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The NC *I'm IN: Community Inclusion* Advisory Group is seeking proposals for innovative, non-traditional community initiatives that support policies, programs and practices that create community participation, inclusion and integration for people with serious mental illness.

Following are guidelines and priority areas that will inform selection decisions for Pilot Partners.

Guidelines for Becoming a Pilot Partner with *I'm IN: Community Inclusion*

- **Proposals should offer ideas and solutions that address local issues of community segregation and isolation of people with serious mental illness.**
- Proposals should demonstrate partnerships that include local coalitions and community champions that support inclusion of people with mental illness.
- Proposals should be designed, guided and assessed by and with people directly impacted by labels of mental illness.
- For any proposals applying to use Mental Health Block Grant (MHBG) funds- the pilot proposal must demonstrate that the work being done directly involves and engages individuals with serious mental illness (SMI) or family members of individuals with SMI. MHBG funds cannot be used if there isn't a clear connection to individuals with SMI directly participating in and benefiting from the proposal. Preference and priority is given to projects that focus on directly and individually engaging individuals with SMI in exploring and engaging in their community.

Additional guidance can be found in the following documents on the Temple University website.
http://www.tucollaborative.org/sdm_downloads/well-together/

Jump Starting Community Living and Participation Toolkit, Assess, pp. 23-26 and Evaluate, pp. 55-58.

Well Together – A Blueprint for Community Inclusion: Fundamental Concepts, Theoretical Frameworks and Evidence.

Priorities for Becoming a Pilot Partner with *I'm IN: Community Inclusion*

* **Top priority is for proposals from peer or consumer-operated organizations.** That is, they are designed, operated, and assessed by people directly impacted by labels of mental illnesses. This may include peer or consumer-operated organizations, programs, initiatives or movements.

* Second priority will be given to proposals that demonstrate strong partnerships and leadership from people directly impacted by serious mental illness.

* Additional priority will be given to innovative, creative and non-traditional ways of advancing community participation and inclusion in the areas of policy, practice and programs.

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To apply to be a Pilot Partner please submit by February 14, 2020 the following information to:

i2i Center for Integrative Health, 1135 Kildaire Farm Rd. Cary, NC 27511

There is no word limit but please provide the following information.

Name of Applicant or Organization:

Contact person for applicant including email address, telephone, mailing address:

1. Please describe your local network that will help support the project(s) that you are proposing. Please include the names of agencies and/or key individuals in the community that will work with you to implement your project.

2. Please write a description of the innovation(s) you are proposing that will promote the goals of *I'm IN: Community Inclusion* within your community. Use the outline below for your proposal.
 - A. Program: What do you propose to do?

 - B. Why is this important?

 - C. Assessment- how will you determine the opportunities and barriers to meaningful community participation and inclusion in your local area?

 - D. Goals: Please list three or four specific goals your project aspires to achieve.

 - E. Outcomes: Please indicate how you will assess the outcome(s) of your project.

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- F. Funding: will you need additional funding to implement your proposal? How much?
Please be aware that successful proposals will be eligible for \$1,000 start-up awards for activities that comply with MHBG requirements.
- G. Training: please describe any additional training or other support you need to implement your proposal?
- H. Education- will you use technology, creative messaging, community events, etc., to create awareness and knowledge about engagement, connection and inclusion?
- I. Innovation: how will your proposal contribute something new to your community and to people with serious mental illness?
- J. Celebration: how will your team celebrate success?

If you have questions or would like assistance to complete this application please contact Michael Owen, Project Facilitator at i2i Center for Integrative Health at Michael@i2icenter.org or Bill Harris at bill.harris@dhhs.nc.gov.

The review team for all applications will include:

- At least three volunteers from the I'm IN: Community Inclusion Advisory Group
- Ken Edminster, DMH/DD/SAS MHBG Administrator
- Bill Harris, DMH/DD/SAS
- Michael Owen, i2i

This Community Inclusion grant is sponsored by the North Carolina DHHS Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services with funding from the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Mental Health Block Grant (MHBG). The fiscal agent is the i2i Center for Integrative Health.

It is important to note that this is a cost reimbursement grant. In other words, **you will spend your money first and then ask for payment.** Your organization will not receive funding up front. In order to get reimbursed, you will be asked to keep ITEMIZED receipts for every purchase.

PRIOR TO THE DISTRIBUTION OF MHBG FUNDS, Representatives from each PILOT PARTNER will meet with the Advisory Group and representatives from the Division of MH/DD/SA for an overview of the types of activities that can be reimbursed using MHBG funds.

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