2019 Medline Community Impact Grants: Community Health Center

About Medline
Medline is a global manufacturer and distributor serving the healthcare industry with medical supplies and clinical solutions that help customers achieve both clinical and financial success. Headquartered in Northfield, Ill., the company offers 550,000+ medical devices and support services through more than 1,500 direct sales representatives who are dedicated points of contact for customers across the continuum of care.

Background: Community Health Center
Community health centers play a key clinical role in providing care for underserved, underinsured and uninsured patients. More than 28 million patients including 13 million people in poverty, 8.4 million children, 1.4 million homeless patients, 1 million agricultural workers and over 350,000 veterans, rely on community health centers for access to high quality, affordable and comprehensive primary and preventative medical, dental and mental health care.

Community health centers are non-profit with a majority of funding coming from Medicare and Medicaid, as well as federal grants. In most communities, the majority of patients are low-income which mean the clinics rely heavily on government dollars. Medline works with community health centers to provide cost savings on patient-care products and offer programs on pertinent topics such as infection control and safety. The Medline grant program will direct funds to address myriad issues affecting people and patients receiving care at these facilities.

The goal of the Community Impact Grant Program for Community Health Centers is to award results focused grants addressing prevalent healthcare challenges that help improve patient care or enhance the quality of life for their patients and the community at-large. Grantees will report the impact of their awards through a grant reporting requirement.

Medline will provide up to a total of $100K in grants to community health centers. Medline will offer two grant cycles in the calendar year: 1) March – June; 2) August – November. Each cycle will grant up to $50K. Individual grants are capped at $10K.

Needs/Problems Grants Will Address
Community Health Centers (CHCs) are primarily funded through by the federal government. Since the passage of the Affordable Care Act, CHCs have experienced significant growth because of the populations they serve. According to the National Association of Community Health
Centers, there are four key components that define health centers and help them reach America’s most underserved communities including:

1. Located in Areas of High Need – designated as medically underserved areas or populations by the federal government
2. Comprehensive set of services – based on community needs, health centers offer medical, dental, vision, behavioral health and enabling services.
3. Open to everyone – regardless of insurance status or ability to pay, and offer sliding fee scale options to low-income patients
4. Patient-majority governing boards – at least 51% of every health center’s governing board must be made up of patients.

Medline recognizes the impact of CHCs in these communities in their efforts to address social determinants of health and dramatically improve the health of the community. The grant program will address CHC efforts that promote health and health equity for patients and the community at-large.

Eligibility
- Non-profit organizations. Must provide 501C3.
- Must have documentation of current tax-exempt status under the IRS code, including an IRS Letter of Determination.
- One request per organization, per cycle.
- Must reside in the US and its territories.
- Applications must be completed in full and submitted online to be considered.
- Submitting an online application does not guarantee funding.
- Applicants selected to receive any Medline Community Impact grant in a calendar year must wait until the next calendar year to apply.
- Applicants not selected to receive any Medline Community Impact grant in a calendar year are allowed to submit an application in the same calendar year.

Scope of Work
Grant requests must be specific to improve patient care and promote health equity for patients and the community at-large.

Funds may be used for:
- Key personnel
- Supplies
- Other direct project expenses identified in the budget

Funds may not be used for:
- Patient care costs (screening, diagnostics or treatment)
- Mass media advertising
- Renovation of facilities
- Political campaigns or lobbying (state or federal)
• Debt reduction
• Fundraising
• Event sponsorships
• Projects completed before the date of grant approval
• Land acquisition
• Scholarships
• Payment to a healthcare professional whose affiliation with requestor could be seen as a conflict of interest.

Proposed Grant Cycle
The first 2019 grant cycle begins March 12, 2019 and the application deadline to apply is May 31, 2019. The first cycle grants will be announced on or before June 27, 2019. Application may be submitted at any time during this funding cycle.

The second 2019 grant cycle begins August 4, 2019 and the application deadline to apply is November 1, 2019. The first cycle grants will be announced on or before December 6, 2019. Application may be submitted at any time during this funding cycle.

Awarded grants will be capped at $10,000.