

## Milwaukee Health Care Partnership Health Systems

# SHARED COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND

## BACKGROUND

The Milwaukee Health Care Partnership (MHCP) **Shared Community Investment Fund (SCIF)** is an annual fund made possible by contributions from the health system members of the MHCP – **Aurora Health Care, Ascension Wisconsin, Children’s Wisconsin, and Froedtert ThedaCare Health.**

The SCIF was created in 2007 to support the **mission of the MHCP**—to improve health care for low-income, underserved populations in Milwaukee County with the aim of improving health outcomes, advancing health equity and lowering the total cost of care.

## SCIF OBJECTIVES

1. align community benefit investments around members’ shared coverage, access, care coordination and community health improvement goals,
2. provide an alternative for unaligned, non-strategic and externally pressured donations and
3. leverage extramural funding for MHCP sponsored and supported initiatives.

The health systems’ SCIF funding has been made alongside – and has often informed – each health system’s unique community investments and charitable contributions.

## LEVERAGING ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Since 2011, the health systems have passed SCIF funding through the United Way of Greater Milwaukee & Waukesha Counties to bolster its annual campaign and have raised more than **\$4.3 million** through the Health Improvement Fund (HIF) and now Mental Health Improvement Fund (MHIF) challenge grant. As of 2024, the HIF shifted to a narrowed mental health scope—the **Mental Health Improvement Fund**—recognizing the increased need for mental health services in the community and to create a more targeted impact around the shared United Way and MHCP mental health priority.

Through SCIF catalyzation, MHCP has also been able to leverage nearly **\$7.6 million in matching funds** from city, county, and state health agencies, private foundations and corporations including, the Green Bay Packers Foundation, Greater Milwaukee Foundation, the Greater Milwaukee Business Foundation on Health and the Healthier Wisconsin Partnership Program. This extramural funding has been used to support insurance enrollment outreach and education, behavioral health capacity building, the Mental Health Emergency Center, health information exchange connectivity, prescription assistance programs, childhood lead screening projects, among others.

## COLLECTIVE INVESTMENTS

Since its inception through CY2024, the health system members of the MHCP have collectively contributed more than **\$35 million** through the SCIF to support improved health care for vulnerable populations in Milwaukee County. The health systems’ SCIF funding pool for CY2025 is **\$2 million**.

Each year, the SCIF Review Committee invites or receives proposals that align with the MHCP’s plan priorities. Funding recommendations are then advanced to the health system CEOs who approve strategic investments that support shared objectives.

Extramural and  
HIF dollars  
relative to SCIF  
investments  
equal a

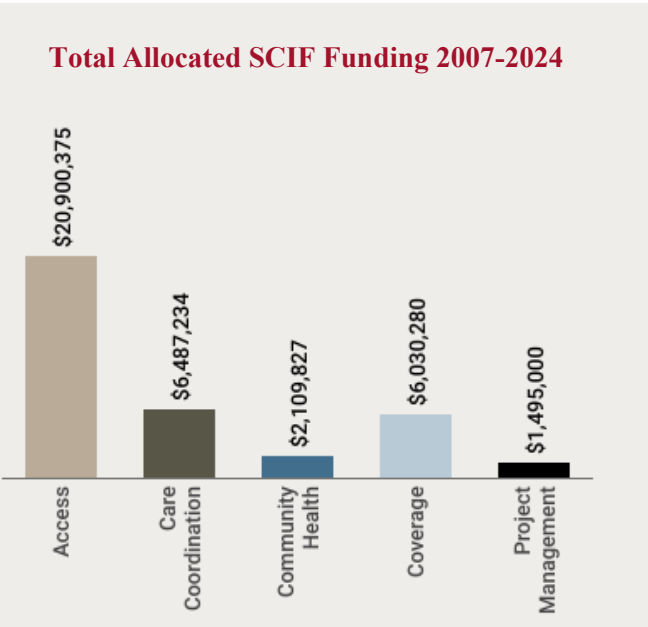
**31% ROI**

# SCIF IMPACT

Below are a few examples of strategic SCIF investments made in recent years:

## COVERAGE

**Milwaukee Enrollment Network (MKEN) Support:** MKEN is a consortium of nearly 100 organizations supporting the enrollment and re-enrollment of eligible individuals in public or private insurance with a focus on low-income, vulnerable populations. It is co-convened by the MHCP and Covering Wisconsin, with MKEN project management funded through the SCIF.



## ACCESS

**Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) Capacity Building:** Primary care, dental and behavioral health capacity building for children and adults has been supported through investments in FQHC facility expansion, new service development, integration of health care programs into community settings, health information technology optimization and subsidization of care for uninsured and underinsured.

**Mental Health Access:** Mental health capacity building for FQHCs, free and community clinics, school-based clinics, and health system community clinics, the improvement of navigation to mental health services and support for the redesign of the mental health delivery system, including the Mental Health Emergency Center.

## CARE COORDINATION

**Connect to Care Program:** SCIF investments have enabled hospital ED, inpatient, and mobile units, and public health and EMS staff to schedule over 60,500 patient appointments at primary care and substance use safety-net clinics in Milwaukee County, ensuring low-income and clinically vulnerable patients are connected to ongoing care.

**Housing is Health Program:** Through the Housing is Health Program, in collaboration with the Milwaukee County Housing Division and IMPACT 211, Milwaukee hospitals and primary care providers screen and connect homeless patients with temporary housing, provide case management and aid in an ultimate transition to permanent housing. SCIF contributions support additional housing navigation capacity and housing subsidies.

## COMMUNITY HEALTH

**Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA):** Supplemented by SCIF funding, every three years, the MHCP’s four health system members share the funding and design of a Milwaukee County CHNA. The CHNA serves as the foundation from which hospitals, community health centers and local health departments develop their respective community health improvement strategies. The CHNA also informs MHCP plan priorities and is hosted on the SCIF-funded health data website – [Health Compass Milwaukee](#).

**Violence Prevention:** SCIF funding has served to expand hospital-based violence intervention services and improve data surveillance which informs county-wide violence prevention activities.

