



*Transforming our seven counties into the state's healthiest region*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Empire Health Foundation Releases Request for Proposals**

*Funds to support Eastern Washington partnerships in applying for Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Grants*

Empire Health Foundation (EHF) has released a Request for Proposal (RFP) to invite applications from community-based multi-sector partnerships interested in applying for grants from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) that will be announced in the spring of 2012. The deadline to submit a proposal is February 20, 2012, 5:00 p.m. Up to four applications will be awarded capacity-building funds in the form of facilitation assistance in convening project/proposal planning meetings; up to \$2,500 in financial support to hire a grant writer to prepare the Phase 1 RWJF application; a commitment from EHF to provide a portion of the cash match required by [The Roadmaps to Health Community Grants](#); and in the event that awardees are invited to proceed to Round 2, up to \$5,000 in financial support to hire a grant writer to prepare the Phase 2 application.

To apply for the grant please go to: [www.gooddonegreat.com/grants/empire\\_grants/login.php](http://www.gooddonegreat.com/grants/empire_grants/login.php). You will need to create first a personal profile then an organization profile. Once these have been entered it will show that you can apply to the Capacity Building Program RFP January 2012 with the following code: **cap2012**.

RWJF intends to release a Call for Proposals for the second round of the Roadmaps to Health Community Grant program in March 2012. Built around the [County Health Rankings Model](#) developed by RWJF and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute, *The Roadmaps to Health Community Grants* support two-year projects to create positive policy or systems changes that address the social and economic factors that impact the health of people in their community. The County Health Rankings are based on a model of population health that emphasizes the many factors that, if improved, can help make communities healthier places to live, learn, work and play. These factors move beyond a focus on access to health care by also considering the critical role of education, jobs, income and environment in determining people's health and longevity.

During the first competitive funding round in 2011, more than 300 groups applied for funding, and 12 organizations were awarded grants. However, no awards were made to support efforts in Washington State. EHF, through its Capacity Building Program, hopes to increase the likelihood that partnerships in Eastern Washington will be able to compete successfully in the forthcoming competitive grant cycle. This effort is aligned with a key focus of EHF's Capacity Building Program,

which is to invest in planning, capacity and fund development activities to infuse Eastern Washington communities with grant funds from outside the region.

Applicants requesting support from EHF to pursue *The Roadmaps to Health Community Grants* must be located and project activities must take place in one of EHF's seven counties or tribal organizations of focus which include Ferry, Stevens, Pend Oreille, Lincoln, Spokane, Adams, and Whitman as well as the Colville Confederated Tribes, Kalispel Tribe and the Spokane Tribe. Lead applicants may be 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations, federally recognized tribal governments or tribal organizations, and state or local government agencies.

The RFP and additional information is available at [www.empirehealthfoundation.org](http://www.empirehealthfoundation.org). You may contact Brian Myers, [brian@empirehealthfoundation.org](mailto:brian@empirehealthfoundation.org) if you have any questions.

Empire Health Foundation is a health conversion private foundation, with approximately \$50 million for philanthropy, working to improve the health of communities in eastern Washington. EHF is an independent, nonprofit grant-making foundation that serves the following seven counties of eastern Washington: Ferry, Stevens, Pend Oreille, Lincoln, Spokane, Adams and Whitman as well as these federally recognized tribes: Colville Confederated Tribes, Kalispel Tribe and Spokane Tribe. Formed as a result of the 2008 sale of Empire Health Services, Empire Health Foundation board and staff are working diligently to act as good stewards of the Foundation's resources for the benefit of our region.

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