Q: If our proposal meets multiple areas, how do we navigate that?  
A: Applicants are allowed to select more than one priority area.

Q: On the RFP #10 on page 11, it states that access to mental health treatment is a key priority, but I don't see mental health mentioned on the RFP. Is this something that we can apply for?  
A: Direct mental health services do not qualify for this RFP. During the strategic planning process, the community identified 10 elements of a healthy, equitable community and then prioritized 4 areas that were particularly important to the most number of people. The four priorities are Healthy Housing, Schools, Neighborhoods, and Economy. San Mateo County Health system has a strong Behavioral Health and Recovery Services (BHRS) Division i and, they have strong community based programs to advance mental health outcomes for all. I encourage you to visit their website.

Q: Would this grant potentially fund enhancing a career training program by adding a financial literacy program, that will help low-income people and communities of color build financial security?  
A: Certainly, as long as the proposal makes it clear how the program relates to long-term institutional policy changes. In order for programmatic or educational work to be competitive proposals, please make sure to describe how the work will lead to larger systems or institutional policy changes.

Q: Why the focus on new projects and programs, and won’t fund existing programs or staff?  
A: We will not fund an existing program or a staff position without demonstration of significant expansion of the scope of the project or the staff’s responsibilities. The reason for that is this is a small amount of funding meant to be seed funding to support inception or expansion of an existing program in a new dimension (i.e. targeting a new community that wasn’t part of the program before) or considering a new equity angle to the existing health work that you are doing. We are open to that type of expansion of a program. Since we have limited funds, we don’t see this funding as a sustainable format for funding existing project.
Q: Is expanding a program to additional schools eligible?
A: Yes, as long as the program has a focus on policy or systems change and the schools are located in underserved communities and attended by disadvantaged students.

Q: We are looking at implementing a health education program and a career pathway program for immigrants. Would this be an opportunity for us to apply?
A: GHSMC does not fund individual educational classes that do not advance policy or systems change solutions such as, nutrition classes, cooking classes, dance classes, safety classes, and fitness classes (train-the-trainer and capacity-building models such as training community leaders to lead education work are eligible).

While we think it’s important to support individual behavior change through individual health education that is not a focus of our particular program. The career pathways program for immigrants must be connected to a policy or institutional change in order to be a competitive proposal.

Q: Would a youth-led effort to advocate to the school board for 11th/12th grade sexual health education programming align in terms of policy change if a district were to implement it?
A: The proposal will have to make a case for how sexual health education would be an educational attainment and school wellness program effort that aligns with our Healthy Schools’ objectives. The proposal will also have to describe how the policy benefits one of our priority populations.

Q: On the application, question 4 asks that we list expected outcomes, and has 5 outcomes listed. Does the project have to achieve all 5 outcomes, or can it focus on 2-3 outcomes?
A: No, the project does not need to achieve 5 outcomes, but at least 1-2 outcomes.

Q: Will you be sending out the webinar slides to those who are registered?
A: Absolutely. You can find the recorded webinar here.

Q: If the program helps schools provide a more trauma-informed approach that further instills restorative justice in the classroom, would that be eligible?
A: We would need to understand more of what that trauma-informed approach is and how it connects or informs an institutional policy change or systems change within the school or in the district to promote restorative justice practice.
Q: Can you clarify what you mean by "partial funding for a project for which the majority has not been secured" (See page 8, RFP). Does that mean the request needs to be either for the full amount or partial funding of less than 50% of the project?

A: A competitive proposal will need to have at least 50% of the funding secured, and the request to GHSMC is for a piece of the total project.

Q: I’m looking for funding for an Education Outside program in our K8 School Garden to teach about growing and eating healthy food. I think this meets the requirements, but can you confirm?

A: GHSMC does not fund individual educational classes that do not advance policy or systems change solutions such as, nutrition classes, cooking classes, dance classes, safety classes, and fitness classes (train-the-trainer and capacity-building models such as training community leaders to lead education work are eligible). The Education Outside program has to be connected to some institutional policy change in order to be competitive.

Q: Is Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) prevention fundable under this RFP?

A: No. AOD is not an area of focus for GHSMC. Our four priority areas are: Healthy Housing, Healthy Neighborhoods, Healthy Schools or Healthy Economy. AOD is a deep area of focus for our Behavioral Health and Recovery Services (BHRS) program. They have a large support for substance abuse and mental health services and program. You can get more information on BHRS here.