



# THE MILWAUKEE HEALTH CARE PARTNERSHIP

## Mission

Established in 2007, the Milwaukee Health Care Partnership (MHCP) is a public/private consortium dedicated to improving 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.

## Goals:

- Secure and retain adequate and affordable health insurance for all
- Increase the availability, accessibility and acceptability of health care services
- Enhance care coordination/navigation within and across the delivery system
- Identify and address targeted community health needs

## Who We Serve: Milwaukee’s Vulnerable Populations

The MHCP’s primary focus is improving care for low-income, medically underserved Milwaukee County residents who are uninsured or covered by public insurance programs.

## Members

### Health Systems

- Ascension Wisconsin
- Aurora Health Care
- Children’s Wisconsin
- Froedtert ThedaCare Health

### Federally Qualified Health Centers

- Gerald L. Ignace Indian Health Center
- Milwaukee Health Services, Inc.
- Outreach Community Health Centers
- Progressive Community Health Centers
- Sixteenth Street Community Health Centers

### Academic

- Medical College of Wisconsin

### Public Health Agencies

- City of Milwaukee Health Department
- Milwaukee County Department of Health & Human Services
- Wisconsin Department of Health Services

## Affiliates

- Wisconsin Hospital Association
- Wisconsin Primary Health Care Association

Nearly 25% of Milwaukee County residents live in poverty



of residents are enrolled in Medicaid/BadgerCare programs



of children are covered by Medicaid



approximately 6-8% of the population is uninsured at any point in time

Nearly **100 health care leaders and providers participate in more than 25 committees and workgroups** that are focused on improving health care for underserved populations in Milwaukee County.

## FY24-25 PLAN PRIORITIES (Sponsor)

### Coverage

- Increase and maintain enrollment in Medicaid, Marketplace and other insurance options via the Milwaukee Enrollment Network
- Improve health insurance literacy to reduce uncovered and uncompensated care

### Access

- Establish primary care capacity and utilization patterns to inform access strategies and investments across the care delivery system
- Increase FQHC capacity as a key component of the care delivery system
- Support select free and charitable clinics for the uninsured
- Assess the impact of the Specialty Access for Uninsured Program
- Improve inpatient and outpatient mental health capacity for adults and youth
- Support the redesign of the crisis delivery system, including the Mental Health Emergency Center

### Care Coordination

- Increase the number of patients connected to medical, mental health, and substance use disorder services via the Connect to Care Program
- Improve housing navigation and flexible financial resources for homeless/at-risk patients and families via the Housing is Health Program

### Community Health

- Redesign Health Compass Milwaukee to increase access to and utilization of comprehensive community health data for continuous health needs assessment planning, and impact measurement
- Identify, and where appropriate, align shared activities across health care and public health organizations to reduce duplication and maximize impact
- Coordinate 2024 cross-sector triannual CHNA
- Improve Shared Community Investment Fund allocation strategies, investments, and impact and launch Mental Health Improvement Fund to facilitate increased pledges and a more targeted impact.

## CORE FUNCTIONS

- Assess and build awareness of community health needs
- Implement a community wide plan and policy agenda
- Align resources/activities to reduce duplication and fragmentation efforts
- Secure public and private funding for high leverage initiatives
- Facilitate communication among stakeholders
- Measure community health improvement and outcomes
- Serve as a clearing house for existing and new initiatives

## LEVELS OF ENGAGEMENT

The Milwaukee Health Care Partnership's annual plan advances its mission through:

- initiatives that it directly **sponsors** and leads
- programs led by other organizations in which it **participates**, and may provide financial or in-kind support
- activities led by others that it **monitors** and may influence, for improved health outcomes and policy advancement

## COMMUNITY IMPACT EXAMPLES

### Access to Primary Care

Since 2009, the **Connect to Care Program** has scheduled more than **60,600 appointments at primary care clinics** for pregnant women, people with chronic conditions, and frequent ER users.

### Access to Specialty Care

Through the **Specialty Access for the Uninsured Program (SAUP)**, nearly **16,000 referrals for critical specialty care** have been made to Milwaukee health systems since 2012.

### Access to Mental Health Care

In 2024, the **Mental Health Emergency Center**—a joint venture between Milwaukee County and the four Milwaukee health systems—served **7,824 patients**.

### Addressing Determinants of Health

From 2020-2024, the **Housing is Health Program** secured housing placements for **549 patients and families** from hospital ER and primary care settings identified as housing insecure.

### Other Community Investments

Since 2007, more than **\$37,00,000** in contributions from the four Milwaukee health systems to the **Shared Community Investment Fund (SCIF)** has been reinvested into the community to support aligned goals.