



March 2023

SDOH Strategy Updates

Racial Health Equity Plan Update

The RFP for the Racial Health Equity Plan opened February 24 and closed April 11 at 12:00 pm. The pre-conference webinar, as well as the questions and answers have been posted to E-GrAMS. Applicants will be notified of award/denial May 10, 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.

Rural Health Equity Plan Update

Call to Action: [Register for the Rural Health Conference!](#) The Michigan Center for Rural Health (MCRH) has hosted the Michigan Rural Health Conference since 1997. The conference is of interest to a broad range of rural stakeholder and aims to provide engaging education on relevant topics for rural health providers. The conference is targeted towards those working in rural health, including rural health clinics and hospital settings. In addition, stakeholders from local public health, community mental health, substance use disorder treatment centers, and organizations working to positively impact social drivers of health are targeted. Continuing education certificates are provided for social work, and community health workers.

The objectives of this conference include:

Important Dates

- **Monday, March 20, 2023** from 10:00 AM- 12:00 PM Community Information Exchange Webinar [Click here to register.](#)
- **Date Updated: Tuesday, April 18, 2023**, from 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM MDHHS SDOH Partner Convening [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

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

1. Provide an opportunity for rural health stakeholders to share and learn from each other.
2. Provide a networking and collaboration opportunity for rural health stakeholders.
3. Provide current and relevant information to rural health stakeholders

[Click here or more information.](#)

About the Rural Health Equity Plan: The Rural Health Equity Plan is a key structural intervention to address health equity within Phase II of the Social Determinants of Health, SDOH Strategy. The Michigan Center for Rural Health, MCRH is the lead partner in developing the plan and creating partnerships to advance health equity. MCRH, alongside a broad group of rural stakeholders will convene to form an advisory group to guide the process. The Rural Health Equity Plan will assess the current rural landscape and engage with rural residents and stakeholders to develop short-term and long-term rural-specific recommendations that align with the MDHHS SDOH Strategy. The recommendations will identify opportunities for improvement and assess current assistance programs and needs of rural residents.



Michigan's Statewide Housing Plan - Regional Housing Partnership Kick-Off Meetings

The process of developing the first [Michigan Statewide Housing Plan](#) is complete, and we're excited to share that now is the time for action!

Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA), in partnership with MSU Extension and CEDAM, invites you to help create 15 regional collaborative housing networks ([Regional Housing Partnership Map](#)). Organizations in each of the regions will work cross-sector to create a regional housing partnership and action plan.

Interested in being part of this important work? [Click here to register for your region's kick-off meeting.](#)

At the meeting, attendees will:

- Receive an overview of the Statewide Housing Plan and its priorities.
- Work collaboratively to start determining which of the statewide priority areas most pertain to your region.
- Start laying the groundwork for the formation of a formal Regional Housing Partnership (RHP).

Additional event dates, times, locations and registration links coming soon!

For more information, [click here for the All Regional Housing Partnership Flyer.](#)



Community Health Worker Subcommittee Update

The MDHHS SDOH CHW Subcommittee continues to meet monthly to discuss policy priorities. The next CHW Subcommittee meeting will be held on Monday, March 20, 2023.

For more information about the CHW Subcommittee policy priorities, please visit the [CHW Subcommittee page](#).

Community Information Exchange February Meeting Summary

On Thursday, February 16, 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 sixth 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 February CIE Task Force meeting, Bob Kreha with Michigan 211 presented to the Task Force on 211's resource directory data infrastructure, addressing the challenges and opportunities to improve the quality and expand access to this critical information. Task Force members then reviewed progress accomplishing the objectives identified in the charter, including the draft of the interim report that will be submitted to MDHHS. Members provided feedback in preparation for publication in March.

The group spent the remainder of the meeting in breakout discussions about a set of prioritized capacities associated with Community Information Exchange: longitudinal data aggregation, resource directory information, and the role of coordinating entities or hubs in CIE. Groups considered ways that these capacities both support and undermine equity, and considered which components are best governed/designed/managed at the state and local levels.

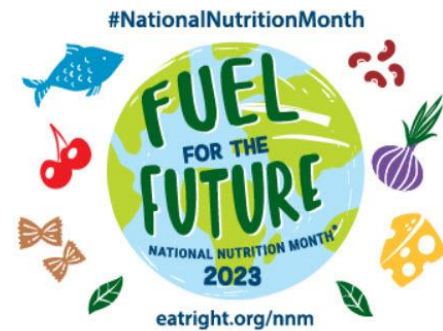
MDHHS plans to publish an interim report of the CIE Task Force's progress and findings in March 2023. A webinar discussing the report will be held on March 20, 2023. [Click here to register.](#)

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

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

SDOH Accelerator Leadership Team Assembled

The Leadership Team for the Social Determinants of Health Accelerator Plan to Prevent Chronic Disease has been seated. Members of the Leadership Team include diverse representation from community-based



MDHHS Program Spotlight: Physical Activity and Nutrition Unit

In honor of March being [National Nutrition Month](#), check out the latest updates from MDHHS Physical Activity and Nutrition (PAN) unit! We're proud to be working with community partners across the state to improve nutrition and food security.

One of the current programs, [Fresh Food Connections](#), is all about supporting local farmers in building their capacity to accept SNAP benefits, while also making it easier for community organizations to access fresh, local food for their clients.

In addition to this, the PAN unit is also working hard to support wellness programming in schools that serve more than 50% of students on free or reduced lunch. The Healthy Grocery/Corner Store initiatives are focused on improving the community food environment, particularly in BIPOC communities that experience food insecurity.

These initiatives use the 4Ps (price, placement, promotion, and product) to increase the amount and improve the quality of nutritious food at retail locations. The PAN unit is also committed to engaging with store owners and shoppers

human service providers, health care organizations, government agencies, and research institutions with geographic representation spanning the whole state. The Leadership Team will convene on March 22, 2023 and meet monthly to guide the development of the SDOH Accelerator Plan. If you are interested in supporting these efforts, please fill out the [SDOH Accelerator Plan to Prevent Chronic Disease interest form](#). There will be Regional Opportunities for local collaboration forthcoming.

to improve social cohesion and create a more connected community.

Stay tuned for more updates from the PAN unit as we continue to work towards a healthier, more equitable food system for all!

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



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