

Media Release

May 13, 2015 For Immediate Release **Contact:** Lori Seibel, President & CEO 402-436-5516, <u>lori.seibel@chelincoln.org</u>

Community Health Endowment Establishes New Funding Priorities, Announces 2015-16 Funding Availability

To help make the vision of Lincoln as the healthiest community in the nation a reality, the Board of Trustees of the Community Health Endowment of Lincoln (CHE) will make \$2.25 million available in the 2015-16 fiscal year to improve community health. Nearly \$1.3 million will be available for new projects over the Fall 2015 and Spring 2016 grant cycles with the remaining funds allocated to previously approved projects.

Based on the results of a community mapping project which will be released publically at CHE's Annual Meeting in June, the Board of Trustees set the following *Funding Priorities and Preferences*:

Priorities

• Innovative practices that result in health care and behavioral health providers taking an active role in helping patients stay healthy outside of a clinical setting, including non-traditional collaborations between health care, behavioral health and social/human services;

• Investments in early childhood that have the greatest potential to reduce health disparities over the lifespan, with a specific focus on:

- adverse childhood experiences and toxic stress;
- childhood obesity; and/or
- improved maternal health, and healthy birth and early childhood outcomes;

• Intentional linkages between housing, health, neighborhood organizations, financial institutions and economic development; and

• Prevention-focused efforts that foster healthy behaviors and lead to improved health outcomes.

Preferences

Within these priorities, CHE encourages applicants to:

• Consider the relationship of poverty to the issue being addressed and how poverty influences both the cause of, and the solution to, the identified issue.

• Utilize, whenever possible, locally-based geographic data to identify target groups and/or high-risk areas or neighborhoods.

• Utilize, whenever possible, evidence-based data or research to identify target groups, high-risk populations, and/or program delivery models.

The deadline for submission of Stage I applications is June 12, 2015. Additional information about the application process is available at <u>www.chelincoln.org</u>.