

ECHO du Nord Call for proposals

Amplifying the voices of Montreal North parents

Call for Proposals

"ECHO du Nord" is a team of Montreal North parents working on a participatory action research project called ECHO (Community study on COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy for children and youth). The ECHO project aims to amplify the voices of parents and youth in Parc-Extension and Montreal-North regarding their experiences during the pandemic (<u>https://www.projet-echo-mtl.ca/</u>).

Over the past 6 months, our team conducted interviews and surveys with Montreal North parents to learn how they make decisions about COVID-19 vaccination for their children and to understand how the pandemic has affected their families. We found that the determinants of vaccine hesitancy in the community transcend the COVID-19 pandemic and are in part rooted in broader public health issues: access to valid and trustworthy information, listening to and respecting diverse opinions, and active participation of citizens in decision-making. Through our research, we also recognized how important Montreal North's existing community-based organizations are to ensuring effective and sustainable approaches that respond to the health needs of parents and families. All these insights helped us identify a concrete action plan that we believe will best respond to parents' needs.

Through the *ECHO du Nord Grant*, we want to give parents an opportunity to have their voices heard in the context of a **community project responding to a health issue affecting children and families in Montreal North**. We invite organizations working in Montreal North to propose creative projects that actively <u>listen to</u>, collaborate with, and advocate for parents in the <u>community</u>. A \$15,000 grant will be awarded to the selected organization to help implement the project.

We are looking for proposals that:

- Focus on a children's health issue(s) in Montreal North
- Meaningfully involve parents in the design, implementation and/or evaluation of the proposed project
- Use innovative and creative approaches

Eligibility Criteria:

• The applicant must be a non-profit organization capable of receiving and administering funds.



- The applicant's activities and budget must be carried out/spent in the Montreal North neighbourhood.
- Applications must be submitted in English or French.
- Applications must include all required information and answer all questions. Only complete applications will be considered.

Guidelines for submitting a proposal

- 1. Provide a brief description of the proposed project in plain language. Mention the specific idea and how it engages Montreal North parents in a meaningful and innovative way (max 200 words)
- 2. Briefly describe the scope and magnitude of the health issue your project will address and why it is an important issue in the Montreal North community. In addition, describe the barriers to solving this problem and the opportunities for citizens to contribute to solving the problem. (max 500 words)
- 3. <u>Project planning:</u> Briefly describe how you will carry out your project. In your response, include a description of the activities and timelines required to complete the project. Please include if this a new project or an ongoing project that will be expanded upon. (max 1000 words)
- 4. <u>Parent participation:</u> How will your project incorporate the voices of Montreal North parents and promote their active participation in decisions about the health of the community? (max 500 words)
- 5. <u>Evaluation:</u> What are the short-, medium- and long-term objectives of your project and what indicators will be used to measure their achievement? Explain how you will track results to ensure quality implementation and support ongoing improvement of the project outcomes. (max 500 words)
- 6. <u>Budget:</u> Provide a budget estimating a breakdown of your projects' costs.
- 7. <u>Team:</u> Describe the relevant experience, leadership, and commitment of the team in the areas of the proposed project. (max 200 words)
- 8. <u>Sustainable implementation:</u> How does your project fit into your organization's mission? How does your project fit into a long-term citizen participation process in Montreal North? How will you ensure the project's sustainability? (max 500 words)

Application and selection process:



- 1. Organizations interested in submitting their application **must express their interest by** registering at the following link by August 1, 2022: <u>https://forms.gle/bmQZxEggaAkM3qYG6</u>
- 2. Proposals should be sent to <u>echo.mtl.nord.parents@gmail.com</u> by August 15, 2022 at 11:59PM.
- 3. Following a pre-screening of projects, successful organizations will be invited to an interview with the selection committee composed of the ECHO du North parents' team in consultation with ECHO researchers and community partners, **beginning the week of August 22, 2022.**
- 4. The winner of the ECHO du Nord Grant will be announced by early October 2022.

For any questions, please send an email to <u>echo.mtl.nord.parents@gmail.com</u>

The ECHO project reserves the right to accept or reject any or all applications, regardless of an application's ranking based on the evaluation criteria, with or without explanation.

