

# MICHIGAN HEALTH ENDOWMENT FUND

## COMMUNITY HEALTH IMPACT FOCUS AREA DEFINITIONS AND EXAMPLES

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### ACCESS TO HEALTHY FOOD

Lack of physical activity, poor nutrition, and childhood obesity are major concerns in communities throughout Michigan and across the United States. Research shows obese children are more likely to be at risk of heart disease, Type 2 diabetes, bone and joint problems, depression, and other health problems. The Michigan Health Endowment Fund seeks to improve significant health obstacles facing the children of Michigan, including access to healthy foods, nutrition education and fitness programs.

#### Project Example

The Michigan Environmental Council's **CSA Shares as a Healthy Food Delivery Model for Vulnerable Families** is completing the second year of a "proof of concept" pilot phase testing free Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) shares as a delivery model for increasing fruit and vegetable consumption by vulnerable Michigan families who live in communities with limited healthy food offerings and face high rates of hunger and obesity.



### BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

Behavioral health is crucial to physical health and overall wellness, yet tremendous barriers to treatment remain. Challenges like a lack of providers, insurance restrictions, stigma, and uncoordinated delivery of services mean that too many suffer without appropriate care. To effectively treat individuals with complex healthcare needs we must break down silos and integrate behavioral healthcare with primary care and other community-based supports.

#### Project Example

The University of Michigan's project **Creating a Network of Trauma-Informed Care for Young Children in Michigan** seeks to develop a state network of providers trained in Child Parent Psychotherapy (CPP), an evidence-based program for the treatment of trauma in young children.



## FOODBORNE ILLNESS PREVENTION

Preventable foodborne illnesses continue to sicken thousands of people daily and severely affect children, elderly and sick individuals. The Fund seeks proposals aimed at reducing foodborne illnesses, particularly among these vulnerable populations.

### Project Example

Michigan State University's **Safe Foods = Healthy Kids** project's goal is to reduce the incidence of foodborne illness in children and the accompanying health disparities through educational efforts focused on child care providers. Michigan State University (MSU) Extension will employ a dual engagement method that educates child care providers using a person-centered direct education approach to promote safe food handling, as well as technology tools that offer extended education methods, thus reducing healthcare costs associated with foodborne illness.



## HEALTH-RELATED TRANSPORTATION

Transportation barriers often prevent individuals from receiving necessary medical and behavioral health services. The Fund seeks innovative and collaborative approaches to addressing transportation barriers in local communities.

### Project Example

Wayne State University's **BusME: An e-Health Platform to Reduce Pediatric Health Disparities by Improving Public Transportation Access in Detroit** is a phone application that low-income patients and their health care providers can use to coordinate health care appointments with the schedules of public transportation options and thus help increase the number of patients who are able to keep their appointments. Quality Improvement (QI) approaches will be used to assess the success of BusMe.



## HEALTH SERVICES FOR FOSTER AND ADOPTED CHILDREN

Foster and adopted children face unique health related needs, often times including a need for mental health and trauma informed services. The Fund seeks to improve access to high quality, integrated health services and supports for foster and adopted children.

### Project Example

The Judson Center's project **Establishing Psychiatric Services through a Tele Psychiatry Program** is creating a continuity of care for children, with a special focus on children in foster care by creating a new mental health program as part of their child welfare office in Wayne County that provides psychiatric services including: assessment, medication review, crisis intervention and care by utilizing telecommunications technology (videoconferencing), commonly called Tele Psychiatry.



## INFANT MORTALITY

Michigan continues to experience one of the highest infant mortality rates in the nation. The Health Fund seeks to support implementation of effective strategies to reduce infant mortality, including strategies identified in the State of Michigan's 2016-2019 Infant Mortality Reduction Plan.

### Project Example

The goal of the *Southeastern Michigan Health Association's* project **SisterFriends: The Detroit Birthing Project** is to create a volunteer-driven movement that is owned and sustained by the community to improve birth outcomes among African American women.



## TECHNOLOGY ENHANCEMENTS

Technology innovation in healthcare continues to grow and plays a significant role in delivery of care. The Fund seeks proposals to improve health through adoption of new technologies such as remote monitoring tools, telehealth, enhancements to health information exchange and other technology innovations.

### Project Example

*ReThinking Dementia: Accelerating Change's* **mHealth Dementia Project** created an interactive free app focused on dementia-related diseases that community organizations, providers, patients, and caregivers dealing with this issue can utilize.



## WELLNESS AND FITNESS

Many chronic diseases can be prevented by improving wellness and engaging in physical activity. The Fund seeks proposals to improve the health of Michigan communities through the implementation of fitness and wellness programs, targeted at children and seniors.

### Project Example

*The Tolfree Foundation's* **Go Outside!** project's goal is to address the epidemic of childhood obesity among low-income children in rural Michigan, by creating a community-based prevention program designed for children, that educates, motivates and instills in them healthy lifestyle behaviors - making the healthy choice an easy choice.