

**MaineHealth Center for Tobacco Independence**  
**Request for Funding Proposals**  
**Tobacco Use and Smoke Exposure among Immigrants in Maine**

**Purpose**

The MaineHealth Center for Tobacco Independence (CTI) is looking to identify a partner/s to assess tobacco use and exposure to second hand smoke amongst immigrant communities in Maine. Funded partner/s will review the cultural context, societal structures and experiences with acculturation that inform/predict exposure and current/future use of tobacco by Maine's immigrant and refugee individuals, families and communities.

In using the term "immigrants" this request is inclusive of individuals, families and communities that are or identify as immigrants, refugees, asylum seekers, undocumented people, and their children/family members from diverse countries, all of whom are living throughout Maine.

Potential questions to guide this assessment include but are not limited to:

- How does acculturation affect patterns of tobacco use and exposure among immigrants in Maine?
- How does gender and other factors impact tobacco use among members of certain immigrants (country of origin, religion, shared culture, etc.)?
- What protective factors and risk factors promote the development of culturally appropriate interventions to prevent and control tobacco use?
- And to what extent are culturally specific tobacco control programs necessary to curb or prevent initiation of tobacco use among racial/ethnic populations?

The assessment will help inform tobacco prevention and control in Maine, and might lead to funding to directly support strategies identified during the assessment period.

**Background:**

CTI is a contractor of the Maine CDC for tobacco prevention and treatment purposes. In the Prevention role, CTI funds community organizations to support local level efforts.

Maine CDC and CTI are soliciting proposals from organizations in Maine that have the historical experience, community connections and capacity to collaborate as a funded partner for the purposes of an assessment/s. The identified organization/s will become a partner of CTI with coordination with Maine CDC.

**Important Dates:**

Questions must be submitted, in writing, by September 24, 2021. If it would be helpful to discuss the opportunity, a meeting can be scheduled to do so but must be requested before September 24.

Answers to questions will be provided by October 1, 2021. Please note, in order to receive answers, CTI must receive email contact information (sent to [TobaccoPreventionServices@mainehealth.org](mailto:TobaccoPreventionServices@mainehealth.org)) in order to distribute information.

Proposals must be submitted by October 15, and CTI anticipates naming the grant partner/s no later than November 1, 2021. This timeline may be shortened for applications that are received prior to the timeline stated here.

**Application:**

Applications are required to be less than three pages, total. If an application exceeds three pages, any information contained on subsequent pages will not be considered.

The intent of the application process is not to begin with strategy development. Rather, the process is intended to identify an organization/s to assess tobacco use and exposure within the immigrant community/ities in order to inform future practice.

CTI is interested in supporting at least one organization but might be able to support multiple, depending on the numbers of applications received. All applications will be reviewed with these factors in mind:

- Introduction
  - o Provide an overview of your organization and some previous and current efforts.
  - o If there are core values or principals that your organization maintains, please include such as well as how these values shape daily operations and / or planning.
- Capacity
  - o Identify experience and capacity undertaking as assessment process such as this.
  - o Discuss mechanisms that have been utilized to manage funding or projects.
  - o Demonstrate experience of successfully working within or serving the immigrant communities and articulate impact in at least one area of health / public health.
  - o Identify how communities' members are involved in the leadership, staffing or advising roles within the agency.
- Staffing Model
  - o Identify whether there is a current staff member who would fill the anticipated position, or multiple staff. If not, identify the processes and timelines for how a person would be brought on board to support these activities.
  - o Describe how other staff within the organization will support efforts, whether through in-kind contributions or paid.
- Population of Focus
  - o Please identify the population, including whether it is specific to a geographic area, you propose to engage.
  - o Explain the reasoning for selecting this particular population / geographic area.
- Assessment Process Proposed
  - o Identify potential questions in addition to those above that will guide the assessment process and propose methods (one-on-one interviews, group meetings) that will be used.
  - o Indicate your capacity to partner and support data collection processes.
- Primary Point of Contact, both email and phone

**FMI:**

Please contact [TobaccoPreventionService@mainehealth.org](mailto:TobaccoPreventionService@mainehealth.org) for any questions as well as to establish and email contact for further information dissemination pertinent to this opportunity.