



August 2024

Welcome to the latest edition of our SDOH newsletter. Our newsletter aims to provide you with updates on the initiatives and progress within this current phase, along with relevant partner updates, with the goal of fostering transparency and creating space for meaningful collaboration.

Phase III of the SDOH Strategy, which launched in January 2024, represents a significant progression in our commitment to holistic well-being. Building on the foundational achievements of Phase I, which prioritized critical areas such as food security, housing stability, and health equity, we now advance our efforts. Our latest phase synthesizes insights gained from our earlier efforts, incorporates feedback from Michigan's diverse partners, and employs a collaborative, community-driven approach to address emerging challenges.

[Click here to learn more about Phase III of the SDOH strategy.](#)

SDOH Strategy Phase III Updates



Quarter 3 of the Good Housing = Good Health Program

In Quarter 3, April 1 – June 30, 2024, the Good Housing = Good Health (GH2) program served over 4000 eligible households, linking families to housing and SDOH resources. Local health partners are addressing housing conditions through diverse partnerships and proactive community engagement. Communities are implementing SDOH screenings, combined with case management services, have helped many families stabilize housing situations through eviction prevention, shelter diversion, and temporary housing solutions. Efforts are also underway to enhance access to medical respite care and combat illegal housing practices to protect tenant's rights.

Community Health Workers (CHW) are working alongside community partners to address housing and health disparities. As housing navigators, CHWs are meeting a wide range of housing needs through resource navigation and advocacy. Local health partners and CHWs dedicated 1900+ hours to community outreach, helping to find basic necessities and fill service gaps, underscoring their vital role in connecting communities to essential services.

Community information exchange (CIE) efforts focused on assessing readiness, enhancing data exchange, and resource sharing. Partnerships with 211 and United Way facilitated the development of universal referral forms, SDOH screening tools, and resource portals. Notable initiatives include:

- **Mobile App:** Assisting unhoused families access services through the shelter system.
- **Housing Control Center:** Tracking real-time inventory on available low-moderate income housing units available in the community.
- **60-day CIE Pilot:** A HUB for all housing referrals, helping to identify both stable and unstable housing resources in the community.

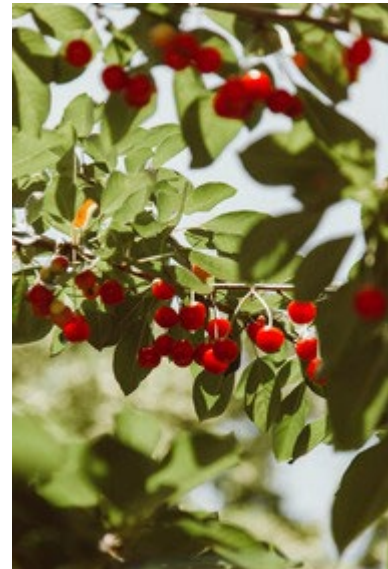
Cross-sector partnerships have been instrumental in advancing housing stability, leading to 478 new or expanded partnerships with housing and SDOH stakeholders this quarter. Communities are hosting educational and listening sessions to better understand needs and promote available housing resources.

Local health partners remain committed to improving housing stability and fostering equitable communities through trusted relationships and innovative solutions.

Produce Prescription Pilot Program Update

August marks the second month of Reporting Period #2 for the Produce Prescription Pilot Program (P4). P4 Project FY24-25 tribal partners include: [Bay Mills Indian Community](#), [Hannahville Indian Community](#), [Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi](#), and [Pokagon Band of Potawatomi](#).

P4 partners meet regularly throughout the grant period to strengthen relationships and inspire collaboration within the cohort. P4 Project FY24-25 status meetings will be quarterly; the first of these six status meetings took place on July 31, 2024. Status meetings provide an opportunity to come together as a cohort to share successes, barriers, and other P4-related achievements in a welcoming and dynamic environment.



Here are current updates from the P4 tribal partners:

- Bay Mills has successfully hired a Project Coordinator for their P4 efforts; the position will oversee P4 Project planning efforts and various Food Sovereignty programming initiatives throughout the Bay Mills community.
- Hannahville provided new raised garden beds for the elders in their community—beds were assembled and refurbished by volunteers from the local sober-living facility to ensure Hannahville elders had clean gardens in which to grow their summer herbs and produce
- Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi, NHBP, continues to focus P4 programming efforts on their Pine Creek Farm (PCF); stickers have been created using

the PCB's Barn mural design to promote their Food Sovereignty efforts and amplify their messaging.

- Pokagon Band hosted a Fathers' Dinner with program education materials targeted to community Dads; Food diaries, divided plates, and appropriately-sized cups were utilized to promote education on portion sizes and nutrition facts.



SDOH Hub Update

SDOH Hub pilot sites continue to make progress in implementing a broad scope of activities to address SDOH and advance health equity in their communities. Partners are starting to prepare for the next phase of implementation, beginning on October 1, by working together to align efforts and identify priorities for fiscal year 2025.

The SDOH Hubs Learning Community convened for their third meeting on July 9 to discuss efforts to implement Community Information Exchange (CIE). Partners identified barriers, shared opportunities to address barriers, and highlighted successes. The next Learning Community meeting will take place in September. The SDOH Hubs Advisory Council will meet on August 22 to discuss health equity efforts and continue to develop recommendations for future iterations of the Hubs initiative.

Additionally, the MDHHS SDOH Hubs team is coordinating an in-person SDOH Hubs Gathering on September 6 to bring together Hub lead organizations, Advisory Council members, and community partners. The event will serve as an opportunity to connect with everyone to highlight the successes of the Hubs pilot and discuss the future of this work.

To learn more about the SDOH Hubs, including an overview of each hub site, please visit www.Michigan.gov/SDOH:

- [Cohort One Overview](#)
- [Cohort Two Overview](#)
- [Cohort Three Overview](#)



Community Health Worker Advisory Council Update

To support implementation of recommendations from the CHW Subcommittee, the MDHHS Office of Policy and Planning convenes the Community Health Workers Advisory Council (CHW-AC).

The most recent CHW-AC meeting was held on July 22, 2024, during which council members discussed various statewide CHW certification options with a special focus in organizational or program-based certification.

The 20-member Council will meet again on August 26, 2024, from 3:00 – 4:30 pm.



Corktown: LGBTQ+ Health and Social Services Disparities Request for Proposals

Along with multiple leading LGBTQ+ organizations across the state of Michigan, Corktown Health is please to announce a new funding opportunity focused on addressing health disparities within the LGBTQ+ community. This initiative follows their successful advocacy efforts to secure state budget funds dedicated to tackling the social determinants of LGBTQ+ health. Corktown invites LGBTQ+ mission-centric, non-profit community-based organizations to submit proposals that aim to:

- Identify and understand specific health disparities affecting LGBTQ+ individuals.
- Develop innovative interventions or programs to reduce these disparities.
- Promote inclusivity, equity, and culturally competent care.

Organizations can apply for an award between \$5,000 and \$49,999. The grant duration is from October 1, 2024, to April 30, 2025. The deadline to submit proposals is **August 22 by 11:59 pm**. Additional proposals may be accepted on a rolling basis until all funds are exhausted. Awards will be announced 30 days after submission. Click [here](#) to view the informational webinar on this Request for Proposals (RFP).

For more information about the RFP or to apply, visit Corktown Health's website at <http://corktownhealth.org/rfp>.

Michigan Racial Health Equity Think Tank (MiRHETT)

MDHHS recently announced a request for applications to participate in the Michigan Racial Health Equity Think Tank (MiRHETT). Supporting the Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) strategy, MiRHETT will better support the social care needs of marginalized and racially diverse Michiganders. Through MiRHETT, a cross-disciplinary "Think Tank," participants will collaborate and share knowledge from their unique backgrounds to address and improve disparity gaps for racial minorities in Michigan. MiRHETT will provide additional insight to MDHHS on further advancing recommendations from final reports of the [Black Leadership Advisory Council](#), [Michigan Coronavirus Racial Disparities Task Force](#), [Michigan Poverty Task Force](#), and the [Health Equity Plan](#).

Participants will join other public health and community leaders in virtual workshops, including educational, coaching, and think-tank style activities, to improve health equity in Michigan among individuals, between individuals, as well as within organizations, communities, and policies. Eligible participants include, but are not limited to, community foundation members, community leaders, community health specialists, and epidemiologists with extensive expertise in racial and health equity. Individuals and partners who influence social determinants of health (SDOH), such as representatives from local health departments, social service agencies, educational institutions, housing organizations, transportation authorities, and environmental health groups, as well as those in the fields of philanthropy, healthcare, health plans, public health, social sciences, policy, and community advocacy, are encouraged to apply.

Applications to participate in the MiRHETT must be submitted via Qualtrics by 11:59 p.m. on August 23. The program is expected to begin in September 2024 and continue through January 2025 with an estimated total commitment of 30 hours.

Participants in MiRHETT will convene virtually starting in September with and participate in four foundational sessions for networking, providing background and education on health equity frameworks, and developing cohort team dynamics. For more information about MiRHETT or to apply, click [here](#).

Community Information Exchange Advisory Committee convenes, invites CIE professionals to CIE Professional Learning Community



The Health Information Technology Commission (HITC) CIE Advisory Committee convened on August 6 to continue its work to implement recommendations of the 2023 [CIE Task Force](#). At its August convening, advisory committee members strategized on designing a community engagement strategy that elevates on-the-ground learnings around CIE and supports the evolving movement to implement CIE.

The Community Information Exchange Professional Learning Community (PLC) invites professionals working on CIE initiatives to join them on September 19, 2-3 p.m. The CIE Professional Learning Community (PLC) aims to create a collaborative space for professionals working on CIE initiatives by fostering knowledge sharing and peer-to-peer learning. The group will focus on learning opportunities, including the CIE Task Force findings and recommendations, project presentations from across the state, and best practices for CIE. The PLC will meet monthly through 2024. You can register for the September session and all future sessions [here](#).

Community Information Exchange Micro-toolkit: Community Information Exchange National Landscape

The MDHHS Office of Policy and Planning Community Information Exchange Micro-toolkit is *Live!* and available to support community-based organizations build core capacities to develop and implement community information exchange, including national subject matter experts, like Greg Bloom who leads the [Open Referral Network](#). Navigate to the CIE Micro-toolkit to hear more from Greg on the national landscape of CIE initiatives and the core findings from the national field on CIE.

You can navigate to the CIE Micro-toolkit [here](#). As we develop the CIE Micro-toolkit, the Office of Policy and Planning wants to hear your experience, [please share feedback, comments, or concerns here](#).

SDOH Partner Updates



Waste to Wonder 2024 Initiative

Join us for an inspiring evening at the Waste to Wonder 2024 Initiative on September 24, 2024, from 5:30 PM – 8:00 PM at Newlab in Detroit. This event, hosted by Ecosphere Organics in collaboration with Make Food Not Waste, is a unique celebration of art, sustainability, and community. Witness the innovative use of sustainable materials as local artists and businesses showcase their creativity by turning food waste into stunning art and designs.

Discover how to repurpose food scraps into various art mediums, explore the public gallery, and engage with thought leaders dedicated to reducing food waste. This event is an excellent

opportunity to connect with individuals who share a commitment to sustainability and uncover the potential within discarded materials.

Don't miss this chance to be part of a movement that turns waste into wonder! [RSVP today to secure your spot.](#)

Event Details:

- **Date:** September 24, 2024
- **Time:** 5:30 PM – 8:00 PM
- **Location:** Newlab, 2050 15th St, Detroit, MI 48216

About Ecosphere Organics: [Ecosphere Organics](#) is committed to transforming food and organic waste into valuable raw materials, creating eco-friendly products like fertilizers, paint pigments, and bio-based material composites.



Become a foster parent through [Michigan Department of Health & Human Services foster care program.](#)

Questions? [Contact Us](#)

SUBSCRIBER SERVICES:

[Manage Subscriptions](#) | [Subscriber Help](#)

STAY CONNECTED:



This email was sent to Email Address using GovDelivery Communications Cloud on behalf of: Michigan Dept of Health & Human Services · 235 S. Grand Ave W. · Lansing, MI 48909 ·