



# REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS – NATIVE MATERNAL HEALTH

Office of Family and Community Health Improvement

# Maternal Health Innovations (MHI) Program

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## **Strategize**

Identify strategic priorities for the next 5-years to improve maternal health in Washington State.



## **Improve Data**

Enhance perinatal health data capacity and products.



## **Implement**

Explore and use new strategies that address maternal health disparities.

# Listening Sessions on Native Maternal Health

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- Prioritize Native communities in policy development and programs to provide a more coordinated effort toward Indigenous birth justice.
- Invest in a workforce that is effective for Native communities.
- Implement Indigenous birthing and breastfeeding education courses.
- Support access to home births and Indigenous birthing centers free of structural racism.
- Invest in cultural humility trainings for providers.
- Increase family and postpartum supports by utilizing community gatherings and traditional practices.
- Improve access to nurse home visiting and lactation support.
- Expand access to Indigenous prenatal and postpartum mental health providers.

# Request for Applications (RFA): Native Maternal Health

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Builds upon existing maternal and infant health work in Indian Country

Could include, but not limited to:

- Establish a birth center in a community where informal homebirth is being piloted
- Update an existing Native Maternal Health Strategic Plan



Fills a maternal and infant health gap in a high-need area

Could include, but not limited to:

- Create a doula program in an area with no maternity facilities
- Develop a Maternal Health Strategic Plan
- Build a Tribal college's birthworker training program

# Washington State Indigenous Perinatal Status Report\*: High-Need Areas

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## Geographic

- Maternity care desert
  - Ferry County
  - Douglas County
  - Lincoln County
  - Garfield County
  - Columbia County
  - Skamania County
  - Pacific County
  - Wahkiakum County



## Topic Area

- Birthkeepers/Doulas
- Lactation support
- Mental health
- Access to maternity care
- Home visiting
- Addiction treatment
- Cultural supports
- Basic needs

*\*Authored by Camie Jae Goldhammer, MSW, LICSW, IBCLC  
Hummingbird Indigenous Family Services*



# RFA Details

- Up to 2 groups will be awarded \$200,000 each per year for 2 years
  - Funding is dependent on continuation of federal funds.
- Applicants must:
  - Represent an American Indian or Alaska Native Nation, Native organization, Urban Indian Organization, or a collaborative of these groups.
  - Identify as a Native-led entity.
  - Serve and prioritize Native communities within Washington.



# Fiscal requirements

- The funds for this opportunity come from the federal government. Grantees are known as “subrecipients.”
- Subrecipient funding has stricter guidelines than state or private funding.
- Organizations must have a budget large enough to pay for grant expenses before reimbursement.







# Reporting Requirements

- Brief quarterly reports
- Regular meetings with DOH
- Monitoring and evaluation plan
- Final report
- Dissemination plan for lessons learned



# Washington State Perinatal Collaborative(WSPC)



**Vision:** Washington state is a safe and equitable place to experience pregnancy, give birth, and parent.



**Mission:** End preventable morbidity, mortality, and disparities in pregnancy, postpartum, and infant care through quality improvement initiatives and fostering a network of statewide perinatal leaders.

## Values



**Equity**



**Transparency &  
Accountability**



**Open Membership**

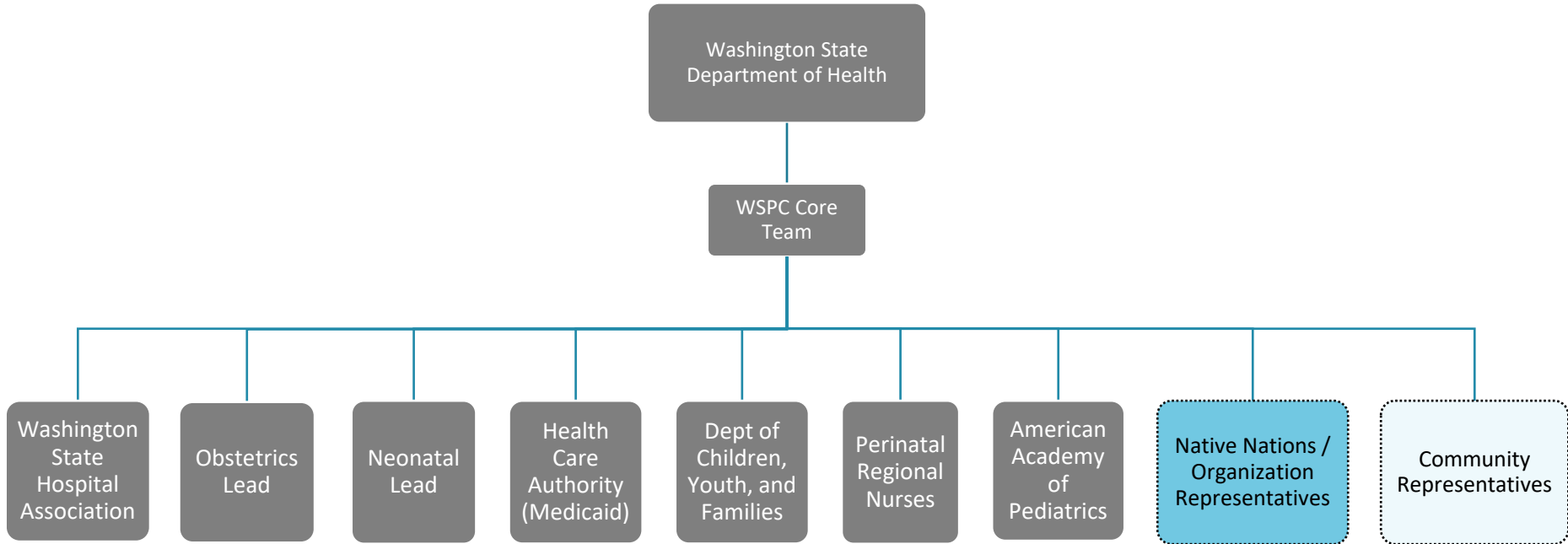


**Collaboration**



**Quality**

# WSPC Structure and Staffing



# Application Components

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- ❑ Applicant Information Sheet & Eligibility Questions
- ❑ Letter of interest
- ❑ Partnership Identification
- ❑ Impact Statement
- ❑ Project work plan
- ❑ Project budget
- ❑ Letters of support



# Applicant Information & Eligibility



## Applicant Information & Eligibility

Name of Native Nation, Native organization, Urban Indian Organization, or collaborative	
Address	
Project Manager	
Title	
Telephone	
Email	
Tax Identification Number (TIN)	
WA UBI number **	
Statewide Vendor Number **	
Proposed Budget Year 1	
Proposed Budget Year 2	

\*\* If you do not have these numbers at the time of your application, you will need to apply and receive them before having a contract in place with WA DOH. Allow at least 30 days to get these numbers. This can be completed after the award announcement.

You can use the following links to request these numbers:

- WA UBI: [Registrations and filings required for businesses | Washington Department of Revenue](#)
- Statewide Vendor Number: [Vendor Payee Registration | Office of Financial Management \(wa.gov\)](#)
- Follow this link for more support applying for this number: [Apply for a Statewide Vendor Number](#)

Print Name of Authorized Signatory

Signature of Authorized Signatory

# Letter of Interest (4 pages max)

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- Provide a brief overview of your Nation, Native organization, Urban Indian Organization, or collaborative.
- Describe the proposed project, plan, and approach.
  - For applicants proposing a project that fills a maternal health gap in a high-need area, please describe how the area is high-need.
- Describe how the project addresses current priorities in Native maternal health. Specifically, please describe how your proposed project impacts pregnant, birthing, and postpartum people and/or maternal morbidity and mortality

# Partnership Identification (1 page max)

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- Please share who you will partner with in this project. How would your Native Nation, organization, or collaborative engage these partners?
- We encourage applicants to share whether they plan to provide funding to other organizations or project partners via subcontracting or by providing stipends. Please submit this as a PDF document with your application



# Impact Statement (2 pages max)

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- Please explain how you hope this funding opportunity will impact Native maternal health for current and future generations.
- This section may be answered however you prefer, including using writing, tables, letters of support, or storytelling, etc. If using letters of support to answer this section, please note that when submitting your application.

# Project Work Plan

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<b>Goal 1:</b>			
<b>Strategy 1:</b>			
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Who is responsible?</b>	<b>By when?</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<b>Strategy 2:</b>			
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Who is responsible?</b>	<b>By when?</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<b>Goal 2:</b>			
<b>Strategy 1:</b>			
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Who is responsible?</b>	<b>By when?</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<b>Strategy 2:</b>			
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Who is responsible?</b>	<b>By when?</b>	<b>Notes</b>

# Project Budget

Budget Category	Year 1 Budget	Year 2 Budget	Total budget	Description
A. Employee wages				
B. Fringe benefits				
C. Travel				
D. Equipment*				
E. Supplies				
F. Contracts				
G. Construction				
H. Other				
Total Direct Costs				
I. Indirect Costs**				
Total Project Budget				



# Letters of Support (optional)

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- Applicants can submit up to 5 letters of support.
- Letters of support can come from leaders, community members, clients, or partner organizations.
- Can be used to speak to the potential impact of project, community support for the proposed project, etc.



# Application Support

Drop-in Zoom office hours:

- December 12, 2024, 1:30pm-2:30 p.m. PST
- December 18, 2024, 10:00-11:00 a.m. PST
- December 30, 2024, 12:00-1:00 p.m. PST
- January 3, 2025, 10:00-11:00 a.m. PST

# Evaluation Criteria

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Application Component	Max Score
Letter of Interest	35
Work plan	25
Budget	5
Partnership Identification	10
Potential Impact	25



# RFA Timeline

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	Date
Dear Tribal Leader Letter Sent	November 22, 2024
RFA Release Date	December 4, 2024
Information Calls	December 9, 2024 at 3:30 p.m. December 17, 2024 at 10:30 a.m.
Application Due	January 6, 2025 at 8:00 a.m.
Notification of Awards	Late February 2025
Expected Period of Performance	May 1, 2025 – April 30, 2027

# RFA Review Committee

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Review Committee Tasks	Approximate Dates
Review committee recruitment	Ongoing
Review committee orientation	January 6
Committee reviews applications	January 7 – February 3
Semi-finalist meeting	February 4
Additional review/interviews	February 10-19
Decision meeting	February 20

## Eligibility:

- Must be American Indian or Alaska Native
- Must reside in Washington

Reviews compensated at the rate of \$45/hour and paid via gift card.

# Questions?

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**Susan Glenn**

*Maternal Health Innovations  
Coordinator*

**Caroline Sedano**

*Perinatal Unit Supervisor*

[waperinatalcollaborative@doh.wa.gov](mailto:waperinatalcollaborative@doh.wa.gov)

**More information available at:**

[Washington State Perinatal Collaborative \(WSPC\) |  
Washington State Department of Health](#)



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