



health sciences & services authority of spokane county

News Release

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HSSA Announces \$200,000 Grant Competition to Increase Access to Health Care in Spokane County

SPOKANE, Wash. – The Health Sciences & Services Authority (HSSA) of Spokane County has announced that it has issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for its fourth grant competition.

The grant competition is titled “**RFP # 4-2011: Increase Access to Health Care in Spokane County through Innovative and Collaborative Health Service Delivery.**” The HSSA will award one or more grants for a total of no more than \$200,000 for a period up to two years to provide innovative and collaborative health service delivery that increases access to health service in Spokane County.

“HSSA’s goal is to improve the capacity of the Spokane region to contribute to advances in health sciences and services,” said Nancy L. Isserlis, HSSA Board Chair and Partner, Winston & Cashatt Lawyers. “This grant offers meaningful support for those organizations who provide access to health care for those who otherwise would not receive such care,” she said.

The organization’s fourth grant competition helps to meet one of HSSA’s strategic goals to increase access to health services in Spokane County, and amounts to about 15 percent of its annual revenues. HSSA’s other strategic goal dedicates about 75 percent of its revenues to increase local bioscience research and the infrastructure that supports medical research.

A Letter of Intent (LOI) submitted by an applicant is required and due electronically by 12 noon March 31, 2011, to grantadmin@hssaspokane.org. In addition to an electronic copy, a hard copy of the LOI may be mailed to Grant Administrator, Health Sciences & Services

Authority, The University District, 665 N. Riverpoint Boulevard, Suite 124, Spokane, WA 99202-1665. If an applicant's proposal is accepted, the actual proposal by the applicant in response to this announcement is due by 4 p.m. April 29, 2011, and also must be submitted electronically.

The HSSA has held three grant competitions and awarded a total of \$1,080,000 to five recipients. These recipients include the Institute for Systems Medicine (ISM) for \$675,000 to create a clinical data repository and a bio-specimen repository, both of which will be accessible to private and public researchers upon completion; \$225,000 to Project Access to increase access to health care for uninsured in Spokane County; \$75,000 to the Northeast Community Center Association for its health care center expansion for underserved populations; \$75,000 to Washington State University and Greater Spokane Incorporated to assist communication efforts to physicians and communities for students to participate in required clinical rotations for third- and fourth-year undergraduate medical students and residencies for graduate medical education, enabling more physicians to be trained through expansion of the medical program at the Riverpoint Campus in Spokane; and, \$30,000 to the Providence Health Care Foundation to strengthen Spokane's response to AIDS by increasing the number of patients served by its AIDS Clinic and expanding HIV training for resident physicians at the Internal Medical Residency Spokane (IMRS).

In September 2010, the HSSA raised nearly \$11 million by bonding 75 percent of its revenue stream to pay Spokane County who issued bonds on behalf of the HSSA. These funds will be dedicated now through 2023 to bioscience research or the infrastructure that supports the research and supports the HSSA's goal to improve the capacity in Spokane for bioscience research in this important industry.

The HSSA is a grant-making authority established by the Washington Legislature and authorized county-wide by Spokane County to promote bioscience-based economic development that advances new therapies and procedures to combat disease, and to promote public health. The HSSA invests funds to create and support a nationally competitive health care cluster in Spokane County by catalyzing connections between higher education and health care. HSSA funds only the very best projects through a competitive, well-monitored and accountable process.

More information about the HSSA and its mission may be found at www.hssaspokane.org or by calling 509.358.2113.

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