

A. PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Since the beginning of the year, Michigan's nonprofit sector has faced drastic changes in the funding landscape. Many organizations have experienced sudden and significant cuts, causing disruptions, program cancellations, and concerns about staffing. These challenges could have long-term consequences for the health and wellbeing of our communities.

As these impacts become clearer, the Health Fund is launching a rapid response fund to provide one-time, short-term financial relief to current Health Fund grantees to address the immediate impact of public funding reductions. **We are prioritizing support through this fund for current grantees who have experienced an actual reduction or loss in public funding as a result of federal policy changes.**

The Health Fund recognizes each organization has individual, unique needs as they respond to funding reductions. We encourage organizations to request support based on those needs. Below are some examples of potential support, but this list is not exhaustive – we are intentionally being open-ended in the kinds of support we will consider.

- Bridge funding while awaiting new or restructured resources
 - **EXAMPLE:** If you have identified another source of funding to continue your program but are waiting on a funding decision, or if there will be a gap in funding sources, you may request bridge support.
- Costs related to service discontinuation or workforce reductions
 - **EXAMPLE:** If your Health Fund grant project utilized AmeriCorps VISTA workers and you do not have available funds to support those individuals' continued work on the program, you may use this fund to request salary support.
- Transitioning clients to new providers or services
 - **EXAMPLE:** If your organization is referring clients to other organizations or you are identifying a new partner to provide services, you may request support from this fund to cover transition costs.
- Costs associated with nonprofit mergers and collaborations to sustain programs
 - **NOTE:** Mergers or collaborations should be in response to recent funding reductions. Support for other mergers or collaborations will be considered under our existing [Capacity Building grant initiatives](#).

We will prioritize requests that are critical to the implementation of an organization's existing grant with the Health Fund and/or have a direct connection to the Health Fund's [strategic priorities](#).

Please note: As with our other grant programs, the Health Fund cannot support litigation, lobbying activities, or other strategic defense funds. We also cannot support capital projects or make loans.

B. ELIGIBILITY AND GRANT AMOUNT

ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must be a current grantee with an active Health Fund grant at the time the application for this fund is received. Applications must be submitted by the entity that received and is administering the grant. Organizations may not receive more than one rapid response grant. Receiving a rapid response grant does not prevent you from applying to or receiving an award from another Health Fund grant program.

Applicants must provide formal documentation of a loss or reduction in funding since **January 1, 2025**.

Priority will be given to organizations who have limited financial resources to fill funding losses or support strategic shifts as a result of funding reductions. Larger organizations or those with capacity to implement work through discretionary dollars are less likely to be funded through this initiative.

GRANT AMOUNT

Applicants may request up to \$75,000. Grants are intended to offer one-time, short-term financial relief, and we expect most funds would be spent within 12 months of award.

The Health Fund recognizes the importance of supporting indirect expenses. Applicant organizations with annual operating budgets less than \$10 million may request indirect costs up to 30% of the total grant budget. Applicant organizations with annual operating budgets at or above \$10 million may request indirect costs up to 20% of the total grant budget. We encourage applicants to request the maximum amount available to their organizations to support those costs.

The percentage is based on the primary applicant's operating budget size. The indirect cost line item should include indirect costs for all project partners.

C. APPLICATION & REVIEW PROCESS

APPLICATIONS

Applications must be submitted electronically through the Health Fund website [using the grants portal](#). Proposals will be accepted on a rolling basis until funds are exhausted. We anticipate awarding up to \$1 million in grants through this fund.

REVIEW PROCESS

Recognizing the urgent need for these funds, we aim to review proposals and provide a funding decision within two weeks. Requests will be reviewed by Health Fund staff, though the Health Fund may confidentially share proposals with external reviewers and other partners.

D. MORE INFORMATION AND FURTHER QUESTIONS

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 seniors.

For more information on our grantmaking, view our [Frequently Asked Questions](#).

If you have further questions, please email grants@mihealthfund.org.