

**Mayor's Fund to Advance New York City  
Social Innovation Fund Connections to Care Subgrantee Selection Process**

Connections to Care (C2C) is a program of the Mayor's Fund to Advance New York City (Mayor's Fund), with the assistance of the NYC Center for Economic Opportunity (CEO) and the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH), supported by the federal Social Innovation Fund (SIF) of the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS). The Mayor's Fund made subgrants to 15 community-based nonprofit organizations to support the integration of evidence-based mental health services into programs serving low-income, at-risk populations and will include an evaluation of the program's impacts and best practices. Target populations include low-income (1) expectant mothers and parents of children 0-4; (2) out of school, out of work young adults ages 16-24; and (3) unemployed and underemployed adults ages 18 and over. The subgrantees were selected through an open competition, as required by Mayor's Fund rules, CNCS, and the Social Innovation Fund award.

To launch the competition, on September 10, 2015 the Mayor's Fund released a Request for Proposals (RFP). The RFP was posted on the Mayor's Fund website and in the City Record, and was distributed widely to government agencies and nonprofits across the city. Government agencies were asked to distribute it to organizations with which they partner and contract. Each applicant was asked to submit information on the organization's background, a description of successful, relevant experience, a description of the proposed program (including their mental health provider partnerships) and to provide detailed plans for program implementation, fundraising, and sustainability.

Each proposal was reviewed and scored by members of the C2C review committee, which was composed of members from the Mayor's Fund, CEO, DOHMH, RAND Corporation (the selected C2C evaluator), New York University's McSilver Institute for Poverty Policy & Research (the C2C technical assistance provider), experts in mental health, and individuals with experience working with the target populations outlined in the RFP. Each reviewer independently scored each application according to pre-determined evaluation criteria outlined in the RFP.

The review committees posed clarifying questions and/or conducted site visits to the highest scoring applicants. Based on responses to questions and site visits, the review committee made recommendations for funding to the Executive Review Committee, comprised of the leadership of the Mayor's Fund, CEO, and DOHMH. Based on review committees' recommendations, the Executive Review Committee and the Board of the Mayor's Fund authorized Mayor's Fund and CEO staff to enter into contract negotiations with these selected organizations. Announcement of selected providers was made only after contract negotiations were successfully completed. This process resulted in the selection of a portfolio of 15 SIF subgrantees.