

2022-2023 Bright Spot Award Nomination Form

The Bright Spot Awards are an effort to recognize examples of meaningful Primary Prevention initiatives taking place across our state. Here are the steps to nominate your initiative:

- 1.) All nominations must be submitted by July 14, 2023. One nomination form must be completed per initiative nominated. Email completed nominations to Matt Coleman (Matthew.Coleman@TN.gov)
- 2.) All nominations received are redacted so that the review committee will not know the exact location and persons involved with the initiative. The review committee is made up of individuals from each region of the state. They will review, score, and discuss each submission. An average of the final scores given by the review committee will be used to determine the award level earned.
- 3.) Award levels include Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze, and Honorable Mention.
- 4.) Awardees will be announced in the fall of 2023.
- 5.) Each nomination will be presented with a comprehensive feedback report from the committee, which will include strengths of the initiative and opportunities for improvement.

Application:

County: Dyer County

Initiative Name: Collaborative Action for Resilience and Equity (CARE) grant – Dyer County Health Council

Primary Prevention Focus Area(s): Mental Health

Primary Contact Name, Email, Phone:

Cathy Turner – Community Services Director

cathy.s.turner@tn.gov

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Bright Spot Award Questions

Why is this initiative important to your community? (150 words max; 10 points available)

Mental health is one of the top priorities identified in the Dyer County Health Council's 2022 Community Health Assessment (CHA) process. The health council, along with Hopefield Mental Health Foundation, was awarded \$440,000 through the Collaborative Action for Resilience and Equity (CARE) Grant to renovate downtown Dyersburg's Northwest Tennessee Career Center. The grant provided the council with financial support for efforts outlined in their County Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) to bring access to health services to low-income, minority, and rural populations. The grant award supports Hopefield Mental Health Foundation in providing mental health services, community outreach, and mental health education programs in Dyer County and surrounding Northwest Tennessee counties.

Is this initiative contributing to a policy, systems, and/or environmental change¹ in the community? (300 words max; 75 points available)

This initiative seeks to improve access to mental health services to individuals in Dyer County and surrounding Northwest Tennessee counties. The CARE Grant supports health councils in building their capacity to do impactful community health work and advancing health equity in their health councils. The Dyer County Health Council is working to implement programs, projects, or processes that will most impact mental health. **For example, the first NAMI walk in Tennessee????** While working with community partners to bring awareness to mental health services available in Northwest Tennessee, the Dyer County Health Council successfully brought a new mental-health-driven facility to Dyer County to improve access to and quality mental health care. Hopefield Mental Health Foundation focuses on community mental health services, interventions and treatment, prevention, advocacy, education, and recovery.

The Mental Health subcommittee is comprised of

What are the SMART objective goals and major purpose(s) of this initiative? (SMART objectives are Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, and Time Bound. Example: By May 2023; all soft drink machines in Lauderdale County Schools will be turned off during the school day, per school board policy.) (300 words max; 10 points available)

Mental Health goals and major purposes:

1. By June 30, 2023, collaborate with community partners to utilize a minimum of (2) National Health Observances surrounding mental distress to educate at least (20) people in Dyer County. Topics include: Stress Awareness Month, Day of Hope, National Mental Health Month, Suicide Prevention Month
2. By June 30, 2023, partner with TN Suicide Prevention Network, NAMI, etc. to provide mental health education classes to a minimum of (10) Dyer County residents. Topics include: QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer), Mental Health First Aid, etc.
3. By June 30, 2023, formalize a Mental Health Subcommittee made up of a minimum of (5) community stakeholders to determine the mental health resources available in Dyer County.
4. By June 30, 2023, partner with TN Suicide Prevention Network and other community stakeholders to plan and implement a minimum of (1) event to bring awareness to mental health resources in Dyer County.

Substance Misuse goals and major purposes:

¹ Policy, systems and environmental change is a way of modifying the environment to make healthy choices practical and available to all community members. By changing laws and shaping physical landscapes, a big impact can be made with little time and resources. By changing policies, systems and/or environments, communities can help tackle health issues like obesity, diabetes, cancer and other chronic diseases (<http://www.cookcountypublichealth.org/files/CPW/PSE%20Change.pdf>)

- 1) By June 30, 2023, collaborate with community partners to utilize a minimum of (2) National Health Observances surrounding substance misuse to educate at least (20) people in Dyer County. Topics include: Red Ribbon Week, National Drug Take Back Days, & National Drug & Alcohol Week, International Overdose Awareness Day
- 2) By June 30, 2023, partner with the Prevention Alliance of Dyersburg and Dyer County Health Council members to provide substance misuse prevention education to a minimum of (20) Dyer County residents. Topics include: Pursuing Wellness Teen RX Safety Program, Go Girl Go, Dover Youth 2 Youth Training Curriculum, Lockbox Safety
- 3) By June 30, 2023, collaborate with community partners to educate a minimum of (20) participants in a minimum of (1) community event in Dyer County. Topics include: Hidden in Plain Sight, Local Police Department Drop Box Promotion, & etc.
- 4) By June 30, 2023, utilize the Substance Misuse Subcommittee to promote substance misuse resources and prevention efforts to a minimum of (25) Dyer County residents.

What is the annual budget and funding source for this initiative? If no funding is available, how have you implemented or sustained the initiative? (150 words max; 5 points available)

The Dyer County Health Council was awarded \$440,000 to fund this initiative through the Collaborative Action for Resilience and Equity (CARE) Grant.

Have community partners helped with the initiative? What are the roles of these partners? (300 words max; 20 points available)

Yes, the community partners listed below collaborate to promote mental health awareness and resources available in Dyer County.

Mental Health

Hopefield Mental Health Foundation, NAMI Dyersburg, Perimeter Health, TSPN, TN Save a Life, West TN Legal, Spero Health, WRAP of Dyer County, Carl Perkins, City of Newbern, City of Dyersburg, Dyer County Schools, St. Josephs Village, McIver's Library, DCS, RCP, CASA, The Community, Cornerstone Church of God, etc.

Substance Misuse

Prevention Alliance of Dyersburg and Dyer County, TN Save a Life, TN Redline, St. Joseph's Village, Dyer County Sheriff's Office, Newbern Police Department, Dyer County High School, City of Dyersburg, YMCA, Dyer County Schools-KEYS Program, Hopefield Mental Health Foundation, McIver's Library, etc.

Describe your staff's involvement, including the interdisciplinary team approach taken with this initiative? Begin with the planning process; explain staff roles in planning and implementing the initiative. Discuss how you foster creative scheduling so that clinical staff can lend their expertise? (350 words max; 20 points available)

Dyer County Public Health Educator, Robyn Russell, led and supported the Dyer County Health Council using the Collective Impact strategy to solve a problem by bringing people from different sectors to work together. For six months, she led health council members and community partners through the Community Health Assessment (CHA) process by facilitating focus groups, collecting community survey responses, and analyzing data to complete the County Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). The CHIP supports health councils in building their capacity to do impact community health work and advancing health equity in their health councils. While working with community partners to bring awareness to mental health services available in Northwest Tennessee, the Dyer County Health Council successfully brought a new mental-health-driven facility to the county. The Hopefield Mental Health Foundation, led by Dr. Sylvester Nwedo, focuses on improving access to quality mental health care. Dr. Nwedo, and other clinical staff participated in Community Health Assessment focus groups and are part of the Dyer County Health Council Mental Health Subcommittee.

In what way is this initiative especially innovative? How is this initiative different from other similar programs? Is there a specific idea tested with this approach? Is this work informed by relevant literature or research studies? (400 words max; 20 points available)

Rural counties such as Dyer do not have the financial resources to address issues such as mental health. The Dyer County Health Council recognized the opportunity to apply for the CARE Grant to provide mental health services in Northwest Tennessee.

Is this initiative considering or addressing an inequity in your community? What is that inequity and how are you addressing it? (350 words max; 20 points available)

Yes. Access to mental health services is limited in rural West Tennessee counties. The Hopefield Mental Health Foundation provides mental health services to minority and underserved populations.

How are you evaluating the effectiveness of the initiative? Is the initiative on track to achieve stated goals or has it achieved stated goals? (350 words max; 20 points available)

The Dyer County Health Council and Hopefield Mental Health Foundation will complete quarterly CARE Grant Reports to evaluate the effectiveness and goals of the initiative. The Dyer County Health Council also evaluates its performance through its CHIP. It is on track to achieve the stated goals.

What limitations or obstacles might be expected if others wished to replicate this initiative? (300 words max; 50 points available)

Limitations include funding, a physical location, and a physician willing to open a new mental health practice.

Is this initiative sustainable without the resources of the local health department being involved? (250 words max; 20 points available)

Yes, this initiative is sustainable without the resources of the local health department. The Hopefield Mental Health Foundation will sustain the initiative through patient insurance and self-pay, as well as through additional grant funding.