



## 2016 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH GRANT OPPORTUNITY

### A. MICHIGAN HEALTH ENDOWMENT FUND OVERVIEW

The Michigan Health Endowment Fund was established to improve the health of Michigan residents and reduce the cost of health care with special emphasis on the health and wellness of children and seniors. The Fund was created through the passage of Public Act 4 of 2013, which authorized certain changes to how Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan (BCBSM) operates in the state.

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#### MISSION

To improve the health of Michigan residents, with special emphasis on the health and wellness of children and seniors, while reducing the cost of health care.

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#### VISION

To have a significant and measurable impact on improving the health of Michigan residents.

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#### GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- We emphasize efforts that are likely to achieve long-term impact with measurable outcomes.
- We work in collaboration with public and private funders and other potential partners.
- We seek input and feedback in ways that are both responsive and proactive to inform our efforts, and to address issues and needs facing communities we serve (geographic communities and/or communities of interest).
- We are open to innovative approaches and take strategic risks with our resources.
- We aim to serve as a catalyst for change, problem-solver, and thought leader, and seek to address underlying social and root causes of poor health.
- We seek to empower individuals and communities to take an active role in creating a culture of health.
- We demonstrate leadership as an informed convener and educator to help raise awareness and understanding of important health issues and effective approaches.
- We exercise responsible stewardship.

## GRANTMAKING APPROACHES

MHEF is dedicated to making a meaningful impact on the health and wellness of Michigan's children and seniors. To achieve this impact, the Fund has adopted a hybrid strategy that incorporates both responsive grantmaking and proactive initiatives.

### PROACTIVE INITIATIVES

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The MHEF Board has identified three issue of critical need where the fund could make a significant difference and adopted these issues as the cornerstone of the Fund's proactive initiatives. These issue areas include 1) behavioral health, with emphasis on children and seniors 2) healthy aging and 3) nutrition and healthy lifestyles, focusing on children.

In addition to the three issue areas, the MHEF Board has identified two cross-cutting goals which should be incorporated into Proactive Grantmaking.

1. Build, extend, and strengthen workforce capacity through:
  - Training and development for clinicians, program staff, and informal caregivers; and
  - Innovative and cost-effective approaches to improve the physical and mental health of children and seniors in Michigan.
2. Develop and expand innovative and cost-effective integration models that coordinate care, services, and community resources in ways that promote the health of children and seniors in Michigan.

### RESPONSIVE GRANTMAKING

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The intention of the Fund's responsive grantmaking is to allow for meaningful investment in promising endeavors that align with MHEF's mission and guiding principles and that fall outside the scope of the Fund's proactive issue areas. Resources budgeted for responsive grantmaking will enable the Fund to respond to important community needs where one-time grants could leverage long-term impact, and to be opportunistic in responding to important health issues within Michigan.

## B. BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Many experts make the case that it is impossible to tackle health issues without also tackling behavioral health. For both children and seniors, barriers to detection and treatment of mental illness and substance use disorders can include a lack of available specialists, insurance restrictions, uncoordinated delivery of services, and stigma.

People with mental and substance use disorders, on average, die decades earlier than individuals without these conditions. Many of these deaths are related to untreated chronic illnesses including hypertension, diabetes and obesity. Individuals with multiple chronic health conditions often face many barriers to accessing services, including challenges in navigating the complexity of the healthcare system. Integration of mental health, substance use disorder,

primary care and other supports has proven to be an effective strategy to care for individuals with complex healthcare needs.

The aim of this proactive behavioral health initiative is to improve access to high quality, person-centered and integrated mental health and substance use disorder services for Michigan residents. In order to achieve these improvements, the Michigan Health Endowment Fund seeks to support the implementation of strategies and service models to improve prevention, early identification and intervention, and treatment of mental health and substance use disorders, with an emphasis on children and older adults.

The Fund is seeking proposals from qualifying non-profit organizations and public agencies that support a number of categories including;

- Implementation of innovative care delivery models that are evidence based, emerging or promising practices.
- Expansion of models that support integration of mental health, substance use disorder and primary care including integration at the point of care, sharing of health information among providers and cross training of providers.
- Proposals that utilize technology to improve access or quality of care,
- Strategies to expand access to integrated services for high risk children, including children in foster care,
- New strategies to address workforce challenges.

The Fund expects that all funded projects will be based on the principles of recovery, inclusion and freedom of choice.

All proposals should identify a clear path to long term sustainability, including but not limited to, strategies that seek to inform public policy.

Proposals must incorporate at least one of the [two cross-cutting goals](#) established by the MHEF Board.

In addition, proposals must fit most or all of the criteria identified under [Section D. Use of Funds](#).

2016 MENTAL HEALTH GRANT TIMELINE	
March 28, 2016	MHEF Grant Portal opened for applicants
May 16, 2016	Applications Due by 5 p.m.
July 28, 2016	Awards Announced
July 28-August 5, 2016	Grants Processed
August 1, 2016	Grantee Program Implementation Begins

## C. ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible to apply for a grant under this program, a nonprofit organization must:

- Be recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a nonprofit organization,
- Be based in Michigan,
- Have a current certified financial audit, and
- Have at least 1 FTE.

Local units of government and the State of Michigan are also eligible to apply.

## D. USE OF FUNDS

PROPOSALS THAT FIT MOST OR ALL OF THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA WILL BE GIVEN PREFERENCE:

- Have strong potential to achieve significant long-term impact by implementing effective models or supporting needed innovation
- Incorporate viable plans for long-term sustainability,
- Aim to improve health outcomes and reduce health costs
- Offer opportunities for collaboration and other forms of leverage
- Address underlying social and root causes of poor health
- Focus on groups, populations, or communities that face disproportionate barriers to improved health
- Support person centered care and engage and empower individuals and communities to take an active role in creating a culture of health
- Offer opportunities for learning and knowledge dissemination
- Offer opportunities to inform public policy

THE FOLLOWING ARE EXCLUDED FROM FUNDING CONSIDERATION:

- Needs relating to health-related emergencies (though MHEF might in some situations consider support to address longer-term rebuilding or other needs following emergency situations)
- Clinical research
- Most capital projects (though certain exceptions will be considered)
- Ongoing program operations and staffing
- Loans
- Litigation
- Lobbying activities
- Organizations which discriminate because of age, race, ethnic origin, religion, sexual orientation, handicap or sex.

## E. GRANT SIZE

MHEF expects to award grants ranging from a minimum of \$200,000 to a maximum of \$500,000. An organization may not apply for a grant that is larger than 20% of its annual operating budget.

MHEF expects the Mental Health Grant program to be very competitive. The Fund anticipates awarding 8-12 grants in this program with an average grant size of \$400,000.

## F. EVALUATION CRITERIA

The Health Fund will use the following criteria in evaluating applications:

- The extent to which the proposed project fits the mission, strategies and goals of the Michigan Health Endowment Fund,
- The potential for the proposed project to have a measurable impact in improving health,
- The ability of the proposed project to address an unmet need,
- The potential for the project to be sustainable after the end of the grant period, if appropriate,
- The applicant's demonstration of collaboration including leveraging of other resources,
- The potential for replication in other settings, including opportunities for learning, knowledge dissemination and to inform public policy,

All grant decisions are the sole responsibility of the MHEF Board of Directors.

MHEF expects these will be one-year grants which may be renewable for up to one additional year, based on the project type and progress toward annual goals.

## G. REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must agree to:

- Identify the Health Fund as the source of funding in any program communications.
- Set specific outcomes for the proposed program, monitor progress toward achieving expected outcomes and report progress on regular basis to MHEF.
- Participate in any data collection and evaluation activities conducted by the Health Fund and its contractors.
- Participate in grantee gatherings and other activities that support dissemination of knowledge.

## H. APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications must be submitted electronically through the MHEF website using the MHEF Grant Portal – click [here](#).

Using Google Chrome, applicants will first be required to [create an account](#). It may take 48-72 hours for your account to be approved. Once approved, you will receive log-in credentials via email.

Once you have an account with Fluxx, please login and select “Home Page.” Then, scroll down to “New Application.” All application questions are listed within the RFP.

While the online Fluxx grant management system does not have a word limit function, we respectfully request that applicants keep the total narrative within the equivalent of 12 pages (for example, if the narrative were in word, using standard 12-point type and one inch margins).

### APPLICANTS WILL BE ASKED TO PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

1. Description of the community or region intended to be served and the demographics of the population, including the number of individuals who will be impacted
2. Documentation of the defined needs within the target population
3. Description of how and with whom the organization will collaborate on this specific project
4. Description of the specific activities proposed and how the activities will impact health status including a project plan with measurable objectives, key activities and timeframes
5. Description of the short and long-term impacts of the proposal and how these impacts will be measured
6. Description of how the proposed activities will be sustained after the grant period
7. A budget that describes costs by category including staffing, supplies, travel, contracts, administration, etc. as well as in-kind support and any other program revenue
8. Summary of the applicant organization’s history and experience addressing health issues
9. Cover letter signed by the President of the applying organization
10. Copy of the current IRS determination letter indicating 501(C)(3) tax-exempt status
11. List of Board of Directors with Affiliations
12. Organization’s current annual operating budget, including expenses and revenue
13. Organization’s most recent annual financial audit
14. Organizational chart, including board and staff

## FURTHER QUESTIONS

For more information, a [Frequently Asked Questions](#) page has been developed. We encourage you to read this document and to check back periodically.

**If you have further questions after reading the FAQs**, please contact MHEF staff at [info@mhealthfund.com](mailto:info@mhealthfund.com) or by phone by calling (517) 374-0031.