

**NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY – ROUND 3**  
**Critical Access Hospital Physical Plant Grant Program**  
*Funding Period (July 1, 2021 – March 31, 2024)*

**Introduction**

The Center for Rural Health (CRH), University of North Dakota (UND) School of Medicine & Health Sciences is pleased to announce that we are accepting a third round of applications for physical plant improvement awards. The purpose of this funding opportunity is to support the strategic analysis of physical plant improvements that need to be made to modify, enhance, and expand quality healthcare infrastructure to address specific COVID-related issues and considerations.

This opportunity is federally funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to the state of North Dakota, Department of Health and sub awarded to the University of North Dakota Center for Rural Health. The grant funding addresses COVID-19 and advance health equity (e.g., through strategies, interventions, and services that consider systemic barriers and potentially discriminatory practices that have put certain groups at higher risk for diseases like COVID-19) in racial and ethnic minority groups and rural populations within state, local, US territorial, and freely associated state health jurisdictions.

Funding Opportunity Title:	Critical Access Hospital Physical Plant Grant Program
Deadline for Proposal Submission:	5:00 PM, June 21, 2023
Total Funding Available:	\$100,000
Anticipated Number of Awards:	1-2
Anticipated Amount of Each Award:	\$50,000-\$100,000
Maximum Amount per Facility:	Any individual CAH may receive up to \$100,000 total (round 1, 2 and round 3 funding combined).
Cost Sharing/Match Required:	No
Period of Performance	July 1, 2021 – March 31, 2024
Eligible Applicants:	North Dakota Critical Access Hospitals

**Technical Assistance**

CRH will offer technical assistance to applicants seeking this funding opportunity. Please contact Kylie Nissen at [kylie.nissen@und.edu](mailto:kylie.nissen@und.edu) or (701) 777-5380.

**Purpose**

This notice announces the opportunity to apply for Critical Access Hospital Physical Plant Grant Program funding. The purpose of this one-time funding opportunity is to support the strategic analysis or implementation of a plan based off of an external strategic analysis that has been completed since November 2019. The funding may be used for conducting an external strategic analysis. The funding may be used for consultant fees required to consult an assessment of a CAH and affiliated facilities, health care infrastructure as needed in response to COVID-related issues/concerns.

## **AWARD INFORMATION**

### **1. Summary of Funding**

One Critical Access Hospital (CAH) will be funded up to \$100,000 each. The award will be awarded on a competitive bases to eligible CAHs that submit a completed proposal. Funds will be awarded to grantee on a cost reimbursement basis.

The period of performance will be July 1, 2021 through March 31, 2024. All use of these funds must be spent during that time period. Expenses paid prior to July 1, 2021 or after March 31, 2024 will not be allowed.

You may submit one application to request funding to support one or more of the following **project types**:

- A. Conduct an external strategic analysis of your existing facility.
- B. Consultation fees associated with implementation of plan resulting from the external strategic analysis (strategic analysis must have been conducted on or after November 2019 by a vendor external to your organization).

### **2. Application and Submission Information**

Applications will be submitted through an [online application](#) through Qualtrics or copying and pasting the following URL into your web browser: <https://tinyurl.com/CRHPhysicalPlant>. Applications must be received by June 21, 2023 at 5:00 pm Central. If you do not receive a confirmation email, assume that the application did not submit and try submit it again or contact Kylie at [kylie.nissen@und.edu](mailto:kylie.nissen@und.edu) or (701) 777-5380.

### **3. Program Specific Instructions**

- a. *Summary/Overview*: Provide a comprehensive, consolidated description of the proposed project(s), including:

What project type or types of COVID-related projects will you be using the funding to support? The alteration, renovation, construction, expansion, and other capital improvements needed to modify, enhance, and expand health care infrastructure in response to the strategic analysis that was conducted and other emerging primary health care infrastructure needs. These funds cannot be used for new construction or new expansion projects. Include when the strategic analysis was conducted and who conducted it, or when you propose to conduct the analysis and who will be hired to conduct it. Amount of funding being requested.

What were issues that you encountered/are encountering during the COVID-19 pandemic that could be remedied or less of a burden if your facility had alterations/modifications?

- b. *Project Details*: Provide detailed project description, site, project management and timeline for the information below:

- i. **Project Description**: If you are seeking funding for more than one project type you will need to provide the information requested for each.
  - i. **For Project Type A**: Conduct a strategic analysis of your existing facility (by a vendor outside of your organization) – Who do you propose to hire to conduct the strategic

analysis? When do you propose that the analysis will be started and completed? What existing facilities will they be analyzing (ex. hospital, RHC, LTC)? What do you hope to learn from the strategic analysis?

- ii. For Project Type B: What were the findings from your external strategic analysis? When was the strategic analysis completed and by whom? What will the funding be used for as you seek to secure financing for physical plant improvements?

II. **Site Information:** Tell us about your current facility/facilities. Year built? Issues/concerns with the current facilities.

III. **Project Timeline:** Provide a timeline to achieve the planned activities. Include the activity, who is responsible for its completion, and the anticipated month and year of start and completion. These will include, but are not limited to, things such as planning, design, obtaining permits, solicitation of bids, and awarding contracts. What is the expected project completion date? You may upload a workplan if you prefer to utilize that format. Reminder, all expenses must be paid for between July 1, 2021 and March 31, 2024.

IV. **Funding Sources:** Identify the total cost associated with the proposed project and describe all public, private or other sources of funding, including governmental agencies, or other grant funds or proposed debt. Identify the status of obtaining the full funding needed to undertake the project (e.g., whether the funds are secured, expected, or forthcoming including the date, the source, and amount).

c. *Budget Information* – Upload the completed [Budget Template](#) (provided on the CRH website). Provide a budget narrative detailing the information provided in the Budget Template. Provide a budget narrative for each proposed project that provides a concise cost estimate, showing quantities, unit prices and total cost for each line item/costs classification in the budget, as well as a breakout of what the funds from this grant will cover and the funding from other sources for each line item. Using funds to contribute to a "capital campaign" is not an allowable expense. No construction or related construction activity, new buildings, new structures, or new fixed equipment that is not presently available is permitted through this funding. No purchase or land improvements (parking lots roads, fencing) is permitted through this funding.

d. *Other:* Include any additional information you would like to supply those that will be reviewing your proposal.

#### 4. Reporting

You will be required to complete an interim and final report. The data for these reports will be captured through Qualtrics. Interim Report is due November 1, 2023 and final report is due March 31, 2024. An invoice on your facility's letterhead requesting your funds, along with receipts showing expenditures, is due by April 7, 2024. If you have additional items, such as before, during, and after photographs or updates that you are willing to send us, we encourage you to share them with us by emailing them to [kylie.nissen@und.edu](mailto:kylie.nissen@und.edu).

#### 5. Award Administration Information

If you are successful and receive an award, in accepting the award, you agree that any activities funded by

this grant funding will be made within the dates of July 1, 2021 and March 31, 2024. You also agree to complete the interim and final report.

#### **6. Submission of Grant Proposal**

All proposals must be submitted through the online system **no later than 5:00 pm Central, Wednesday, June 21, 2023.**

**[Complete and submit](https://tinyurl.com/CRHPhysicalPlant) your grant proposal, or copy and paste the following link into your browser:  
<https://tinyurl.com/CRHPhysicalPlant>.**

If you have any question, contact Kylie Nissen at [kylie.nissen@und.edu](mailto:kylie.nissen@und.edu) or (701) 777-5380.

Faxed, emailed, and/or mail submitted applications will not be accepted.

CRH/UND accepts no responsibility for non-receipt and delays in receipt caused by technological error/malfunction.

Acceptance or non-acceptance of an application: The review panel reserves the right to accept or not accept any or all applications or parts of the application, and to waive formalities.

For information on the grant or its application please contact:

Kylie Nissen, Program Director

Center for Rural Health, UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences

(701) 777-5380

[kylie.nissen@und.edu](mailto:kylie.nissen@und.edu)