REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS:
SMALL GRANTS FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Dear RHD Community Partner:

RHD Action was launched in September 2015 to amplify global efforts to control rheumatic heart disease (RHD). RHD Action was formed by the World Heart Federation and RhEACH, with demonstration projects led by Case Western University in Uganda and Touch Foundation in Tanzania with the leadership and support of Medtronic Foundation.

RHD Action has developed a Priorities Pyramid representing key areas of focus for the RHD Action founding partners and demonstration projects. Many stakeholders across the RHD community are working to support elements of the Pyramid. This request for proposals for small grant funding provides an opportunity for RHD Action to support groups who are already addressing these goals and bring the work of key RHD stakeholders under the RHD Action banner.

Please see the Priorities Pyramid appended to this Request for Proposals. The projects should support one of the following areas in the Pyramid:

People and Communities
Medicines and Technologies
Systems and Services

We are looking for small innovative projects with well-defined outcomes and timelines that correspond with the RHD Action Priorities Pyramid. An amount of US$2,500 is available to fund each successful application. We are looking to fund projects such as an educational, awareness-raising or advocacy event designed to achieve one or more of the objectives in the Priorities Pyramid.

Possible projects include:

- Usage or local adaptation of the RHD Action technical and policy resources, including the Needs Assessment Tool and RHD Roadmap
- Community and/or school-based awareness projects
- Empowerment of PLWRHD through awareness events and/or PLWRHD support group
- Efforts directed to Ministries of Health, from the local to the national levels, to increase awareness and incorporate RHD into national health agendas
- Integration of RHD into existing platforms such as HIV/AIDS, TB, Reproductive, Maternal, New born, Child and Adolescent Health (RMNCAH) and broader global health systemsstrengthening.
- Innovative approaches to improve medication adherence to secondary prophylaxis
- Innovative approaches to improves access to medications for secondary prophylaxis
- Creation of patient educational materials in local languages and cultural contexts
- Presentation/addition of RHD-related content to health worker trainee curricula
- Opportunities for task shifting in RHD prevention and control
- Implementation of outreach services to improve access to care for RHD-related health conditions
Exclusions:

1. Funded project activities must take place in Low and Middle-Income Countries as defined by the World Bank.
2. Current Medtronic-funded RHD Action partners are not eligible to apply.
3. Applications must be submitted in English. We currently do not have the capacity to translate applications in languages other than English.

Selection criteria:

1. The applicant must clearly state the intended impact of their specific proposal. Depending on the nature of the project, impact may be measured by numbers of people included in or benefitting from the activity, pre- and post-activity measures of changes in knowledge/attitudes/awareness, or adaptation/integration of the intervention into an existing programme or curriculum.
2. Alignment with and/or dissemination of ongoing RHD Action initiatives (Priorities Pyramid), dissemination of RHDA tools, materials or statements.
3. Clear, focused, measurable objectives that can be achieved in the short term with a clear time line.
4. Sustainability of the impact evidenced by viable opportunities to use the product or activity (patient education materials, translations, workshop or teaching curricula) for future build-on activities including potential collaboration with governments to strengthen or scale RHD programmes.
5. Plans for publicity/dissemination and/or capacity to approach and/or include local, regional or national Ministry of Health (MOH) representative(s) in the activity or event.

Funding is US$2,500 per project. A signed Grant Agreement will be required before award funding is wired to the recipient.

Deliverables for projects:

- Required
  - Short narrative report (template provided) no later than three months after project initiation.
  - Short narrative and financial report (template provided) no later than one month after project completion.
  - Photos/Videos or other electronic images suitable for press releases and/or electronic media

- Desired
  - Press coverage
  - Meeting agendas, course outlines, translated materials

Please note the additional information provided below in the Guidelines on how to proceed. We are looking forward to numerous and innovative proposals from across the globe!

Sincerely,

RhEACH and World Heart Federation acting together as RHD Action
Application Guidelines:

Call for Proposal: 25 July 2018
Proposal Submission Deadline:
Midnight (local applicant time) 31 August 2018
Applications must be written in English, saved, attached and submitted via email to:
grants@rhdaction.org using RHD Action Small Grant Submission

Decision: No later than 30 September 2018

Project Start Date and Duration:
Starting within 30 days of award notification and ending within 6 months of start date as determined in Grant Agreement.

Eligible Recipients:
Local RHD champions across the world whose project activity will take place in a Low- or Middle- income Country (as defined by the World Bank). Recipients of the grants may be organizations, or in exceptional circumstances, individuals. (Current RHD Action demonstration country partners are not eligible to apply.)

In the case of an award, funds will be wired to your institution, place of work or NGO. In rare cases, funds may be awarded to an individual with appropriate justification.

Selection Panel:
A panel comprised of an RHD Action demonstration country representative (1), and representatives from RhEACH (1) and the World Heart Federation (1). Medtronic Foundation will grant final approval for selected projects.

An amount of US$2,500 is available to fund an educational, awareness-raising or advocacy event designed to achieve one or more of the objectives. Applications are invited from RHD champions or organizations describing how this may be achieved in their country, region or community.

What is needed?
The awards will be made to the five most deserving applicants based on the quality and credibility of the proposal. Applications are expected to answer the questions below on the relevant application form, and be likely to meet outlined objectives within a period of 6 months from the project start date.

(1) What is the status of RHD prevention and control in your country, region or community?
(2) Briefly describe your existing experience in rheumatic heart disease work.
(3) What is the objective of your project? How will you achieve this objective?
(4) How will you use the US$2,500 funding?
(5) Describe the stakeholders who will be involved in the project.
(6) How will you measure the impact of your project?
(7) Do you plan to involve the press in your project, or otherwise publicize it? If so, how?
(8) Do you plan to obtain endorsement or acknowledgement from your MOH? If so, how?

**Final Report**
Recipients of the grant will be expected to provide a brief written report in English with photos within one month of the project completion using a provided template (3 pages).

**Project Time Line:**

- **Call for Proposals:** 25 July 2018
- **Deadline for Submission:** 31 Aug 2018
- **Award Notices:** No later than 30 Sept 2018

**Project Duration:**
Start date within 30 days of award notification. End date no more than six months from start date as determined in signed Grant Agreement.

Final Project Report Due to RHD Action within 30 days of project end date.
RHD Action

Strategic Priorities

People and Communities

People living with RHD
Empower and support people living with RHD, their families and communities.

Health Workers
Support health workers to receive training, guidelines and equipment to deliver safe and effective care for people living with RHD.

Decision Makers
Inform Government and other stakeholders about RHD and encourage them to commit, prioritize and act to reduce the burden of RHD.

Medicines and Technologies

Essential Technologies
Support access to essential technologies to diagnose, treat and manage RHD, including echocardiography and diagnostics for strep throat.

Benzathine penicillin G
& other essential medicines
Secure a reliable, quality-assured supply of benzathine penicillin G and other essential medicines including diuretics and antibiotics.

Group A Strep Vaccine
Advocate for continued efforts to develop a vaccine to prevent group A streptococcal infections which cause RHD.

Systems and Services

RHD Control Programs
Drive efforts to establish RHD registers, primary prophylaxis and comprehensive control programmes which improve care for people living with RHD.

Health Systems
Promote a health systems strengthening approach to RHD control through integration into existing systems and encouraging collaboration across a broad range of sectors.

Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn & Child Health
Raise awareness of the impact of RHD on women of child-bearing age and their families and infant mortality within the maternal health community to lower premature mortality in pregnant women.

Platforms for advanced care
Advocate for investment in platforms to treat severe RHD including early and surgical management of heart failure, stroke, arrhythmia and infective endocarditis.