# Community Engagement Investment Priorities Summary

Community Engagement works to support the overall Novant Health mission through programs and partnerships that are strategically focused on achieving health equity — improving health and upward mobility in all communities, especially those that need it most.

Through our charitable contribution program, Novant Health seeks strategic partnerships that align with our two investment priorities of expanding opportunity through education and developing healthy communities.

Through these investment priorities, Novant Health supports community-based programs that address health inequities, improve health outcomes and align with these guiding principles:

- Programs must be a close fit with Novant Health's mission, vision and values.
- Programs must demonstrate a positive impact to an identified community health need and/or social determinants of health.
- Programs must intentionally focus on our communities' most vulnerable populations.

Fundamental to our Community Engagement strategy is an acknowledgment that U.S. neighborhoods are largely segregated by race and socioeconomic status. Access to basic needs — like housing, gainful employment, educational attainment, healthcare and transportation — is largely determined by where you live and impacted by your race. To realize our vision of health equity, we seek partnerships that aim to reduce inequities for community members who have been historically marginalized and excluded.

#### **Community Impact**

Novant Health also enhances the economic growth and development of its surrounding communities through support of local chambers of commerce and local city, town and county initiatives that impact health and safety. Additionally, Novant Health supports disaster readiness and response to keep our communities resilient and safe when hazards strike.

Novant Health will identify Community Impact partnerships. Community Impact key stakeholders will be invited to apply through the request for proposal process as appropriate throughout the year.





#### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT • INVESTMENT PRIORITIES**



### Expanding Opportunity Through Education

The goal of our Expanding Opportunity Through Education investment priority is to build the pipeline for the future healthcare workforce. The children of today, quite literally, are the workforce of tomorrow.

The first years of a child's life are a critical time of change and development as a child attains physical and mental skills that will be used for the rest of his or her life.

Novant Health seeks to support early childhood development programs that promote positive brain development and early literacy.

Further along the educational spectrum, Novant Health is interested in supporting programs that enhance college and career-readiness in the medical and health sciences career pathways. These programs may span from middle school through higher education and workforce development.



Request for Proposal Application Period: Jan. 1 to Feb. 7
NovantHealth.org/SocialResponsibility



## Developing Healthy Communities

The goal of our Developing Healthy Communities investment priority is to improve the health of individuals in our community by promoting health, healing and treatment in response to identified community health needs.

Responding to the health needs of our communities, especially to the most vulnerable among us, is central to the mission of Novant Health. Through strategic investments in nonprofit partnerships, we seek to improve access to healthcare services, raise awareness of and encourage healthy behaviors, address preventable risk factors and support patients and their families'

needs. We recognize that we cannot begin to move the needle on health outcomes without addressing root causes that influence health.

Novant Health is interested in supporting programs that increase food access, food security and nutrition education; improve housing quality and support sustainable, positive neighborhood change and revitalization. Additionally, Novant Health is focused on ensuring access to community-based resources that provide opportunities for recreational activities and community living.



Request for Proposal Application Period: **June 1 to July 7 NovantHealth.org/SocialResponsibility** 

