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**GRANT APPLICATION**

**DEFINITION:**

The Lighthouse Grant category focuses on quality and patient safety risk mitigation activities a member organization would like to complete within the next eighteen months.

**ELIGIBILITY:**

Members of AEIX. “Member” includes any organization (hospital, clinic, long term care, urgent care, behavioral health, outpatient services, etc.) and department (Risk Management, Patient Safety, Quality, High Reliability Team, or an individual unit (for example an ICU, Med-Surg, Peri-natal, Environmental Services, Human Resources/Talent, Education department, etc.) within the member system.

**Please share this application with all clinical and operational departments within your organization** that may be interested in completing a new risk reduction project and who may be interested in applying for an AEIX Risk Management Grant.

* Grants are limited to projects that are forecasted to be completed within the next eighteen (18) months.
* Grants are typically awarded for amounts of $12,000 or less.
	+ However, the committee has some limited flexibility in determining the amount of the grant that is awarded.
* Grants must have accompanying information that supports the project’s goals in demonstrating improved patient safety (risk reduction).

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. Complete the application in its entirety.
* In the event of missing or incomplete information, *if* the timeline allows, AEIX will send applications back to the member and request completion and/or clarification of the application.
* Blanks and/or incomplete information may result in disqualification if the deadline for application submission has passed.
1. Applications must be submitted to AEIX in **WORD** format.
* Applications must be completed electronically (typed) and be sent in an editable format (do not scan and send the document or send in a non-editable format).
1. Completed applications should be sent via email, as a WORD document attachment,  with a copy to the organization’s risk management leader, to the following email: aeixawards@premierinc.com.
2. Please note, grant monies are not intended to be used for reimbursing hospital staff or the project participants to compensate them financially for their efforts.

**DEADLINE FOR AWARD APPLICATIONS IS FRIDAY JULY 18th, 2025**

**If selected for a GRANT award - GRANT Funds become available January 1, 2026.**

**Lighthouse Award GRANT Application**

***ALL fields/questions within the application must be completed prior to the submission.***

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| **1** | **\*Applicant Name(s):**  | Katherine Davis RNC-OB MSN IBCLCKimberly Nash RNC-OB MSN |
| **2** | **\*Title/role:** | Labor & Delivery Clinical Educators |
| **3** | **\*Hospital or Entity Name:**  | AdventHealth Shawnee Mission |
| **4** | **\*Healthcare System:**  | AdventHealth |
| **5** | **\*Clinical or Operational Area:**  | Labor & Delivery |
| **6** | **\*Project/GRANT Title:**  | Improving Maternal Outcomes Through Critical Care and Postpartum Risk Identification |
| **7** | **\*Mailing Address:**  | 9100 W 74th St. Merriam, KS 66204 |
| **8** | **\*Telephone:**  | (913) 632-4200 |
| **9** | **\*E-mail Address:**  | Katherine.davis@adventhealth.comKimberly.nash@adventhealth.com |

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| **10** | **\*Name and address of** **Hospital/Entity (local) Risk Manager:** | Lori Cue9100 W 74th St. Merriam, KS 66204 |
| **11** | **\*Name of and address of SYSTEM Risk Manager if different from above:** | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **12** | **\*Name and address of Hospital/Entity/System CEO** | Alan Verrill9100 W 74th St. Merriam, KS 66204 |
| **13** | **\*Name and address of Hospital/Entity/System CFO** | Click or tap here to enter text. |

1. **The project being proposed involves the following clinical areas** *(Check all that apply)***:**

[ ] Ambulatory Care

[ ] Emergency Services

[ ] Hospital/System-wide Focus

[x] Obstetrics/Perinatal

[ ] Radiology/Imaging Services

[ ] Surgical/Peri-Operative

[ ] Other *(Please specify)*Click or tap here to enter text.

1. **Briefly describe the project and its importance to the organization:** *(one paragraph maximum)*

This project aims to improve maternal health outcomes by providing the AWHONN Critical Care Obstetrics (CCO) Course to 30 obstetric care team members and by implementing postpartum awareness bracelets for patients. The CCO course enhances the team’s ability to recognize and respond to high-risk obstetric emergencies, while the bracelets empower postpartum patients and their families to identify early warning signs after discharge. Together, these interventions promote a culture of safety, education, and patient engagement, addressing a critical need in maternal care.

1. **Explain how the proposed project described in Question #15 will improve patient safety or reduce the potential for liability: (***one paragraph maximum)*

The AWHONN CCO Course equips staff with evidence-based skills to recognize, escalate, and manage maternal complications, improving rapid response and reducing clinical error. The postpartum awareness bracelets extend safety beyond discharge, ensuring patients are informed about warning signs of complications like hemorrhage, hypertension, and infection. These dual interventions target leading causes of preventable maternal morbidity and mortality, thereby enhancing patient outcomes and reducing potential liability from adverse events.

1. **List the metric(s) that will be used to measure and to sustain success?** *(one paragraph maximum)*

Key metrics will include pre- and post-course knowledge assessments for course participants, staff confidence surveys, tracking of maternal morbidity rates (e.g., hypertensive crisis, postpartum hemorrhage), and patient-reported awareness of warning signs via post-discharge surveys. Sustainability will be supported by integrating the course material into the annual training calendar and evaluating the bracelet program through periodic quality reviews and outcome tracking.

1. **Please describe the anticipated tangible results of the proposed project that can be quantified and shared *as Best Practices* with other members of AEIX:** *(one paragraph maximum)*

The project expects to demonstrate measurable increases in staff competency scores, improved clinical response times in obstetric emergencies, and enhanced patient awareness post-discharge. Tangible results include 30 trained staff members in critical obstetric care and distribution of postpartum awareness bracelets to 100% of postpartum discharges over six months. These outcomes will inform best practices in combining staff training and patient education to address maternal health risks.

1. **Provide the amount you are requesting from AEIX for your GRANT:**

$8,000.00

Breakdown $6,000.00 for 30 CCO seats through AWHONN and $2,000.00 for bracelet design, printing, and distribution along with unit signage congruent with CDC HEAR HER campaign.

AEIX grants may not exceed $12,000.

1. **Is this practice an original concept created by the project team, or is it based on successful practices that have been evaluated from literature or other healthcare providers which are being implemented for the first time?**

This project is based on proven national strategies from AWHONN and maternal safety literature. While the course and bracelets have individually shown effectiveness, combining high-level staff training with targeted patient education is a novel implementation for our organization, reflecting a strategic, evidence-based, and patient-centered approach to improve maternal safety.

1. **How does the grant align with AEIX’s mission of “To partner with forward-thinking healthcare leaders to safeguard assets, enhance patient safety, and inspire innovation” and vision of “***Through our collective experience and unique expertise, we will provide the leading pathway for managing risk and improving safety in healthcare***.”?**

This project directly aligns with AEIX’s mission by enhancing patient safety through workforce development and patient empowerment. It supports forward-thinking risk mitigation by pairing advanced training with tools that promote early detection and intervention in maternal complications. The project reflects AEIX’s vision of leveraging collective expertise to lead in risk management and safety innovation, with the potential to be replicated across member organizations.

1. **Additional information to support the quality of your grant proposal:**
	1. **Evidence to Support AWHONN CCO Course Inclusion**
		1. High-Risk OB Care as a National Priority:
			1. Maternal mortality in the U.S. is among the highest in developed countries.
			2. According to the CDC, 84% of maternal deaths are preventable.
			3. AWHONN’s Critical Care Obstetrics Course is recognized as a gold standard for enhancing readiness and response to maternal complications.
		2. AWHONN CCO Outcomes:
			1. Hospitals using AWHONN CCO have reported improved clinical decision-making and faster escalation in OB emergencies.
			2. Course content aligns with AIM (Alliance for Innovation on Maternal Health) safety bundles, widely recommended by ACOG, CDC, and The Joint Commission.
		3. Supports The Joint Commission’s Perinatal Safety Goals:
			1. Helps meet expectations related to hemorrhage, hypertensive crisis, and sepsis.
	2. **Evidence to Support Postpartum Awareness Bracelets**
		1. CDC Hear Her Campaign:
			1. Promotes awareness of postpartum warning signs.
			2. Studies show that patients often miss subtle signs of postpartum complications unless prompted by discharge tools or follow-up materials.
		2. Improved Outcomes with Patient Engagement:
			1. Research published in Obstetrics & Gynecology and BMJ Quality & Safety confirms that structured postpartum education reduces readmissions and improves maternal safety.
			2. Bracelets act as a low-cost, high-visibility tool that reinforces patient education long after discharge.
		3. Equity Impact:
			1. Women of color and Medicaid recipients face higher risks for undetected postpartum complications.
			2. Providing a simple, accessible tool like a bracelet promotes health equity and supports inclusive safety strategies.

***You may attach any supporting documentation such as graphs, tables, posters, PowerPoint to the application.***

**Indicate the “Primary Clinical Sponsor”** *(Responsible for monitoring the progress of the initiative which is the basis of the grant, and for submitting receipts and other documentation supporting the use of grant funds, including a one to two-page summary of the grant’s outcome.)*

**Name:** Kimberly Nash

**Title:** Clinical Educator for Labor & Delivery

**Contact Email:** kimberly.nash@adventhealth.comClick or tap here to enter text.

**Contact Phone Number:** (913) 632-4224

**Indicate an “Alternate Clinical Sponsor**” *(Responsible for supporting the responsibilities of the Primary Clinical Sponsor, and assuming those responsibilities if the Primary Clinical Sponsor is unable to fulfill the requirements of the project.)*

**Name:**Katherine Davis

**Title:** Clinical Educator for Labor & DeliveryClick or tap here to enter text.

**Contact Email:**Katherine.davis@adventhealth.comClick or tap here to enter text.

**Contact Phone Number:**

Grant monies are not to be used for compensating (paying salaries, overtime, or time spent conducting the grant work) the organization’s staff for their efforts related to the grant.

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**The following questions (I. A through D, and II) must be completed by the applicant and submitted with grant application.**

1. **Using the following criteria, in your opinion, how would you evaluate your application on a scale of 1-3, with three being the highest:**
	1. **Potential to improve safety and reduce liability:**

[ ]  Practice appears to have had *little* effect on improving safety and reducing liability. (1)

[ ]  Practice appears to have had *some* effect on improving safety and reduced liability, but metrics are

 not distinctly defined and/or it is unclear that measurable effect can be sustained. (2)

[x]  Practice appears to have had a *strong* effect on improving safety and reducing liability with clear

 defined metrics and sustainability. (3)

* 1. **Potential to share best practice among AEIX members:**

[ ]  *Little* potential for sharing with or translation of best practices to other organizations (e.g.,

implementation requires major budgetary commitment; the topic is highly specialized and/or metrics are not clearly defined). (1)

[ ]  *Some* potential for sharing or translation of best practices to other organizations; however, the

 implementation process may pose challenges *due to f*actors such as significant budgetary

 commitments or the specialized nature of the topic.

* While certain practice settings, such as behavioral health, may find the application relevant, the overall applicability may be limited. Additionally, the metrics for evaluation are not clearly defined.

[x]  *Strong* potential for sharing with and translation of best practices to other member organizations. (3)

* 1. **Potential to impact severity of risk exposure:**

[ ]  Appears to have potential for addressing an issue which may be important from other perspectives,

 such as patient satisfaction or reporting of data, but it is *unlikely to impact severity of risk in the clinical*

 *or safety area*. (1)

[ ]  Appears to have potential for addressing an issue which may not result in catastrophic loss, but which

 is nevertheless significant regarding patient safety or clinical outcomes (e.g., preventing burns from

 hot liquids on dietary trays). (2)

[x]  Appears to have potential for addressing an issue which clearly affects severe malpractice exposure

 caused by significant risk events (e.g., birth injury). (3)

* 1. **Innovation level of the Project:**

[ ]  Project/practice is new to this organization but is based primarily on best practices firmly established in the industry. (1)

[ ]  Project/practice was developed primarily by applicants with some assistance from outside entities,

 and/or it contains well-established best practices but includes additional innovative features which

 may benefit other organizations. (2)

[x]  Project/practice was created primarily (or solely) by applicants and could add to established literature or industry best practices. (3)

1. **Alignment with AEIX’s mission “*To partner with forward-thinking healthcare leaders to safeguard assets, enhance patient safety, and inspire innovation” and vision of “Through our collective experience and unique expertise, we will provide the leading pathway for managing risk and improving safety in healthcare.*”:**

[ ] Project appears to have minimal or no alignment with the AEIX mission. (1)

[ ] Project appears to have some alignment with the AEIX mission. (2)

[x] Project clearly aligns with the AEIX mission. (3)

**II. ATTESTATION:**

[x]  **Yes, I (the applicant), attest to the notification of my organization’s Risk Management Leadership of this application and its content.**

1. **Completed applications should be sent via email, as a WORD document attachment, with a copy to the organization’s risk management leader, to the following email:** **aeixawards@premierinc.com****.**

**DEADLINE FOR AWARD APPLICATIONS IS FRIDAY JULY 18th, 2025**

**TIMELINE**

* **5/12/2025** - Application period opens
* **7/18/2025** - Application period closes
* **8/19/2025** - Awards & Grants Subcommittee meeting (review applications and vote on winners)
* **9/16/2025** - Subcommittee recommendations to IAC the slate of winners for approval
* **11/11/2025 – SAC/Board Meeting – final approval of winners**

*Notification of winners/non-winners via U.S. Mail occurs following the SAC meeting.*

**If selected for a GRANT award - GRANT Funds become available January 1, 2026.**

*It is recommended that applications are submitted well in advance of the deadline as in the event of missing or incomplete information, if the timeline allows, AEIX will send applications back to the member and request completion and/or clarification of the application.*

*Blanks and/or incomplete information may result in disqualification if the deadline for application submission has passed.*