Michigan Health Endowment Fund awards over $5 million to support mental health and substance use disorder programs

LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Health Endowment Fund (Health Fund) has awarded more than $5 million dollars to 14 organizations across Michigan working on innovative behavioral health programs. Aimed at improving behavioral health services for children and older adults, the grants range from around $150,000 to $500,000. The awardee organizations serve communities in every region of the state, from large metropolitans like Detroit to small towns in Mid-Michigan and the rural Upper Peninsula.

All of the supported projects will advance either integrated care or workforce development. Integrating primary care, mental health, and substance use disorder treatment means treating the whole person, either through co-location or coordination of health and wraparound services. For example, Great Lakes Recovery Centers, Inc. will implement residential psychiatric services at an existing Upper Peninsula residential facility for adolescents with substance use disorders. A grantee in Macomb County, The Judson Center, will integrate primary care into its existing behavioral health services, treating the patient holistically and taking social determinants of health into consideration.

Projects that support workforce development will help address shortages of psychiatrists and other clinicians across the state. For example, Starr Commonwealth will help Battle Creek Schools address pervasive behavioral health crises, trauma, and toxic stress among students
by training students, families, and staff to create trauma-informed environments. Saginaw Valley State University’s GRACE Project will use virtual simulations and immersive clinical experiences to train nurse practitioner, social work, occupational therapy, and pharmacy students to provide older adults with evidence-based treatment for substance use disorders.

“Integration and workforce are two persistent challenges when it comes to behavioral health services in Michigan,” explained Health Fund Senior Program Officer Becky Cienki. “By helping expand our state’s capacity to provide care, and ensuring that care is centered around the whole patient, we can improve health outcomes for Michigan residents. And that includes better physical outcomes, too.”

Behavioral Health is one of the Health Fund’s three annual proactive initiatives. The other two are Healthy Aging and Nutrition & Healthy Lifestyles.

About the Health Fund

The Michigan Health Endowment Fund works to improve the health and wellness of Michigan residents and reduce the cost of healthcare, with a special focus on children and older adults.

For more information about the Health Fund and its grantmaking, visit mihealthfund.org.

2017 Behavior Health Initiative Grants (totaling $5,130,073)

1. Beaumont Health Foundation | $493,325
   Comprehensive, Interprofessional Substance Use Disorder Treatment Initiative in a Family Medicine Residency Program
   The Beaumont Health Foundation will implement an integrated substance use disorder (SUD) treatment program within a Family Medicine Center (FMC) while training physician, pharmacist, and psychology students and residents.
2. Great Lakes Recovery Centers, Inc. | $167,431
Integrated Mental Health and SUD Residential Services for Adolescents in the UP
This project will integrate psychiatric care into an existing residential facility for adolescents with substance use disorders. It has the potential to address workforce shortages by testing the telepsychiatry model for residential care.

3. Community Foundation of Southeast Michigan | $200,000
Increasing Access to Medication Assisted Treatment in Primary Care (Multi-funder collaborative)
This multi-funder collaborative includes several philanthropic organizations statewide who share a commitment to increase Michigan’s capacity to provide evidence-based treatment for opioid use disorders. The project will increase integration of medication assisted treatment within safety net organizations.

4. Greater Flint Health Coalition | $499,950
Genesee County Community-Wide Strategy to Address the Opioid Epidemic
This project will engage children, seniors, and the community’s residents most impacted by the opioid crisis through a multi-sector effort to build and strengthen workforce capacity, use upstream prevention strategies, and coordinate care, services, and community resources to improve the treatment for and prevention of opioid misuse.

5. The Judson Center | $500,000
Project to Integrate Primary Care into an Existing Behavioral Health Care Center Using a Patient Centered Medical Home Model
The Judson Center will integrate primary care into its existing behavioral health services, using a PCMH model that addresses patients’ biopsychosocial needs holistically with consideration for social determinants of health. They will also offer Integrated Dual Disorder Treatment for individuals with co-morbid substance abuse and mental health issues.

6. Michigan Center for Clinical Systems Improvement | $229,119
Pain Management Training, Advanced Training for Primary Care Teams in SBIRT and Collaborative Care
This community collaborative will focus on improving care for patients with chronic pain. The project will also train, mentor, and coach staff at select practice sites to apply the evidence-based care models of Substance-use screening, Brief Intervention, Referral and Treatment (SBIRT) and/or Collaborative Care (CoCare).

7. Munson Healthcare Foundations | $499,809
Adverse Childhood Experiences and Resiliency Services
The goal of this project is to increase identification of ACEs and increase resilience within the community. Munson and its partner organizations will provide services like therapy, coordination with primary care, and resilience screening to children, caregivers, and older adults within an integrated physical, mental health, and substance use treatment model. The project also includes training of social work and nursing students to recognize and address ACEs.

8. Regents of the University of Michigan | $250,000  
**TRAILS Development of General Education Resources and Detroit Public Schools Planning**  
This is a one-year planning grant for a behavioral health model to provide evidence-based mental health services to all K-12 students in Detroit Public Schools. The project includes a thorough needs assessment and collaborative planning, with the goal of arriving at a shared vision for a multiyear initiative.

9. Regents of the University of Michigan | $326,887  
**Michigan Medicine/EMU Integrated Pediatric Behavioral Health Training Collaborative**  
The goal of this project is to establish the Michigan Medicine/EMU Integrated Pediatric Behavioral Health Training Collaborative, which will provide specialty training in integrated behavioral health for doctoral and postdoctoral trainees in psychology.

10. Saginaw Valley State University | $352,574  
**The GRACE Project: Gaining Recovery in Addiction for Community Elders**  
The GRACE Project will expand access to evidence-based treatment for substance use disorders for older adults, particularly through the use of medication assisted treatment and recovery support services. Teaching strategies like virtual simulations and clinical immersion experiences will help nurse practitioner, social work, occupational therapy, and pharmacy students provide high-quality and compassionate care.

11. Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital | $202,900  
**Trauma Informed Substance Abuse & Treatment Services Program**  
Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital will integrate substance abuse, mental health, and trauma treatment options within primary care for children, adolescents, and seniors. The project develops a collaborative and sustainable model of integration at a critical access facility within a rural underserved community.

12. Starfish Family Services | $499,882  
**One Location, One Visit: Pediatric Integrated Health Care in Wayne County: A Value Proposition for Sustainability**
This project will transform two Southeast Michigan clinics into fully integrated practices using Pediatric Integrated Health Care (PIHC). Starfish Family Services will also develop the business case for others wishing to implement pediatric integrated care.

13. **Starr Commonwealth | $466,510**  
   **Battle Creek Resilient Schools Project**  
   To address severe behavioral health crises and significant trauma and toxic stress among students in Battle Creek Schools, Starr Commonwealth will help the district implement a system response. The project will promote resilience in the students, families, and staff by helping the schools become trauma informed environments.

14. **Wayne State University | $441,686**  
   **Team-Based Telemedicine**  
   Wayne State University will partner with a federally qualified health center to implement Team-Based Telemedicine, integrating and improving care for older adults with behavioral health problems by delivering care in the home. The project aims to address policy barriers that prohibit payment for in-home telehealth in order to establish a sustainable care delivery model. They will also develop a training module for midlevel clinicians so they can effectively assist in telemedicine.

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