



ADVANCING A HEALTHIER WISCONSIN ENDOWMENT

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE PERIOD OF
JULY 1, 2018 - JUNE 30, 2019



ADVANCING A HEALTHIER
WISCONSIN ENDOWMENT

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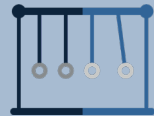
Propelling the most promising work and ideas for a healthier Wisconsin today and for generations to come





ABOUT AHW

Since issuing our first funding awards in 2004, the Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin Endowment (AHW) has invested nearly \$267 million in more than 415 projects focused on community health improvement, research, and health workforce education.



Our Mission:

Working with our partners, AHW will serve as a catalyst for positive change in the health of Wisconsin communities.



Our Vision:

Advancing Wisconsin to be the healthiest state in the nation.

Our History:

The Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin Endowment was established by the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) to receive a portion of the charitable funds from the conversion of Blue Cross & Blue Shield United of Wisconsin from a nonprofit organization to a for-profit corporation. The proceeds of the sale were generously gifted to Wisconsin's two medical schools – MCW and the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health – on behalf of the people of Wisconsin.

MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN, SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

On behalf of the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) and the MCW Consortium on Public and Community Health (Consortium), I am pleased to present the 2019 Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin Endowment (AHW) Annual Report.

This report highlights an exciting time of transition for AHW – reflecting a change in leadership as well as the completion of work under the transformational 2014-2018 Five-Year Plan, “Moving from Grantmaker to Changemaker,” and the launch of the 2019-2023 Five-Year Plan, “Changemaking for a Healthier Wisconsin.”

During the 2019 reporting period, we bid a fond farewell to founding director Cheryl A. Maurana, PhD, who shifted into a new role at MCW. We are indebted to her for building, guiding, and enhancing AHW, spurred by her tireless commitment to the health of Wisconsin. I also express my gratitude to founding Consortium member Terry Brandenburg, MBA, MPH, for serving as interim director during the national search for Cheryl's successor. In May 2019, I was honored to announce the appointment of Jesse M. Ehrenfeld, MD, MPH, as AHW's new director and MCW senior associate dean, effective September 1, 2019.

In the following pages we discuss AHW's positive influence on health statewide through high-impact investments in biomedical research, health workforce and education innovations, and population and community health initiatives. These critical investments – together with AHW's strategic support programs that are building the capacity of academic research and community-based partners to address Wisconsin's greatest health challenges – are improving lives today and building a healthier future for generations to come.

As AHW implements its next five-year plan, I see exciting new opportunities ahead to focus its work, deepen its impact, and further support positive change statewide.

Sincerely,
Joseph E. Kerschner, MD
Provost and Executive Vice President
Dean, School of Medicine
Medical College of Wisconsin



“ AHW was established by MCW with a singular purpose: to improve the health of Wisconsin residents so that we can all live full lives. ”

OUR STORY: YEAR IN REVIEW

July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019

During this reporting period, we concluded our transformative shift from grantmaker to changemaker that began with our 2014-2018 Five-Year Plan and initiated the strategic work identified in our 2019-2023 Five-Year Plan. In the next five years, we will focus our work for deeper impact, respond to emerging and compelling needs, and create opportunities and resources for our partners to build their capacity for addressing Wisconsin’s greatest health needs.

A Look Back: Shifting from Grantmaker to Changemaker

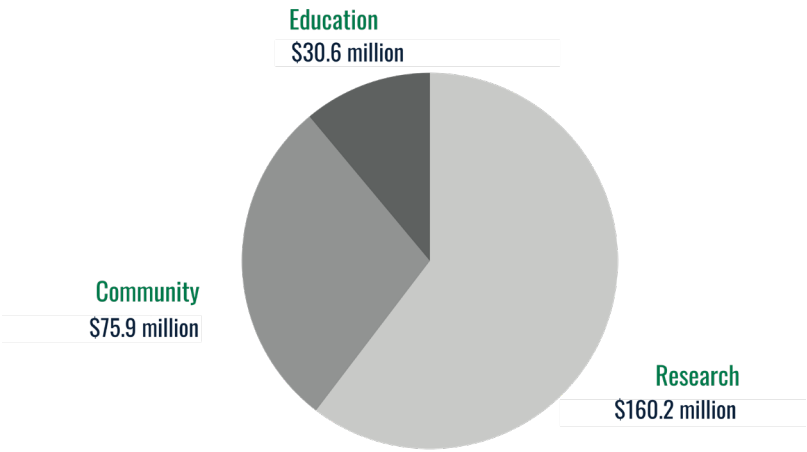
Under our 2014-2018 Five-Year Plan, AHW investments and programming have delivered positive impacts, supporting MCW-led research discoveries and education innovations and community-led health improvement initiatives across Wisconsin.

During this fiscal year, we continued our high-impact investments and initiatives, including:

- The award of \$14.9 million to MCW-led initiatives supporting new scientific discovery, innovative education programs, and health care and public health workforce development
- The award of \$3.7 million to community-led initiatives that are weaving better health into the fabric of Wisconsin communities through health improvement projects, community-academic partnerships, and capacity-building efforts that reach statewide
- The continuation of the Advancing Behavioral Health Initiative, an innovative eight-year, \$20 million commitment in 10 community-led coalitions that are impacting the pressing mental and behavioral health needs of communities across the state
- A \$1.6 million investment into reducing cancer disparities by supporting community and MCW academic partners in an innovative effort to identify strategies that cut across community, research, and education to impact how we understand and approach breast and lung cancers in Wisconsin

TOTAL INVESTMENTS

2004 - June 30, 2019:
\$266.7 million invested in more than 415 projects



Alongside these grant awards, we continued capacity-building programming aimed at building the skills of those working to improve health statewide. Through this work, we brought the new knowledge of MCW researchers out of the classroom and clinic and into public conversation through a public learning series and also paired subject-matter experts with funded projects through a technical assistance provider program, helping partners overcome barriers to greater impact.



July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019:
\$20.3 million invested in 23 projects statewide

Our Next Five Years: Changemaking for a Healthier Wisconsin

Our 2019-2023 Five-Year Plan, Changemaking for a Healthier Wisconsin, builds on our transformative shift from grantmaking to changemaking, leading us to develop new strategies for deepening our impact on health statewide. We’ve embraced our role of changemaker, and it now defines how we approach our investments, programming, and partnerships.

In the first six months of 2019, we began to shape our investment strategies for the years ahead, identifying four pathways to guide our funding awards. In each of these pathways, we have committed to advancing three health priorities in Wisconsin – heart health, healthy minds, and cancer – and will direct our investments heavily toward these areas to support new solutions and knowledge from the cellular level to the societal level. Alongside these issues, we will accelerate opportunity, innovation, and collaboration by responding to research- and community-identified health issues.

We have our sights set on going even further. In the next five years, we will strengthen our work to create opportunities and resources for our partners in health improvement to build skills and capacity to address health challenges statewide, and to extend the impact of our funding awards.

This path forward will push us to develop new ideas and new ways of working statewide. Yet our focus on the health of Wisconsin residents will remain steadfast. From cells to society, we are propelling the most promising work and ideas for a healthier Wisconsin today, and for generations to come.

Advancing Health Through Research & Education

At AHW, investing in research and education is about more than the creation of new knowledge. It is about accelerating discoveries that can change lives and ensuring that our health workforce is equipped to meet our state's greatest health needs today and tomorrow.

Under the 2014-2018 Five-Year Plan, our Research and Education Program (REP) supported promising MCW-led biomedical research initiatives and innovative academic medical education programs through two funding components – strategic and responsive investments – alongside programming developed to strengthen the capacity of those in academic medicine.

In FY19, AHW invested a total of \$15 million in 11 research and education awards that aim to impact the way we understand and address the leading causes of death and disability across Wisconsin.



Advancing the Fields of Biomedical Science & Health Education

Through the AHW **REP Strategic** component, we invest in MCW-led research and education initiatives that can advance the fields of science and education across basic, clinical, population, and translational science with a focus on Wisconsin's leading causes of death and disease. In FY19, we invested \$13.8 million in five projects that will enable progress in research and education efforts around priority issues, including health equity, cancer, and neurological disorders.

Investing in Collaboration & New Solutions to Health Needs

The AHW **REP Responsive** component brings together MCW scientists working across the basic science and clinical care spectrum to explore collaborative approaches and new solutions that can address Wisconsin's health needs. In FY19, we invested \$1.2 million in six projects that target issues impacting Wisconsin residents. In October, projects funded under this component gathered for the third annual AHW Research Symposium where investigators from across basic science and clinical disciplines shared their research, built connections for future collaborations, and engaged in interdisciplinary learning.

Bridging Community & Academic Knowledge

In 2016, AHW's **REP Capacity-Building** component launched a free, public learning series called **Conversations with Scientists** to bring the research of MCW experts to the public, prepare scientists to translate new discoveries into community knowledge, and provide a forum to take conversations about science and health out of the classroom or clinic and into public conversation. In FY19, we hosted two four-part learning series, partnering with experts in immunology for an engaging series on the how our immune system protects us and partnering with experts in biomedical engineering to examine how scientists are designing tools to save lives and transform health care. Together, more than 400 individuals registered for one or more of the series' presentations by 15 speakers.

FUNDED REP PROJECTS JULY 1, 2018 – JUNE 30, 2019



REP Strategic Investments

Project Name & Award	Project Aim	Investigators
Developing Innovative Translational Research Programs in Clinically Relevant Neurological Disorders \$3,000,000 7/1/2018 – 6/30/2024	Developing new programs in translational neuroscience to positively impact the ability to prevent, diagnose, and treat neurological and psychiatric disorders	Principal Investigator: Cecilia J. Hillard, PhD, Pharmacology and Toxicology Co-Investigator: Michael W. Lawlor, MD, PhD, Pathology
Establishing Wisconsin's First Cancer Precision Medicine Simulation Unit \$4,000,000 2/1/2019 – 1/31/2023	Establishing the first Precision Medicine Simulation Unit in Wisconsin to transform and advance the interpretation of cancer-associated gene mutations and develop new tools to fight these diseases	Principal Investigator: Raul A. Urrutia, MD, Genomic Sciences & Precision Medicine Center Co-Investigator: Michael Zimmermann, PhD, Clinical and Translational Science Institute
Genetic Counseling Master of Science Program \$1,301,461 2/1/2019 – 1/31/2024	Developing a Genetic Counseling Master of Science program to prepare the next generation of genetic counselors and meet the workforce demand in Wisconsin	Principal Investigator: John Meurer, MD, MBA, Institute for Health & Equity Co-Investigator: Jennifer Geurts, MS, Surgery, Genomic Sciences & Precision Medicine Center
Global Health Equity MS Program: Improving Health Equity in Wisconsin Through a Global Health Lens \$488,683 2/1/2019 – 1/31/2022	Establishing a Global Health Equity Master of Science program to train scholars in local and global approaches to improving health equity and build workforce capacity to improve health equity in Wisconsin	Principal Investigator: Laura Cassidy, PhD, MS, Institute for Health & Equity Co-Investigator: Kirsten Beyer, PhD, MPH, Institute for Health & Equity; Matthew Dellinger, PhD, Institute for Health & Equity; Julia Dickson-Gomez, PhD, Institute for Health & Equity
Improving Heart Health, Supporting Healthy Minds, & Dismantling Cancer \$5,000,000 5/1/2019 – 4/30/2024	Building capacity within the Office of Research to meet the needs of researchers aiming to impact health outcomes statewide and enhance the movement of scientific discoveries to patients	Principal Investigator: Ann B. Nattinger, MD, MPH, Office of Research Co-Investigator: Cecilia J. Hillard, PhD, Office of Research

Completed Projects

REP projects that concluded during the reporting period of July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019:

Strategic Awards (5)

- Developing a Master of Science in Anesthesia at MCW
- Development of a Redox Biology Program
- Early Detection of Mild Cognitive Impairment
- Graduate Medical Education Development in Central and Northern Wisconsin
- High-Impact Integrated Behavioral and Biomedical Interventions to Eradicate AIDS

Responsive Awards (6)

- Accessing Cerebrovascular Alterations During Recovery After Sports-Related Concussions
- Bacterial Products Related to Chronic Inflammation in Adult Cystic Fibrosis Patients
- Genetic Impact of MYH6 Variants in a Patient-Derived in Vitro Model of Congenital Heart Disease
- Predictive Computational Modeling to Define Antiviral Efficacy
- Reprogramming Tumor Reactive T-cells to Treat High-Risk Hematological Malignancies
- The MCW Program for Personalized Breast Cancer Treatment

REP Responsive Investments

Project Name & Award	Project Aim	Investigators
Determining the Phenotype of Airway Collapse in Obstructive Sleep Apnea \$200,000 1/1/2019 – 12/31/2020	Developing methods to detect the most common contributor to obstructive sleep apnea to inform better diagnosis and treatment options	Principal Investigator: Guilherme Garcia, PhD, Biomedical Engineering Co-Investigators: John Rhee, MD, MPH, Otolaryngology and Communication Sciences; Tucker Woodson, MD, Otolaryngology and Communication Sciences
Development of Predictive Test for Chemotherapy Selection for Individual Pancreatic Cancer Patients \$200,000 1/1/2019 – 12/31/2020	Developing a predictive test to assist in selection of a chemotherapeutic regimen with the highest efficacy for individual pancreatic cancer patients to improve clinical care and survival	Principal Investigator: Marja T. Nevalainen, MD, PhD, Pathology Co-Investigators: Andrew Greene, PhD, Biomedical Engineering; Susan Tsai, MD, Surgical Oncology
Mechanisms of Accumulating Damage from Repetitive Subconcussive Head Impacts in Contact Sports \$199,022 1/1/2019 – 12/31/2020	Studying a second concussion mechanism, separate from the traditional single-impact mechanism, to allow for more active intervention and prevention	Principal Investigator: Brian D. Stemper, PhD, Biomedical Engineering Co-Investigators: Matthew D. Budde, PhD, Neurosurgery; Christopher Olsen, PhD, Pharmacology and Toxicology
Neurophysiological Effects of Mild Traumatic Brain Injury \$200,000 1/1/2019 – 12/31/2020	Investigating novel autonomic nervous system mechanisms to help explain mild traumatic brain injury symptoms and inform the development of evidence-based rehabilitation programs	Principal Investigator: Lindsay D. Nelson, PhD, Neurosurgery Co-Investigator: Hershel Raff, PhD, Medicine, Endocrinology
Randomized Control Trial for the Treatment of NAAT+/Toxin- Clostridium Difficile Infection \$200,000 1/1/2019 – 12/31/2020	Conducting a randomized control trial to improve understanding, produce new knowledge, and impact clinical outcomes for patients diagnosed with Clostridium Difficile Infection	Principal Investigator: L. Silvia Munoz-Price, MD, PhD, Medicine Co-Investigators: Javeria Haque, MD, Medicine, Infectious Disease; Nita H. Salzman, MD, PhD, Pediatrics, Gastroenterology; Andres Jose Yarur, MD, Medicine, Gastroenterology; Michael T. Zimmermann, PhD, Clinical and Translational Science Institute
Targeting Cannabinoid CB1/CB2 Receptors for Neuroprotection in Mouse Models of Parkinson's Disease \$200,000 1/1/2019 – 12/31/2020	Examining how drugs targeting the endocannabinoid system protect against Parkinson's disease	Principal Investigator: Qing-song Liu, PhD, Pharmacology and Toxicology Co-Investigator: Cecilia J. Hillard, PhD, Pharmacology and Toxicology

Learn more about AHW-funded projects using the online funded project database at ahwendowment.org/fundedprojects

Healthier Wisconsin Partnership Program

At AHW, we believe that the solutions to some of Wisconsin's greatest health challenges require community-led change and partnership that can support action. Under our 2014-2018 Five-Year Plan, we invested in community initiatives through our Healthier Wisconsin Partnership Program (HWPP).

Grounded in a unique model that pairs community experience and expertise with academic insight and partnership, HWPP invested in community-led initiatives through three funding components – strategic, responsive, and capacity-building investments – and provided additional supports designed to grow the abilities of these partners to overcome barriers or develop new skills that can create impact.

In FY19, AHW invested \$3.7 million in 11 community-led projects, while furthering progress in our \$20 million, eight-year investment into 10 communities through our Advancing Behavioral Health Initiative.

Driving Impact Statewide

In 2016, the **HWPP Strategic** component launched an eight-year, up to \$20 million commitment to improve mental and behavioral health outcomes statewide. Called the Advancing Behavioral Health Initiative, this forward-thinking philanthropic approach combines funding with the resources, time, and supports to enable 10 community-led coalitions to develop new strategies for addressing their local needs, put them into motion, and evaluate their impact with the support of an MCW academic partner team. Throughout the initiative, these funded partners are united in an innovative learning community to build connections and knowledge among those addressing mental and behavioral health statewide. During FY19, the coalitions entered year three, which marks the second year implementing new partnerships and programs aimed at creating positive change in each community. In June, the initiative also hosted its second annual Advancing Behavioral Health Summit, which welcomed nearly 250 attendees for a day of learning, networking, and identifying collaborative priorities for action.

Supporting Sustainable Health Improvement

The **HWPP Responsive** component brings together nonprofit or government organizations with MCW academic partners to support collaborative, cross-sector coalitions aiming to influence the social, economic, health, and health care systems that drive poor health outcomes. Through focused investments around policy and systems change, we are creating communities where healthy choices and improved health outcomes are within reach for all. In FY19, we awarded \$3.7 million to eight projects, including statewide projects aiming to impact heart health, cancer, oral health, and access to healthy foods as well as locally focused projects addressing reproductive health, the needs of family caregivers, active and safe transportation, and family violence.

Building Community Capacity to Improve Health

Through the **HWPP Capacity-Building** component, we support our partners and stakeholders across Wisconsin in enhancing their efforts to improve the health of communities through skill-building, technical assistance, and resource development. In FY19, our community capacity-building work continued to support partnerships through \$30,000 in investments that enabled three community coalitions to jump-start larger partnership initiatives, as well as numerous learning opportunities that connected expert technical assistance providers with funded projects to overcome barriers and challenges in improving health statewide.



FUNDED HWPP PROJECTS JULY 1, 2018 – JUNE 30, 2019



HWPP Responsive Investments

Project Name & Award	Project Aim	Primary Community & Academic Partners*
Breaking the Cycle: Collective Impact to Reduce Effects of Childhood Witness to Family Violence \$374,055 7/1/2018 – 6/30/2021	Reducing the toxic and intergenerational effects of family violence on children through the creation of a collective impact initiative	Community: Sojourner Family Peace Center Academic: Hillary Petska, MD, MPH, Pediatrics
Bringing Dispatcher-Assisted CPR Instructions to Every 9-1-1 Caller in Wisconsin \$581,928 7/1/2018 – 6/30/2021	Building a system to provide quality CPR instructions to 9-1-1 callers statewide	Community: Wisconsin EMS Association Academic: E. Brooke Lerner, PhD, FAEMS, Emergency Medicine
Building a Healthy Family Caregiver System Through Early Identification and Right-Time Support \$474,360 1/1/2019 – 12/31/2022	Establishing a system to support family caregivers of seniors and adults with disabilities	Community: Eras Senior Network, Inc. Academic: Leslie Ruffalo, PhD, Family and Community Medicine
Lower Uninsured, STI, & Unintended Pregnancy by Integrating Services at Milwaukee County Health Departments \$450,000 1/1/2019 – 12/31/2020	Expanding access to health insurance enrollment and reproductive care in Milwaukee County	Community: Health Care Education and Training Academic: Allison L. Linton, MD, MPH, Obstetrics and Gynecology
Safe & Healthy Streets: Enhancing Systems to Increase Walking & Biking Infrastructure in Milwaukee \$374,892 7/1/2018 – 6/30/2021	Improving systems to ensure safer walking and biking infrastructure in Milwaukee	Community: Wisconsin Bike Fed Academic: Jeffrey Morzinski, PhD, Family and Community Medicine
Using Food Hubs to Improve Community Health by Getting Better Food to More People \$501,268 1/1/2019 – 12/31/2022	Expanding the food distribution system to ensure that food banks have access to healthy, local foods	Community: Feeding America of Eastern Wisconsin Academic: David Nelson, PhD, Family and Community Medicine
Wisconsin Medical Dental Integration Project \$528,610 1/1/2019 – 12/31/2021	Integrating oral health services into primary care clinics and health systems	Community: Children's Hospital and Children's Health Alliance of Wisconsin Academic: Earnestine Willis, MD, MPH, Pediatrics
Wisconsin Native American Tobacco Network Smoke-Free Housing Initiative \$395,837 7/1/2018 – 6/30/2021	Supporting a community-driven effort to implement smoke-free tribal housing across Wisconsin	Community: Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council Academic: Laura Cassidy, PhD, Institute for Health and Equity

HWPP Capacity-Building Investments

Project Name & Award	Project Aim	Project Partners
Drug-Free Communities of Fond du Lac County: Action Planning to Support Drug-Free Pregnancy \$10,000 12/1/2018 – 5/31/2019	Developing a strategic action plan to identify and support pregnant women who use drugs	Fond du Lac School District/Drug-Free Communities of Fond du Lac County
Marshfield School-Based Mental Health Consortium Strategic Planning \$10,000 1/8/2019 – 8/7/2019	Action planning to support a school-based mental health consortium in Marshfield	Unified School District of Marshfield
Reclaiming Our Neighborhoods Coalition Sustainability Planning \$10,000 1/21/2019 – 2/20/2020	Sustainability planning to support improvements in housing conditions and health outcomes in Milwaukee	Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)

Completed Projects

HWPP projects that concluded during the reporting period of July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019:

Capacity-Building Awards (8)

- Community Mentoring: Adapting Youth Mental Health Screening Across County Lines
- Community Mentoring: Collaborating to Transform the Wisconsin Kids' Meal Landscape
- Community Mentoring: Developing a Collaboration Model to Support Youth Mental Health
- Drug-Free Communities of Fond du Lac County: Action Planning to Support Drug-Free Pregnancy
- Fox Valley Thrives Transportation Team Strategic Planning
- Healthiest Manitowoc County: Action Planning to Improve Community Health for All Ages
- Healthy Oconto County: Action Planning to Address Alcohol & Other Drug Misuse
- Milwaukee Eviction Prevention Taskforce: Identifying Recommendations to Address Milwaukee's Eviction Crisis

Impact Awards (1)

- Promoting Healthy Relationships Among LGBT Youth

Responsive Awards (8)

- Creating a Jackson County That Supports Mental Health
- Eastern Wisconsin Food Banks Serving as Communitywide Food Hubs to Increase Healthy Offerings
- Fostering Futures: Transforming Child Welfare Policies/Practices Through Trauma-Informed Principles
- Growing Healthy Soils for Healthy Communities
- Preparing the Community to Improve the Odds of Cardiac Arrest Survival
- Salud a la Vista: Mobile TeleEye Health (mTEH)
- Transforming Primary Prevention Systems to Build Family Protective Factors
- Unscrambling Data for Urban & Rural Opioid Resiliency

*Find a listing of each project's additional partners in AHW's online funded project database at ahwendowment.org/fundedprojects

Learn more about AHW-funded projects using the online funded project database at ahwendowment.org/fundedprojects

Cross-Cutting Initiative

A five-year, \$1.6 million award to tackle cancer disparities using a new philanthropic model to cut across community knowledge, research discovery, and education innovations to create more significant impact

Building a Community and Cancer Science Network

At the launch of our 2014-2018 Five-Year Plan, we called for a new approach to the critical issue of cancer disparities, designing a new philanthropic model that could support efforts to cut across community knowledge, research discovery, and education innovations to create more significant impact. We launched this “**cross-cutting initiative**” with funding that enabled experts from community, research, and academics to collaborate during a 15-month planning and developmental phase. This resulted in the selection of a focus on breast and lung cancer disparities and the development of novel geospatial maps that provided deeper insight into disparities of both cancers alongside the social determinants of health and environmental factors.

In FY19, our HWPP and REP components jointly awarded a five-year, \$1.6 million award to take a transformative next step of creating and sustaining an integrated hub that could coordinate across community, research, and academics to align work to address key factors identified during the developmental phase.

The initiative, now titled the Community and Cancer Science Network, established a full advisory board, built evaluation capacity, and began to outline proposals to advance work in areas collaboratively identified as needing focus: Training for research and health care professionals to challenge mistrust and issues of workforce diversity, improving mammographic quality for underserved populations in both rural and urban settings, and supporting multi-sector collaborative workgroups focused on furthering the work around critical issues of cancer disparities.

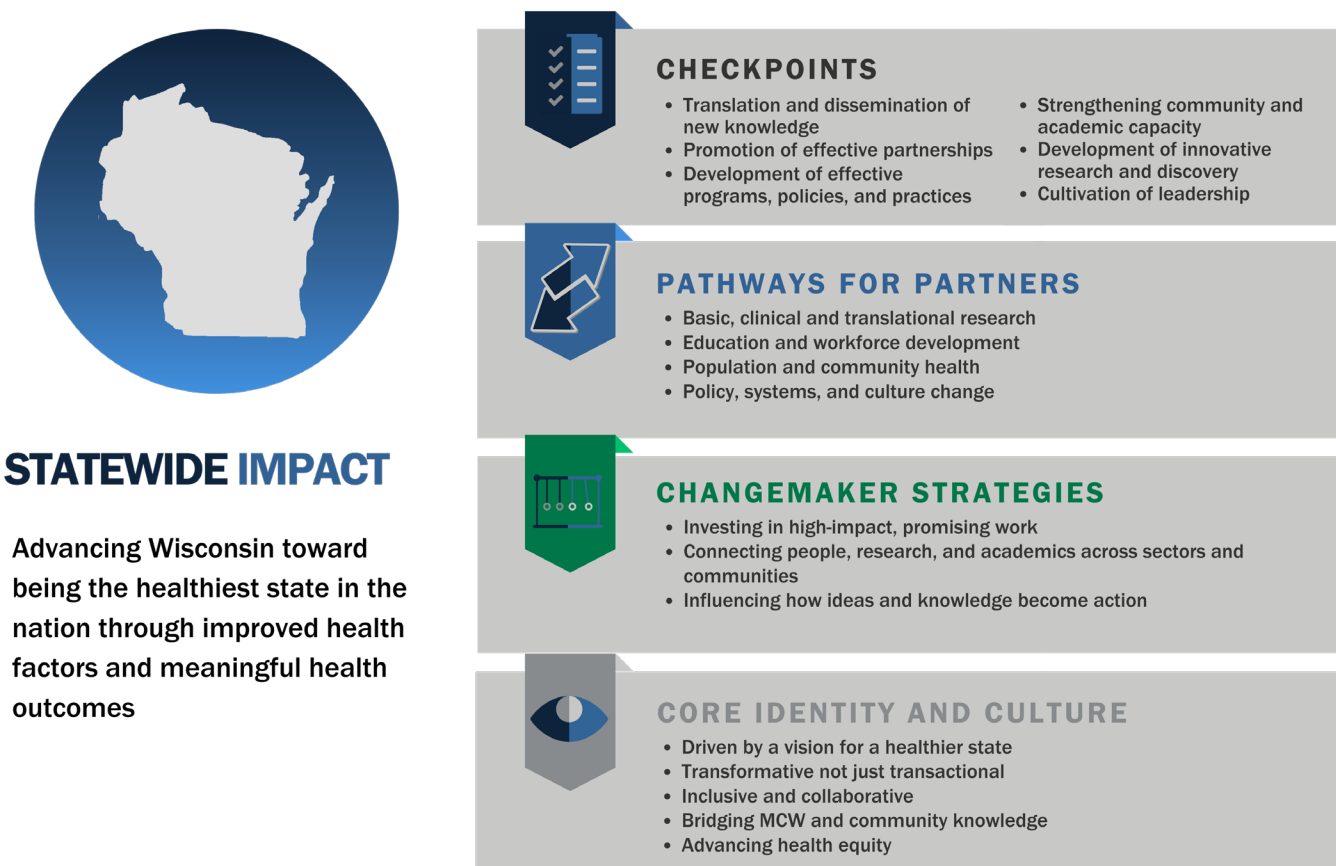


2019-2023 FIVE-YEAR PLAN

Changemaking for a Healthier Wisconsin: AHW’s 2019-2023 Five-Year Plan

As 2019 began, so did the implementation of our new 2019-2023 Five-Year Plan. Titled “Changemaking for a Healthier Wisconsin,” the document provides a roadmap for how we will build on the efforts and experiences of the past, putting our focus on changemaking into deeper action to produce a more sustainable impact on Wisconsin’s health.

Developed with the input of a broad set of stakeholders and partners, the plan was approved by AHW’s governing bodies in May 2018. It calls for us to work through a framework for transformation, building on our core identity and culture and our changemaking strategies to invest across four pathways for partners, seeking out Wisconsin’s innovators and collaborators who share our vision that together, we can build a Wisconsin where everyone in every corner of the state has the opportunity to be healthy.



Pathways for Partners

In FY19, we began to shape our investment opportunities for the years ahead, defining four partner pathways for both funding awards and capacity-building programming. In each of these pathways, we have committed to advancing three health priorities in Wisconsin – heart health, healthy minds, and cancer – and will direct our investments heavily toward these areas to support new solutions and knowledge from the cellular level to the societal level. Alongside these priority issues, we will accelerate opportunity, innovation, and collaboration by responding to research- and community-identified health issues.

And we will go further. In the next five years, we will strengthen our work to create opportunities and resources for our partners in health improvement to build skills and capacity to address health challenges statewide, and to extend the impact of our funding awards in these critical pathways.



OUR PROCESS

The MCW Consortium on Public and Community Health (Consortium) and AHW Research and Education Advisory Committee (REAC) follow standard request for application (RFA) processes, including a multi-stage application and review process for all funding awards. All full proposals are reviewed under AHW’s supplanting requirements through the MCW Controller’s Office prior to award commencement.

REP Application Procedures

The MCW-led research and education funding awards are distributed through a multi-level process that includes the submission of a letter of intent and full proposal. All letters of intent and full proposal submissions are screened by AHW staff to determine that all eligibility, content, and submission requirements are fulfilled, then are reviewed by the REAC for scientific merit and alignment with the AHW Five-Year Plan. REP Strategic proposals are received upon invitation and involve additional work with the REP Program Director and AHW Scientific Consultant to ensure the proposal’s alignment with AHW’s mission and vision. REP Responsive proposals are awarded through a competitive application process, and receive review for scientific merit by a panel of either basic science experts or clinical/population science experts, depending on the proposed research, as well as an external review by a content expert. REAC-approved awards are advanced to the Consortium for review and comment before advancing to the MCW Board of Trustees for final funding determination.

HWPP Application Procedures

AHW’s community-led funding awards are distributed through a competitive application process that includes a multi-level review and assessment. All submissions are screened by AHW staff to determine that all eligibility, content, and submission requirements are fulfilled. HWPP Responsive proposals begin with submission of a brief proposal that goes through a multi-level qualitative and quantitative assessment by an external merit review panel. Meritorious proposals are invited to a pitch presentation to enable the partnership to interact with the review panel prior to being invited to submit a full proposal. Full proposals are reviewed and approved by the Consortium before advancing to the MCW Board of Trustees for final funding determination.

HWPP Capacity Building awards are distributed in adherence to the resource allocation and review process approved by the Consortium. These smaller, rolling funding awards follow a review process that includes submission of a written application, in-person site visit with HWPP staff, and AHW full application review.

AHW Supplanting Policy

As determined by the Order of the Insurance Commissioner of the State of Wisconsin, AHW funds may not be used to supplant funds or resources available from other sources. As such, AHW, via the MCW Controller’s Office, conducts a review of all AHW funding awards for determination of non-supplanting in accordance with procedures approved by the Wisconsin United for Health Foundation, Inc.

Evaluation of Programs & Projects Funded

Throughout the year, AHW evaluates the progress and outcomes of funded projects using regular progress and final reports and financial status reports and/or presentations, site visits, meetings, or subrecipient audits. Multi-year awards are reviewed for progress annually by the appropriate AHW oversight body prior to funding for the next year commencing.

MCW CONSORTIUM ON PUBLIC & COMMUNITY HEALTH

The MCW Consortium on Public and Community Health (Consortium) formed in 2002 as a non-stock, nonprofit corporation whose purpose is to fulfill the obligations of the Public and Community Health Oversight and Advisory Committee as described in the March 2000 Order of the Insurance Commissioner of the State of Wisconsin. The Consortium provides oversight for AHW’s investments and support of community and public health partnerships and projects, and serves in an advisory capacity for investments in research and education. The Consortium conducts itself in accordance with its bylaws and Wisconsin Open Meetings and Public Records laws.



Genyne L. Edwards, JD
Partner
P3 Development Group LLC



John R. Raymond, Sr., MD
President and CEO
MCW



Elizabeth Giese, RN, MSPH
Health Officer/Director
Eau Claire City/County Health Department



Rebecca Rice, MA
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NorthLakes Community Clinic



Joseph E. Kerschner, MD
Provost and Executive Vice President,
Dean, School of Medicine
MCW



Tony Shields, MSM
President and CEO
Wisconsin Philanthropy Network



Christopher P. Kops, CPA, MBA
Executive Vice President for Finance and
Administration and Chief Operating Officer
MCW



Joy R. Tapper, MPA
Executive Director
Milwaukee Health Care Partnership



Cheryl A. Maurana, PhD (Chair)
Senior Vice President for Strategic Academic
Partnerships; Professor of Population Health;
Founding Director, Advancing a Healthier
Wisconsin Endowment; Founding Director and
Board Member, Kern National Network for
Caring and Character in Medicine
MCW

Open Meetings and Public Record Laws Statement

The Consortium conducts its operations and processes in accordance with the State of Wisconsin’s Open Meetings and Public Records laws. Meetings of the Consortium are open to the public, in accordance with the law. Agendas and minutes approved by the Consortium are posted online at ahwendowment.org/Consortium.

RESEARCH & EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The AHW Research and Education Advisory Committee (REAC) provides oversight for AHW investments and support of MCW biomedical and population health research, as well as programs to enhance medical education opportunities for the health care and public health workforce.



Ivor Benjamin, MD, FAHA, FACC
Director, Cardiovascular Center; Professor of Medicine, Physiology, Pharmacology and Toxicology, Cell Biology, Neurobiology and Anatomy, Surgery; Program Director, CVC T32 Training Program
MCW



Christopher P. Kops, CPA, MBA
Executive Vice President for Finance and Administration and Chief Operating Officer
MCW



Cecilia J. Hillard, PhD
Associate Dean for Research, Professor of Pharmacology and Toxicology, Director of Neuroscience Research Center
MCW



Cheryl A. Maurana, PhD
Senior Vice President for Strategic Academic Partnerships; Professor of Population Health; Founding Director, Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin Endowment; Founding Director and Board Member, Kern National Network for Caring and Character in Medicine
MCW



William J. Hueston, MD
Associate Provost of Education, Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, Professor of Family and Community Medicine
MCW



Ann B. Nattinger, MD, MPH, MACP
Associate Provost for Research, Senior Associate Dean for Research, School of Medicine, Professor of Medicine, Lady Riders Professor of Breast Cancer Research
MCW



Joseph E. Kerschner, MD
Provost and Executive Vice President, Dean, School of Medicine
MCW

Diversity Statement

AHW and the Consortium are subject to, comply with and affirm the Equal Employment Opportunity and Affirmative Action policy of the Medical College of Wisconsin, Inc. The MCW Consortium is committed to optimizing the talents of people of different backgrounds, experiences and perspectives as a means of improving the health of the residents of Wisconsin. AHW will continue to be equally accessible to all qualified persons without regard to their race, religion, color, age, disability, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, marital status, membership in the military reserves, creed, ancestry and arrest or conviction record. This policy represents AHW and MCW's commitment to nondiscriminatory practices and affirms its value for fair treatment of all qualified applicants and employees.

OUR TEAM

Leadership

Cheryl A. Maurana, PhD
Senior Vice President for Strategic Academic Partnerships
Professor of Population Health
Founding Director, Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin Endowment
Founding Director and Board Member, Kern National Network for Caring and Character in Medicine
MCW

Kristen Gardner-Volle, MNM
Program Manager – Basic, Clinical & Translational Research Pathway

Shari Hagedorn
Program Coordinator – Operations

Karen Hess, MA
Communications Specialist

Amy Homel, MS
Director of Administration & Continuous Improvement

Autum Kowalczyk, MBA
Business Manager – Compliance

Mark McNally, PhD
AHW Scientific Consultant – Basic Science

Tim Meister, MA
Program Manager – Population & Community Health Pathway

Abby Sokol-Roberts
Program Coordinator – Compliance

Liliana Pezzin, PhD, JD
AHW Scientific Consultant – Clinical/Population Science

Tracy Wilson, MPH
Program Manager – Education & Workforce Development Pathway

Terry Brandenburg, MPH, MPA, MBA
Interim Director, Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin Endowment
Director, MPH Program, Institute for Health & Equity
MCW

Staff

Kate Beadle
Program Coordinator – Compliance

Maureen Busalacchi
Program Manager – Policy, Systems & Culture Change Pathway

Sarah Deering
Senior Communications Consultant

Christina Ellis
Program Director – HWPP

Erin Fabian, JD
Program Director – REP

FUND MANAGEMENT

Investment Summary

The Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin funds are invested with the Medical College of Wisconsin Endowment Funds using a diversified asset allocation strategy that includes money market funds held by external investment managers, marketable debt and equity securities, bond and equity mutual funds, commingled bond and equity funds, other equity securities, and accrued interest and dividends thereon and are reported at fair value. The investment goal for the Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin funds, as approved by the Medical College of Wisconsin Board of Trustees, is to preserve the purchasing power of its investment, while providing a level of investment return and liquidity that funds its purposes within a reasonable and prudent level of risk. The Medical College of Wisconsin has a long-term investment objective for the endowment assets to earn on average a real (inflation adjusted) annual rate of return and to provide a return for appropriation of not less than the total annual spendable income rate under the endowment fund spending policy.

All Endowment Funds, including the Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin funds, are invested in a unitized pool. Pooling of funds allows an individual participating fund to benefit from diversification and economies of scale in the investment process. Income is also unitized and allocated based on relative value on the first of the month. Realized capital gains are reinvested in the pool. The separate identity of each fund participating in the Endowment Fund pool is fully preserved, and each fund’s share in the income and gains and losses of the pool is assured.

The Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin funds are segregated within the Endowment Fund. With respect to the 35% allocation of the funds for the Healthier Wisconsin Partnership Program and the 65% allocation of the funds for the Research and Education Program, separate accounts for the endowed funds and the spendable income funds available for current and future program distribution are maintained.

Distributions are based on the MCW Endowment Fund Spending Policy. Investment earnings that are not distributed are restricted under the terms of the Grant Agreement.

Financial Statements

A financial audit of The Medical College of Wisconsin, Inc. Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin Program was conducted by an external audit firm for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2019 and 2018.

The following pages reflect the financial position for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2019 and 2018 and the activities and changes in net assets for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019.

FUND MANAGEMENT

Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin Endowment
Statements of Financial Position
As of June 30, 2019 and 2018
(in thousands)

	2019	2018
Assets:		
Investments, at fair value:		
Spendable income funds	\$ 66,171	\$ 66,052
Endowed funds	390,510	397,831
Total investments, at fair value	456,681	463,883
Total assets	\$ 456,681	\$ 463,883
Liabilities and net assets:		
Liabilities		
Due to The Medical College of Wisconsin, Inc.	\$ 226	\$ 276
Total liabilities	226	276
Net assets with donor restrictions	456,455	463,607
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 456,681	\$ 463,883

FUND MANAGEMENT

Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin Endowment
Statements of Activities and Changes in Net Assets
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2019
(in thousands)

	HWPP*	REP**	TOTAL
Changes in net assets without donor restrictions:			
Expenditures:			
Faculty salaries	\$ 579	\$ 3,077	\$ 3,656
Staff salaries	891	4,212	5,103
Fringe benefits	345	1,634	1,979
Services, supplies, and other	439	3,235	3,674
Payments to community partners	3,809	-	3,809
Total expenditures	6,063	12,158	18,221
Net assets with donor restrictions released from restrictions	(6,063)	(12,158)	(18,221)
Change in net assets without donor restrictions	-	-	-
Changes in net assets with donor restrictions:			
Investment return	\$ 6,767	\$ 4,302	\$ 11,069
Net assets released from restrictions	(6,063)	(12,158)	(18,221)
Change in net assets with donor restrictions	704	(7,856)	(7,152)
Net assets with donor restrictions at beginning of year	\$ 188,167	\$ 275,440	\$ 463,607
Net assets with donor restrictions at end of year	\$ 188,871	\$ 267,584	\$ 456,455

* Healthier Wisconsin Partnership Program
** Research and Education Program

FUND MANAGEMENT

Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin Endowment
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2019
(in thousands)

The MCW Consortium on Public and Community Health authorized the outstanding commitments for the Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin program (in thousands). These outstanding commitments will be funded on a reimbursement basis and recognized as expenditures after the amounts have been expended by MCW and the community partners.

COMMITMENTS:

	Grants ¹ Awarded	Grant ² Expenditures	Amount Lapsed	Amount Remaining to be Spent
Grants Awarded from Inception to June 30, 2018:				
Healthier Wisconsin Partnership Program	\$ 72,369	\$ 51,424	\$ 4,098	\$ 16,847
Research and Education Program	174,229	113,025	13,247	47,957
Program Development by AHW Staff	5,155	2,938	1,822	395
SUBTOTAL	\$ 251,753	\$ 167,387	\$ 19,167	\$ 65,199
Grants Awarded from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019:				
Healthier Wisconsin Partnership Program	\$ 3,543	\$ 5,352	\$ 390	\$ (2,199)
Research and Education Program	16,574	10,942	369	5,263
Program Development by AHW Staff	345	(702)	1,155	(108)
SUBTOTAL	\$ 20,462	\$ 15,592	\$ 1,914	\$ 2,956
Outstanding commitments June 30, 2019	\$ 272,215	\$ 182,979	\$ 21,081	\$ 68,155

¹ Reflects grants awarded net of grant reductions made due to the economic recession that began in December 2007
² Reflects life-to-date expenditures related to grants awarded

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Contact Us

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