INSTITUTE FOR SMART & HEALTHY CITIES: FUNDING LANDSCAPE

Prepared for Thomas Jefferson University

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In the following report, Hanover Research provides an overview of funding prospects to support the Jefferson Institute for Smart & Healthy Cities.

INTRODUCTION

Thomas Jefferson University (Jefferson) has sought Hanover's assistance in identifying funding opportunities to support its Institute for Smart & Healthy Cities (JISHC). Building on the emerging concept of "Smart Cities," in which urban environments harness data and technology to improve living conditions, JISHC will serve as a collaborative and transdisciplinary hub for research, education, innovation, and programmatic efforts that will contribute to building healthier and more livable cities. Such efforts will span across disciplines, fields, and institutions, with Philadelphia serving as a "living laboratory" to evaluate the impact of these efforts. JISHC has the following core purposes:

- **Conduct transdisciplinary research** on the fields of urban design, architecture, public health, energy, transportation, and technology;

- **Support education and curricular developments** for Jefferson's College of Architecture and the Built Environment (CABE), the College of Public Health (CPH), and the College of Design, Engineering, and Commerce (CDEC);

- **Commercialize** new technologies and smart devices that improve public health; and

- **Plan and implement** new technologies, urban design concepts, and health strategies to improve conditions in urban environments.

Given the breadth of the request, this report aims to provide an overview of the funding landscape as a whole, rather than an in-depth synopsis of select programs. Funder profiles have been truncated. While this report is extensive, it is not exhaustive; for example, additional research will need to be conducted to identify funding for individual faculty researchers.

TRENDS ACROSS THE FUNDING LANDSCAPE

At the federal level, "Smart Cities" is a relatively new interest among most funding agencies – according to Grants.gov, all program titles that contain these key words do not date back past 2015, when the Obama Administration first announced its Smart Cities Initiative. "Healthy cities," on the other hand, is not a clearly defined priority for funders, and there are no federal opportunities that contain these exact key words. Federal agencies that commonly emerged during Hanover's prospect search include: The United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the National Science Foundation (NSF), the Economic Development Association (EDA), the Department of Transportation (DOT), and the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). For programs that do not solicit applications from universities, another organization may need to serve as lead applicant.

The concept of "Smart Cities" was introduced at the state-level when Philadelphia established its SmartCityPHL initiative in 2017. Although not reviewed in this report, the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development offers a range of funding opportunities on an ongoing basis.

Unlike government funding programs, few foundations or corporate funders explicitly focus on initiatives that resemble JISHC. However, there are many of these funders that support relevant areas, such as urban design, architecture, public health, community development, and curriculum development. Among all private funding opportunities, the Knight Foundation appears to present the strongest fit given its direct focus on "Smart Cities" and community revitalization.

Other universities with similar initiatives include: The University of Kansas' *Institute for Smart Cities*, Georgia Tech University's *Smart Cities and Inclusive Innovation* initiative, and New York University's *Mayors Leadership Institute on Smart Cities*. However, Jefferson's unique public health approach appears to set it apart and may attract grantmakers such as the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation or the NIH. The Urban Institute's federally-funded "Building Healthy Cities" project takes a similar approach by leveraging Smart City initiatives to address health outcomes in fast-growing Asian cities. This project's three-year USAID grant will come to an end in 2020.

The following summary table provides an overview of key information regarding the opportunities reviewed in this brief. This document is intended to serve as a guide, with the knowledge that programs identified in this report may not recur, and that scheduled competitions may be cancelled due to budget sequestration or other unknown factors. Opportunities marked with an asterisk (*) appear to target city-level organizations or local government entities; such funders will likely require a partner.

OVERVIEW OF OPPORTUNITIES

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY	FUNDER TYPE	FOCUS AREA(S)	PRIMARY FUNDING ACTIVITIES
Targeted Opportunities for "Smart Cities"			
Knight Foundation	National Foundation	Smart Cities; Urban Design	Implementation
Smart Cities Council: Readiness Challenge*	Collaborative Effort	Smart Cities	Implementation
DOT: Smart City Challenge*	Federal Agency	Smart Cities; Transportation	Implementation
NSF, Metrolab, Smart Cities Lab: Civic Innovation Challenge	Collaborative Effort	Smart Cities; Economic Development; Technology	Research
NIST: Replicable Smart City Technologies Cooperative Agreement*	Federal Agency	Smart Cities; Technology	Implementation
NSF: Smart & Connected Communities (S&CC)	Federal Agency	Smart Communities; Economic Development; Health	Research
Architecture, Urban Design, & Technology Opportunities			
NSF: Civil Infrastructure Systems (CIS)	Federal Agency	Urban Design; Technology; Architecture	Research
Graham Foundation	National Foundation	Architecture; Urban Design	Research; Education
AIA: Upjohn Research Initiative	National Foundation	Architecture; Urban Design	Research
Blue Zones/Degree: Made to Move Grant*	Corporate Funder	Urban Design; Health Outcomes	Implementation
Cisco	Corporate Funder	Technology	Commercialization; Implementation
NSF: SBIR/STTR*	Federal Agency	Technology	Commercialization; Research
NSF: Partnerships for Innovation	Federal Agency	Technology	Commercialization; Research

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY	FUNDER TYPE	FOCUS AREA(S)	PRIMARY FUNDING ACTIVITIES
USAID: Development Innovation Ventures	Federal Agency	Technology	Commercialization; Implementation
NSF: Innovations at the Nexus of Food, Energy and Water Systems (INFEWS)	Federal Agency	Technology; Energy	Research; Education; Professional Development
Health Opportunities			
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF)	National Foundation	Culture of Health	Research; Implementation
Kresge Foundation	National Foundation	Community Health	Planning; Implementation
Aetna Foundation	National Foundation	Community Health	Implementation
NIH: Population Health Interventions	Federal Agency	Population Health	Research
Miscellaneous/Broad Opportunities			
Rockefeller Foundation	National Foundation	Broad	Implementation
HUD: Choice Neighborhoods (Planning Grants)	Federal Agency	Community Economic Development	Planning
EDA: Build to Scale Program (Formerly "i6")	Federal Agency	Community Economic Development	Implementation; Commercialization
Wells Fargo Regional Foundation	Corporate/ Regional Foundation	Broad	Planning; Implementation
Bank of America Charitable Foundation	Corporate Foundation	Broad	Implementation
Philadelphia Foundation	Regional Foundation	Broad	Implementation
William Penn Foundation	Regional Foundation	Broad	Implementation
Connelly Foundation	Regional Foundation	Broad	Implementation
Teagle Foundation	National Foundation	Education; Liberal Arts	Curriculum Development

Given Jefferson's familiarity with the funder, Horizon 2020 has been omitted from this report.

OPPORTUNITIY PROFILES

In pursuit of potential funding opportunities for JISHC, Hanover examined announcements arising across the public and private funding landscapes. As a result of this expansive search, the following opportunities emerged as potentially relevant.

TARGETED OPPORTUNITIES FOR "SMART CITIES"

JISHC spans across many critical domains, including architecture, urban planning, health, technology, and more. This report includes opportunities for each of these domains but prioritizes funders that may be capable of supporting the initiative as a whole. The following prospects emerged as having a direct focus on "Smart Cities." However, given their broad scopes, many of these programs solicit applications from city governments or regional authorities rather than universities.

- Under its **Communities** grantmaking program, the Knight Foundation has an investment for *"Smart Cities" as Responsive Cities*, which supports technology-enabled efforts that help residents connect to each other and become more informed, and that help cities be more responsive to residents. Although the Knight Foundation has strict geographic limitations, Philadelphia is a region of interest for the funder. In Philadelphia, the Knight Foundation focuses on the power of public spaces to unite and strengthen the city. The Philadelphia program concentrates on:

  - Exploring efforts that transform civic and public spaces into places that bring together a range of people, while offering an outlet to learn and share ideas;
  - Supporting new programming that demonstrates how these spaces can help to counter social fragmentation, increase civic attachment and create economic opportunities for people, particularly through technology and the arts;
  - Empowering local leaders, new and established, so that they can help improve neighborhood life and bring diverse people together to shape the city's future; and
  - Demonstrating the many ways in which Philadelphia is a leader in creating vibrant public spaces.

  Notable giving to Philadelphia has included: $4 million to Penn's Landing Redevelopment to transform Philadelphia's waterfront (2018); $250,000 to Filbert Street Connector to improve public spaces (2018); and $250,000 to Bartram's Garden into a Civic Destination to support a neighborhood (2018). Given its direct focus on initiatives that improve life in Philadelphia, the Knight Foundation has emerged as one of the strongest opportunities profiled in this report.

- The Smart Cities Council is a network of leading companies advised by top universities, laboratories, and standards bodies. The Council's Readiness Challenge aims to accelerate cities becoming livable, workable, and sustainable. However, eligible applicants are cities in North American (Canada, Mexico, US) local, state or provincial government or regional authority that represents local resident interests. Thus, Jefferson is not eligible to submit as a standalone applicant. The 2021 Readiness Challenge Winners were Brisbane, Australia;

Nashville, TN; and Orange County, FL. Other finalists were: Colorado Springs, CO; Morrisville, NC; Omaha, NE; Palmdale, CA; Philadelphia, PA; Moscow, Russia; and Santa Catarina, Mexico. The current competition cycle closes imminently (June 30, 2021). The JeffSmart team should monitor the website for future competitions.

▪ The Department of Transportation (DOT)'s Smart City Challenge provides a spark for cities looking to revolutionize their transportation systems to help improve people's lives. Through the Smart City Challenge, the Department committed up to $40 million to one winning city. In response, cities leveraged an additional $500 million in private and public funding to help make their Smart City visions real. In October 2016, the Department announced an additional $65 million in grants to support community-driven advanced technology transportation projects in cities across America, including 4 of the finalists in the Smart City Challenge. Like the program above, this competition appears to target city-level applicants.

While this DOT program has been included for its overall alignment with Jefferson's initiative, there are many other transportation opportunities at the state and federal level. The Philadelphia Streets Department, which manages both transportation and sanitation services for the city, has identified the following key funding sources: Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD); Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP); Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP); Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ); Multimodal Transportation Fund (MTF); the Automated Red Light Enforcement (ARLE) program; and the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA).

▪ With support from NSF, MetroLab Network will be a partner on the Civic Innovation Challenge, a national research and action competition in the Smart and Connected Communities (S&CC) domain. The Civic Innovation Challenge aims to leverage social science, data, and technology to address complex community challenges, enhance job growth and economic competitiveness, and address equity in American communities. Both the Stage 1 and Stage 2 deadlines have already passed (August 3, 2020 and May 5, 2021, respectively). (Click here for more information about the Stage 1 awardees.) It is not clear at this time if the program will hold another competition; JeffSmart should reach out to the Program Officers listed on the NSF Program Webpage for more information and to discuss how their work aligns with this program.

▪ In 2016, the National Institute for Standards of Technology (NIST) invited applications from eligible applicants (City/Community Partners) for the Replicable Smart City Technologies Cooperative Agreement program. The purpose of this funding opportunity is to enable cities and communities to take a lead role in the team-based efforts to advance the measurement science of replicable, standards-based smart city technologies that provide measurable performance metrics, meet the needs of cities and communities of all types and sizes, and provide platforms for entrepreneurship and innovation. As with many programs in this section, a local government entity would need to serve as lead applicant. Grant amounts are approximately $100,000 each. **This competition closed in May 2016 and program recurrence is unclear.** The JeffSmart team may wish to contact Dr. Sokwoo Rhee

(sokwoo.rhee@nist.gov), Associate Director, Cyber-Physical Systems Innovation, for information about upcoming competition plans.

- The NSF's Smart & Connected Communities (S&CC) program encourages researchers to work with communities and residents to identify and define challenges they are facing, enabling those challenges to motivate use-inspired research questions. The S&CC program supports integrative research that addresses fundamental technological and social science dimensions of smart and connected communities and pilots solutions together with communities. Importantly, the program is interested in projects that consider the sustainability of the research outcomes beyond the life of the project, including the scalability and transferability of the proposed solutions. This S&CC solicitation will support research projects in the following categories:

  - **S&CC Integrative Research Grants (SCC-IRGs) Tracks 1 and 2**. Awards in this category will support fundamental integrative research that addresses technological and social science dimensions of smart and connected communities and pilots solutions together with communities. Track 1 is for budgets greater than $1.5 million with no recommended budget limit, and for up to four years of support. Track 2 is for budgets not to exceed $1.5 million and for up to three years of support.

  - **S&CC Planning Grants (SCC-PGs)**. Awards in this category are for capacity building to prepare project teams to propose future well-developed SCC-IRG proposals. Each of these awards will provide support for a period of one year and may be requested at a level not to exceed $150,000 for the total budget.

  The most recent deadline passed in February 2021. Program recurrence is unclear; the JeffSmart team should reach out to a Program Officer to inquire about anticipated future competitions.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR URBAN DESIGN, ARCHITECTURE, & TECHNOLOGY

The following opportunities emerged as most suitable for the domains of urban design, architecture, and technology. Some of these grantmakers take an interest in more than one of these areas and may be receptive to an interdisciplinary proposal.

- The NSF's Civil Infrastructure Systems (CIS) program supports fundamental and innovative research in the design, operation and management of civil infrastructure that contributes to creating smart, sustainable and resilient communities at local, national and international scales. This program focuses on civil infrastructure as a system in which interactions between spatially- and functionally- distributed components and intersystem connections exist. All critical civil infrastructure systems are of interest, including transportation, power, water, pipelines and others. The CIS program encourages potentially disruptive ideas that will open new frontiers and significantly broaden and transform relevant research communities. The program particularly welcomes research that addresses novel system and service design,

system integration, big data analytics, and socio-technological-infrastructure connections. The program values diverse theoretical, scientific, mathematical, or computational contributions from a broad set of disciplines. While component-level, subject-matter knowledge may be crucial in many research efforts, the program does not support research with a primary contribution pertaining to individual infrastructure components such as materials, sensor technology, extreme event analysis, human factors, climate modeling, structural, geotechnical, hydrologic or environmental engineering. The majority of awards appear to range between $100,000 and $500,000. Full proposals are accepted on a rolling basis via FastLane.

- Founded in 1956, the [Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts](#) fosters the development and exchange of diverse and challenging ideas about architecture and its role in the arts, culture, and society. The Graham Foundation realizes this vision by making project-based grants to individuals and organizations and producing exhibitions, events, and publications. For [organizations](#), Graham's priorities are to:

  o Assist with the production and presentation of significant programs about architecture and the designed environment in order to promote dialogue, raise awareness, and develop new and wider audiences;
  o Support them in their effort to take risks in programming and create opportunities for experimentation;
  o Recognize the vital role they play in providing individuals with a public forum in which to present their work; and
  o Help them to realize projects that would otherwise not be possible without our support.

  The Foundation supports innovative, thought-provoking investigations in architecture; architectural history, theory, and criticism; design; engineering; landscape architecture; urban planning; urban studies; visual arts; and related fields of inquiry. Its interests also extend to work being done in the fine arts, humanities, and sciences that expands the boundaries of thinking about architecture and space. In an effort to bridge communities and different fields of knowledge, the Graham Foundation support a wide range of practitioners (such as architects, scholars, critics, writers, artists, curators, and educators) and organizations (such as non-profit galleries, colleges and universities, publishers, and museums). Grant sizes vary by funding track, but generally do not exceed $30,000.

  Eligible organizations interested in applying for a grant from the Graham Foundation must first submit an Inquiry Form. After Inquiry Forms are reviewed, applicants whose projects best match the Foundation's priorities and interests are invited to submit a Proposal Form and supplementary materials. For the 2021 cycle, the Stage One deadline was January 15, 2021. The JeffSmart team should monitor the Foundation's [webpage](#) for updated dates for the 2022 cycle.

- The [AIA Upjohn Research Initiative](#) supports applied research projects that enhance the value of design and professional practice knowledge. The program funds up to six research grants of $15,000 to $30,000 annually for projects completed within an 18-month period. This section lists recent recipients and jury panelists. Recently funded projects include: Envelope Retrofit Guide: "Net Zero Energy Ready Strategies for Existing Buildings"; "Evaluation of Thermal and Energy Generation Performance of Artificial Leaf-based Façade Cladding (ALFC) Systems"; and "Games Occupants Play: A Serious Games Approach to Reducing Energy Use and Carbon Emissions in Buildings and Cities." The Initiative is currently accepting entries for the 2021 cycle, with a deadline of **September 1, 2021**.

- The [Made to Move](#) grant program from Degree Deodorant and Blue Zones, LLC, is a competitive funding opportunity created to assist communities in advancing active transportation through local project development, implementation and supporting policies. With the ultimate goal of promoting more walkable, bikeable, transit-friendly environments for all ages, incomes and abilities, this funding opportunity will be awarded to five mid-sized communities in the United States. Each community will receive $100,000 plus technical assistance from the Blue Zones, LLC, built environment team. Like some other opportunities profiled in this report, this grant program appears to target community-level applicants rather than universities. Awarded communities will receive both grant funding for specific projects and technical assistance. The most recent competition ended in 2019, and it is not clear at this time if the funder intends to invite additional applicants.

- Cisco has been noted for its [apparent interest](#) in smart cities. Under its [Product Grant Program](#), Cisco donates networking technology to qualified nonprofit organizations to help them realize significant gains in productivity, scalability, and cost-efficiency. It also supports multinational initiatives through its [Global Impact Cash Grants](#). The maximum request amount for first-time grant recipients is $50,000 (list price) of equipment.

  Product Grant applications are accepted year-round; the first step is an eligibility quiz. Global Impact Cash Grants will be opened for general applications starting August 2021.

- For 40 years, [America's Seed Fund powered by NSF](#) has helped startups and small businesses transform their ideas into marketable products and services. This program focused on high-risk, high-impact technologies — those that show promise but whose success hasn't yet been validated. There are two program tracks: Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR). The [STTR program track](#) requires the applying small business include a research institution as a sub-awardee on the project budget. Topic areas include: Artificial Intelligence (AI); Digital Health (DH); Instrumentation and Hardware Systems (IH); Space (SP); Information Technologies (IT); Internet of Things (I); Wireless Technologies (W); and more. New applicants who are awarded Phase I funding will be expected to:

  o Explore product-market fit;
  o Determine your technology's feasibility;

- o Design and test prototypes;
- o Identify any relevant legal or regulatory issues; and
- o Develop a plan to scale and market your technology.

Phase I applicants may request up to $225,000, which will cover at least six (and up to 12) months of work. Phase II awardees receive up to $750,000 over two years. Before beginning the application process, Hanover recommends that participating in one of the program's informational webinars. Following this step, Hanover recommends promptly submitting an executive summary to the Pre-Submission Feedback Page to assess feasibility of the proposal. This step is not required, but the additional guidance will likely improve the quality of the submission. The NIH also supports SBIR/STTR proposals.

This program is essentially rolling; submission timing merely impacts the timing of the award if funded. Phase I application windows for the current year are June 04, 2021 - September 02, 2021 and September 03, 2021 - December 02, 2021.

- ▪ The NSF's Partnerships for Innovation (PFI) Program within the Division of Industrial Innovation and Partnerships (IIP) offers researchers from all disciplines of science and engineering funded by NSF the opportunity to perform translational research and technology development, catalyze partnerships and accelerate the transition of discoveries from the laboratory to the marketplace for societal benefit. This program has five goals: (1) identifying and supporting NSF-sponsored research and technologies that have the potential for accelerated commercialization; (2) supporting prior or current NSF-sponsored investigators, institutions of higher education, and non-profit organizations that partner with an institution of higher education in undertaking proof-of-concept work, including the development of technology prototypes that are derived from NSF-sponsored research and have potential market value; (3) promoting sustainable partnerships between NSF-funded institutions, industry, and other organizations within academia and the private sector with the purpose of accelerating the transfer of technology; (4) developing multi-disciplinary innovation ecosystems which involve and are responsive to the specific needs of academia and industry; (5) providing professional development, mentoring, and advice in entrepreneurship, project management, and technology and business development to innovators. This solicitation offers two broad tracks for proposals in pursuit of the aforementioned goals:

  - o The Technology Translation (PFI-TT) track for up to $250,00 for 18-24 months;
  - o The Research Partnerships (PFI-RP) track for up to $550,000 for 36 months.

  The intended outcomes of both PFI-TT and PFI-RP tracks are: a) the **commercialization of new intellectual property** derived from NSF-funded research outputs; b) the creation of new or broader collaborations with industry (including increased corporate sponsored research); c) the licensing of NSF-funded research outputs to third party corporations or to start-up companies funded by a PFI team; and d) the training of future innovation and entrepreneurship leaders. Notably, the program's Building Innovation Capacity solicitation from 2016 mentions Smart Cities.

The next upcoming PFI proposal submission deadlines are July 14, 2021 and January 12, 2022. Proposals are due annually thereafter on the second Wednesday in July and the second Wednesday in January.

▪ Development Innovation Ventures (DIV) is USAID's open innovation program that tests and scales creative solutions to any global development challenge. By investing in breakthrough innovations driven by rigorous evidence, USAID impacts millions of lives at a fraction of the usual cost. provide flexible, tiered grant funding to test new ideas, take strategic risks, build evidence of what works, and advance the best solutions. DIV is open year-round, reviews applications on a rolling basis, and funds innovations in any sector and in any country where USAID operates. The funding agency seeks solutions that demonstrate rigorous evidence of impact, cost-effectiveness, and a viable pathway to scale and sustainability. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis. Grants may take one of the following forms:

   o Stage 1: Proof of Concept (Up to $200,000);
   o Stage 2: Testing and Positioning for Scale ($200,000 to $1.5 million);
   o Stage 3: Scaling ($1,500,000 to $5 million); or
   o Evidence Grants (Up to $1.5 million).

USAID is also well known for its support of "Building Healthy Cities," an Urban Institute project that aims to refocus city policies, planning, and services with a health equity lens while improving data-driven decision making for Smart Cities in India, Indonesia, and Vietnam.

▪ NSF's Innovations at the Nexus of Food, Energy and Water Systems (INFEWS) program seeks to support research that conceptualizes Food, Energy, and Water systems broadly and inclusively, incorporating social and behavioral processes (such as decision making and governance), physical processes (such as built infrastructure and new technologies for more efficient resource utilization), natural processes (such as biogeochemical and hydrologic cycles), biological processes (such as agroecosystem structure and productivity), and cyber-components (such as sensing, networking, computation and visualization for decision-making and assessment). Investigations of these complex systems may produce discoveries that cannot emerge from research on food or energy or water systems alone. It is the synergy among these components in the context of sustainability that will open innovative science and engineering pathways to produce new knowledge, novel technologies, and innovative predictive capabilities. Projects submitted to Tracks 1-2 (Track 1, modelling; Track 2, solutions) will request three to five years of support with a total budget less than or equal to $2.5 million per project. Projects submitted to Track 3 (Track 3, RCN) will request four or five years of support with a total budget less than or equal to $750,000 per project. **As of June 2021 this program has been archived.** The JeffSmart team should contact one of the Program Officers listed on the NSF website to ask about other similar programs that may be relevant.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR HEALTH

For this report, Hanover focused on identifying the leading grantmakers in public health, placing an emphasis on funders that have historically invested in community-level initiatives.

▪ The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) is a leading funder in the health space, giving broadly to support health leadership, health systems, healthy communities, and healthy families. For example, RWJF's [Invest Health](#) program—a collaboration of RWJF and The Reinvestment Fund—aims to transform how city leaders work together to help low-income communities thrive, with specific attention to community features that drive health such as access to safe and affordable housing, places to play and exercise, and quality jobs. RWJF offers a variety of funding programs throughout the year; Hanover recommends monitoring its [Funding Opportunities](#) page on an ongoing basis. It is also worth noting that RWJF recently issued a $200,000 grant to Energizing Health (Smart Cities - TechStreet Houston Inc. dba Energizing Health) in 2019.

▪ Over the past ten years, the Kresge Foundation's [Health Program](#) has partnered with communities to make sure people have access to resources that support health such as safe, affordable housing, fresh food, clean air primary care and economic opportunities. To continue its work to increase health in America's neighborhoods, the Kresge Foundation will build equity-focused systems of health. It is important to note that Kresge does not typically support health education or research initiatives; thus, it has been included for its potential to support programmatic efforts. There are no open solicitations for health proposals at this time. Health grants vary widely in size, often ranging between $50,000 and $1 million. Application deadlines and processes may vary slightly from one RFP to the next, but often start with a Letter of Inquiry. Currently available opportunities are listed [here](#).

▪ Through its [Cultivating Healthy Communities (CHC) Grant Program](#), the Aetna Foundation give grants to local nonprofits across the United States to nurture innovations that can inspire healthier lifestyles. One example of a recent recipient is Jack and Jill Children's Center, which was funded in 2017 to promote stress management, healthy eating, and financially sound decision-making in a predominantly African American neighborhood. Applicants can request a total amount between $50,000 and $100,000 for the entire project period. Projects typically last between 18 and 24 months.

    o **Update:** In 2018, Aetna was acquired by CVS. Following this merger, the CHC program appears to have been replaced by the similarly-named Healthiest Cities & Counties Challenge. The second cohort of grantees was selected in 2020 for awards running through September 2022. There is no information on the [program website](#) or on the [Aetna/CVS Foundation website](#) regarding upcoming competitions. The JeffSmart team should monitor the foundation's website and [sign up for email news alerts](#) for updates, and, if possible, contact a program officer to inquire about future competitions.

- The National Institutes of Health (NIH)'s [Population Health Interventions: Integrating Individual and Group Level Evidence](#) program has been noted for its broad interest in supporting health research at the community level. The purpose of this opportunity is to support multilevel, transdisciplinary population health interventions that target underlying social, economic, and environmental conditions in an effort to improve health outcomes. Both R01 and R21 mechanisms are offered through this program. There is no recommended range for requests, but budgets should reflect the actual needs of the proposed project.

  o This program expired in 2019 and does not appear to have been replaced. The JeffSmart team should review current funding opportunities and contact an NIH Program Director to discuss alignment.

MISCELLANEOUS/BROAD OPPORTUNITIES

This section contains opportunities with broad mission statements that may present a fit for multiple funding needs. For example, regional funders do not typically restrict their giving to one field of interest. However, given this uncertainty, Hanover recommends cultivating a relationship with these funders prior to submitting a proposal.

- The [Rockefeller Foundation](#) invests in multiple priority areas, including Health; Food; Power; Equity and Economic Opportunity; Climate and Resilience; Innovation; and Co-Impact. Given that Jefferson's proposal may align with more than one of these areas, the funder has been included as a broad source of support. Grant sizes vary widely, but frequently fall within the $100,000 to $500,000 range. **At this time, the Rockefeller Foundation will not accept proposals or letters of inquiry by mail or email unless the applicant is requested to do so by a Foundation staff member.**

- The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)'s [Choice Neighborhoods](#) program supports locally driven strategies that address struggling neighborhoods with distressed public or HUD-assisted housing through a comprehensive approach to neighborhood transformation. Local leaders, residents, and stakeholders, such as public housing authorities, cities, schools, police, business owners, nonprofits, and private developers, come together to create and implement a plan that revitalizes distressed HUD housing and addresses the challenges in the surrounding neighborhood. The program helps communities transform neighborhoods by revitalizing severely distressed public and/or assisted housing and catalyzing critical improvements in the neighborhood, including vacant property, housing, businesses, services, and schools. Choice Neighborhoods is focused on three core goals:

  o **Housing**: Replace distressed public and assisted housing with high-quality mixed-income housing that is well-managed and responsive to the needs of the surrounding neighborhood;
  o **People**: Improve outcomes of households living in the target housing related to employment and income, health, and children's education; and

- o **Neighborhood**: Create the conditions necessary for public and private reinvestment in distressed neighborhoods to offer the kinds of amenities and assets, including safety, good schools, and commercial activity, that are important to families' choices about their community.

To achieve these core goals, successful applicants have in place a comprehensive neighborhood revitalization strategy, or "Transformation Plan." This Transformation Plan is the guiding document for the revitalization of the public and/or assisted housing units, while simultaneously directing the transformation of the surrounding neighborhood and creating positive outcomes for families. Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grants support the development of these plans. Grant sizes vary widely depending on the scope of the proposal. In the most recent funding cycle in 2019, individual grants were capped at $1.3 million. Due to eligibility restrictions, Jefferson should consider applying in partnership with a local housing authority or governmental agency.

The FY21 NOFO is currently open, with a submission deadline of July 13, 2021.

- ▪ The Economic Development Agency (EDA)'s Build to Scale (B2S) program, formerly known as the Regional Innovation Strategies program, further technology-based economic development initiatives that accelerate high quality job growth, create more economic opportunities, and support the future of the next generation of industry leading companies. Under this program, the Venture Challenge (formerly the i6 challenge) seeks to support entrepreneurship and accelerate company growth in communities, regions, or combinations of regions. The Venture Challenge awards grants to intermediary organizations like accelerators, universities, and non-profits supporting new business ventures that are:

    - o Scalable by nature;
    - o Challenging the status quo of markets;
    - o Commercializing technologies; and
    - o Furthering job creation.

The Venture Challenge FY 21 NOFO recently closed on April 29, 2021. Depending on funding track, maximum awards are capped at $750,000 or $1.5 million.

- ▪ The mission of the Wells Fargo Regional Foundation is to improve the quality of life for children and families living in low-income communities in Eastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware by concentrating resources on comprehensive, neighborhood-based economic and community development initiatives. The Foundation awards Neighborhood Planning Grants and Neighborhood Implementation Grants to support long-term, resident-driven neighborhood revitalization.

    - o **Neighborhood Planning Grants** ($25,000 - $100,000) support direct expenses that are essential to the planning process such as: planning consultants and staff; outreach

and neighborhood organizing functions; and community meetings and advisory group development.

- o **Neighborhood Implementation Grants** (up to $1.25 million) support comprehensive community development projects that target specific neighborhoods. The community development project must be based on a current resident-driven neighborhood plan and can be used for program costs only. It doesn't provide funding for deficits, general operating costs, or bricks-and-mortar capital development.

The Wells Fargo Regional Foundation has recently implemented an invitation process for all grant proposals. The JeffSmart team should contact the regional representative for Pennsylvania, Stephen Briggs (stephen.briggs1@wellsfargo.com) to discuss their work and how it fits with Wells Fargo's interests.

- Through its Building Vibrant Communities program, the Bank of America Charitable Foundation supports local and regional revitalization efforts that take a holistic approach to building thriving communities and creating economic opportunity and livable neighborhoods. This includes support of economic drivers such as arts and cultural institutions that contribute to the overall vitality of the community. Based on standard giving sizes, Hanover recommends requesting between $5,000 and $20,000.

   In 2021, the Foundation issued two RFPs focused on Economic Mobility, which closed on February 19, 2021 and June 25, 2021 respectively.

- The Philadelphia Foundation has a century-long history of connecting community-minded individuals with the people and organizations that are helping to build a Greater Philadelphia Region. The Philadelphia Foundation offers several grant funding streams so that nonprofits can identify and apply for a source of funding that makes the most sense for their organization. This regional funder gives towards a variety of charitable purposes and has been included for its broad support of Jefferson's region. Notable past issuances include: $300,000 to Methow Housing Trust for affordable housing (2018); $233,265 to Fairmont Park Conservancy for cleanup and repairs (2018); and $200,000 to the TwispWorks Foundation for sustainable development (2018). Based on these previous issuances, Hanover recommends requesting between $200,000 and $300,000.

- To enhance the vitality and vibrancy of the Greater Philadelphia region, the William Penn Foundation is committed to increasing high-quality, educational opportunities for economically disadvantaged students; supporting arts, culture and the development of accessible and vibrant public spaces; and protecting the Delaware River watershed. The Penn Foundation invests in public spaces such as parks, libraries, recreation centers, trails, waterways, community gardens, community centers, plazas and play areas. Grant sizes most often range between $100,000 and $500,000. The Foundation has a two-stage online application process which includes an initial inquiry and an invited full proposal. As a first step, the funder strongly suggests reviewing the program guidelines before making an

inquiry. This will allow applicants to confirm that their proposed work aligns with the Foundation's strategic priorities and eligibility requirements.

- Since its founding in 1955, the Connelly Foundation has been a responsive and proactive grantmaking organization awarding grants to nonprofits in the Philadelphia area that demonstrate outstanding performance in meeting community needs. Areas of interest include: Education; Human Services; and Culture & Civic Life. Typically, grants take the form of operating support, project support, and capital or equipment. The Connelly Foundation does *not* support research or planning requests. Grants often range between $10,000 and $30,000.

- The Teagle Foundation works to support and strengthen liberal arts education, which it sees as fundamental to meaningful work, effective citizenship, and a fulfilling life. The Foundation's aim is to serve as a catalyst for the improvement of teaching and learning in the arts and sciences while addressing issues of financial sustainability and accountability in higher education. The Teagle Foundation supports innovation in curriculum, pedagogy, and assessment with an eye towards combining improvements in quality with considerations of cost. As an organization engaged in knowledge-based philanthropy, the Foundation works collaboratively with grantees to mobilize the intellectual and financial resources necessary to provide students with a challenging and transformative educational experience. Despite its emphasis on the liberal arts, this prospect has been included for its willingness to support curriculum development.

PROJECT EVALUATION FORM

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http://www.hanoverresearch.com/grantsevaluation/

CAVEAT

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