

A BREATH *of* HOPE

L U N G F O U N D A T I O N

2021-2022 A Breath of Hope LDCT Screening Grants

Purpose

A Breath of Hope Lung Foundation (ABOH) will fund three or more \$10,000 screening grants to Minnesota clinics or hospitals that currently offer lung screening and treatment for lung cancer. The grants are designed to help health systems identify barriers to lung cancer screening to improve patient uptake toward the goal of earlier detection of lung cancer.

Because ABOH believes early detection is the quickest way to an improved survival rate, this funding is flexible and is meant to help screening programs overcome their own unique program challenges to allow more eligible patients to receive their annual low-dose CT scans.

NLST Study: <http://www.cancer.gov/newscenter/qa/2002/nlstqaQA>

NELSON Trial: <https://ascopost.com/News/59300>

USPSTF Screening Guidelines as of March 2021:

<https://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/uspstf/recommendation/lung-cancer-screening>

AAFP 2021 Recommendations: <https://www.aafp.org/family-physician/patient-care/clinical-recommendations/all-clinical-recommendations/lung-cancer.html>

By providing screening grants, ABOH hopes to encourage and support Minnesota healthcare institutions that have made a commitment to reduce lung cancer mortality through earlier detection. The grants are meant to help programs overcome barriers to screening, such as a patient's financial and insurance concerns (funds may be used to pay for LDCT scholarships), EMR and other technology concerns, or a patient's transportation reimbursement, as well as an institution's internal process of identifying and educating eligible patients about annual low dose CT scans (marketing and communications).

Funding Available in 2021-2022

The total award amount for each grant is \$10,000 payable in February 2022. The number of grants available in 2021 is three or more, with additional grants to be announced as determined by ABOH.

Application deadline: Midnight CST, December 17, 2021, by e-mail or postmarked by December 17, 2021, if mailed to ABOHLF.

Request for Funding Proposal

A Breath of Hope Lung Foundation (ABOH), in collaboration with an outside panel of oncology and nonprofit professionals, will evaluate the merit of proposals submitted in response to the request for proposals (RFP). **This RFP is available at https://abreathofhope.org/screening_awareness/grants/. Applications will be accepted at research@abreathofhope.org or by mail at: ABOHLF, PO Box 387, Wayzata, MN 55391.**

Eligibility: Specifically, hospitals/clinics that meet three or more of the following criteria will be reviewed:

- The institution diagnoses and is actively involved in the ongoing treatment of at least 50 lung cancer cases per year.

- 20% or more of the total patients seen at applicant’s institution qualify as poverty level (family income is less than twice the 2013 federal poverty guidelines: <http://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty/13poverty.cfm#thresholds>)
- The institution is working toward or has committed to a centralized lung screening program on site with buy-in from administrative leadership and Primary Care departments
- The institution has an active screening program and can identify the team or internal practice for identifying and notifying patients who are eligible for lung cancer screening
- One or more of the project leads must be a physician or advanced practice provider whose work is tied to lung cancer at the institution

Maximum period of performance is one year.

I. TIMELINE FOR SUBMISSION AND REVIEW

- **Application Submission Deadline: December 17, 2021, at 11:59 p.m. CST**
- Professional Peer Review: January 2022
- Funding notification will be e-mailed and announced at www.abreathofhope.org week by February 11, 2022.
- Funds will be disbursed by end of February 2022 and an optional *check presentation ceremony* at recipient’s office will take place in March 2022.
- A semi-annual progress report – short narrative including screening numbers – is due September 1, 2022
- A final progress report is due by March 1, 2023.

II. SUBMISSION PROCESS

Project Information: (500-word maximum) includes the following information about the proposed project:

1. Project title
2. Abstract – a brief description of the project must be entered

Personal Statement Questions: Please answer each question in 200 words or less

1. How will you identify and invite individuals who are at high risk of lung cancer?
2. What department or personnel will identify and invite eligible individuals to be screened?
3. What does smoking cessation look like in your screening program? What resources are available for current smokers who wish to quit smoking?
4. What is your plan for patient retention (repeated annual scans)?
5. Who will send a prepared report with metrics to ABOH upon completion of project? (no individual patient info should be shared per HIPAA laws)
6. Who will promote your screening program in your community? How will community members be invited to participate in screening?
7. What community specific barriers (cultural, financial, etc.) do you expect to encounter and how does the proposed project propose to address this challenge?
8. What is the proposed follow-up for normal and abnormal CT scans?

Applicant’s Resume or Biosketch:

- Applicants may use their current CV, resume, or NIH Biosketch

Institutional Letter of Support. A letter from the Department Chair, manager or other leadership at the sponsoring institution where the applicant’s project will be conducted must be provided. This letter must include a statement of institutional support that will enable the applicant to perform the proposed project.

Prior Publications (optional) – Publications relevant to your project, institution or proposal may be included.

Project Timeline. Enter major milestones for your project, the expected completion date, and if there is an associated deliverable. A deliverable is something that can be included in a progress report, such as number of phone calls made to eligible patients, number of screenings offered to patients during intake, number of screenings, or a publication or press release that speaks to the success of screening for lung cancer. You are not required to have deliverables. However, the timeline should make it clear what outcomes will be achieved during the grant award period.

Budget and Justification. The award funds will be directed to the sponsoring institution and should be used towards programming, scholarship support or overcoming barriers to screening for patients. Institutions will use their own methods to determine which patients qualify for screening.

III. INFORMATION FOR APPLICATION REVIEW

Review Criteria

Peer Review: All applications will be evaluated according to the following criteria, which are of equal importance.

1. Communication with ABOH

- a. Identifies a process for reporting progress on a semi-annual basis
- b. Specifies outcome measurement and willingness to share with ABOH as part of final report (e.g. # of lung cancers, stage at diagnosis)

2. Principal Investigator

- a. How well the applicant/project lead demonstrates an understanding of the disease and clearly articulates the potential for changing lung cancer outcomes through screening
- b. Potential favorable impact on the lung cancer field nationally
- c. Appropriateness of the levels of effort by the PI and other key personnel to ensure the success of this research effort

3. Impact

- a. Demonstrates that institution serves a substantial uninsured or underinsured population and has made progress in efforts to educate and increase screening within this population
- b. Identifies potential impact that program will have in served population and community

4. Long-term outcomes

- a. How the institution will establish and execute a program that will continue once ABOH funding period is complete

5. Budget

- a. How the budget is appropriate for the proposed project
- b. How many people can realistically be identified and screened in a one-year period
- c. Identify extraneous costs that address barriers to screening

6. Scientifically or programmatically sound proposals that best fulfill the above criteria and most effectively address the unique focus and goals of the program: Screening More Minnesotans for Lung Cancer. All applications are carefully considered to ensure that the funds available are allocated to those proposals that fulfill the goals and objectives of A Breath of Hope Lung Foundation's mission to improve survivorship through **Research, Education and Awareness** and **Support of patients** and their caregivers.

III. CONTACT INFORMATION

A. Program Announcement/Funding Opportunity, application format, or required documentation: To view current funding opportunities offered by A Breath of Hope Lung Foundation, please visit website: www.abreathofhope.org/research.

B. Receipt system/questions (application due by December 17, 2021, 11:59pm CST):

Phone: 952-807-6111

Website (RFP): www.abreathofhope.org/screening

E-Mail: research@abreathofhope.org

Mail: A Breath of Hope Lung Foundation – Screening Grant Panel, PO Box 387, Wayzata, MN 55391