

Request for Proposal (RFP)
Lead Artists for the Cook County Health
Community Murals Project 2023-2024
Sponsored by Cook County Health Foundation

Summary:

Cook County Health Foundation (CCHF) is seeking proposals from community artists to design, lead and execute this year's **Community Murals Project (CMP)**.

Cook County has a rich tradition of murals that dates as far back as 1971. The mission of this CMP is to connect artists, staff, patients and community members to beautify the spaces they work and visit, and to promote a deeper sense of connection and wellbeing for our communities. This is the second year of the CMP program, with the opportunity for up to four murals at various Cook County Health locations across the region.

Each of the projects will engage a visual artist who will in turn engage with patients, staff, and CCH communities to create an integrated mural in the entryways of select Cook County Health locations. The program uses a collaborative mural-making process as a tool to build trust between the health care sites and their communities; build neighborhood pride; and encourage employee engagement through community-building activities.

Request for Proposal:

In partnership with and with grant support from CCHF, Cook County Health is pleased to announce the second year of the Community Murals Project with an open call for four (4) professional visual artists to work closely with CCH's Chief Experience Officer (CXO) to engage staff and community members in a participatory design process and to create and install four (4) health-themed murals. Murals will be installed inside the entryways at the following Cook County Health locations: Cermak Health Services, Englewood Health Center, Austin Health Center, and Cottage Grove Health Center. All of these locations and the murals have very high traffic and public visibility.

The project will take place between December 1, 2023 and May 31, 2024. This RFP is soliciting four (4) professional visual artists that have a portfolio of work executing large-scale murals; have connections with the communities of Chicago; and experience facilitating workshops and events that engage diverse communities in the creative process.

INTERESTED ARTISTS MUST SUBMIT ALL OF THE FOLLOWING TO BE CONSIDERED:

- 1. Artist's statement describing your work and interest in this project (350 words maximum)**
- 2. Resume**
- 3. Work Samples of a selection of your previous work. Samples can include documents, photos, plans and video (up to 15 minutes total). Support materials such as reviews, news articles, web links or other similar information may also be included. (We are accepting .zip files and Dropbox for sample of work submissions)**

Project Budget:

The Project Budget is \$6,000.00 per location for artist fees including design services, community engagement, site preparation, fabrication, travel, and installation. Through the generous support of CCHF, any necessary supplies will be provided. CCHF will execute a deliverables-based MOU valued at \$6,000.00 with the lead artist. Lead artists will be paid 1/2 upfront, and 1/2 upon completion. CCHF will cover all costs related to art supplies and additional materials for workshops and community events, equipment for the installation and other relevant costs relating to the production of the mural up to \$4,000.

Who May Apply:

Professional visual artists or artist teams working in any media who are legally authorized to work in Cook County and who are at least 18 years of age are eligible to apply. Artists with ties to neighborhoods and communities of the participating CCH facilities are encouraged to apply, as well as artists with experience in community engagement practices. CCHF and CCH are committed to the values of inclusion and advancing diversity in the field of arts and health. We highly encourage applicants that are traditionally underrepresented* to submit to this RFP. * Including, but not limited to: Immigrant, Indigenous, LGBTQIA, Person of Color, Person with Disability, Socioeconomic Disadvantage.

Timeline:

- Deadline for Submission of RFP:
Wednesday, November 1, 2023 @ 5:00 P.M. CST
- Please direct you questions and submit your proposal to Cook County Health Foundation at info@cchealthfoundation.org
Late applications will not be considered
- Finalist interviews will be held between November 20-27, 2023
- Selected artists will be notified by **December 4, 2023**

Project Locations:

1. Cermak Health Services of Cook County: 2800 S California Ave, Chicago, IL 60608
2. Englewood Health Center: 1135 W 69th St, Chicago, IL 60621
3. Austin Health Center: 4800 W Chicago Ave, Chicago, IL 60651
4. Cottage Grove Health Center: 1645 S Cottage Grove Ave, Ford Heights, IL 60411

(Size of each mural will not exceed 500 square feet)

Project Requirements

- ✓ Mural Artists will be required to be on site for 5 public events, plus additional days to present to the various leadership stakeholders, prepare mural panels before the Paint Party, finish painting after the Paint Party, and installation. Time required for preparation, finishing, and installation will be dependent on mural size and detail.
- ✓ Each mural project will be developed, created and installed over a period of five (5) months, on a rolling basis, from December 1, 2023 through May 31, 2024.
- ✓ All mural artists will be required to attend an in-person training and onboarding in December 2023 (exact date TBD).
- ✓ Artists are expected to develop mural concepts, themes, imagery through engaging with the CCH staff, patients, and greater community during Engagement Day, Focus Groups, and CEO Presentation. Designs will not be considered final until approved by the CEO and Executive Leaders of each site. The team will be asked to limit rounds of revisions to a maximum of two (2).

Below is the timeline of activities for each phase:

PROJECT PHASE	TIMELINE	ACTIVITIES
Plan	December 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orientation and onboarding
Listen	Month 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Engagement Day Artist and PX Team are onsite with interactive art activity to engage CCH community and vote on potential mural themes. PX Team provides supplies and activity. • 2 Focus Groups First Focus Group: Artist presents previous work, CCH community discusses potential themes and content. Second Focus Group: Artist takes feedback from first FG to create 2 – 3 renderings of potential mural designs. CCH community discusses preferences.
Collaborate	Month 2-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leadership Presentation Artist uses feedback from second FG to create a final mural design (for feedback and approval). • Paint Party CCH community invited to help paint the mural at a fun public event.
Create	Month 4-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mural Painting and installation Artists will have no less than 2 weeks to finish painting the murals. CXO Team will provide installation, Mural Artist will be present to touch up seams. • Unveiling/Dedication Ceremony TBD



Cook County Health Foundation: Now in its second decade, CCHF is entering “a new era of health equity.” We have refined our mission and are committed to expanding and improving health and wellness for all of Cook County’s residents, particularly the most under-resourced communities. Through community-centered grant making; advocacy; and partnerships with donors, foundations, and the Cook County Health System, CCHF will double its efforts to decrease barriers to healthcare and increase health equity across Metropolitan Chicago.

Cook County Health is investing in our network and modernizing services for patients. We are leading the field in cutting-edge technology, increased capacity, and innovative research. As we have evolved over the past 180 years, so has our mission. Our priority has always been the health and well-being of those we serve. We aim to elevate the health of Cook County, secure the future of the health system, and build a place where everyone will want to receive care regardless of a patient’s ability to pay.