

The nccPA Health Foundation designs initiatives to advance the role of Certified PAs to improve health. Our work builds PA and student capacity, competencies, and skills through education and research activities. Below, we have highlighted resources for educators and students.

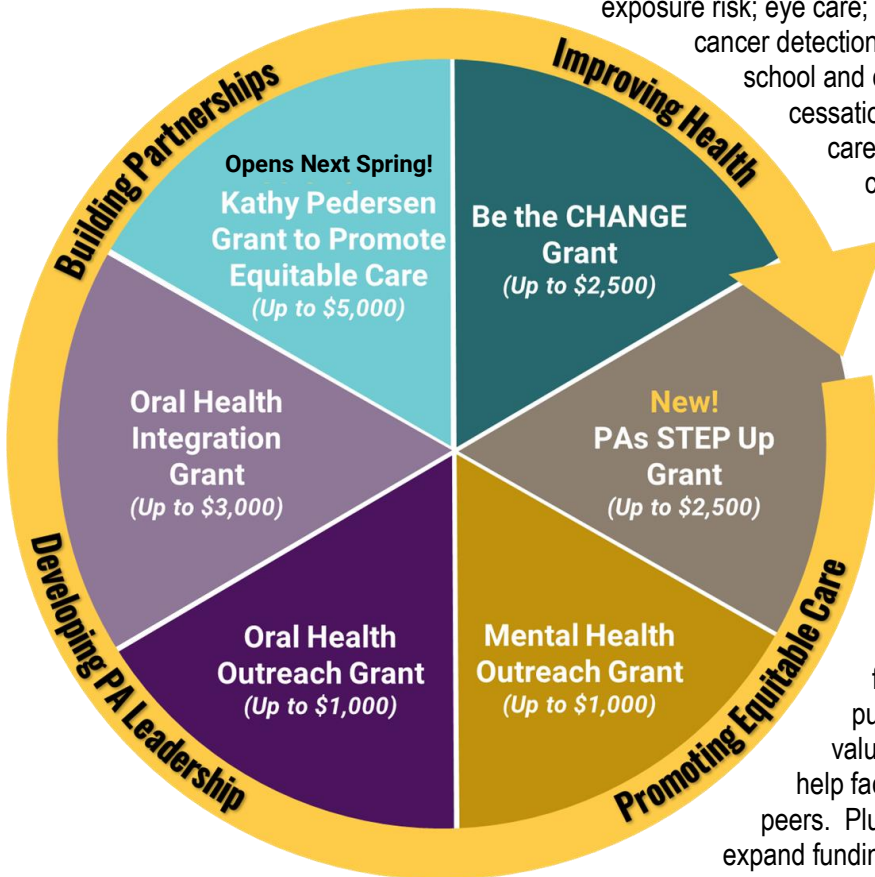
Nearly A Quarter Million Invested in Grant Programs

Across its six seed [grant programs](#), the Health Foundation has invested nearly \$250,000 to support more than 130 PA and PA student led projects. Already this year, the Health Foundation has earmarked \$40,000 in funding; and we seek your help to support additional grassroots efforts.

The Health Foundation's grant portfolio expanded this year with the new PAs STEP Up grant, which supports PAs in **Standing Together for Equity** in the **Profession**. The \$2,500 grant provides funding for activities that promote diversity, equity, and inclusion as strategies to expand PA pipelines and ensure a diverse PA workforce. PA programs who are striving to reach and support underrepresented students in pursuing the PA profession have received four of the first five PAs STEP Up grants (80%). Funded projects have offered targeted pre-PA workshops, mentorship programs, and community college outreach. We look forward to reviewing additional applications.



Our Be the CHANGE grant remains the most popular award with 60 grants (44%) awarded. This \$2,500 award equips you and your students to address a need of your choosing. Recipients have provided diabetes education; sun exposure risk; eye care; pediatric and health literacy; breast cancer detection; health promotion with elementary, high school and college students; foot care; smoking cessation; global health; street medicine clinics; care to underserved and Indigenous communities; and more. Our mental health and oral health outreach grants (both \$1,000) support PA efforts to raise awareness, promote prevention, and foster education and treatment for these two often overlooked health care needs.

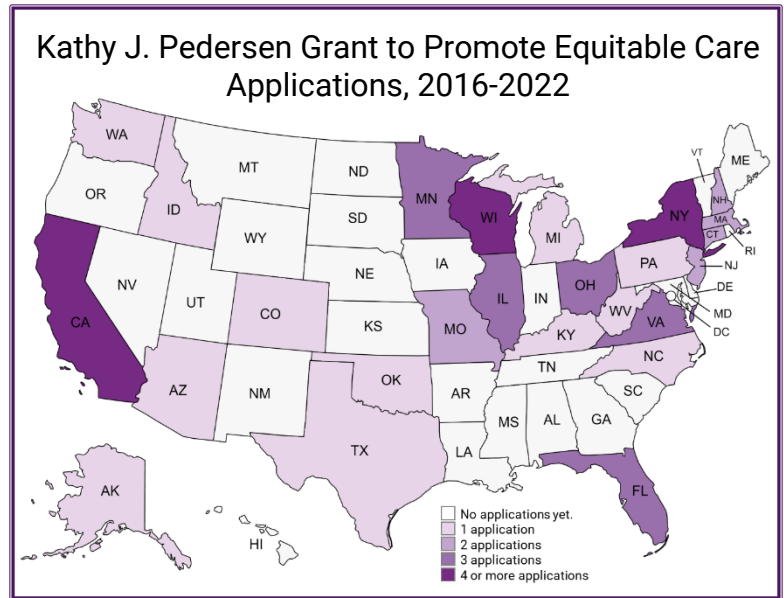


In addition, PA programs seeking to incorporate or expand oral health content may apply for up to \$3,000 to integrate curriculum and track the impact of your efforts. The integration grant is a wonderful opportunity for PA faculty scholarship and presentation/publication too. All applicants gain valuable grant-writing experience, which can help faculty and students stand out among their peers. Plus, we are continually looking at ways to expand funding to support PA efforts!

Year-Round Funding is Available Now & You're Invited! PA faculty and students continue to be the largest segment (>70%) of our grantee population with funds distributed to more than 60 PA programs. We invite you to join this network of grantees. If you or your students need help getting started, please reach out to our staff at Grants@nccPAHealthFoundation.net.

For the second year in a row, the Health Foundation is selecting three recipients for the **Kathy J. Pedersen Grant to Promote Equitable Care**. This year's competitive applicant pool reflected the grant's spirit of social accountability as well as the breadth of PA efforts to address the needs of underserved populations and develop models for equitable and inclusive care. Proposed projects include establishing a food pantry for oncology patients; developing a palliative care model; offering fatty liver and hepatitis screenings; addressing childhood obesity; providing tele-education and health literacy for underserved populations; providing global health outreach to address neonatal asphyxia; addressing transgender health care; and launching a clinic for the underserved. The programs include collaborative and interprofessional partnerships to improve health.

Since this competitive program launched in 2016, the Health Foundation has received more than 50 applications from 25 states. With this year's three anticipated grantees, the Health Foundation will have funded 12 projects and invested nearly \$60,000. **The next cycle opens in 2023, so start thinking about your program's proposal.**



Professional Practice Resource Center Available Now

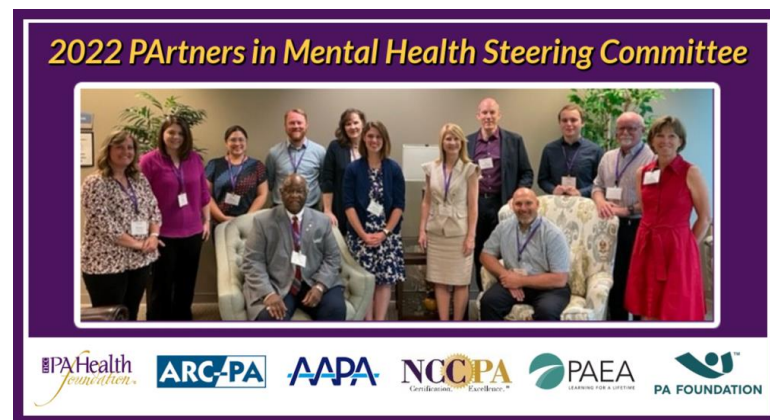
Professional practice is integral to the provision of high-quality, accessible, and equitable care. Given its role to continually equip Certified PAs, the Health Foundation was pleased to launch its [Professional Practice Resource Center](#) this year. The Resource Center's goals are to inform and educate PAs and others by providing resources and articles on professional practice topics and to spark timely and important conversation. It's designed to help Certified PAs who are lifelong learners refresh their knowledge in this area, just as they would in any area of clinical medicine. The center's first two focus areas are patient-provider relationships and provider mental health concerns, including burnout and substance use. We invite educators to learn more about the Resource Center and how this work connects to our programs and commitment to equitable care by listening in to a **PA Insights with NCCPA podcast segment** (starts at 14:20). We look forward to expanding the Resource Center with new topics and resources; and we hope educators and, where helpful, students will be able to use this resource too.



Mental Health Initiative Remains Timely, Find Resources & Opportunities

In June, the Health Foundation convened its PArtners in Mental Health Steering Committee with returning and new members. Along with the Health Foundation and national PA organization leaders, the committee included grassroots PA champions from psychiatry, other disciplines, and PA education. Participants quickly came together around this clinical issue impacting patients and providers. All indications suggest a continued

commitment to individual and collaborative efforts and an awareness of the significant opportunity to address the mental health and addiction crises. The steering committee suggested ideas to expand education, strengthen the practice environment, and raise awareness. Prominent themes related to reducing stigma, promoting self-care



and provider wellness, and encouraging research and scholarship about the PA role and contributions. Please learn more in the annual [stakeholder report](#).

A graphic titled "MENTAL HEALTH SPOTLIGHT" featuring a portrait of Adrienne Colabuno, PA-C. The text reads: "Mental health should be treated just like any other medical condition. It should be treated just like any other disease that anybody might have." The graphic includes the PA Health Foundation logo and large quotation marks.

The Health Foundation also continues to raise mental health awareness. Certified PAs and PA students are invited to join PA educator Adrienne Colabuno, PA-C, in lending their voices to important efforts to reduce stigma by sharing their perspectives in our [mental health spotlight](#).

In addition, we encourage you to apply for our mental health [outreach grant](#); connect with [resources](#); and listen to podcasts recorded with [NCCPA](#) and the [PA Foundation](#). Please also invite your students to utilize these resources, not only to emphasize the importance of mental health but also to explore future practice areas and how mental health is integrated across disciplines.

Looking Ahead

We know advancing the role of Certified PAs to improve health requires partners; and we hope PAEA as well as PA faculty, preceptors, and students continue to look to the Health Foundation for grants and resources. To that end, we look forward to connecting with you and your colleagues at the Education Forum in San Diego, California.

We are excited about the future and supporting PA and PA student efforts to be the change for better health.

Respectfully submitted,

Todd Allen, MBA, MMS, PA-C
Board Chair, 2021-2022

Dawn Morton-Rias, Ed.D., PA-C, ICE-CCP
President and CEO