

Michigan Department of
Health & Human Services

Michigan's Rural Health Transformation Project Proposal



Introduction

Michigan's vision is to create a resilient and innovative rural health system where every resident has access to high-quality care close to home.

The Rural Health Transformation (RHT) Program is part of H.R. 1, known as the One Big Beautiful Bill Act. This \$50 billion investment aims to increase access to rural health providers while improving outcomes for individuals living in rural communities. Michigan's proposal for these funds focuses on enhancing the long-term sustainability of rural providers while supporting their growth and continued service to their communities.

Project Goals



Establish sustainable partnerships that integrate health, human services, and community sectors across rural regions.



Increase access to primary, behavioral, and preventative care through a well-trained, supported workforce now and in the future.



Improve the use of technical innovations that promote increased efficiencies, health data sharing and real-time referral capacity among rural providers.



Advance rural health by reducing gaps in access to care and essential supportive care by implementing care models that keep residents close to home.



Demonstrate measurable improvements in community well-being, system efficiency, and patient experience.

Please Note: This document reflects MI's application for CMS' Rural Health Transformation Program. It is a proposed plan and subject to CMS review and approval.

TOTAL BUDGET REQUEST: \$1,000,000,000

Funds will be used to:



Support the development and strengthening of regional partnerships among rural hospitals, clinics, and community organizations to improve care coordination, align service delivery, expand access points, and promote financially sustainable care models.



Recruit and retain rural health professional, behavioral health providers, and community health workers. Funds will also promote prevention and chronic disease management training and integrated behavioral health care access.



Implement technology tools and advancing rural interoperability, including a rural technology catalyst fund to support expanding data exchange, and increasing adoption of telehealth, remote patient monitoring, and technology-driven care coordination tools.



Establish digital referral networks that connect residents to local care, prevention, and wellness resources needed to live healthy lives.

The **Rural Health Transformation Program** will be a collaborative effort that brings together partners across sectors to strengthen rural health systems. Working together is essential to share expertise, coordinate resources, and make sure activities meet the unique needs of rural communities. Subrecipients/sub-awardees include local health departments, rural health clinics, Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), hospitals, community-based organizations, universities, tribal governments, and other critical rural health partners (to be identified through a competitive subaward process).