ABOUT THE HEALTH FUND

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.

ESTABLISHED

2013, Public Act 4

ANNUAL GIVING

Over $35 million

BEYOND GRANTMAKING

Partnership and collaboration
Capacity building for health nonprofits
Engaging and informing leaders
OUR FIVE-YEAR GOALS

1. Increase access to services
2. Bridge health equity gaps
3. Advance integrated care
4. Expand role as a thought leader
5. Increase efficacy and cost-effectiveness
6. Strengthen health workforce and nonprofit community
## Grantmaking Overview

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Grant Range</th>
<th>Cycle Opens</th>
<th>Awards</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Behavioral Health</td>
<td>Up to $500,000</td>
<td>Winter</td>
<td>September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutrition &amp; Healthy Lifestyles</td>
<td>Up to $500,000</td>
<td>Winter</td>
<td>September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthy Aging</td>
<td>Up to $500,000</td>
<td>Summer</td>
<td>November</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Health Impact</td>
<td>Up to $150,000</td>
<td>Rolling</td>
<td>May, November</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capacity Building</td>
<td>Up to $150,000</td>
<td>Rolling</td>
<td>May, November</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Projects &amp; Emerging Ideas</td>
<td>Up to $500,000</td>
<td>Summer, by invitation</td>
<td>November</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maternal &amp; Infant Health</td>
<td>Up to $200,000</td>
<td>Winter</td>
<td>May</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CROSS-PROGRAM FOCUS AREAS

WORKFORCE
Develop innovative methods, new financing models or policies to improve the quality of care, increase job satisfaction, or reduce turnover rates
• 100+ grants since 2019
• Training, innovative care delivery models, use of technology to improve access, retention, etc.

HEALTH IT/TECHNOLOGY
Increasing understanding of the available technologies, benefits and barriers, and impact of use to improve access or improve care.
• 200+ grants since 2015
• Telehealth, IT systems/readiness, innovations in data collection and sharing, interoperability to improve care between providers, etc.
Nearly 100 grants in the rural health space across programs, with most focusing on outcomes related to improving access to care.

**MOBILITY**

- Collaboratives and adoption of technologies to improve access to health-related transportation.

**CONNECTIVITY**

- Telehealth access and addressing provider/patient readiness/capacity, broadband access, social connections to address social isolation/loneliness or other health issues.

**WORKFORCE**

- Provider training, sharing of best practices for recruitment, retention of workers in professions with shortages.
Non-Emergency Medical Transportation and Vulnerable Rural Elderly in Iosco County

• Funded in 2023, Healthy Aging

• Partnership between an Area Agency on Aging (Region 9) and a group of retired professionals.

• Produce a technical report on the impact of the lack of transportation options for older residents looking to access care in the region.
Baraga County Sheriff's Office/AveCare Partnership

- Funded in 2023, Behavioral Health
- Project gives instant access to a behavioral health professional for those who are having a crisis and who are interacting with law enforcement.
Partnership with the Michigan Health Council in 2022.

- Statewide workforce plan using data to coordinate activity across key partners and provide leadership across all activities in state, public and private (e.g., Michigan Center for Rural Health).

- Centered on data, inventory of initiatives, planning and creating briefings identifying gaps and solutions.

- [www.mhc.org/solutions](http://www.mhc.org/solutions)
The Health Fund and the Ethel & James Flinn Foundation engaged the Institute for Healthcare Policy and Innovation at the University of Michigan to conduct a wide-ranging study on trends and developments in the use of telehealth technology in Michigan.

- Released June 2023
- Insights on usage in relation to demographic information, insurance coverage, geography, broadband access, and more.
- mihealthfund.org/telehealth2023
KEY TAKEAWAYS

SOME LESSONS ON TELEHEALTH

• Understand needs and capabilities first
• Compliance is critical
• Compatibility matters
• Buy-in takes time and effort
• Upgrade technology

GRANTS DATABASE

www.mihealthfund.org/grant-database
FIND US  mihealthfund.org
QUESTIONS & ANSWERS
Telehealth in Rural Michigan

Chris McGovern, Director of Research Development at Connected Nation, Inc.
Connected Nation is a national nonprofit dedicated to expanding broadband access, adoption, and usage for improved quality of life.

- Network mapping, validation, and analysis
- Broadband and technology research
- Local, state, and national policy analysis and capacity building

**Who We Are**

**Access**
The physical connection to high-speed infrastructure

**Adoption**
Recognizing the value of broadband and subscribing either at home, work, or via public institutions

**Usage**
Skills and applications to leverage technology to improve quality of life and community/economic development
Our Work with the Michigan Health Endowment Fund

2020: Health Care from Anywhere: Telehealth Use and Perceptions in Rural Michigan

2021: Bringing Health Care Home: Telehealth Trends in Rural Michigan

2024: Building Telehealth Equity: Insights from the Sault Saint Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians

Present: Making Telehealth Available to Michigan’s Central U.P.
Lessons Learned

- Local partnerships are critical
- "Rural" is not a single place
- Rural residents are missing opportunities because they lack access to affordable high-speed internet service
- Health care providers have invested millions of dollars in their technology, but it won’t help if patients can’t (or won’t) access it
Concerns About Telehealth

48% Report being concerned about the privacy of their online data

42% Report being concerned about telehealth services costing more

39% Report being concerned about the quality of telehealth services
The majority of older Sault tribe members would (or might) use telehealth services if they were aware of them.

Only one-quarter of these same tribe members feel adequately informed about their telehealth options.
Our Response

- Public Service Announcements (PSAs) addressing patient concerns
- Sharing information with local health care providers
- Providing insights that have been used in grant applications
- Sharing best practices to close the digital health divide
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