



EPISCOPAL HEALTH
FOUNDATION

Request for Proposal

Submission Deadline: Wednesday, April 22, 2020

Reproductive Health Landscape Scan

BACKGROUND

About the Episcopal Health Foundation

The [Episcopal Health Foundation \(EHF\)](#) believes all Texans deserve to live a healthy life - especially the poor and those with the least resources. Our public health orientation leads us to focus on upstream work that goes beyond providing healthcare services in a doctor's office and seeks to address the underlying social, economic, behavioral, and environmental causes of poor health. We are most interested in work that takes a systems approach to improve community health, which leads us to focus on creating and supporting intentional connections between and among institutions aimed at not just improving healthcare delivery but transforming the health of an entire community. With more than \$1.2 billion in estimated assets, EHF operates as a supporting organization of the Episcopal Diocese of Texas and works to help improve the health and well-being of the 11 million people living throughout a 57-county region of Texas.

Reproductive Health as a Comprehensive Service

One of EHF's goals is to increase access to comprehensive care within low-income and vulnerable populations. Research highlights reproductive health as an integral component in the spectrum of comprehensive health care. Obtaining these services is becoming increasingly more challenging due to organizational and legislative restrictions at the local, state, and national levels.¹ Across the country, advocacy groups and health care delivery organizations are addressing reproductive health to varying degrees.

Our interest is specifically focused on assessing the degree to which health care organizations in Texas are implementing and/or expanding access to reproductive health services and specifically, evidence-based practices. By understanding the landscape of reproductive health services being offered in the EDOT, we will be better able to support community-based clinics to build capacity around reproductive health that improves the quality of and access to these services in our EDOT communities. The findings from this research will inform EHF's future grantmaking strategies.

¹ E Espey, A Dennis, U Landy. (2018). The Importance of Access to Comprehensive Reproductive Health Care, Including Abortion: A Statement from Women's Health Professional Organizations. *American Journal of Obstetrics & Gynecology*, 220(1), 67-70.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

In order to further support community-based clinics in providing comprehensive care within the EHF service area, EHF is interested in learning more about the options clinics have related to supporting reproductive health. Thus, EHF has identified five areas of inquiry to inform EHF's understanding of reproductive health care:

- 1) What are current practices related to reproductive health care in EHF's 57-county service area? EHF is interested in assessing the degree to which health care organizations in the EDOT are providing reproductive health services. Specifically, of interest are the practices around providing these services, as well as the type and scope of these services.
- 2) To what extent are clinics and organizations currently offering and/or expanding access to evidence-based reproductive health care practices in the EDOT?
- 3) What do local, state and federal data sources show about reproductive health needs and health services resources and gaps in the EDOT?
- 4) What are current local, state and federal policies that impact the delivery of reproductive health care in the EDOT and Texas?
- 5) What are the priorities and practices of local, state, and national funders (public and private) related to reproductive health? Which types of programs are being funded, and what are emerging funding trends in reproductive health services?

Research approaches to this work may include a literature review, policy scan, data analysis, and/or focus groups with representatives from clinics, non-profits, advocacy organizations, etc. across the EDOT.

APPLICATION PROCESS

EHF is seeking proposals from consultants to conduct the research outlined in the above section. The work will need to be completed with final products delivered by late July 2020. If you/your organization is interested in applying, please submit the following to jmineo@episcopalhealth.org by close of business, **Wednesday, April 22nd, 2020**:

- 1) A cover letter describing your areas of expertise and prior experience relevant to the work described in this request for proposal.
- 2) A 2 to 3-page proposal that includes a timeline (three months), budget (\$28,000), a work scope describing how you plan to execute the research outlined in "Project Overview" section above, and the deliverables you will provide to the Foundation.
- 3) Information about all individuals and organizations you may use to support your work, including their resumes, their areas of expertise and prior experience in the area encompassed by the scope of work.
- 4) At least two references for similar projects completed within the last five years. Each reference should describe the project, dates of work, outcomes achieved, and a client reference that includes name, title, email and phone contact.

Please direct all questions to Jennifer Mineo at jmineo@episcopalhealth.org or 832-658-2671.