

Preventing Injury Request for Proposals

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About the John Rex Endowment

The John Rex Endowment supports an environment where children and families in greater Wake County live healthy lives. Guided by the belief that all children should reach their full potential, the John Rex Endowment works with the community to support the physical, mental, and emotional well-being of children.

The John Rex Endowment's work is guided by our five-year plan, [Our Plan for Impact, 2013-2018](#). Our plan focuses on five goals that we believe are the most promising avenues through which we can make the greatest difference and bring about positive change for children, birth to age 18, in Wake County.

Deadlines and Dates

Organizations can apply for funding in either the Fall or the Winter Grant Award Cycle.

	Fall Grant Award Cycle	Winter Grant Award Cycle
Letters of Intent Due	End of day on Jun. 13, 2017	End of day on Oct. 10, 2017
Full Applications Invited	Week of Jun. 19, 2017	Week of Oct. 16, 2017
Invited Applications Due	End of day on Aug. 8, 2017	End of day on Dec. 12, 2017
Preliminary Review Status Notification	By end of Sept. 2017	By end of Jan. 2018
Award Status Notification	By end of Oct. 2017	By end of Feb. 2018
Grant Start Dates	Jan. 1, 2018 or after	Apr. 1, 2018 or after

Questions

Contact Gladys Hairston (gladys@rexendowment.org or 919-838-1110 x6).

Preventing Injury Overview

Our Preventing Injury goal is to increase the number of people and organizations engaged in activities that are effective in preventing injury and ensuring the overall safety of Wake County children.

Regardless of whether an injury is **intentional** or **unintentional**, it has a ripple effect on a child's health and well-being. When we prevent injuries from occurring, we protect children from temporary or permanent physical disability, prevent mental and emotional trauma, and ensure children can participate fully in life.

The John Rex Endowment believes preventing injuries and ensuring the overall safety of Wake County children can only be achieved if our county has a robust and diverse community of professionals and organizations committed to injury prevention and engaged in effective injury prevention activities.

INTENTIONAL injuries result from interpersonal or self-inflicted violence, and include homicide, assaults, suicide and suicide attempts, child abuse and neglect (includes child sexual abuse), intimate partner violence, elder abuse, and sexual assault. UNINTENTIONAL injuries include, but are not limited to, those that result from motor vehicle crashes, falls, fires, poisonings, drowning, suffocations, choking, and recreational and sports-related activities.

From North Carolina's Strategic Plan for Preventing Injuries and Violence¹

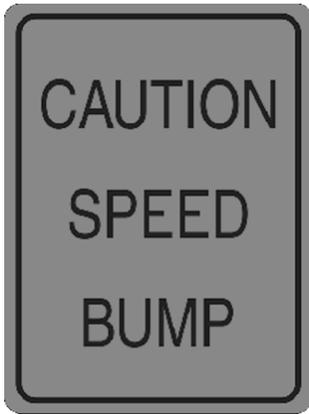
For this Preventing Injury Request for Proposals (RFP), the John Rex Endowment is seeking grant proposals from organizations or teams of organizations that want to improve and strengthen their work to prevent injury and ensure the overall safety of Wake County children.

Background

To support our work in this area, our foundation engaged the Healthy Solutions team from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill from August 1, 2013, to January 31, 2014, to complete the [Wake County Childhood Injury Prevention Assessment Project](#). The project's main goals were to:

1. Summarize Wake County Childhood Injury Data and Gaps.
2. Create a Profile of Wake County Organizations Addressing Childhood Health and Safety.
3. Investigate the Connection between the Injury Data and the Injury Prevention activities of Organizations responding to an online survey.

This detailed assessment informed our choices about what childhood injury and safety issues our funding will address. By looking across multiple sources of data, we were able to clearly identify the leading causes of childhood injury in Wake County. Since Wake County stakeholders told us that our community can more effectively address childhood injury and safety when resources and efforts are coordinated around priorities for prevention, our funding is focused on the five leading causes of Wake County childhood injury (see top of next page).



Five Leading Causes of Wake County Childhood Injury

1. Motor Vehicle Crashes – traffic, occupants (Unintentional Injury)
Children injured as occupants (passenger or driver) of cars/trucks/buses
2. Assault/Physical Violence (Intentional Injury)
Children injured resulting from
 - Assaults or physical violence
 - Child abuse/maltreatment (physical, emotional, and/or sexual)
 - Sexual violence (e.g., sexual assault or rape)
3. Motor Vehicle Crashes –traffic , pedestrian(Unintentional Injury)
Children injured as pedestrians
4. Self Inflicted/Self Harm (Intentional Injury)
Children injured as a result of self-inflicted violence/self-harm
5. Falls (Unintentional Injury)
Children injured from slips/trips/stumbles from playground equipment, stairs, beds, etc.

Levels of Impact

Through the assessment project we learned that Wake County is rich in programs that impact individuals' awareness and knowledge, attitudes and beliefs, and behaviors, as well as their families, peer groups, and other relationships.

Less prevalent are higher-impact injury prevention efforts that have the potential to more broadly bring about change that prevents childhood injuries. Such prevention strategies emphasize **changing the physical environment** and **social conditions** across Wake County, in specific neighborhoods, or in particular community settings.

CHANGING THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT involves making changes to the built environment—human-made structures and buildings, spaces, and sidewalks and roadways for example—and products that are created or modified by people.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS include social norms and attitudes, institutional or government policies and laws, community cohesion, etc.

For additional information about frameworks that can help you assess or plan the levels of impact for your injury prevention work, check out the resources on pg. 5 of this RFP.

For the full report of the findings from that project, read [A Profile of Wake County Childhood Injury and Injury Prevention](#).

What We Will Fund

The John Rex Endowment is seeking grant proposals from organizations or teams of organizations that want to improve and strengthen their work to prevent injury and ensure the overall safety of Wake County children.

Proposed grants must:

1. Focus on one or more of the top five causes of Wake County childhood injury as listed on pg. 3 of this RFP.
2. Focus on primary prevention, defined as programs and strategies that prevent injury or violence before it occurs.
3. Include a concentration on improving or strengthening your current efforts to prevent injury or ensure the safety of Wake County children by building your organizational capacity and/or the capacity of people working in your organization/s to be more effective in your injury prevention work.

Projects that focus on one or more higher-impact prevention strategies will receive priority consideration.

The first step is to decide how you want to be more effective, for example:

- Are your current injury prevention approaches not making *the difference you want to see*?
- Are you focused on building awareness and education but want to *add a higher-impact approach to change the environment or social conditions*?
- Is the strategy you've been using not *informed by research that shows it works* to prevent injury?
- Is your work centered on dealing with injuries after they have occurred and you want to *start a primary prevention focus*?

Read more about how we define effective injury prevention, organizational capacity, and people's capacity on pg. 6 of this RFP.

Choose Your Funding Path

The John Rex Endowment offers two types of grants: Planning Grants and Implementation Grants. Everyone knows planning is important but often organizations do not have the time, resources, and/or expertise to develop a thoughtful and actionable plan, particularly when starting something new. Because of this, the John Rex Endowment provides grants for organizations to develop comprehensive plans of action. The John Rex Endowment has supported a number of efforts in Wake County by initially providing support for planning. For those organizations that already have an actionable plan, the John Rex Endowment will provide grant funding to support you in implementing the plan. We've developed a checklist to help you choose your path on pg. 9 of this RFP.

Examples of a planning grant:

- Your organization wishes to determine the most appropriate evidence-based intervention and identify what your capacity needs are in order to effectively implement the intervention.
- You are a group of organizations that wish to implement a policy advocacy strategy together and want to collaboratively develop a plan for doing so.

Example of an implementation grant:

- Your organization has identified a new and more effective injury prevention strategy but you need funding to support staff training, purchase materials, and develop your evaluation plan.
- You are a group of organizations collaborating to implement a new community-wide intervention that uses various strategies working in combination to address not only individual-level behavior change, but also take into consideration families, neighborhoods, community settings, institutions, policies, social norms, and/or the physical environment.

Grant Size and Term

The John Rex Endowment has approximately \$750,000 available for new Preventing Injury grant awards in response to this RFP. Planning grant awards have ranged from as low as \$30,000 to as high as \$120,000 and typically last six months to a year. Implementation grant awards average between \$300,000 and \$400,000, and are usually multi-year (2 to 4 years). We expect, though, that all grant terms and requested budgets should vary as needed to fit the purpose and scope of the proposed project.

Terms and Tips for Applicants and Grantees

Given our recognition that various fields of practice may use terminology differently, we have outlined how we use specific terms. Click [here](#) to access our Working Definitions for Applicants and Grantees, which includes definitions and tips that explain terms used in this RFP and application forms.

Who We Will Fund

The John Rex Endowment provides grants to 501(c)(3) nonprofits designated as public charities, government agencies and colleges/universities. Coalitions comprised of representatives from multiple organizations, or two or more organizations who wish to collaborate on a project, are eligible and encouraged to apply. Collaborating organizations must designate a lead organization. Applicants who do not have 501(c)(3) status must designate a fiscal sponsor, and fiscal sponsors must have 501(c)(3) status or be a government agency or college/university. Grant awards will not be made to, or on behalf of, individuals.

Resources

We offer links to a variety of resources, like the 2015 N.C. Suicide Prevention Plan, in the [Injury Prevention & Safety Learnings section](#) of our website. In addition to [A Profile of Wake County Childhood Injury and Injury Prevention](#) where you can find data on childhood injury and injury prevention work being done in Wake County, we've also provided a database that lists evidence-based models in injury and violence prevention obtained from more than 11 national sources.

General injury prevention resources you might find useful:

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention *National Action Plan for Child Injury Prevention*, <http://www.cdc.gov/safechild/nap/>
- National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, <http://www.cdc.gov/injury/>
- North Carolina Injury and Violence Prevention Branch, <http://www.injuryfreenc.ncdhhs.gov/>
- Prevention Institute's *Preventing Violence and Reducing Injury*, <http://www.preventioninstitute.org/focus-areas/preventing-violence-and-reducing-injury.html>
- Trust for America's Health *The Facts Hurt: A State-By-State Injury Prevention Policy Report*, <http://healthyamericans.org/reports/injuryprevention15/>

Frameworks for assessing and determining levels of impact:

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention *The Social-Ecological Model: A Framework for Prevention*, <http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/overview/social-ecologicalmodel.html>
- Frieden's *Health Impact Pyramid*, <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2836340/>
- The Prevention Institute's *Spectrum of Prevention*, <http://www.rexendowment.org/learning-draft/learning-injury-prevention/approaches-to-injury-prevention>
- *Three E's*, http://www.cdc.gov/safechild/pdf/National_Action_Plan_for_Child_Injury_Prevention.pdf (page 27)

What is *effective* injury prevention?

How we define it

Prevention is any action/s taken to either reduce the likelihood of injury before the injury event takes place, or to minimize the consequences of an injury event.²

The John Rex Endowment is interested in supporting primary prevention efforts, defined as programs and strategies that prevent injury or violence before it occurs. Primary prevention is designed to reduce the factors that lead to injury or increase the factors that protect against injury.²

Being effective in preventing injury requires the ability to³:

- ✓ Describe and explain *why and how an injury issue is a problem* and *why it should be a priority to address*.
- ✓ Obtain, interpret and *use data and research* to understand an injury issue, identify and prioritize possible solutions, and *plan prevention efforts*.
- ✓ Use an *evidence-based approach* (see next page) to develop, plan, and conduct prevention efforts.
- ✓ *Conduct prevention activities at multiple levels* to address not only individual children, their families or their other relationships, but also work on improving the physical environment and social conditions (see pg. 3 of this RFP).
- ✓ *Evaluate* whether prevention efforts are working and make improvements.
- ✓ *Network or collaborate* with others to strengthen prevention efforts.
- ✓ Identify and *obtain resources* to carry out prevention efforts.

What is *organizational* capacity?

The John Rex Endowment defines organizational capacity as organizations having (and making use of) the **commitment, infrastructure, and resources** necessary for a particular activity, function, area of work, etc.

You can't measure **commitment**, right? Actually, you can! Organizations demonstrate their commitment to beliefs, values, approaches, etc. in a variety of ways. Examples include an organization's mission, goals, or strategic plans.

Organizations also need the right **infrastructure** (e.g., policies, protocols, physical space, staffing models, organizational learning systems) in order to be effective.

And, finally, organizations need **resources** to carry out their efforts. And, sure, money is one resource, but so are in-kind contributions from volunteers or partners and the network of relationships an organization has in the community.

What is *people's* capacity?

Organizations are made up of people, and the John Rex Endowment believes that these individuals also need the right set of **knowledge, commitment, skills, and tools** to carry out their roles and responsibilities.

Ensuring people have the **knowledge and skills** they need to carry out their work is a good place to start. Training, coaching and opportunities to practice are some of the ways knowledge and skills are developed.

It is equally important to foster people's **commitment** to do things in a new way. Positive attitudes and holding the belief that an approach is beneficial are critical to motivate people to start and maintain new ways of working.

Tools can also be useful, and are sometimes necessary, in supporting people in their work. Tools are things like reminder cues, decision trees, checklists or even technology supports that aid people in carrying out specific functions.

Taking an Evidence-Based Approach

At the John Rex Endowment, we use the phrase *taking an evidence-based approach* to encompass a broader understanding of using evidence and data to inform project planning and implementation. Our foundation defines an evidence-based approach as using the most relevant and high-quality findings in research and combining it with: 1) practical experience and learning, or widely accepted best practice standards; 2) knowledge of Wake County and the setting/s where prevention efforts will take place; and 3) an understanding of who's affected, who's contributing to the problem, and who can help.⁴

In most cases the John Rex Endowment prefers investing in **evidence-based interventions** (or programs) and **practices** (or approaches) that are appropriately matched to the setting/s where prevention efforts will take place and your intervention target/s.

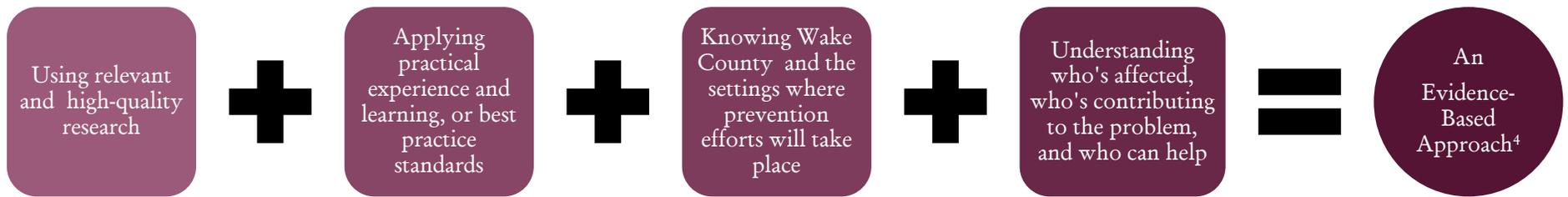
An **EVIDENCE-BASED INTERVENTION** is a defined curriculum or set of practices that, when implemented as a whole, have been strongly demonstrated through research or evaluation to achieve a particular outcome or set of outcomes. Key to implementing evidence-based interventions well is that the curriculum or set of practices is executed as designed (that is, executed completely as it was intended by the original source of the intervention or program).

EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES are techniques or approaches that have been strongly demonstrated by research or evaluation to individually result in a particular outcome or set of outcomes. Key to implementing evidence-based practices well is that the techniques or approaches are implemented according to the specific protocol designed by the original source of the practice.

The quality of research evidence for specific interventions or practices depends on a variety of factors, including but not limited to the quality of the research or evaluation methods (e.g., is a cause-and-effect relationship established?), the volume of evidence (e.g., has the research been repeated and the results replicated?), and the generalizability of the results (e.g., has the intervention or practice been implemented in a wide variety of communities, settings, or populations?). The John Rex Endowment considers an intervention or practice to be evidence-based if: (1) it has been systematically reviewed (an analysis of multiple research studies or evaluations has been conducted) by a respected authority (e.g., Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's National Registry of Evidence-based Programs and Practices) or in a peer-reviewed journal, and (2) the research evidence shows an impact on a specific outcome or set of outcomes, instead of, for example, something that is generally good for children.

However, sometimes high-quality research may not be available or is limited, or there may not be an evidence-based intervention or practice that is the right fit for the prevention work you've identified. In those cases, the John Rex Endowment does accept other forms of evidence (e.g., accepted best practice, practical experience, and application of theory) to support an innovative, emerging, or promising intervention or practice (see chart on pg. 8).

If you have very little or no experience reviewing research, ask for help! Perhaps someone else in your organization or an organization you've worked with for another project can provide assistance. Maybe there is a statewide organization or someone at a local college/university who has expertise to offer and would be willing to consult on the project or partner with you in the work.



You've Got Evidence!

If you are proposing a specific implementation approach backed up by evidence, you should provide details regarding how the strategy (or strategies) fit the criteria below:

- It has been systematically reviewed (an analysis of multiple research studies or evaluations has been conducted) by a respected authority (e.g., Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration) or in a peer-reviewed journal.
- It has a defined structure and format, for example a specific protocol, manual, or curriculum, that was researched and can be replicated.
- The research evidence shows it impacts a specific outcome or set of outcomes.
- Based on practical experience, knowledge of Wake County and the setting in which it will be implemented, and who is involved, it appears to be a good fit.

There's No Research!

If you are proposing a specific implementation approach with no or limited research, you should provide details regarding how the strategy (or strategies) fit the criteria below:

- It has been labeled as an emerging or promising intervention or best practice by a respected authority (e.g., FRIENDS National Resource Center for Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention) or in a peer-reviewed journal. Practical experience as well as application of theory may also be used to support a proposed strategy.
- You plan to implement your strategy in a defined and specific way that can—and will—be evaluated.
- The evidence you are using supports that you will be able to impact a specific outcome or set of outcomes.
- Based on practical experience, knowledge of Wake County and the setting in which it will be implemented, and who is involved, it appears to be a good fit.

Choose Your Funding Path

This checklist will help you figure out if applying for a planning grant or an implementation grant is most appropriate for you. The more checkmarks, the greater the likelihood that your project is “ready” for an implementation grant. On the following page is a decision tree that sums up how to use this checklist in choosing to apply for a planning or an implementation grant.

Examining the Situation⁵

- Do you have access to and have you analyzed community data about your specific childhood injury focus that tells you the level of the problem in Wake County? Hint: A good place to start is the [A Profile of Wake County Childhood Injury and Injury Prevention](#) report available on the John Rex Endowment website.
- Do you have information from community or state data, your own organizational data, or general research on the topic that tell you what children are affected by the problem, where and when they are affected, and why (that is, who or what is contributing to the problem)?
- Do you know who else—specific individuals or other organizations—is already working to address this problem locally, regionally, or statewide and/or who might have a shared interest in working with you?
- Do you know what resources or efforts already exist either in your organization or in the community that help to prevent or reduce the problem?

Developing a Plan⁵

- Have you determined what kinds of changes might best prevent or reduce the problem?
- Is there agreement on the specific longer-term outcomes you wish to achieve, that is, the changes you wish to bring about as a result of your efforts?
- Have you gathered research and information to help you identify and prioritize possible approaches to address these factors and to ensure that your proposed solution is effective, practical, reasonably budgeted, the right fit for your organization/s, and the right fit for Wake County? This should involve reviewing research, but can also include speaking with other organizations or communities who've addressed the problem, or seeking the guidance of experts.
- Have you involved or solicited input from multiple voices that have a stake in the proposed solution? Often organizations might include organizational leadership and staff, or community partners in the planning process. Less often, but just as important, organizations should find meaningful ways to include representatives of whom you are targeting to change. You might also consider involving persons who you feel have influence and can either help or hinder a new effort.
- Have you determined what assets or supports you already have in place that will contribute to your success? Likewise, have you identified what gaps or barriers exist that might limit your success?
- Have you thought through what shorter-term outcomes will be necessary, in other words, the smaller changes that will serve as stepping stones to achieving your longer-term outcomes? Have you identified the activities—the things you will do—in order to bring about these changes? Have you determined who will be responsible for carrying out these activities?

Continue to pg. 10 for a decision tree to assist you in choosing your funding path.

Choose Your Funding Path: Decision Tree

Have you completed all aspects of
“Examining the Situation” and
“Developing a Plan”?

“No, I’ve examined the situation but haven’t developed a plan.”
We recommend that you apply for a planning grant. Your grant request should focus on the work you need to do to develop a comprehensive plan.

“I’ve done some work to examine the situation, and some work to develop a plan.”
Your situation is not unique. You need to decide whether or not you’ve done enough of the work outlined in “Examining the Situation” and “Developing a Plan” to confidently submit an implementation grant application.

“No, very little or none.”
We recommend that you apply for a planning grant. You can ask for grant support to both help you examine the situation and develop a comprehensive plan.

This will give you more time, and the support, to carry out all of these important tasks that make up developing a comprehensive plan.

There may be some final aspects you’ll need to take care of during the application process.

“Yes!”
It sounds like you are ready to implement. We recommend you apply for an implementation grant.

Apply for a
planning grant.

Apply for an
implementation grant.

How to Apply

To respond to this funding opportunity, you must [Apply Online](#). **If you are not already registered in our online system, we highly recommend that you complete the registration process early and familiarize yourself with the new system.** The John Rex Endowment provides [guidelines and tips for using our online grant management system](#) on our website.

Letters of Intent (LOIs), the first stage of the online application process, must be completed and submitted via the deadlines specified on pg.1 of this RFP. If a LOI or application is not received according to the deadlines specified, it will not be reviewed until the next grant award cycle. For example, a LOI submitted one day late, will not be reviewed until the next grant award cycle.

LOIs are reviewed by John Rex Endowment staff. An applicant will either be invited to submit a full application or their LOI will be denied. Applicants are typically notified of the review decision within 7 business days of the LOI deadline specified above.

If invited to submit a full application:

- Applications must be completed by the deadlines specified on pg. 1 of this RFP.
- The John Rex Endowment's Health Improvement Committee reviews submitted applications. Applicants will be notified of the status of their application following the committee's review in September 2017 for the Fall Grant Award Cycle and in January 2018 for the Winter Grant Award Cycle.

The committee presents applications recommended for funding to the John Rex Endowment Board of Directors for award consideration. Applicants will be notified of status following the board meeting in October 2017 for the Fall Grant Award Cycle and in February 2018 for the Winter Grant Award Cycle.

Preparing a Successful Grant Proposal

We often receive phone calls from organizations asking this question: "Is the John Rex Endowment likely to fund this XYZ idea?" In most cases, as long as the idea is in the "ballpark," this is a question we can't and won't answer after a phone conversation. Below, we've outlined the basic requirements as well as our tips for preparing a successful grant proposal.

Before You Get Started

- Are you eligible to apply (see "Who We Will Fund" on pg. 5)?
- Is your idea focused on one of Wake County's top five leading causes of childhood injury (see top of pg. 3)?
- Have you read this RFP from start to finish?
- Have you downloaded the Working Definitions for Applicants and Grantees (pg. 5) to see the John Rex Endowment's definitions and tips for terms used in this RFP and in application forms?
- If you have a general question about applying for a grant, have you accessed the John Rex Endowment's [Commonly Asked Questions](#) on our website?
- If you didn't find your answer in our Commonly Asked Questions or you need clarification on something specific to this RFP, have you contacted Gladys Hairston (gladys@rexendowment.org, or 919-838-1110 x6) who is ready to provide assistance?

LOI stands for Letter to *Impress*

The LOI is the first form you will complete in our online grant management system after you choose the grant opportunity you are responding to. Think of the LOI as a preliminary application and your chance to persuade us as to how your idea can strengthen work that prevents Wake County children from being injured. And, though the LOI may be shorter than a full application, don't underestimate the time you will need to prepare a quality LOI.

Here are the key things to note when writing a letter to impress:

- Your proposed project idea is clear and to the point.
- Your proposed project is focused on primary prevention.
- Your proposed project includes a concentration on building your organizational capacity and/or the capacity of people working in your organization/s to be more effective in your injury prevention work.
- Your proposed project focuses on one or more higher-impact prevention strategies (those that do will receive priority consideration).
- You've convinced us the project is needed – with supporting data and details.
- You've given us information about your organization/s that helps us see how the project really fits with who you are and what you do (that is, it doesn't lead us to think "mission drift").
- You've identified key partners (if applicable), and they've agreed to work with you in developing the full application if invited.
- You've expressed how your project will have an impact on **vulnerable children**, birth to age 18. That is, you've defined the particular injury cause your idea is focused on, and:
 - *if you're applying for a planning grant*, you've clearly stated how your planning process will either work to identify what specific subset/s of Wake County children are at greatest risk for these injuries, and/or how your process will support you in developing a planned approach to reduce the likelihood of these injuries occurring in specific subset/s of Wake County children.
 - *if you're applying for an implementation grant*, you've clearly stated how the injury prevention approach you are taking will reduce the likelihood of these injuries occurring in specific subset/s of Wake County children.



The John Rex Endowment broadly defines **VULNERABLE CHILDREN** as children for whom there are disparities in health and well-being because of race/ethnicity, low-income status, disability, or other factors. In injury prevention work, the factors that contribute to vulnerability can vary depending on the cause of injury. For example, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) youth have an increased risk for suicide and self-harm. Where a child lives might determine that she is more likely to be hit by a car. Or children living in poverty are generally at greater risk for falls.

- *If you're applying for a planning grant and your request for support is primarily focusing on developing a plan, you've provided the information that shows us that you've examined the situation (see pgs. 9 and 10).*
- *If you're applying for a planning grant and your request for support is to help you both examine the situation and develop a plan (see pgs. 9 and 10), you've told us why the work is important to do. A tip: we are not persuaded by curiosity as a motivating factor or "this is what the John Rex Endowment said it would fund."*
- *If you're applying for an implementation grant, you've provided the information that shows us that you've examined the situation and developed a plan (see pgs. 9 and 10) and that you've taken an evidence-based approach (see pgs. 7 and 8).*

An Awesome Application = Award



Your LOI provided a clear understanding of your idea about promising work that could improve and strengthen childhood injury prevention efforts in Wake County. Congratulations on being invited to submit a full application! The application is your avenue to describe more specifically what you want to achieve through the proposed grant project and the means by which you will do so. If you received feedback from John Rex Endowment staff based on your LOI, it is also an opportunity for you to address any questions that were raised about your project idea. You'll be asked to meet with John Rex Endowment staff early in your application development process, and staff are available to provide the support you need in working on your application (including reviewing an application draft!!). Here are the guidelines for an awesome application:

- You've met all of the requirements outlined in this RFP, and you've submitted a complete application with all requested information.
- You've provided a solid and compelling case for the need for the project by providing specific and relevant data and a strong description of why the need is a priority for preventing injuries and ensuring the safety of vulnerable Wake County children.
- You've clearly linked your planning or implementation approach to the need or problem you've laid out.
- Your ability to carry out your proposed project as described (project activities, person/s responsible, timeline, proposed budget, consultant/s, etc.) appears to be both feasible and suitable for your project goals.
- You've planned for meaningful involvement of important stakeholders in your proposed project (e.g., children, families, key partner/s, staff, intervention targets).
- The proposed project is a very strong fit with your organization/s—furthering your mission/s and strongly aligned with your area/s of work and experience. The timing is right and you (your organization/s) are ready to take on this project.

- An evidence-based approach (see pgs. 7 and 8) is noticeably integrated with your proposed planning process or has obviously informed your proposed implementation project.

If you are applying for a planning grant and haven't yet identified a specific implementation approach (i.e., you may be in the "Examining the Situation" stage or at the beginning of "Developing a Plan"), you should be specific as to how you will take an evidence-based approach (that is, combine available research with practical experience/best practices; knowledge of Wake County and prevention settings; and your understanding of the people involved) in your planning process.

If you are applying for a planning grant or an implementation grant and you have already determined your specific implementation approach, you will need to both describe the research or other evidence that supports your proposed solution as well as articulate how you took an evidence-based approach to arrive at this proposed solution.

- *If you're applying for a planning grant, your proposed process is likely to result in your ability to develop an actionable plan that is effective, practical, reasonably budgeted, the right fit for your organization/s, and the right fit for Wake County.*
- *If you're applying for an implementation grant, your proposed project has great potential to ultimately—either during the grant or longer-term as a result of the grant—bring about change that increases your effectiveness in preventing injuries and ensuring the safety of vulnerable Wake County children.*
- You've clearly and meaningfully spoken to the commitment and involvement of organizational leadership in supporting the project.
- You've provided well-thought detail on what will be necessary to continue and sustain the work beyond the end of the grant.

Expectations of Grantees

Grantees will meet with John Rex Endowment staff at the start of the grant, at least once annually for all multi-year grantees, and at the end of the grant. Other meetings may be initiated by the grantee, or required by the John Rex Endowment. All grantees must submit interim and/or final progress and financial reports to the John Rex Endowment. Planning grantees are also required to submit a project plan as part of their final report to the John Rex Endowment.

For organization/s applying for an implementation grant, as part of the application you will lay out some preliminary thoughts about evaluation. If you receive a grant award, you will be required to submit a detailed evaluation plan at the beginning of the grant term. Grantees cannot begin certain aspects of their project until this evaluation plan has been submitted and approved by John Rex Endowment staff.

Evaluation Technical Assistance

The John Rex Endowment is committed to strong grantee project evaluations as a means of:

- grantees learning about their projects' progress.
- grantees using their evaluation results to strengthen their work both during and after the grant.
- the John Rex Endowment learning on both a project by project basis and overall how its grantmaking is supporting an environment where Wake County children live healthy lives.

Based on feedback from grantees and our own observation, we know that both developing a strong evaluation plan and conducting a meaningful evaluation can be challenging. Recognizing this, at no cost to the grantee, some grantees will be awarded technical assistance from an evaluation consultant. Key factors considered by John Rex Endowment staff in determining whether a grant recipient will receive technical assistance – and how much technical assistance – include: the current capacity of your organization/s in regard to evaluation; whether or not your organization/s have dedicated evaluation staff or plans to work with an evaluation consultant; the nature of the work (and therefore, the evaluation) being undertaken; and the contribution of the work to the John Rex Endowment's funding priorities.

Skills & Knowledge for Injury Prevention Partners Project

[Skills & Knowledge for Injury Prevention Partners \(SKIPP\)](#) is a four-year project supported by the John Rex Endowment, to provide networking and training opportunities to injury and violence prevention practitioners who serve children and youth in Wake County.

The purpose of SKIPP is to increase the capacity of childhood injury and violence prevention (CIVP) stakeholders to prevent childhood injury and violence by providing networking and training to strengthen CIVP competencies (i.e., knowledge, skills, commitments) and their application through increased use of evidence-based practices.

Via the SKIPP project:

- Anyone can participate in ongoing training opportunities. Read about the [experiences of prior CORE training participants](#), and click [here](#) for more information about the CORE training.
- John Rex Endowment grantees, at no cost to the grantee, may be awarded tailored technical assistance from SKIPP project team members to enhance and further the purpose and aims of their John Rex Endowment-funded project. If you are invited to submit a full application, John Rex Endowment staff will discuss the possibility of technical assistance with you during the application process.

Sources Cited

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