year projects with the potential to transform the community through an invitational process. CHECS approved 7 projects through this pathway in FY22.



One grantee, the City Lights Foundation, provided refuge for COVID-19 patients who were unable to quarantine due to homelessness. Their collaboration with the clinic at the Tulsa Day Center transformed treatment of care for marginalized patients.

“N.C. was homeless and had two toes amputated from his right foot in October 2021. The clinic staff collaborated with City Lights to obtain a room for his recovery. Clinic staff assessed his wound weekly, and by working closely with City Lights through regular updates and care, N.C. will soon be housed and is working with Stand-By for employment.”

Open Application Grants

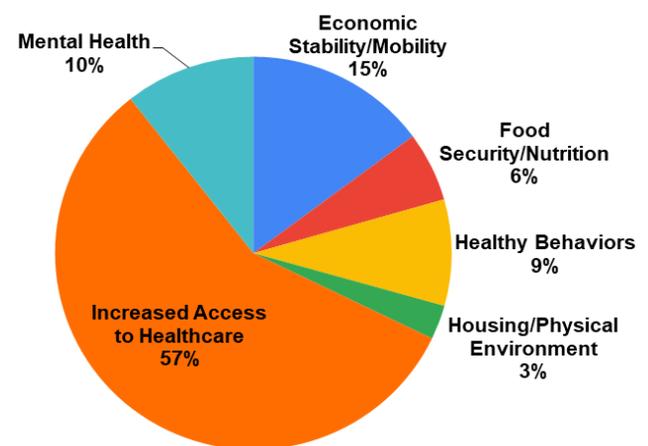
To promote equity of opportunity, CHECS offers two open application cycles each year. Since CHECS was started mid-fiscal year, only one cycle was completed in FY22.

Applicants can apply for a “Triple S” grant to scale, sustain, or stabilize an existing program; or they may apply for a Seed/Pilot grant to test new innovations.

The January 2022 cycle produced the following results:



The 15 grantees are spread across the social determinant categories in the following way (by dollars):



The team continues to refine and improve the application and review process, but anticipates in FY23 growth in both the volume of applications and the dollars awarded.