

# 2022 Community Responsive Grants Program Projects

## **Amistad**

### ***Women's Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Union Pilot***

*Implementation Grant:* Amistad will pilot a new consortium to positively influence treatment and health care outcomes for women who are actively using drugs in the Greater Portland area. The community of focus is women with experience of chronic homelessness who struggle with opioid or polysubstance use disorders.

*Geographical Area(s) Served:* Cumberland

*Community(ies) of Focus:* Women with experience of chronic homelessness who struggle with opioid or polysubstance use disorders.

## **Cross Cultural Community Services**

### ***Oral Health Equity Collaborative***

*Implementation Grant:* Cross Cultural Community Services (CCCS), in collaboration with racially diverse community-based organizations, local and state providers, and oral health practitioners will lead the Greater Portland Oral Health Equity Collaborative Implementation Plan. The goal of the plan is to educate Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) in the greater Portland area about oral health, thus increasing access and commitment to seek ongoing dental care. CCCS will conduct training in cultural competence, and equity, diversity, and inclusion for oral health practitioners to increase their knowledge about BIPOC communities.

*Geographical Area(s) Served:* Cumberland

*Community(ies) of Focus:* Black, Indigenous and People of Color.

## **Maine Community Integration**

### ***Ka-Bogso (Be Healed): Addressing Intergenerational Trauma in Culturally-Friendly Ways***

*Implementation Grant:* Maine Community Integration will implement an innovative approach by leveraging existing Parent Leadership and Youth Programming cohorts to address Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and intergenerational trauma experienced by the marginalized New Mainer communities in Lewiston. Ka-Bogso (which means, “Be healed”) aims to reduce the negative effects of intergenerational trauma through educational opportunities and practicing methods of self-care that help individuals reconnect with their culture through a variety of creative arts.

*Geographical Area(s) Served:* Androscoggin

*Community(ies) of Focus:* New Mainer youth and their parents in Lewiston.

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## Maine Inside Out

### *The Landing Spot*

*Implementation Grant:* Maine Inside Out's (MIO) project, "The Landing Spot," implements a community-led and trauma informed model of re-entry and crisis support for incarcerated and formerly incarcerated people. The project aims to improve access to behavioral and mental health care, recovery services, and social determinants of health by building networks of peer and community support. MIO's community of focus is young people impacted by Maine's criminal legal system, and all members have experienced the criminal legal and/or child welfare, foster-care, and/or mental health systems.

*Geographical Area(s) Served:* Statewide, Androscoggin

*Community(ies) of Focus:* Young people impacted by Maine's criminal legal system.

## Maine People's Resource Center

### *Housing - Social Determinants of Health Implementation Project*

*Implementation Grant:* Maine People's Resource Center's (MPRC) project seeks to educate the public, media, and elected officials about the vision developed by community members to improve health outcomes via access to safe, affordable housing. Building on participatory processes conducted internally to MPRC and with several different coalitions, all of which center directly affected people, the goals are to collectively fight rampant legal and illegal discrimination in our housing market, including Section 8 discrimination, and address the rapidly rising cost of housing in every corner of the state by fighting price gouging, expanding emergency rental assistance, and eliminating barriers to building the housing we need. The project will focus on low-income people and communities of color across Maine. This project has a statewide focus, but is anticipated to also impact municipal housing policies as well.

*Geographic Area(s) Served:* Statewide, Androscoggin, Cumberland, Penobscot

*Community(ies) of Focus:* People with low incomes and communities of color across Maine.

## MaineTransNet

### *Expanding Mental Health Services to Underserved Transgender Mainers*

*Planning Grant:* Maine TransNet plans to use grant funds to design and develop a clinical mental health program for transgender people across rural Maine.

*Geographic Area(s) Served:* Statewide

*Community(ies) of Focus:* Transgender people across Maine, with a particular focus on those in rural communities.

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## **Nibezun**

### ***New Dawn: Increasing Wabanaki Led Access to Natural Healing***

*Implementation Grant:* Nibezun's project will provide homeopathic health services and training for the Wabanaki tribal network in the greater Bangor region to improve health care access and outcomes for the Wabanaki community, tribal members, and their families by aligning traditional Wabanaki ways of living and health with homeopathy's medical system.

***Geographic Area(s) Served:*** Penobscot

***Community(ies) of Focus:*** The Wabanaki tribal network in the greater Bangor region.

## **Presente! Maine**

### ***La Red Matriarcal***

*Planning Grant:* Through Presente! Maine's project, women leaders from the community of focus will continue to develop collaborative relationships with the MaineHealth system. Presente! will work with MaineHealth to design a strategic plan and set of training modules to improve access and decrease inequities for low income, undocumented Latina women seeking OBGYN services.

***Geographic Area(s) Served:*** Cumberland

***Community(ies) of Focus:*** Low and lower income, undocumented Latine women seeking OBGYN services.

## **Tree Street Youth**

### ***Community-Led Target-Focused Program Design Project***

*Implementation Grant:* Tree Street Youth (TSY) will implement a target-focused program design framework focused on engaging teams of youth, board, and staff members to provide culturally responsive health and wellness opportunities for low-income youth in Lewiston to reach six key targets by age 18. TSY serves youth aged four to 24 and their families, primarily those living in the Tree Street neighborhood of Lewiston with 65% of youth coming from immigrant or refugee families, and 85% of youth identifying as BIPOC.

***Geographic Area(s) Served:*** Androscoggin

***Community(ies) of Focus:*** Youth ages 4 to 24 and their families, primarily those living in the Tree Street neighborhood of Lewiston. Nearly all live at or near the poverty level: 65% come from immigrant or refugee families; 85% identify as BIPOC.

## 2022 Community Responsive Grants Program Projects

### **University of New England**

#### ***Strengthening our Healthcare Workforce: Empowering New Mainer Youth to Explore and Pursue Health Careers***

*Implementation Grant:* University of New England's (UNE) collaborative project will deliver health career exploration learning activities, career planning support, and leadership skill-building to facilitate entry into the health professions for New Mainer youth from immigrant families in Cumberland and Androscoggin counties, with an aim to increase equity and diversity in the health care workforce, and ultimately, improve health outcomes. The Area Health Education Center (AHEC) at UNE will support the New Mainers Public Health Initiative (NMPHI) and Maine Access Immigrant Network (MAIN) in leading this initiative.

***Geographic Area(s) Served:*** Androscoggin, Cumberland

***Community(ies) of Focus:*** Students from immigrant families in Cumberland and Androscoggin counties.

### **Western Maine Addiction Recovery Initiative**

#### ***Peer-led Recovery Support for Rural Communities in Western Maine***

*Implementation Grant:* The Western Maine Addiction Recovery Initiative will establish a peer support position at the Oxford Hills Recovery Center to improve the current substance use disorder/opioid use disorder (SUD/OD) recovery resources for adults and youth in Western Maine who are in recovery or are seeking SUD/OD services.

***Geographic Area(s) Served:*** Oxford

***Community(ies) of Focus:*** Adults and youth in Western Maine who have substance use disorder/opioid use disorder (SUD/OD) or are in recovery from SUD/OD.