MindHandHeart Innovation Fund

Evaluation Criteria

Goals

The MindHandHeart Innovation Fund aims to fund new and inventive projects that enhance mental health and well-being at MIT, to build a healthier, stronger, and more welcoming community. Projects should help advance these objectives through one or more of the following ways:

- increase awareness and understanding of mental health
- build relationships and support structures
- develop life and wellness skills
- coordinate or improve mental health support services
- coordinate or improve academic support services
- reduce loneliness and isolation
- promote tolerance and inclusion
- reduce stigma surrounding mental health
- increase help seeking behavior
- promote self-care and resilience
- improve preparedness for and overall impact of the academic environment

Strong Proposals	Weak Proposals
Clearly furthers MindHandHeart's objectives	Does not further the MHH Initiative's purpose or goals
Engaging and innovative project, with evidence of relevance to the MIT audience	The intended audience is not likely to be interested
Addresses an area that is poorly served by existing programs/services	Similar type of project already exists
If it is an existing program, it should have a successful track record	Similar type of project has been done in the past without success
Contains sufficient detail for implementation	Not well thought out, insufficient details
Proposed budget is sufficient and appropriate	Budget does not align to proposal or does not itemize expenses.
Has a concrete plan for evaluating impact	Has not considered efficacy, evaluation, or follow-up
Promotes collaboration between individuals or departments	Contributes to "silo-ing" or involves no element of collaboration

<u>Other considerations:</u>

- Is the budget appropriate for the number of people impacted (e.g. is the proposal asking for $10,000 for a program that serves only 15 people?)
- If successful, can we envision this program to be implemented long-term?
- Should this project be funded by another department/organization?