

Coordinating Efforts for Falls Prevention in Iowa through Local Coalitions Mini Grant Opportunity

Falls are the leading causes of injury and injury-related death among Iowa adults aged 65 and older. Preventing falls requires a strong, coordinated community effort. The [Iowa Falls Prevention Coalition \(IFPC\)](#), in partnership with the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services, is excited to announce an opportunity to support the development of up to five **Local Falls Prevention Coalitions** in Iowa. These coalitions will bring together health professionals, community organizations, older adults and other stakeholders to work collaboratively to reduce falls-related risks, promote awareness, and strengthen prevention strategies.

Through the [2025 State Falls Prevention Coalitions funding opportunity](#) from the National Council on Aging (NCOA) and with support and technical assistance from the IFPC, this mini grant aims to:

- Strengthen collaboration among healthcare providers, aging services, community organizations, and community members, including older adults and their caregivers.
- Promote community awareness and education around falls risks and prevention strategies.
- Expand access to evidence-based falls prevention programs hosted by community-based organizations or healthcare entities.
- Foster clinic partnerships for falls risk screening, assessment and referral to falls prevention education and programs.
- Support community-driven approaches that reduce falls-related injuries and improve quality of life for older adults.

Funding Available: \$25,000

Number of Awards anticipated: Up to five (5)

Funding per award: Up to \$5,000 per funded local coalition

Eligible Applicants: Organizations located within Iowa, including nonprofits, local health departments, hospitals, and Area Agencies on Aging.

Required Activities:

- Attend meetings with other funded local coalitions to receive technical assistance, share best practices, and engage in peer learning.
- Participate in Iowa Falls Prevention Coalition meetings every other month to stay informed on statewide initiatives and contribute local insights.
- Adopt a clear process for obtaining member commitment and maintaining an active membership list.
- Hold local coalition meetings at least every other month to coordinate activities, share updates, and plan collaborative efforts.
- Recruit at least one older adult member (age 65 or older) to ensure the coalition reflects the perspectives of the population it serves.

- Assist with identification and recruitment of partners to strengthen community-clinical linkages for falls prevention.
- Submit a monthly summary of coalition activities, successes and lessons learned to the IFPC and Iowa HHS for inclusion in reporting to the National Council on Aging.

Use of Funds May Include:

- Convening and coordination activities
- Training and capacity-building
- Community outreach and education
- Promotion of evidence-based falls risk screening and falls prevention programs

Application Components: Interested organizations should submit a brief application (no more than 3 pages, excluding budget). Please see Appendix A for the scoring rubric, which provides additional guidance.

Applications should include the following components:

1. Organizational background and mission.
2. Define and list county(ies) included in the proposed coalition's catchment area.
3. Description of need.
4. Description of organizational readiness and capacity to lead or support coalition activities. This includes a commitment to actively maintain alignment with the IFPC, including designating a representative to participate in IFPC meetings and supporting the statewide strategies and initiatives.
5. Key partners (current and potential) who will be engaged.
6. Proposed approach to building and sustaining an active local coalition.
7. Preliminary budget or funding needs, up to \$5,000 for the duration of the project period.

Timeline:

- Applications due: October 17, 2025, by 4:00PM CT
- Notifications: November 1, 2025
- Project period: December 1, 2025 – September 30, 2026

Please submit your application or direct any questions to:

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Appendix A

Iowa Falls Prevention Coalition – Mini-Grant Scoring Rubric

Total Points: 100

Criteria	Description	Points
Organizational Background & Mission	Demonstrates relevant experience, alignment with falls prevention or community health, and capacity to manage funds.	10
Catchment Area (County[ies]) & Need	Clearly identifies the area, including county(ies), to be served and provides a compelling description of local need related to falls prevention.	15
Capacity to Lead/Support Coalition	Shows readiness and ability to convene, coordinate, and sustain coalition activities. Staffing, structure, or past experience described.	15
Partnerships	Identifies existing and potential partners (healthcare, aging services, community-based organizations, older adults, caregivers, etc.). Includes plan to build/strengthen collaboration.	15
Approach to Coalition Building & Sustainability	Provides a clear, feasible strategy for coalition development, coordination, and long-term sustainability.	15
Implementation of Evidence-Based Falls Prevention	Strong plan to integrate falls risk screening, referrals, and evidence-based programs/classes.	15
Budget & Use of Funds	Budget is reasonable, aligns with allowable activities (convening, training, outreach, etc.), and clearly supports proposed work.	10
Impact & Outcomes	Proposal demonstrates potential to reduce falls-related risks, promote awareness, and improve quality of life for older adults.	5