ADDITIONAL $3 MILLION AWARDED THROUGH MICHIGAN HEALTH ENDOWMENT FUND’S RESPONSIVE GRANT PROGRAM

LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Health Endowment Fund has awarded $3 million to 37 organizations across all regions of the state through its Community Health Impact grant program. The Health Fund’s responsive grant awards allow for meaningful investments that align with the foundation’s mission and address one of eight focus areas. This round had a special emphasis on infant mortality and health services for foster and adopted children.

Seventy non-profit organizations and public agencies across the state submitted proposals for projects that would improve community health and wellness by expanding access to high quality, integrated health services for Michigan’s seniors and children.

“Our responsive grants support critical work that might not fit into our proactive initiatives but addresses one of our eight focus areas, such as services for foster and adopted children,” explained Chief Executive Officer Paul Hillegonds. “We invest in programs that support the state’s most vulnerable residents while making a lasting positive difference in Michigan,”

Michigan’s infant mortality rate is among the highest in the country, and several of the funded projects will work to address that challenge. For example, the Black Mother’s Breastfeeding Association was awarded $39,600 to expand their doula program, which will improve health outcomes for Detroit mothers and babies.
“Michigan’s children and seniors are some of our most vulnerable residents, and both have specialized needs that are often overlooked or underfunded,” said Health Fund Senior Program Officer Laurie Solotorow. “Through the Health Fund’s responsive grants we can address these specialized needs and support programs with long-term potential for helping people.”

Other funded projects focus on ensuring coordinated, comprehensive and quality primary care for foster and adopted children. For example, Macomb Children’s Healthcare Access Program (MCHAP) was awarded $100,000 for its Foster CARE program to create an integrated system of childhood support services healthcare for children in Macomb County.

The mission of the Michigan Health Endowment Fund is to improve the health of Michigan residents and reduce the cost of health care, with special emphasis on the health and wellness of children and seniors. Other proactive issue areas include healthy aging, and nutrition and healthy lifestyles. The fund was created as part of 2013 state legislation that allowed Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan to become a nonprofit mutual health insurer. The Health Fund has awarded more than $50 million in grants since its creation.

Additional information can be found at the Michigan Health Endowment Fund website at mhealthfund.com.

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2016 Responsive Grant Awards

Altarum Institute – Leveraging Technology to Improve Outcomes, $99,865
Area Agency on aging 1-B – dCare - Improving the health of care managers, $73, 875
Barry-Eaton District Health Department – BE Nutritious Banks and Pantries, $25, 048
Black Mother’s Breastfeeding Association – Community-based Doula Accreditation Program (CBDAP), $39,600
Central Detroit Christian Community Development Corporation – Growing Urban Farms in Detroit, $50,000
Children's Hospital of Michigan Foundation – Safe Baby Academy - Protecting Your Sleeping Baby, $80,328
Community Foundation of Greater Flint – Flint Water Crisis Recovery Effort, $250,000
Community Health and Social Services (CHASS) – Healthy Mothers on the Move, $99,924
Corner Health Center – Reducing Rapid Repeat Pregnancies, $25,980
Detroit Food & Entrepreneurship Academy – Detroit Food Academy School-Based Program, $50,000
Fair Food Network - Double Up Food Bucks – Flint Expansion, $100,000
Genesee Health Plan – Grandparent-Raised Support Services, $46,950
Grand Traverse Pavilions Foundation – Northern Michigan PACE, $75,000
Groundwork Center for Resilient Communities – Improving Access to Healthy, Fresh Food for Kids in NW Michigan, $100,000
Growing Hope – Growing Healthy Seniors $38,018
Growth Works – Trauma Informed Supervised Visitation, $98,170
Henry Ford Health System – Women-Inspired Neighborhood Network, $100,000
Macomb Children’s Healthcare Access Program – Foster CARE, $100,000
MHP Salud – Desde el Primer Momento, $94,216.88
Michigan Department of Health and Human Services – Project Re:form, $99,000
Michigan Environmental Council – Piloting CSA shares to fight childhood obesity and hunger, $100,000
Michigan Health Improvement Alliance – Centering Pregnancy, $34,837
Michigan State University – Addressing Infant Mortality Disparities, $100,000
Michigan State University School of Social Work – Developing Accessible Health-Related Training, $78,661
Munson Healthcare Foundations – Pediatric Fruit and Vegetable Prescription for Healthy Eating Model, $67,147
Ozone House Youth and Family Services – MORE (MAGIC, Ozone, REACH, Education) Support Project, $50,000
Pediatric Foundation of Michigan – Improving Health Outcomes for Foster Children and Youth, $20,000
St. Joseph Mercy Health System – A Healthy Start at Life, $75,000
St. Vincent Catholic Charities – Refugee Health Access, $35,000
The Baldwin Center Inc. – Innovative Frameworks, $87,702
The Guidance Center – Strong Beginnings Intervention (MOM Power), $100,000
The Jed Foundation – JED Campus Program for Michigan Colleges and Universities, $50,000
The Judson Center – Tele-psych Technology Implementation, $100,000
University of Michigan – Enhancing Perinatal Father Engagement in Health Care Settings, $92,390
UPCAP Services, Inc. – Enhancing awareness of and services to treat Pre-diabetes, $48,160
Wayne State University School of Medicine – Make Your Date: Detroit's Plan to Reduce Preterm Birth, $100,000
YWCA Kalamazoo – Kalamazoo Infant Mortality Community Action Initiative, $100,000