

The Maine Health Access Foundation's mission is to promote access to quality health care, especially for those who are uninsured and underserved, and improve the health of everyone in Maine.

Key Achievements in 2021

MeHAF provides about \$5 million in grant and program support annually

As a funder, leader, and partner, MeHAF helps to identify the issues that are challenges for Maine people to achieve and maintain good health, and promotes effective program and policy strategies to respond.

Our **Community Responsive Grants** and **Systems Improvement and Innovation Responsive Grants**, are currently funding 27 Maine organizations to address community-identified needs that align with the foundation's strategic goals. Projects in 2021 span broadening age-appropriate substance use disorder services to exploring new avenues to meet Maine's medical staffing needs.

Our **Health Equity Capacity Building** program aims to strengthen community-based organizations in Maine with primary leadership from members of communities facing the greatest barriers to care. Fifteen organizations participate in the program, representing communities and populations including LGBTQIA+, those experiencing substance use disorder, and immigrant/refugees.

Since our beginnings, **Rural Health** has been a focus for funding. In 2021, grants supported the creation of two reports, *Addressing Health-Related Social Needs to Improve Rural Health: Ideas to Action* and *Right Care, Right Place, Right Time in Maine*. Both explore the ongoing challenges rural Maine faces in achieving better health outcomes and proposes innovative ways to address system improvements.

We continued our focus on Maine's **Older Adult** population in 2021, funding projects to meet the needs of a challenged system. The foundation funded The Maine Women's Lobby Education Fund to complete research on Maine's Older Women and the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program to support the development of direct care workers in the long-term care field.

Our **Health Advocacy** program provides general operating support grants to statewide advocacy-focused organizations and grassroots, community-led groups to change policy to expand access to care. In 2022 these 23 grantees promoted inclusion of HIV prevention drug cost coverage in insurance plans and moved forward discussion of adding pediatric dental benefits to Maine's standard "Clear Choice" insurance plan.

We made over \$700,000 in grants in 2021 to organizations challenged by the ongoing **COVID-19** pandemic. Most of the funding went to organizations that most struggled to provide continued services to those experiencing homelessness, those seeking substance use disorder treatment, older adults, and immigrant and refugee communities.

Our Values

As Maine's largest independent health philanthropy, our work is driven by six core values:

Integrity

We develop and share information and approaches to improve the health of Maine people. We use foundation resources strategically and efficiently.

Transformation

We build advocacy and decision-making power among organizations and communities to ensure responsive and sustainable systems change.

Equity

All Maine people have access to quality, affordable health care. Together we produce fair and just health outcomes for everyone.

Community Engagement

We learn from people in communities across Maine, welcoming perspectives that encourage new ideas and enhance understanding.

Collaboration

Our success is built on honest and respectful relationships and shared purpose with partners from all sectors.

Creativity

We cultivate ideas by bringing people together to jointly address common goals.

Our Priorities

*Ensuring Health Access
Supporting Systems Change
Improving the Health for
Everyone in Maine
Promoting Shared Leadership*

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