Chicago Area Schweitzer Fellows Program 2025-26 Application Rubric

PROBLEM			
1. Problem Comprehension	Defines the health problem and its ecosystem along with the potential root causes. Assertions are supported by compelling data and evidence.	Precisely defines a health problem, its ecosystem, and root causes. Assertions are enhanced by the strategic use of significant data and evidence from primary and/or secondary sources.	
2. Problem Significance	Demonstrates that this is a problem for the community described using compelling evidence.	Demonstrates that this is a problem of significance for <i>the community described</i> , enhanced by the strategic use of data and evidence from primary and/or secondary sources.	
PERSON			
3. Proximity	Presents a strong reason for addressing this health problem and has developed a relationship with the affected community that will contribute to advancing their work.	Presents a compelling reason for addressing this health problem, has a long-standing relationship with the affected community, and conveys how these relationships contribute to advancing their work.	
4. Learning Orientation	Demonstrates commitment to learning and improvement by seeking input and applying insights to improve effectiveness in addressing this health problem.	Demonstrates commitment to continuous learning and improvement by proactively evaluating one's efforts, seeking input, and applying insights to improve effectiveness in addressing this health problem.	
5. Positioning	Has several of the skills and experiences needed to address the health problem, and a track record of taking action to advance progress on this health problem. Demonstrates ability to launch and/or lead the proposed effort.	Has mastery of the skills or extensive experience needed to address the health problem, and an extensive track record of taking action to advance progress on this problem. Compellingly demonstrates their ability to launch and lead the proposed effort.	
PATHWAY			

7. Plan for Health Impact	Clearly articulates how proposed effort will address the specific health problem they are trying to solve and result in health change. There is logic in how the key activities will drive health impact.	Compellingly articulates how proposed effort will address the specific health problem they are trying to solve and result in systemic change. There is strong logic and specific details in how the key activities will drive health impact, with evidence to support their claims.
8. Plan for Action	Clearly articulates key goals for the year and planned activities to advance effort. There is some logic for why these are the right goals at this time.	Clearly articulates key goals for the year, planned activities and anticipated outputs of effort. There is strong logic for why these are the right goals at this time.
9. Feasibility/Sustainability	Demonstrates a realistic assessment of operational and political capacity for implementation, including attention to potential challenges and proposed mitigation strategies.	Demonstrates a comprehensive assessment of operational and political capacity for implementation, including clarity about additional resources necessary, potential challenges, and implementable mitigation strategies.