**FUNDING PRIORITIES**

**Fiscal Year 2024-25**

*Healthcare Workforce Initiative*

Wayne State is seeking **$10 million** to address healthcare workforce and service inequities and disparities by leading a unique partnership of state and local healthcare organizations, community-based organizations, and health systems. Michigan, like many other states, has a healthcare workforce shortage that has put additional strain on the entire system and increased health inequities and disparities. Michigan’s most significant struggle is nursing – our state has an overall nursing shortage, which is only made worse by the bottleneck in nursing education and a nursing faculty shortage. While the state has made significant, one-time investments to ameliorate the nursing shortage, to address the underlying issues long-term, the state needs academic and health system buy-in.

Wayne State’s Healthcare Workforce Initiative seeks to do just that by conducting research and implementing programs that tackle the issues of supply and demand for healthcare workforce retention, recruitment, educational capacity, and distribution of healthcare workforce resources, with a focus on communities with a critical need to increase their healthcare workforce.

*Wayne Health Mobile Health Units*

Wayne State’s Mobile Health Units were first funded to address pandemic-related needs in the Detroit area. As pandemic-related needs level out, the MHUs will continue to and enhance their focus on preventative care and chronic disease management. The MHUs aim to rethink health care delivery, bringing care to people and meeting their needs in their community.

WSU supports the Executive Recommendation, which includes **$6 million** for Mobile Health Units. This funding consists of $2.5 million in ongoing funding and $4 million in one-time funding. With the additional funding, WSU will be able expand its work-site screenings, targeting those who do not have the flexibility to leave work for appointments. The fundingwill support ongoing operational costs associated with the program, as well as support facility and headquarters for the MHU fleet; clinical personnel (RNs, MAs, and NPs); non-clinical personnel (office support and community health workers); expansion of work on cardiovascular screening, women’s health needs, substance abuse, and mental health services.

*Michigan Poison and Drug Information Center*

**T**he MiPDC has been the only poison center in Michigan since 2009 and has been affiliated with WSU since 2019, The MiPDC operates at a high capacity to provide real-time poison exposure treatment, education, and prevention services free of charge to all callers 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. More specifically, the MiPDC services include emergency and information hotline service; health care professional education; statewide poison prevention education and outreach; state and national data collection providing epidemiologic public health and taxicosurveillance; access to emergency information as an integral part of local, state, and national emergency preparedness.

The **MiPDC is seeking a $1.5 million increase** in funding to provide a cost-of-living increase for current staff and to add 5 new full-time specialists; hire a medical director; hire an Administrative Director; and hire an Assistant Educator. Other centers throughout the country have extensive infrastructure built into their center with a plethora of administrators, educators, program coordinators, etc. to help support both directors. Currently MiPDC has none of those things and believe these are crucial to optimize its operations and allow the directors to focus on specialist education, clinical responsibilities, and academic duties to further its reach and footprint on a national level.

*Lycaki-Young*

The State currently funds the program at **$5.6 million annually**. WSU manages the program, which is focused on being especially responsive to the needs of Michiganders who are low income and who experience severe or persistent mental illness, behavioral disorders, and co-occurring disorders. Services are provided for over 50,000 patients annually. Most patients served are indigent, uninsured, or enrolled in Medicaid or Medicare and predominately live in Wayne County.

*Michigan* *Doctors Improving Access to Care (MiDOCS)*

Wayne State is seeking continued for the MiDOCS program in the upcoming budget at **current year funding of $6.4 million**. Since 2018, the budget has included funds for MIDOCs to recruit and retain physicians to address the physician shortage in both rural and urban underserved areas. Through a partnership of four medical schools, Central Michigan University, Michigan State University, Wayne State University, and Western Michigan University, MIDOCs will increase the number of residency slots in the state and retain residents in primary care and other high-need specialties to practice in underserved communities after their training.

*Frontline Strong*

Wayne State has partnered with members of the law enforcement and fire communities to create programming in for first responder programming included in the past three budgets. That funding allows for the creation and delivery of multidisciplinary support and services for first responders. While the initial funding will allow for the development and initial deployment of a program to provide care opportunities for first responders, we are supportive of continuing to fund this program, which will allow for long-term care opportunities to be designed and disseminated. Wayne State is requesting **continued ongoing funding of $5 million** to continue the program, which is the same as the FY23-24 budget and $2.5 million above the Executive Recommendation.

*Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioners*

Wayne State’s College of Nursing has the oldest and only fully online Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner program in Michigan, allowing us to train students anywhere in the state. Overall, we have 84 students currently enrolled in this specialty. Psychiatric Mental Health NPs work with individuals, families, groups, and communities to address both psychical and mental health needs. They are trained to assess, diagnose, and treat individuals and families with psychiatric disorders using therapeutic skills, including administering psychotherapies, and prescribing medications.

The past two budgets have included funding that will aid Wayne State’s CON to recruit, educate, and train an additional 32 Advanced Practice Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioners and provide each new student with a one-time stipend to commit to practicing for two years in a medically underserved community upon program completion. Wayne State is seeking **additional funding of $500,000** to continue year three of the four-year pilot.

*Michigan* *Area Health Education Center (AHEC)*

The program supports healthcare leaders and providers from all 83 counties that are in practice today with healthcare training and education, workforce development strategies, and Interprofessional Education and CareModels. Michigan’s program was founded in 2010 to address these shortages, to prepare underrepresented and disadvantaged youth for health care careers, promote clinical training opportunities for health professions students, and provide professional development programs for health professionals. The National AHEC program is designed to begin with federal HRSSA funding and over time transition to a state funding model. The State has not yet begun funding MI-AHEC, and the program participants are **seeking $2 million in ongoing funding** to maintain the state’s program. Ongoing funding would allow for continued operation of MI-AHEC’s statewide network of 5 regional centers (Detroit, Grand Rapids, Mt. Pleasant, Houghton Lake and Calumet), as well as expansion for future centers throughout the state.