

## Strengthening the Foundations for Health

The health of a community depends on a strong and stable foundation. Income stability, housing quality and affordability, access to healthcare and educational opportunities help build that foundation. Through its Community Grant Programs, the Wisconsin Partnership Program at the UW School of Medicine and Public Health supports initiatives designed to improve health and advance health equity by building strong foundations for health.

### Community Impact Grant Program

The Community Impact Grants provide up to \$1 million over five years to support large-scale, evidence-based, community-academic partnerships aimed at achieving sustainable policy, systems and/or environmental changes that will improve health, health-equity and well-being in Wisconsin. A link to the original award announcements from each year can be found below:

[2015](#)

[2016](#)

[2017](#)

[2018](#)

[2019](#)

[2020](#)

The following is a list of grantees, categorized by year of award.

| Year | Title   | Primary Social Determinant of Health | Organizational Lead  | Academic Partner(s)   | Brief description  | Media                            |
|------|---|--------------------------------------|--|---|--|----------------------------------|
| 2015 | Cultivate Health Initiative: Growing the Wisconsin Garden Network     | Neighborhood and Built Environment   | Rooted (formerly known as Community Groundworks)   | Samuel Dennis, PhD, UW-Madison School of Landscape Architecture   | With this grant, Rooted aims to develop the school garden network throughout Wisconsin and train educators and administrators regarding the health and educational benefits of gardening and eating fresh produce. | <a href="#">Watch the Video</a>  |
| 2015 | Improving Assisted Living Quality through Collaborative System Change | Health and Healthcare                | Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Wisconsin Coalition for Collaborative Excellence in Assisted Living | Edmond Ramly, PhD, UW School of Medicine and Public Health, Department of Family Medicine and Community Health; Jay Ford, PhD, UW-Madison School of Pharmacy; Susan Oliviera, UW School of Medicine and Public Health, Department of Medicine | The goal for this project is to improve the quality of assisted living facilities across the state to ensure long term health of some of our most vulnerable residents.  | <a href="#">Read the article</a> |

| Year | Title  | Primary Social Determinant of Health | Organizational Lead   | Academic Partner(s)  | Brief description  | Media                            |
|------|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|--|----------------------------------|
| 2015 | Reimagining Criminal Justice to Improve the Health of Wisconsin's Families | Social and Community Context         | WISDOM  | Geoffrey Swain, MD, MPH, UW School of Medicine and Public Health, Department of Family Medicine and Community Health; Victoria Faust, UW School of Medicine and Public Health, Population Health Institute             | The grantees hope to help improve population-level health in Wisconsin by changing re-entry processes when incarcerated individuals are re-integrated into society.  | <a href="#">Watch the video</a>  |
| 2015 | Advancing School-Based Mental Health                                       | Education                            | Madison Metropolitan School District                          | Tally Moses, PhD, MSW, UW-Madison School of Social Work  | The grant will be used to evaluate and refine an existing pilot model of integrated mental-health services and expand the reach of the program to other schools in Dane County with the goal of improving the well-being and school performance of students with mental health concerns. | <a href="#">Read the article</a> |
| 2016 | Healthy Workers, Healthy Wisconsin   | Health and Healthcare                | Community Advocates Public Policy Institute                   | Dmitri Topitzes, PhD, UW-Milwaukee, Helen Bader School of Social Welfare; David Pate, PhD, UW- Milwaukee, Helen Bader School of Social Welfare; Joshua Mersky, PhD, UW-Milwaukee, Helen Bader School of Social Welfare | This grant is intended to facilitate access to primary and behavioral health care for job-seeking individuals in order to increase their employability, obtain health insurance, and recover from past trauma.   | <a href="#">Read the article</a> |
| 2016 | Legacy Community Alliance for Health                                       | Social and Community Context         | Green Tier Legacy Communities; Wisconsin Counties Association | Sara Lindberg, PhD, UW School of Medicine and Public Health, Population Health Institute   | The aim of this grant is to improve health and health equity at the community level by helping local governments make gains in the areas of active transportation, local food, healthy housing and water quality to improve health determinants in their communities.                    | <a href="#">Watch the video</a>  |

| Year | Title   | Primary Social Determinant of Health                    | Organizational Lead                                   | Academic Partner(s)   | Brief description   | Media                            |
|------|---|---|---|---|---|----------------------------------|
| 2016 | Race to Equity Wisconsin  | Social and Community Context                            | Kids Forward  | Sheri Johnson, PhD, UW School of Medicine and Public Health, Population Health Institute and Abra Vigna, UW School of Medicine and Public Health, Population Health Institute                     | Race to Equity seeks to reduce racial disparities across Wisconsin by supporting local community efforts to develop community-informed policy agendas and structures that promote racial equity.  |                                  |
| 2017 | Connecting Clinics, Campuses and Communities to Advance Health Equity | Health and Health Care                                  | Marshfield Clinic, Family Health Center of Marshfield | Corey Huck, PhD, UW-Stevens Point, School of Health Promotion and Human Development   | With this grant, project partners will address underlying social factors that influence health. Students and volunteers will connect clinic patients with services such as food, energy, housing and transportation and empower people affected by health disparities and social inequities through a new leadership model.                         | <a href="#">Read the article</a> |
| 2017 | Healthy Housing Initiative  | Economic Stability / Neighborhood and Built Environment | Community Advocates Public Policy Institute           | Marah Curtis, PhD, MSW, UW-Madison School of Social Work, and Geoffrey Swain, MD, MPH, UW School of Medicine and Public Health, Department of Family Medicine and Community Health                | The grantees hope to help inform housing policies related to health, quality, stability or affordability to alleviate Wisconsin's housing crisis and its effects on public health. Activities will include building a community-driven advisory council, conducting a health impact assessment and recruiting and training tenant leadership teams. | <a href="#">Read the report</a>  |
| 2017 | Improving Opioid Treatment and Recovery in Rural Wisconsin            | Social and Community Context                            | Southwestern Wisconsin Community Action Program       | Robin Lecoanet-Moskowitz, JD, UW School of Medicine and Public Health, Population Health Institute and Elizabeth Feder, PhD, UW School of Medicine and Public Health, Population Health Institute | The goal of this grant is to fight Wisconsin's rural opioid crisis by piloting a model of coordinated access to medical, physical, emotional, social and economic wraparound services for people in recovery from opioid addiction, ultimately to improve their chances of sustained recovery.  | <a href="#">Watch the video</a>  |

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| 2017 | First Breath Families   | Health and Healthcare                | Wisconsin Women's Health Foundation              | Bruce Christiansen, PhD, UW Center for Tobacco Research and Intervention   | With this grant, project partners will bring smoking cessation services to high-risk residents of Wisconsin. The team will collaborate with local agencies that serve pregnant and postpartum women and their families, provide access to quit coaches, and develop services that help reduce health inequities for women and families. | <a href="#">Read the article</a> |
| 2018 | Improving Health Outcomes of Milwaukee's Latino Community                 | Economic Stability                   | Sixteenth Street Community Health Center         | Michelle Corbett, MPH, CHES, UW-Milwaukee College of Health Sciences, Center for Urban Population Health                         | This grant will address health inequities by addressing housing instability among Sixteenth Street's patients and community, who are primarily Latino and live below the federal poverty line.  |                                  |
| 2018 | Reducing Health Disparities in Dane County's African American Communities | Social and Community Context         | Nehemiah Community Development Corporation, Inc. | Jerlando Jackson, PhD, MEd, UW-Madison School of Education, Wisconsin's Equity and Inclusion Laboratory (Wei Lab)                | This grant will facilitate education and training for African American grassroots community leaders and their partners and facilitate cross-cultural interactions that will strengthen social networks and support participants with identifying opportunities for social action.   | <a href="#">Read the article</a> |
| 2018 | Preventing Expulsion in Early Childhood Care and Education                | Education                            | Supporting Families Together Association (SFTA)  | Katherine Magnuson, PhD, UW-Madison School of Social Work and Christine Neddenriep, PhD, UW-Whitewater, Department of Psychology | This grant will seek to prevent expulsions in early childhood, thereby helping to create better health and social emotional development outcomes for children and decreased disparities among children of color and lower socioeconomic status.   |                                  |

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| 2018 | Improving the Health Outcomes of Communities Impacted by Incarceration  | Social and Community Context         | Employ Milwaukee, Milwaukee Reentry Alliance | David Pate Jr., PhD, UW-Milwaukee Helen Bader School of Social Welfare   | This grant will address the widespread negative health effects of incarceration by establishing a better coordinated re-entry system to support criminal justice-involved individuals. Goals including increasing employability and job retention, reducing the rate of recidivism and improving the health outcomes of returning citizens. |                                  |
| 2019 | Community-Campus Partnership to Strengthen Mental Health Services for Madison's Latino Community, Centro Hispano of Dane County | Health and Healthcare                | Centro Hispano of Dane County                | Stephen Quintana, PhD, UW-Madison School of Education, Department of Counseling Psychology   | Objectives for this initiative include improving the quality, accessibility, and cultural competency of mental health resources for Dane County's Latino residents and training future Latino mental health practitioners in UW-Madison's School of Education.  | <a href="#">Read the article</a> |
| 2019 | Creating a Renewed and Culturally Vibrant Healthy Food System for Kaeyas Mamaceqtawak, Menominee Nation                         | Neighborhood and Built Environment   | Menominee Nation                             | Richard Monette, JD, University of Wisconsin Law School  | Through this grant, the Menominee Tribe hopes to create a renewed food system by focusing on access to healthy food, agricultural best practices and Menominee cultural teachings and peer support.   | <a href="#">Read the article</a> |
| 2019 | Evaluating the Effectiveness of One City Schools: Preparing Children for School Success and Healthy Lives, One City Schools     | Education                            | One City Schools                             | Tenah Hunt, PhD, MPH, UW-Madison School of Education, Wisconsin Center for Education Research and Beth Graue, PhD, UW-Madison School of Education, Wisconsin Center for Education Research | With this grant, One City will evaluate how it trains staff, engages parents and the larger community, and prepares young children to illustrate how its model of early childhood education and family involvement can close educational and health gaps.   | <a href="#">Read the article</a> |

| Year | Title   | Primary Social Determinant of Health | Organizational Lead                   | Academic Partner(s)   | Brief description   | Media                            |
|------|---|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|---|----------------------------------|
| 2019 | Parenting Network Family Health Initiative  | Economic Stability                   | The Parenting Network                 | Paul Florsheim, PhD, UW-Milwaukee Zilber School of Public Health                                      | The Parenting Network and academic partners hope to improve health outcomes for children by building an integrated system of prevention, intervention and treatment services to strengthen families and reduce the rates of African American children in the Milwaukee child welfare system.                              |                                  |
| 2019 | Improving Birth Outcomes for Black Families through Community-Clinic Collaborations | Health and Healthcare                | United Way of Dane County             | Sara Lindberg, PhD, UW School of Medicine and Public Health, Department of Population Health Sciences | This initiative will involve developing a model of care coordination aimed at reducing disparities in birth outcomes by improving how health systems and social services engage with African American families.   | <a href="#">Read the article</a> |
| 2019 | Wisconsin Early Education Support Network: Milwaukee Initiative                     | Education                            | Wisconsin Early Childhood Association | Katherine Magnuson, PhD, UW-Madison School of Social Work, Institute for Research on Poverty          | The objective of this work is to strengthen the quality and continuity of local childcare providers in under-resourced areas of Milwaukee. The initiative will work to stabilize childcare by connecting family and group childcare programs to pool resources and capitalize on economies of scale and expertise.        |                                  |
| 2020 | Advancing Health Equity Through Legal Interventions for Low-Income Wisconsinites    | Economic Stability                   | Economic Justice Institute Inc.       | The Center for Patient Partnerships, UW-Madison Institute for Research on Poverty                     | The goal of this initiative is to improve population health by reducing health problems that are fueled by civil legal injustices. The initiative's approach combines technology and community-based programming to address legal problems that are barriers to employment, economic stability and health and well-being. | <a href="#">Read the article</a> |

| Year | Title  | Primary Social Determinant of Health | Organizational Lead  | Academic Partner(s)   | Brief description  | Media                            |
|------|--|--------------------------------------|--|---|--|----------------------------------|
| 2020 | Accelerating Health Equity for Black Women in Wisconsin                          | Social and Community Context         | Foundation for Black Women's Wellness  | Population Health Institute   | This grant will connect, train and empower Black women to reshape the conditions in which they live, work and play. Through this Institute, the Foundation will prepare women as health equity leaders to address the persistent health and birth outcome disparities plaguing Black women in Wisconsin.   | <a href="#">Read the article</a> |
| 2020 | Supporting Social Emotional Health in K-12 African American Students             | Education                            | McFarland School District  | Wisconsin Center for Education Research   | This project, in McFarland and beyond, will work to increase engagement and belonging, expand equity and improve teacher support and relationships with Black students to create conditions that support all students' ability to reach their full potential.  | <a href="#">Read the article</a> |
| 2020 | Black Men's Mental Health and Well-Being   | Health and Healthcare                | Rebalanced Life Wellness Association and the Urban League of Greater Madison | UW-Madison School of Human Ecology; University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, UW School of Medicine and Public Health                   | This initiative aims to improve the mental-emotional health and well-being of Black men in Southeastern Wisconsin in order to achieve higher quality of life and longevity.  | <a href="#">Read the article</a> |
| 2020 | Addressing Stressors, Preventing Farmer Suicide: Social Connectedness and Health | Social and Community Context         | Southwestern Wisconsin Community Action Program                              | UW-Madison College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, UW-Madison Division of Extension; Center for Community and Nonprofit Studies | This grant will address the urgent mental health needs of Wisconsin farmers and work to reduce suicide risk in this population by strengthening the social connections in rural communities, educating farmers about farm diversification and financial stabilization, and working to make mental health services more accessible and acceptable for farmers and their families. | <a href="#">Read the article</a> |

| Year | Title   | Primary Social Determinant of Health | Organizational Lead                                  | Academic Partner(s)                        | Brief description   | Media                            |
|------|---|--------------------------------------|--|--|---|----------------------------------|
| 2020 | Building Tech Skills, Opportunities, Health and Wellness for Returning Citizens | Social and Community Context         | YWCA Madison and Wisconsin Department of Corrections | Center for Community and Nonprofit Studies | This grant aims to support citizens returning to their communities post-incarceration by providing technology skills, employment training and networking opportunities critical for achieving economic stability while fostering healing and dignity. | <a href="#">Read the article</a> |

## Community Collaboration Grant Program

The Community Collaboration Grants program is designed specifically to strengthen community organizations' ability to address health inequities through funding as well as training and technical assistance. Links to the original press releases announcing the awards are included below:

[2017](#)

[2019](#)

Below is a list of funded projects, categorized by year of award.

| Year | Title/Organizational Lead                                      | Primary Social Determinant of Health | Brief description  | Media                            |
|------|--|--------------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| 2017 | Common Wealth Development                                      | Neighborhood and Built Environment   | Common Wealth Development supports the vitality of Madison neighborhoods with an approach centered on racial equity and community level health improvement.              |                                  |
| 2017 | Family Health La Clinica, Central Wisconsin Health Partnership | Health and Healthcare                | These organizations are working together to improve health outcomes in Adams, Juneau, Green Lake, Marquette, Waupaca and Waushara Counties.                              |                                  |
| 2017 | Foundation for Black Women's Wellness                          | Health and Healthcare                | This grant supports the Foundation for Black Women' Wellness' work to eliminate health disparities impacting the lives of Black women and girls.                         | <a href="#">Read the article</a> |
| 2017 | Milwaukee Inner-City Congregations Allied for Hope             | Social and Community Context         | This multi-racial, interfaith organization is committed to addressing social justice issues that impact communities including Milwaukee, Chippewa Valley and Fox Cities. |                                  |

| Year | Title/Organizational Lead                           | Primary Social Determinant of Health | Brief description   | Media                            |
|------|---|--------------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| 2017 | Rebalanced-Life Wellness Association                | Health and Healthcare                | This funding supports work toward reducing health disparities that adversely affect African American men and boys residing in Dane County.  | <a href="#">Watch the video</a>  |
| 2019 | Madison Area Care for the Homeless (MACH OneHealth) | Economic Stability                   | This grant will support MACH OneHealth's efforts to bridge gaps in the Madison healthcare system by ensuring that individuals experiencing housing insecurity and homelessness have equitable housing and healthcare.   |                                  |
| 2019 | The Mellowood Foundation                            | Social and Community Context         | The Mellowood Foundation will use its grant to further its efforts to improve health and quality of life in this westside Madison community by addressing employment, racism and trauma and through building leadership and community connectedness among underserved youth and families.                     |                                  |
| 2019 | Menīkānaehkem, Inc.                                 | Economic Stability                   | A grassroots community organization based on the Menominee Reservation in Northeast Wisconsin, Menīkānaehkem, Inc. will use its award to address poverty, housing and trauma as part of its efforts to rebuild community and improve health outcomes.   |                                  |
| 2019 | Metcalfe Park Community Bridges Inc.                | Neighborhood and Built Environment   | This grant will further efforts to create a healthy, safe and thriving community where neighbors experience social cohesion and access to healthy housing, educational and economic opportunities.  |                                  |
| 2019 | REAP Food Group                                     | Health and Healthcare                | This grant increases the capacity of an innovative collaboration between REAP Food Group and Roots4Change Cooperative, a cooperative led by Latina and Indigenous women, to advance health equity by working with the food and healthcare systems to address individual and collective health and well-being. | <a href="#">Read the article</a> |

## COVID-19 Response Grants

The Oversight and Advisory Committee awarded 11 [COVID-19 Response Grants](#) to community-led initiatives working to address the immediate health needs of people in Wisconsin's urban and rural communities, and those most disproportionately impacted by the pandemic.

| Title  | Grantee and Description   | Media                            |
|--|---|----------------------------------|
| Men's Emergency Shelter-Virtual Health Assessments                                   | Awarded to Porchlight, Inc. to immediately reduce the spread of COVID-19 by using an innovative technology-enabled solution of virtual volunteers to safely and accurately screen all homeless shelter guests daily and prior to entry of the homeless shelter sites.   | <a href="#">Read the article</a> |
| Bilingual (English/Spanish) Short- and Long-term Assistance to Vulnerable Population | Awarded to the Catholic Multicultural Center to address the impact of COVID-19 among its English and Spanish-speaking clients by addressing immediate needs of food and hygiene and helping to obtain employment or unemployment benefits.  |                                  |
| Immediate COVID-19 Response for 4K-12 Students                                       | Awarded to the Madison Metropolitan School District (MMSD) to provide immediate, extended, personalized support and resources for the physical and mental health of a group of 2000 MMSD 4K-12th graders with medical conditions associated with poor outcomes from COVID-19.   | <a href="#">Read the article</a> |
| Farms to Families/De Granjas a Familias Resilience Boxes                             | Awarded to REAP Food Group in collaboration with Roots4Change, a cooperative of community health workers serving Dane County's Latino/Indigenous families, to develop a delivery of care system related to the COVID-19 pandemic, informed by the needs of Latino/Indigenous families, local, small, and minority scale farmers, food entrepreneurs of color, and community-based doulas. |                                  |
| WeRISE: Black Birth Workers Response to COVID-19 Project                             | Awarded to the African American Breastfeeding Network for Black Birth Workers (doulas) and the clients they serve to prevent the spread of COVID-19 among Black/ African American families across southeastern Wisconsin.   | <a href="#">Read the article</a> |
| Health Community Education Strategy for the Latino Community                         | Awarded to Sixteenth Street Community Health Centers to develop and disseminate accurate information as quickly and broadly as possible to help Milwaukee's Latino community navigate the COVID-19 pandemic.  |                                  |
| COVID-19 Response for Milwaukee's Uninsured Adults                                   | Awarded to Bread of Healing Clinic to address and mitigate the impact of COVID-19 through outreach and access to care through telehealth for low-income people of color who are uninsured.  |                                  |

| Title  | Grantee and Description   | Media                            |
|--|---|----------------------------------|
| Services for Hmong and other Refugee                                   | Awarded to the Hmong Institute to address the immediate COVID-19 related needs of underserved immigrant communities across the state. Specifically, this project will target Southeast Asian (e.g., Hmong, Laotian, Cambodian), Burmese (e.g., Karen, Rohingya), Nepalese and Tibetan elders and parents who lack access to mainstream services due to language and transportation barriers and face significant physical and mental health needs due to preexisting health disparities and post-traumatic stress disorder. | <a href="#">Read the article</a> |
| Markets to Address Food Insecurity of Vulnerable Populations           | Awarded to Wello to address food insecurity in Greater Green Bay through an approach that meets the needs of the area's most vulnerable residents as well as local farmers.   | <a href="#">Read the article</a> |
| Wood County Community Response to COVID-19                             | Awarded to Marshfield Child Advocacy Center, Marshfield Clinic Health System, to reduce the risk of child maltreatment in Wood County families as a result of parental stress related to the COVID-19 pandemic.   |                                  |
| Barron County Integrated Response to Slow Community Spread of COVID-19 | Awarded to Barron County to reduce the spread of COVID-19 through innovative education and outreach efforts to the community's Spanish-speaking and Somali communities, and in coordination with some of the county's largest employers.  | <a href="#">Read the article</a> |