



Social Determinants
of Health

July 2023

SDOH Strategy Updates

Community Information Exchange June Meeting Summary

On Thursday, June 15, 2023, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS), with the support of the Michigan Public Health Institute (MPHI) and Open Referral Initiative, convened the ninth [Community Information Exchange Task Force](#) meeting. Members of the task force include representatives from community-based organizations (CBOs), health care organizations, health payers, health IT, consumers, and government entities.

At the June CIE Task Force meeting, the task force discussed guidelines for potential pilot scenarios and defining success for each set of the final recommendations. The Task Force broke into small, rotating groups to envision what success would look like in each of the identified areas for key statewide CIE capacities.

The group will spend their final meeting in July reviewing a draft version of the final report.

The CIE Task Force final report will be published in late summer of 2023 following the final Task Force meeting in July.

The task force meets the third Thursday of each month through at least July of 2023.

About CIE: The Community Information Exchange (CIE) is a localized effort to create and sustain the technology and relationships required to support the social needs of both individual and community. CIE

Important Dates

- **Wednesday, July 19, 2023** from 1:30 PM to 3:00 PM MDHHS SDOH Partner Convening Focused on Next Steps for Food Security in the SDOH Strategy [Click here to register.](#)



Stay Engaged with the MDHHS SDOH Strategy

For more information about the SDOH Strategy and additional resources, please visit Michigan.gov/SDOH.

If you have additional feedback regarding the SDOH Strategy, or if you'd like your organization to be highlighted in future issues, please send us a message at MDHHS-SDOH-PolicyandPlanning@michigan.gov

Downloads

maximizes a person-centered approach by ensuring social care information is collected only as needed and is stored safely. CIE also promotes streamlined access to health enhancing non-clinical services (e.g., social services and supports), helping to coordinate care across a variety of clinical and non-clinical partners, while using data on existing community resources, needs, and gaps to drive policy change.

- [Phase II of the SDOH Strategy](#)
- [Phase I of the SDOH Strategy](#)
- [SDOH Strategy Video](#)

Produce Prescription Pilot Program (P4) Bridge Funding

Through the SDOH Strategy, *Michigan's Roadmap for Healthy Communities*, efforts are ongoing to improve food security and reduce disparities in populations that are disproportionately impacted by social drivers of health. As a next step, the MDHHS Policy and Planning Office awarded \$240,000 in planning grants to four Michigan Tribes. These grant awards will provide funding to accelerate efforts and support activities to prepare for implementation of a Produce Prescription Pilot Program (P4). The grants are part of a larger effort through MDHHS' SDOH Strategy to support and advance SDOH efforts to improve health outcomes and advance equity. The planning grants will begin July 1, 2023, through September 30, 2023. This project aims to:

1. Reduce food insecurity,
2. Improve overall dietary health by increasing fruits, vegetables, and traditional food consumption; and
3. Improve health outcomes for Tribal communities in Michigan.

P4 Bridge Funding Grantees

Members of the P4 Inter-Tribal Consortium:

[Bay Mills Chippewa Indian Community](#)

[Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians](#)

[Hannahville Indian Community](#)

[Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi](#)

Community Health Worker (CHW) Subcommittee Update

The CHW Subcommittee convened for their sixth meeting on June 26 to work toward consensus on CHW training and certification recommendations. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 17. You can learn more about the Subcommittee and its priorities by visiting the website:

[SDOH Strategy – Community Health Workers](#)

CHW Community Feedback Forum

We are pleased to announce that the MDHHS Policy and Planning Office will be convening the CHW Community Feedback Forum (CFF) on Tuesday, August 8 from 10:00am-11:30am. The CHW-CFF will bring together community members as well as state and local community partners to provide their input on policy and program recommendations to support the CHW workforce in Michigan.

If you would like to participate in the virtual kick-off meeting, please register below:

[CHW Community Feedback Forum Kick-Off Meeting Registration](#)

If you are interested in receiving additional opportunities to participate in the CHW-CFF, please fill out the interest form below:

[MDHHS CHW Community Feedback Forum Interest Form](#)

Please feel free to forward these links to CHWs and anyone who may be interested in providing input on CHW efforts.

Racial Health Equity Plan Update



Request for Proposals (RFP): CHW Registry and Credentialing

The Michigan Public Health Institute (MPHI) is soliciting competitive, responsive proposals from experienced and financially sound organizations to create, implement and maintain a registry and a standard evidence-based credentialing process for Community Health Workers (CHWs) in Michigan, including a periodic interface file to the Community Health Automated Medicaid Processing System (CHAMPS). The selected vendor will provide ongoing monitoring of CHW credentials to ensure competence and compliance with Michigan Medicaid regulations.

[Click here for the Request for Proposals.](#)

The Racial Health Equity plan, led by Altarum Institute was launched June 1, 2023. The purpose of the program is to fund resources supporting implementing the Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) Strategy and the development of the next iteration of the Michigan Health Equity Roadmap by examining marginalized groups impacted by longstanding system barriers to achieving health equity along with stakeholders and diverse residents in Michigan. Altarum Institute is preparing their engagement strategy to capture the perspectives of diverse residents throughout the state. Planned engagement methodologies will include focus groups, key informant interviews and surveys.

The next status meeting is scheduled for August 2, 2023.

Rural Health Equity Plan Update

The Rural Health Equity plan, led by the Michigan Center for Rural Health, MCRH, met with MDHHS staff to provide status updates July 06, 2023. MCRH is working alongside a diverse advisory group to hold listening sessions discussing the 211 platform, SNAP & Market Fresh, Community Information Exchange and other programs designed to support and improve health outcomes for residents. The listening sessions aim to better understand the community's needs, usage of services, and desired improvements to further. Future engagement efforts will include surveys, interviews, and focus groups to learn more about the needs of rural communities and recommended best next steps to achieve health equity.

The next meeting is scheduled for August 3, 2023.

Request for Application- Minority Health Community Capacity Building Training Cohort

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Office of Equity and Minority Health (OEMH) in partnership with the Michigan Public Health Institute are offering a unique opportunity for local community organizations to participate in the Minority Health Community Capacity Building (MHCCB) Training Cohort. The overall goal of the MHCCB training cohort is to build organizational capacity for local community-based entities to identify and successfully respond to State-Level and other funding opportunities that increase the knowledge of and improve access to financial resources that support development, implementation, and evaluation of targeted community-level strategies that address and improve minority health with a focus on the social determinants of health, systemic racism and decreasing health, healthcare disparities and other outcomes for racial ethnic minority populations.

For more information on this opportunity, please review:

- [the MHCCB Training Cohort RFA Announcement](#),
- [the MHCCB Training Cohort Application](#),
- [and the MHCCB Application informational flyer](#).

Eligible applicants must submit a completed application by 5:00 pm EST on Monday, July 24, 2023. There will be an **informational webinar on Monday, July 10, 2023, from 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm to go over the components of this request for application (RFA) and answer questions.** [Interested parties can register for the webinar via Zoom.](#)

It is recommended but not required that agencies submit a letter of intent via email to Jiah-Rebekah Israel (MHCCBapplication@mphi.org). Letters of intent can be submitted beginning July 10, 2023. The project period will run from 10/01/2023 to 9/30/2024.



What's in the Budget to Grow Michigan's Economy

Governor Whitmer has worked with legislators to pass a balanced, bipartisan state budget for Fiscal Year 2024 focused on growing the economy, lowering costs, delivering on kitchen-table issues, and helping anyone "Make it in Michigan."

The budget delivers on several priorities in the 'Make it in Michigan' plan, from the first steps towards Pre-K for All and bold expansions of workforce development programs to sustainable resources to build more housing, community development projects, and manufacturing facilities, and funds to help attract cutting-edge investments creating good-paying jobs.

Governor Whitmer and the Legislature are focused on helping anyone '[Make it in Michigan](#).' This comprehensive vision for economic development is focused on bringing projects home, investing in people from preschool through postsecondary, and revitalizing places to make them more attractive to live, work, and invest. Over the last 18 months, the state's powerful bipartisan economic

development tools have helped bring home over \$16 billion of projects and secure 16,000 jobs building electric vehicles, batteries, semiconductors, and clean energy. Earlier this year, the governor signed bipartisan legislation making record investments in housing, community revitalization, and blight elimination.

"Traverse Connect is thrilled to see continued investment in talent development programs like Michigan Reconnect in this budget, along with new incentives for research and development to help keep our state on the cutting edge of freshwater innovation," said **Warren Call, President and CEO of Traverse Connect**.

"As we stand at the cusp of the most transformative time in the history of manufacturing, there is perhaps nothing more impactful to the future success and prosperity of Michigan and its citizens than a thriving manufacturing sector. And there is nothing more critical to a thriving manufacturing sector than a robust and skilled workforce," said **John J. Walsh, President & CEO of the Michigan Manufacturers Association (MMA)**. "Funding for programs like Going PRO Talent Fund, Michigan Reconnect will serve to expand and bolster Michigan's manufacturing talent base to attract and maintain manufacturing capital investment and high-paying careers. The budget leverages federal dollars to support growth in manufacturing for semiconductors, hydrogen hubs, and clean manufacturing. Increased focus on infrastructure supports the growth of commerce. Increased funding on permitting in EGLE will help move new investment into production faster. In addition, the creation of a much-needed Research & Development tax credit will keep Michigan manufacturers on the leading edge of innovation."

Fiscal Year 2024 Investments to 'Make It in Michigan'

Projects

- \$500 million for the Make it in Michigan Fund to continue competing with other states and nations to bring home advanced manufacturing projects.
- \$350 million for the Make it in Michigan Competitiveness Fund to win federal resources from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, the CHIPS and Sciences Act, and the Inflation Reduction Act.
- Michigan is set to receive over \$1.5 billion (4th highest in the nation) through the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program to expand high-speed internet access to over 200,000 Michiganders in unserved and underserved areas across the state.

People

- Taking the first steps towards offering Pre-K for All with a \$72.6 million of the Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) free preschool program for up to 5,600 kids. \$230 million to expand GSRP to 5 days a week and open new classrooms.
- \$70 million to temporarily lower the age for Michigan Reconnect—tuition-free associate degrees or skills training—from 25 to 21, expanding eligibility to 350,000 people.
- Funding the recently established Growing Michigan Together Council so they can focus on growing our population and economy while protecting our natural resources.

Places

- \$50 million in sustainable, recurring funding for the Housing and Community Development Fund to build thousands of housing units, house thousands of families, and support thousands of jobs. Builds on \$150 million investment in the fund earlier this year.
- \$50 million in sustainable, recurring funding for Revitalization and Placemaking Grants, used to make communities more attractive places to live and work by building housing,

parks, and beautifying other places. This builds on \$100 million investment in the program earlier this year.

- A 5% increase in revenue sharing to help counties, cities, villages, and townships improve quality of life for residents. Additional, dedicated funds for local public safety initiatives.

Seeking Subrecipient Submissions for Two Grant Programs

The Michigan State Housing Development Authority is pleased to announce the new program launch of MSHDA Investing in Community Housing (MICH). The MICH program is designed to provide single-family home repair and facilitate new construction at the local level to increase accessibility and visit-ability statewide. This program is Housing & Community Development grant-funded with State and Local Fiscal Recovery – American Rescue Plan funding. Up to \$15 million dollars will be made available in phased awards statewide in 2023. We are seeking interest submissions from municipalities, non-profit agencies, land banks, emerging developers, and stakeholder groups such as the Area on Aging and the disability networks. For more information please visit our website [Michigan.gov/mshda-mich](https://michigan.gov/mshda-mich).

There are two activity components in which an agency can select from:

- Small-Scale Housing Accessibility Renovation Enhancements (SHARE), open to assist owner occupied, non-owner occupied, and/or to acquire then rehabilitate existing single-family homes for sale.
- New Infill Construction Encouragement (NICE) within a Qualified Census Tract area and/or associated with an existing NHID MSHDA Mod project.

[LINK TO APPLY](#)

Michigan Housing Opportunities Promoting Energy Efficiency

(MI-HOPE) – Phase Four

In addition to this new program opportunity, there is also an open competitive funding round in grant funding for the MI-HOPE Program – Phase 4.

MI-HOPE is a federally funded program that is designed based on a formal subrecipient award structure to 501(c) nonprofit agencies and government entities. This request for proposals is being issued to formally select subrecipients and execute lump sum awards that will facilitate the multi-year funding distribution time frame statewide to assist Michigan residents. MSHDA has federal funds available to help households presumed to have encountered pandemic-related hardships remain in housing units and assist with improving the health and safety of their homes. The role of MSHDA's MI-HOPE section will be to provide oversight and build local implementation capacity for the program. We actively encourage subrecipient agencies to take advantage of this program to update existing occupied housing units within Michigan and promote energy-efficiency throughout their service area(s). For more information please visit our website [Michigan.gov/mi-hope](https://michigan.gov/mi-hope).

[LINK TO APPLY](#)

To apply, to either of these programs, click on the links above and read the instructions. Complete the application and read the terms sheet available on our website as a separate document. The deadline for submission to both programs is Friday, August 11, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. EST.

Refer to <https://www.michigan.gov/mshda> for more details.

Gov. Whitmer Signs Bipartisan Legislation Improving Access to Food Assistance, Lowering Costs for Michiganders

Governor Gretchen Whitmer has signed Senate Bill 35, bipartisan legislation improving access to food assistance and lowering costs for Michiganders by eliminating the asset test for SNAP benefits. Michigan joins 36 other states in eliminating this burdensome requirement on food assistance, ensuring families can get the help they need to put food on the table without being forced to sell their car or empty their savings. It will give families more financial stability and reduce the amount of red tape and paperwork for health department case workers so they can focus on helping people.

“No one should be forced to sell their car or empty their savings account to feed themselves and their children,” said **Governor Whitmer**. “Improving access to food assistance is a commonsense step already taken by 36 other states to lower costs for families and ensure they can get the benefits they need. Before this bill, Michiganders with more than \$15,000 in assets—including the value of their vehicle and savings—would not qualify for food assistance. This forced people who might have been laid off or just need a little breathing room to make impossible choices to qualify for SNAP. Food benefits must be accessible for Michiganders who need them without illogical tradeoffs. I am proud to get this done and grateful for all the organizations, advocates, and legislators—including Senator Irwin—who fought hard to make it happen.”

“I’m glad that we will use national eligibility standards rather than spending state taxpayers’ money to block residents from the help they need to feed themselves and their families,” said **state Senator Jeff Irwin (D-Ann Arbor)**. “Our safety net works better if it can catch people before they hit the ground; now families who face financial difficulties won’t be required to deplete all their savings and risk losing everything before they can get food assistance.”

“The asset test for SNAP went against our values as Michiganders. Now, instead of punishing families who have hit a roadblock, we can make sure they are able to put food on the table as they work to regain financial security. Eliminating the asset test means that kids can be strong for school and play, and parents can focus on the future,” said **Monique Stanton, President & CEO of the Michigan League for Public Policy**. “In addition to helping the 710,500 Michigan households that receive SNAP—including more than 531,000 children— eliminating the asset test will also help reduce paperwork for the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services frontline caseworkers. Plus, the move will help stimulate local economies by ensuring families have enough money to buy food at their local grocers. We’re grateful to Sen. Jeff Irwin and Gov. Gretchen Whitmer for making sure Michigan joins the 36 other states that have realized that basic human needs shouldn’t be withheld from kids and families.”

Senate Bill 35

Governor Whitmer signed [Senate Bill 35](#), improving access to SNAP benefits and lowering costs for families.

- According to the Michigan League for Public Policy: this will help over 700,000 Michigan households currently receiving SNAP benefits, including more than 531,000 children who will directly benefit.
- According to Feeding America: one in nine Michiganders, or about 1.18 million people, are facing hunger. Of those, 282,320 are children.
- According to the nonpartisan House Fiscal Agency, the bill will likely have no impact on the state's finances.

Learn more about the \$60M grant program to allow communities to expand services to Michiganders

The Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity [recently announced the availability of up to \\$60 million in Community Center Grant program funds](#) for Michigan municipalities and organizations to expand programming or work on capital projects.

Because of substantial interest, additional webinars have been scheduled to explain the process and answer questions.

Michigan Community Center Grants Webinar

July 13, 4-5 p.m.

[Register in advance for this webinar.](#)

July 17, 10-11 a.m.

[Register in advance for this webinar.](#)

You can also view the [recording of this webinar on our YouTube Channel](#).

Visit Michigan.gov/CommunityCenterGrants for full guidelines and to apply.

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



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