

MICHIGAN HEALTH ENDOWMENT FUND

2017 HEALTHY AGING INITIATIVE

A. HEALTHY AGING PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Our population is aging. By 2030 one-in-four Michiganders will be over the age of 60, and the fastest growing age demographic is women over the age of 85. While people are living longer, more than 40 percent of older adults are overweight, 80 percent have at least one chronic condition, and nearly half of all individuals over the age of 85 have some form of dementia.

It is important that older adults are provided every opportunity to maintain or regain their independence so they can live the life they choose. Although a strong network of aging programs do exist, there is a need to better integrate services into the broader healthcare landscape. Neither the current service delivery systems or the healthcare workforce are equipped for an ever-increasing number of older adults.

The aim of this proactive healthy aging initiative is to improve access and availability of integrated, comprehensive services for older adults that are delivered in a person-centered way. In order to achieve these improvements, the Michigan Health Endowment Fund (Health Fund) seeks to support strategies and service delivery models that integrate aging services into other health systems; develop innovative approaches through technology or nontraditional partnerships; increase access to preventative services; and achieve improved health outcomes.

In order to be considered for a grant, applicants must address at least one of the Health Fund's two cross-cutting goals:

1. Build, extend, and strengthen **workforce** capacity through training and development for clinicians, program staff, and informal caregivers.
2. Develop and expand innovative and cost-effective **integration** models that coordinate care, services, and resources to promote the health of older adults in Michigan.

Workforce: The Health Fund is specifically interested in proposals to implement new approaches that not only build, but also strengthen and expand the health workforce as it relates to older adults. This may include new models of team based care, approaches to more effectively utilize providers or staff, or other approaches to expand a diverse and talented workforce.

Proposals addressing workforce challenges may support a number of categories including:

- Strategies to support caregivers, particularly individuals caring for someone with a cognitive impairment.
- Strengthen the training and capacity of healthcare and social service providers to recognize and engage family caregivers.
- Develop new approaches to train and/or utilize existing staff.
- New strategies to address workforce challenges.

Integration: The Health Fund is specifically interested in models that systematically integrate aging services, medical care providers and other nontraditional partners to meet all of a person's health needs, no matter where they seek care.

Proposals addressing service integration may support a number of categories including:

- Implementation of innovative service delivery models that are evidence-based, emerging, or promising practices. This could include a pilot program in a targeted region or have statewide impact.
- Expansion of models that support integration of aging services and primary care including integration at the point of care, sharing of health information, and cross-training of providers.
- Proposals that utilize technology to improve access or quality of care.
- Innovative ways to improve health outcomes and promote independence.

In order to be considered for funding, all proposals must identify **measurable health outcomes**, with the understanding that all outcomes may not be achieved within the grant period. These outcomes are specific to your program or project but should be related to the grant objectives of workforce capacity and integration. Potential grantees should be prepared to answer the following questions:

- What are the expected impacts and outcomes of your proposed initiative?
- Which program activities support achievement of the expected impacts and outcomes?
- How will the impacts or outcomes be measured (include the data source)?
- Which of the Health Fund goals does this impact support?

The Health Fund is also interested in initiatives that have the ability to reduce the cost of healthcare. If applicable, applicants will be asked to explain if the initiative may have any potential or actual healthcare cost savings.

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

RESOURCES THAT MAY BE OF ASSISTANCE TO APPLICANTS

The Health Fund has identified the following resources which may be useful tools for applicants to consider in the development of proposals. This is not an exhaustive list and is intended as a sample:

- [Families Caring for an Aging America](#)
- [Growing Older: Providing Integrated Care for an Aging Population](#)
- [Perspectives: Measuring What Really Matters](#)
- [The Playbook: Better Care for People with Complex Needs](#)
- [Priority Setting for Healthcare Performance Measurement: Addressing Performance Measure Gaps in Care Coordination](#)
- [A Standard Framework For Levels of Integrated Healthcare](#)

2017 HEALTHY AGING GRANT TIMELINE

June 20, 2017	Grantee Portal opened for applicants
July 20, 2017	Concept papers due by 5 p.m. (optional)*
August 8, 2017	Applications Due by 5 p.m.
November 2, 2017	Awards Announced
November 9, 2017	Grants Processed

**More information about concept papers can be found in Section E of this RFP.*

B. ELIGIBILITY AND CRITERIA

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.

IN ORDER TO BE CONSIDERED FOR A GRANT, A PROPOSAL MUST:

- **Support new or enhanced programs or strategies.** Proposals will not be considered if funds would be used to maintain an existing program or used solely to fill a budget gap for current services.
- **Identify a clear path to long-term sustainability.** Applicants must demonstrate how the grant activities would be sustained outside the grant period. This could include strategies that seek to inform public policy.

- **Incorporate at least one of the Health Fund’s two cross-cutting goals:**
 - 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 health of older adults in Michigan.
 - Develop and expand innovative and cost-effective **integration** models that coordinate care, services, and community resources in ways that promote the health of older adults in Michigan.

THE FOLLOWING ARE EXCLUDED FROM FUNDING CONSIDERATION:

- Health-related emergencies (the Health Fund may consider providing support that addresses longer-term rebuilding or other needs following emergency situations);
- Clinical research;
- Capital projects;
- Ongoing program operations and staffing;
- Loans;
- Litigation;
- Lobbying activities; and
- Organizations that discriminate because of age, race, ethnic origin, religion, sexual orientation, disability or gender.

C. GRANT AMOUNT

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

No more than 10% of the total grant budget may be allocated to indirect/administrative costs.

You may apply for a one or two-year grant, but the total request is limited to \$500,000. Please be sure to clearly identify your funding requests per year in your proposal.

The Health Fund anticipates awarding a total of \$5,000,000 for this grant round.

D. EVALUATION CRITERIA

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

- The extent to which the proposed project aligns with the **mission, strategies, and goals** of the Health Fund;
- A proposal has a strong potential to achieve significant **long-term impact** by implementing effective models or supporting needed innovation;
- The proposed project will have a **measurable impact** in improving health;
- The ability of the proposed project to address an **unmet need** and focus on populations that face disproportionate barriers to improved health;
- The potential for the project to be **sustainable** after the end of the grant period;
- The applicant's demonstration of **collaboration** including leveraging of other resources; and
- The potential for **replication** in other settings, including opportunities for learning, **knowledge dissemination**, and to inform **public policy**.

The Health Fund Board of Directors has sole responsibility for all grant decisions.

E. APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications must be submitted electronically through the Health Fund website using the Grantee 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 login credentials via email.

While the grantee portal does not have a word limit function, we require applicants to keep the total narrative within the equivalent of 10 pages (for example, if the narrative were in Word, using standard 12-point type and one inch margins). Please note: the work plan does not count toward the 10-page limit.

The Health Fund welcomes concept paper submissions of up to 2 pages for review and feedback prior to submission. If you decide to send a concept paper, please address the following:

- Brief overview of the initiative, including proposed impact.
- The cross-cutting goal you plan to address.
- Key collaborative partners.
- Information about sustainability.
- Draft budget.

Concept papers should be sent to kari@mhealthfund.com and must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. on **Thursday, July 20, 2017**.

Full Proposals must be received by 5:00 p.m on **Tuesday, August 8, 2017**.

APPLICANTS WILL BE ASKED TO PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

- An executive summary of your proposed grant activities including the outcomes you hope to achieve. This should include a description of what success would look like at the end of the grant.
- The communities or geographic region(s) this project intends to target.
- Brief summary of how this project aligns with your mission and organizational priorities.
- What health problem(s), challenge(s) or need(s) do you propose to address? Provide documentation of the defined need(s) within the target population and the number of individuals who will be impacted by the proposed activities.
- What are the expected impacts, along with short-term and long-term outcomes of your proposed initiative?
- Does your project lead to any potential or actual healthcare cost savings?
- Describe how and with whom the organization will collaborate on this project.
- Provide a work plan (template provided) that describes the specific activities you propose to conduct and how these activities will impact the target population.
- Which of the Health Fund's two cross-cutting goals does this project address?
- Provide a brief (one to two sentence) explanation of how you will define "workforce" and / or "integration" for this initiative.
- How can the project potentially be useful for other organizations or to impact healthcare delivery or policy?
- Describe how the proposed activities will be sustained after the grant period.
- A budget that describes costs by category.

Required attachments:

- A cover letter signed by the President of the applying organization.
- A copy of the current IRS determination letter indicating 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status.
- List of Board of Directors with affiliations.
- Finances:
 - Organization's current annual operating budget, including expenses and revenue.
 - Most recent annual financial statement (independently audited, if available).
- Letters of support should verify project need and collaboration with other organizations. (Optional)
- Annual report, if available.
- Organizational chart, including board and staff.

F. GRANTEE OBLIGATIONS

If awarded, applicants must agree to:

- Identify the Michigan Health Endowment 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 a regular basis to the Health Fund;
 - Participate in any data collection and evaluation activities conducted by the Health Fund and its contractors; and
- Participate in grantee gatherings and other activities that support dissemination of knowledge.

G. 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 [Grantmaking at a Glance \[PDF\]](#) and [Frequently Asked Questions](#).

If you have further questions please contact the Health Fund staff at info@mhealthfund.com or by phone by calling (517) 374-0031.