



GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY

Center for Health Equity

Community Engagement RADIANCE Grants Request for Proposals
(Respect, Advocacy, Diversity, Inclusion, ANti-racism, Collaboration, Equity)
Proposals Due: October 31, 2026
Funding Period: December 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027

The Georgetown University Center for Health Equity is pleased to announce the second round of **Respect, Advocacy, Diversity, Inclusion, ANti-racism, Collaboration, Equity (RADIANCE)** Grants in collaboration with the Office of Faculty and Academic Affairs (OFAA), the School of Medicine Office of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging and DISCOVER Center of Excellence. This is a request for Community Engagement RADIANCE Grant proposals focused on diversity, equity, inclusion and anti-racism. Community Engagement RADIANCE Grants aim to contribute to **community engagement** that centers a culture of respect, inclusion, and belonging through strategies that promote advocacy, diversity, anti-racism, and equity.

In order to advance health equity, it is necessary to provide resources to create and strengthen sustainable community partnerships. The community engagement expansion of the [RADIANCE Grants](#) has been cultivated through Georgetown University's Center for Health Equity Community Engagement Subcommittee collaboration with OFAA.

Grant Proposals are due by 11:59 PM EST on October 31, 2026. Award notifications will be made by mid November 2026 and funding will be awarded for use from December 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027. Funds cannot be carried forward after June 30, 2027. Progress reports are due March 1, 2027; final reports are due July 30, 2027. Each awardee will be expected to present on their project at a Center for Health Equity Advisory Committee meeting, a GUMC Faculty Development Committee meeting, and submit an abstract proposal for the annual [CENTILE Colloquium](#) and/or the [MedStar Health-Georgetown University Research and Education Symposium](#).

Community Engagement RADIANCE Awards (up to \$4000) funded by the Georgetown University Center for Health Equity are available to all GUMC faculty members (any track, any rank, including faculty employed by our health system partners [e.g. MedStar] who hold Georgetown faculty appointments). We anticipate funding a number of awards [e.g. 4 awards up to \$4000 each]). **Proposals must focus efforts on the interface of the GUMC community* with a community partner** to address a question of health equity and/or social justice. Proposals must demonstrate and focus on the community partner's needs and goals as the aim of the academic-community collaboration.** Funds can be used to cover expenses related to proposal activities. Examples of allowable spending categories include community partner honoraria, needs identified by the community partner, student stipends or student workers, research assistant effort, data management or research analysis costs, participant incentives, food, focus group logistics, books, external speakers, external experts or consultants, publication/printing costs, or training expenses. If you have questions about allowable use of funds, please see send inquiries to ofaa@georgetown.edu using "RADIANCE grant 2026" in the subject line.

*GUMC community is defined broadly as inclusive of undergraduate or graduate students, residents, or fellows, Georgetown staff, and/or faculty with appointments at Georgetown within MedStar Health, the School of Nursing, School of Health, School of Medicine, Biomedical Graduate Education, and Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center.

**Community partner is defined broadly as any community based organization with scope or impact in the DC-Maryland-Virginia (DMV) area (e.g., including but not limited to organizations working with these populations: housing insecurity, mentorship of historically marginalized youth, displaced populations, etc).

Examples of Responsive Topics (these are examples, not all inclusive):

- Grant proposal for a community-based activity (e.g. Reach Out and Read) with local community health centers that expands the GUMC-community partnership and benefits children and families.
- Collaboration with a community partner to improve healthy food options available to community members at a local food resource center in response to the MedStar Community Health Needs Assessment.
- Collaboration with a community neighborhood association to create a mural depicting the community's history and diversity.
- Collaboration with a community group to consider additional strategies to educate our students about social determinants of health.
- Funding a student coordinator position, first aid and hygiene kits for an existing navigation program for Street Medicine Outreach benefiting families experiencing homelessness.
- Collaboration with a community youth-led organization focused on environmental sustainability, allowing the youth to design and implement community projects related to recycling or green spaces.
- Collaboration with community-based organizations to train and deploy community health workers (CHWs) who serve as trusted liaisons between healthcare providers and underserved communities.

Application Procedure (Deadline: October 31, 2026 at 11:59 PM EST)

Format Specifications

- Arial font and no smaller than 11 point; margins at least 0.5 inches (sides, top and bottom)
- Single-spaced lines; Consecutively numbered pages
- Submit as a single word or single pdf document to the [proposal portal](#)

Application Components

- Title Page: Project Title, Name of Submitting Principal Investigator
- Project Plan with the following sections (**3-4 pages total** inclusive of: objectives, project activities, project outcomes, and brief description of the project team, including the community partner):
 - Objectives/Aims: Up to 3 clearly stated objectives / aims. At least one aim must reflect reciprocal engagement, or how the funding will benefit the community partner
 - Project Activities: Description of how proposed activities will promote community engagement, advocacy, diversity, anti-racism, collaboration and/or equity
 - Project Outcomes: Specify outcomes of the project in terms of how the project will benefit the community served. Include a description of how outcomes will be assessed (how will you know if the proposal objectives are achieved?). If research data will be collected, please account for the IRB process.
 - Project Team: Description of the team and a brief indication of each team member's experience with health equity/DEI activities and community engagement. Please include each community partner (e.g. community-based organization [CBO], CBO contact person) **and an indication that the partner is supportive of the proposed project**. NOTE: GUMC faculty can be included on no more than 2 separate funded RADIANCE grant awards.

Additional Pages may be used as needed for the following components of the application:

- CV for contact PI, including GUMC CV updated recommendations regarding contributions to enhancing DEI ([Recommended GUMC CV](#)). CVs for team members other than the contact PI are optional. Please briefly convey each team member's experience with DEI and community engagement in the proposal itself.
- General Budget: The budget must indicate how the funds will be used. The description can include broad categories with anticipated spending ranges; total allowable up to \$4,000. Please provide enough details for reviewers to understand how the funds will be used.

Review Criteria and Process

Proposals will be reviewed based on alignment with the following considerations, with preference given to applications that address these components:

- A. Demonstrates how the community's need was determined and how community input was obtained (e.g. Community Health Needs Assessment, Key Informant Interviews, Focus Groups).
- B. Demonstrates inclusion of project team members with: a) commitment to DEI efforts and b) experience in community-engaged work that puts the community needs at the center of the work.
- C. Existing or newly developed community partnerships
- D. Activities that advance health equity and social justice or improve health outcomes within populations of interest and promote a culture of respect, inclusion, belonging and community engagement
- E. Activities that include learners
- F. Demonstrates what community need is being addressed and delineation of clear outcomes
- G. Demonstrates how the collaboration may strengthen relationships between GUMC and community

All proposals will be assigned a primary and secondary reviewer. Reviewers will have experience working in DEI and community based efforts. The review committee will be Co-Chaired by the Associate Dean for Faculty Development and a member from the Center for Health Equity Advisory Committee. We will assemble a review committee of 8-10 members, pending the number of applications; reviewers will be assigned based on expertise and to avoid conflict of interest (e.g., active collaborator with applicant).

- The primary and secondary reviewers will independently score proposals.
- The review committee will meet to discuss all proposals, and score each proposal after discussion. Teams who submitted proposals not accepted for funding can reach out to us (ofaa@georgetown.edu) for further discussion about how to improve their proposal for future opportunities.

All applications are due October 31, 2026 at 11:59 PM EST. Submit proposals through the [Proposal Submission Form](#)*. The review will occur in November 2026; notifications are expected in late November for a December 1 start date. Selected applications will need to confirm community partner readiness and willingness prior to start of award (e.g., attestation of commitment, a signed letter of commitment, or signed memorandum of understanding). We will invite awardees to share their proposal plans with the DEI Community of Practice and the Faculty Development Committee.

Questions and requests for additional information should be directed to Dr. Kristi Graves with the subject line "RADIANCE Grants" through the Office of Faculty and Academic Affairs at ofaa@georgetown.edu.

*Full link for proposal submission form: <https://forms.gle/jUSatSXHXtd5AAkK7>

**Full zoom link for Informational Sessions: <https://georgetown.zoom.us/j/4341172962>