



## Request for Proposals: Generation Rx Community Mini-Grants

### Overview

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports that the “United States is in the midst of an opioid overdose epidemic.” From 2000 to 2014, nearly half a million people in the country died from drug overdoses, and since 1999, the number of deaths involving opioids (including prescription pain relievers and heroin) have nearly quadrupled. Ohio continues to bear the impact of this epidemic. According to a recent report from the Ohio Department of Health, 3,050 Ohioans died in 2015 from a drug overdose – the highest ever recorded. On average, that translates to one death every 2 hours and 52 minutes or 8 deaths per day. Prescription drug misuse underlies this phenomenon, with almost 85% of overdose deaths involving opioids such as prescription pain medications and heroin. The vast majority of those who turn to illicit drugs like heroin first misused a prescription opioid.

Since 2009, the Ohio State University College of Pharmacy and the Cardinal Health Foundation have collaborated to develop a robust, highly successful educational program about medication safety and the dangers of prescription drug misuse. Our free, ready-to-use resources, available at [www.generationrx.org](http://www.generationrx.org), can be used by a wide variety of stakeholders to train youth, adults, and senior citizens (among others) about safe medication-taking practices.

### Funding Opportunity

We are currently accepting proposals for Ohio State University Extension-led teams to develop and implement a youth-targeted opioid education initiative in their home communities during November, 2017 to March, 2018. The teams, comprising pharmacists, community coalitions, educators (teachers, administrators, and students), and/or other partners, will use the Generation Rx resources to conduct medication/opioid safety teaching to K-12 students statewide. We anticipate that most educational activities will occur in schools, but after-school programs (including 4H and boys/girls clubs) are also an appropriate venue for this work. Small-grant dollars (up to \$2,500 total) will be available to assist with the proposed programming. Additionally, other resources will be available to support the project, including the effort of >400 Kroger pharmacists trained in the Generation Rx materials as well as technical assistance with program implementation and evaluation.

To be eligible for funding, teams must submit a short pre-proposal application (see attached file) no later than **August 14, 2017**. Those teams who are approved through the first selection round will be required to attend a free, daylong professional development symposium on October 6, 2017 at the Center of Science and Industry (COSI). Disbursement of funds will occur following approval of the final proposal (due October 15, 2017). A final project report will be due by April 10, 2018.

## **Timeline**

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| June 30, 2017    | RFP released   |
| August 14, 2017  | Pre-proposal due to <a href="mailto:kwiek.1@osu.edu">kwiek.1@osu.edu</a>           |
| August 31, 2017  | First round decisions released   |
| October 6, 2017  | Team representative(s) must attend training symposium at COSI                      |
| October 15, 2017 | Final project proposal due to <a href="mailto:kwiek.1@osu.edu">kwiek.1@osu.edu</a> |
| October 30, 2017 | Final round decisions released; funds disbursed                                    |
| November 1, 2017 | Project start date   |
| March 15, 2018   | Project end date   |
| April 10, 2018   | Final project report due; professional development funds released                  |

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

*Can someone other than an Extension Educator lead the project?*

An Ohio State University Extension Educator must lead the effort, but the team can comprise any number of community partners from a variety of sectors.

*What are acceptable expenses?*

We anticipate that teams will use the grant funds for expenses related (but not limited) to programmatic support, printing, travel, and meeting space (including food). Funds cannot be used towards capital improvements, including computer purchases. Up to \$500 can be allocated to the lead Extension Educator's professional development funds (to be disbursed at the project's conclusion).

*How do I apply?*

The lead Extension Educator should complete the Pre-Proposal template (file attached) no later than August 14, 2017. Any questions related to your application and its development can be directed to Nicole Kwiek ([kwiek.1@osu.edu](mailto:kwiek.1@osu.edu)).

*Must I collect data in this project?*

Yes, we expect each team to evaluate the project's impact. However, we will help each team to develop its evaluation plan during the October training symposium.

*Must I use the Generation Rx resources?*

We strongly encourage you to incorporate the Generation Rx resources (available at [www.generationrx.org](http://www.generationrx.org)) in your project.

*How can I increase my team's likelihood of receiving funding?*

Though any youth-targeted educational approaches are welcome, we are particularly interested in sustainable (i.e., train-the-trainer) proposals that will facilitate medication/opioid education beyond the grant period. We suggest partnership with a community-based drug prevention coalition and/or a school district that can ensure activities continue in the foreseeable future.

*Will there be a final report?*

Yes, each team will be required to submit project data in a short (<2 page) report no later than April 10, 2018. Once submitted, any budgeted professional development funds will be disbursed.