

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Michigan Health Endowment Fund awards \$5.3 million to community health initiatives**

**LANSING, Mich.** – The Michigan Health Endowment Fund (Health Fund) announced today that it will support 70 health projects and capacity building efforts across the state with a total of \$5.3 million in new investments. Nonprofits, universities, and government agencies statewide will receive grants ranging from \$15,600 to \$100,000 under the Health Fund’s Community Health Impact grant program. (See a full list of grant recipients at the bottom of this release.)

“This program is about supporting the health of Michigan communities, collaborating around improved access to services, and building organizational capacities,” said Megan Murphy, senior program officer. “We can’t wait to see how these organizations help move their communities toward more sustainable health outcomes.”

Many of the selected projects respond to the Health Fund’s focus areas of increasing access to healthy food, wellness and fitness programs, and mental health services. Nearly all of them will serve the Health Fund’s target populations of children and older adults.

For example, in Kalamazoo County, the Health Fund is joining a collaborative of funders to support an Autism Alliance of Michigan pilot project that will expand care for children with autism who have experienced psychiatric crises. Another grant will help the Detroit Area Agency on Aging and Southeastern Michigan food access organizations coordinate and integrate food delivery services for older adults, during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond.

New to the program this year are the 18 grants that are funding capacity building efforts. These cover one-time internal expenses that will improve the effectiveness and sustainability of the

organizations' work, such as enhancements in evaluation, technology, and diversity, equity, and inclusion. For these grants, the Health Fund prioritized health-focused organizations with operating budgets under \$5 million.

"If we want to see the health of our state improve, we need to do our part to ensure the organizations working on those issues are able to reach their full potential," Murphy said.

Many aspects of community health have been negatively impacted by the pandemic, making these projects especially vital.

"So many of these initiatives—increasing food access, support for older adults, mental health treatment, and more—are responding to needs that have been heightened by the current health crisis," explained Health Fund CEO Paul Hillegonds. "We're inspired by our grant partners' shared commitment to the health of Michigan residents during this difficult time."

### **About the Health Fund**

The Michigan Health Endowment Fund works to improve the health and wellness of Michigan residents and reduce the cost of healthcare, with a special focus on children and older adults. The foundation has five annual grant programs. For more information about the Health Fund and its grantmaking, visit [mihealthfund.org](https://mihealthfund.org).

Here is the full list of grant awards:

### **COMMUNITY HEALTH IMPACT PROJECTS**

- 1. Allen Neighborhood Center**  
*Access to Healthy Food for Refugees* | Lansing | \$36,125
- 2. Alpena Area Senior Citizens Council, Inc.**  
*Alpena Empowered Movement Program* | Alpena County | \$100,000
- 3. American Cancer Society – NCR**  
*FoodFit of Macomb County* | Macomb County | \$81,620
- 4. Arbor Circle**  
*Keep Early Education Positive (KEEP)* | Kent County | \$99,048
- 5. Arbor Circle**  
*Medically Fragile Foster Care - Analysis and Planning* | Southwest Michigan | \$62,677
- 6. Autism Alliance of Michigan**  
*Addressing Psychiatric Boarding of ASD Patients in EDs* | Kalamazoo County | \$100,000

- 7. Bethany Housing Ministries, Inc d.b.a Community Encompass**  
*Muskegon Prescribes Food For Health* | Muskegon County | \$100,000
- 8. Bronson Health Foundation**  
*Bronson CenteringPregnancy* | Kalamazoo County | \$31,750
- 9. Calvin University**  
*Addressing Stigma: Lay Ambassadors for Mental Health* | Grand Rapids | \$99,950
- 10. Chaldean Community Foundation**  
*The Fun & Fit Health Program* | Macomb and Oakland Counties | \$90,425
- 11. Child & Family Services of Northwestern Michigan**  
*Reducing Barriers to Mental Health Care for Foster Children and Families* | Northwest Michigan | \$100,000
- 12. Child and Family Charities**  
*Mid-Michigan Trauma Collaborative* | Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham Counties | \$50,000
- 13. City of Dearborn**  
*Dearborn PIPERS* | Dearborn | \$95,990
- 14. Covenant Community Care, Inc.**  
*Shared Mobility for Patients in Northwest Detroit* | Detroit | \$70,180
- 15. Detroit Area Agency on Aging**  
*Coordinated Food Delivery Systems* | Detroit | \$100,000
- 16. Detroit Educational Television Foundation**  
*PBS Healthy Kids: Preschool Partnership Initiative* | Wayne and Monroe Counties | \$90,000
- 17. District Health Department #10**  
*Live Well For Your Heart* | Missaukee and Wexford Counties | \$100,000
- 18. Downtown Boxing Gym Youth Program**  
*Seeded at the Table* | Detroit | \$85,000
- 19. Eastern Michigan University**  
*The SOCIAL Partnership* | Wayne and Washtenaw Counties | \$100,000
- 20. Grand Rapids African American Health Institute**  
*Closer to Care* | Kent County | \$89,420
- 21. Greater Detroit Area Health Council**  
*I Choose Health Expansion Project* | Macomb County | \$99,764
- 22. Health Department of Northwest Michigan**  
*Integrating School Mindfulness Education District-Wide* | Emmet County School Districts | \$100,000
- 23. Heart of West Michigan United Way**  
*Birth Equity Through Doulas of Color* | Kent County | \$100,000
- 24. Henry Ford Health System**  
*Building a Base of Evidence for Fresh Prescription* | Detroit | \$100,000
- 25. Jewish Family Services of Washtenaw County**  
*Video Based eVolunteering* | Washtenaw County | \$100,000

- 26. Keweenaw Bay Indian Community**  
*Debweyendan (“believe in it”) Indigenous Gardens (DIGs) | Baraga, Houghton, Keweenaw, and Ontonagon Counties | \$100,000*
- 27. Kids Kicking Cancer**  
*Trauma in Transition | Southeast Michigan | \$100,000*
- 28. Lutheran Child and Family Services of Michigan Inc., D.B.A. Wellspring Lutheran Services**  
*Wellspring Recovery High School | Southeast Michigan | \$100,000*
- 29. Lutheran Homes of Michigan, D.B.A. Wellspring Lutheran Services**  
*Geriatric Substance Abuse Recovery Program (WSARP) | Wayne, Oakland, and Washtenaw Counties | \$100,000*
- 30. Michigan Chapter of the National Children’s Alliance**  
*Increasing Treatment Options for Child Victims | Statewide | \$81,116*
- 31. Michigan Council for Maternal and Child Health**  
*Michigan Model for Health Website Update | Statewide | \$64,920*
- 32. Michigan Department of Health and Human Services**  
*Transportation Resources to Medicaid Beneficiaries | Statewide | \$100,000*
- 33. Michigan Public Health Institute**  
*Birth Detroit Easy Access Clinic | Northwest Detroit | \$100,000*
- 34. Michigan State University**  
*College Students as Family Caregivers | Ingham and Washtenaw Counties | \$99,921*
- 35. MidMichigan Health Foundation**  
*Go Thrive! | Ogemaw, Gladwin, Iosco, Roscommon, Arenac, Oscoda, and Clare Counties | \$100,000*
- 36. Our Kitchen Table**  
*Educate to Elevate | Grand Rapids | \$24,050*
- 37. Pediatric Foundation of Michigan**  
*Adolescent Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Program | Kent, Washtenaw, Oakland, Genesee, Livingston and Ingham counties | \$89,143*
- 38. Personalized Nursing LIGHT House**  
*Extended Care Post discharge from Addiction Treatment | Wayne and Oakland Counties | \$83,886*
- 39. Porter Hills Foundation**  
*Dementia Training to Reduce Caregiver Stress and Burnout | Holland and Muskegon | \$100,000*
- 40. Project Healthy Community**  
*Fresh Prescriptions | Northwest Detroit | \$94,400*
- 41. Spectrum Health Foundation**  
*GREAT MOMs Expansion | Berrien, Kent, and Muskegon Counties | \$100,000*
- 42. Spectrum Health Lakeland Foundation**  
*Pop-Up Art & Wellness Center: Pop into Resilience | Berrien County | \$55,474*
- 43. Sturgis Area Community Foundation**  
*St. Joseph County Fresh Food Distribution | St. Joseph County | \$70,000*

- 44. Sylvester Broom Empowerment Village**  
*North Flint Nutrition Collaborative* | Flint | \$100,000
- 45. The Regents of the University of Michigan**  
*Pilot: Virtual, Peer-Led Trans Support Groups and Care* | Statewide | \$87,593
- 46. The Regents of the University of Michigan**  
*Pop-Up Safety Town: Injury Prevention for Head Start Kids* | Genesee, Hillsdale, Jackson, Lenawee, Livingston, Shiawassee, Washtenaw, and Wayne Counties | \$100,000
- 47. The Regents of the University of Michigan**  
*Reducing Mental Health Challenges with Race-Related Therapy* | Detroit | \$100,000
- 48. Washtenaw County Community Mental Health**  
*Young Adult Support Teams for those at High Risk for Suicide* | Washtenaw, Wayne, Livingston, Lenawee, Jackson, and Oakland counties | \$99,552
- 49. Wayne State University**  
*Preventing falls before they occur* | Southeast Michigan | \$100,000
- 50. Wayne State University**  
*Strengths-Based Supervision* | Wayne and Oakland Counties | \$100,000
- 51. West Midland Family Center**  
*Healthy Habits for Life* | Midland County | \$15,600
- 52. Western U.P. Health Department**  
*Preparing, Eating, and Choosing Healthy (PEACH)* | Baraga, Gogebic, Houghton, Keweenaw, and Ontonagon Counties | \$100,000

## **CAPACITY BUILDING PROJECTS**

- 1. Community Food Club**  
*Community Food Club Model Replication Project* | Grand Rapids, MI | \$50,000
- 2. Community Housing Network, Inc.**  
*Implementing a Trauma Informed Care Approach to Services* | Troy, MI | \$50,000
- 3. Ele's Place**  
*Increasing Evaluation Capacity* | Ann Arbor, Lansing, Flint, Grand Rapids, MI | \$50,000
- 4. Focus: HOPE**  
*Design Thinking for the Food Justice Program* | Detroit, MI | \$50,000
- 5. Food Gatherers**  
*Community Voices Project: Integrating Equity into Evaluation* | Ann Arbor, MI | \$47,000
- 6. Greater Midland**  
*Greater Midland: Growing our Sustainability* | Midland, MI | \$50,000
- 7. Health Net of West Michigan**  
*Building Capacity Through Development of Internal Expertise* | Grand Rapids, MI | \$50,000
- 8. Healthy Homes Coalition of West Michigan, Inc.**  
*SafeSpace: Environmental Health Home Screening Application* | Grand Rapids, MI | \$50,000

- 9. Holland Free Health Clinic**  
*Increasing Access to Healthcare through Intake Enhancements* | Holland, MI | \$20,000
- 10. Little Brothers—Friends of the Elderly**  
*Capacity Building for Donor Stewardship* | Hancock, MI | \$50,000
- 11. Michigan Breast Feeding Network (MIBFN)**  
*2020 MIBFN Network Meetings and Community* | Lansing, MI | \$50,000
- 12. Michigan Health Improvement Alliance**  
*Optimizing Evaluation Metrics of the THRIVE initiative* | Bay City, MI | \$49,995
- 13. Michigan Transportation Connection**  
*ConnectUP* | Lansing, MI | \$50,000
- 14. Mosaic Counseling**  
*Integrated Database System* | Grand Haven, MI | \$30,000
- 15. Roosevelt Park Neighborhood Association**  
*Capacity Building of César E. Chávez Farmers' Market* | Grand Rapids | \$25,000
- 16. ShareCare of Leelanau, Inc.**  
*The Costs and Benefits of Aging in Place* | Lake Leelanau | \$48,858
- 17. The Wayne County SAFE Program**  
*Improving Services for Survivors of Sexual Violence* | Detroit | \$50,000
- 18. Upper Peninsula Health Care Solutions**  
*UPHCS - Evaluation Capacity Building Project* | Marquette | \$38,155