

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS:

Community-led Learning Event Support

Applications accepted on a rolling basis, while funds are available

Supporting Wisconsin-based learning events that build knowledge, skills, and networks among current and future Wisconsin-based health professionals to advance health and health equity in Wisconsin's communities



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Overview

Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin Endowment Overview

At the Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin Endowment (AHW), we are driven by a vision for a healthier Wisconsin.

As Wisconsin's largest health improvement philanthropy, AHW seeks to propel the most promising work and ideas to improve health and advance health equity in Wisconsin today, and for generations to come. We do that by *investing* in high-impact, promising work; *connecting* people, research, and academic medicine to break down silos and build up relationships across sectors and communities; and *influencing* how ideas and knowledge can become action to inform programs, policies, and practices.

We aim to accelerate innovation, collaboration, and impact by responding to research- and community-identified needs. Learn more about [our story](#), [how we work](#), and [our focus areas](#).

Funding Summary

AHW's *Call for Applications: Community-led Learning Event Support* provides funding to community organizations to host Wisconsin-based learning events that build knowledge, skills, and networks among current and future Wisconsin-based health professionals. Applicants may apply for up to \$5,000 in learning event support per event. Up to \$100,000 in funding is available to support up to 20 community-led learning events. Applications will be considered on a rolling first-come, first-serve basis through December 31, 2023, or until available funds have been distributed.

Application and Review Process Timeline

At least 90 days prior to event

Consult with AHW program manager to review proposed learning event and fit with RFA

At least 60 days prior to event (required)

Submit learning event support application through [online application form](#)

Within three business days of technical review (required)

Complete electronic signatures to verify submission

At least 30 days prior to date of event

Receive notification of award determination and begin award initiation process



Funding Details

Description

AHW's *Call for Applications: Community-led Learning Event Support* provides funding for Wisconsin-based learning events that build knowledge, skills, and networks among Wisconsin's health workforce. Learning events that convene current health workforce professionals to advance collective understanding of and ability to address Wisconsin's leading health challenges or engage the next generation of leaders to learn and grow towards their future profession are important opportunities to build Wisconsin's health workforce to advance health and health equity now, and in the future.

Learning events should align with AHW's [Education and Workforce Development pathway](#), which aims to transform the landscape of the health research, health care, and community and public health workforce by supporting efforts that develop and grow a workforce that is poised to meet the diverse and evolving needs of Wisconsin residents now and for generations to come.

Successful applications will describe a key learning gap that the event aims to address, a targeted group of learning event participants consisting primarily of Wisconsin-based health workforce professionals, and how the skills and knowledge gained may be put into action by event participants to contribute to advanced health and/or health equity in Wisconsin.

Applicant Eligibility

Financial support is available for learning events that meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Learning Event Host: Hosted by an eligible Wisconsin-based 501(c)3 or 501(c)6 organization, or a Wisconsin government-based entity or organization. The host organization must have an EIN number and will be responsible for the fiduciary and reporting requirements of the project and project budget.
- Duration: Support is available for one-time learning events or series of events that includes a specific number of events over a pre-set duration in the application.
- Location: Events must incorporate an in-person learning component with participants and be held in the state of Wisconsin. Funds may not be used to support events that are virtual-only, unless otherwise approved by AHW.
- Participants: A majority of event participants must be current professionals, early career professionals, and/or the next generation of leaders working to improve Wisconsin's health.
- Objectives: The event must aim to build participant capacity, such as knowledge, skills, or networks, through defined learning objectives and employing best practices in adult learning.
- Content: Event content must be new or innovative compared to other events or prior iterations of existing events.
- Event Collaborators: Applicants are encouraged to engage the target audience and/or additional collaborators to inform the planning and implementation of the learning event.

Budget Requirements

Eligible applicants may request up to \$5,000 in funding to support direct, non-personnel, event-specific expenses. Learning event support awards are limited to one per event.



Allowable Expenses & Funding Restrictions

AHW uses a cost-reimbursement model. Funds can only be used for direct project-specific expenses, which may include the following for this funding opportunity:

- Meeting expenses, including but not limited to venue, A/V, and refreshment costs.
- Consultant/speaker expenses, such as speaker fees and speaker travel expenses to and from the learning event, including but not limited to airfare, mileage, taxi/public transportation, hotel, parking, etc.
- Supplies, including printing and appropriate meeting supplies needed to conduct the learning event.
- Other direct project-specific expenses, pending sufficient justification and AHW approval prior to incurring the cost.

Funds may not be used for:

- Personnel time, including salary and fringe
- Learning events conducted outside of Wisconsin
- Learning events that include political campaigns, lobbying activities, or voter registration drives, and events that are primarily focused on marketing, fundraising, networking, or research/information gathering
- The purchase of alcoholic beverages or to support events at which the host is providing alcoholic beverages
- Learning events that are directly related to or funded through a current, active AHW-funded project
- Indirect costs such as ongoing operating expenses of an organization's routine functions and principal programs or attendee scholarships or stipends
- Debt reduction
- Entertainment
- Lobbying
- Reimbursement solely for patient care or clinical service delivery
- Publishing fees to benefit education or research in general
- Stipends
- Supplanting

View a complete list of [Allowable and Unallowable Costs](#) on the AHW website.

For information on financial compliance and reporting requirements for funded projects, please review the Funded Project Terms and Conditions for Community-led Learning Event Support Projects on the [AHW website](#). By applying for an AHW award, applicants agree to these terms and conditions.

Supplanting Criteria

AHW was established as the result of a generous financial gift made by Blue Cross & Blue Shield United of Wisconsin to the people of Wisconsin, giving AHW the extraordinary responsibility to steward this financial gift on behalf of Wisconsin residents. As such, AHW adheres to requirements as defined in a March 28, 2000 Order of the Commissioner of Insurance which requires that AHW funds (the Funds) "may not be used to supplant funds or resources otherwise available." AHW, via MCW, must report annually on its determination that the Funds do not supplant other resources that may be available to accomplish the same purposes. [Supplanting criteria](#) can be found on the AHW website.



Prior to final funding recommendations and approval, AHW and/or its oversight body, the MCW Consortium on Public and Community Health, will assess whether other financial resources exist or are available for the project, including an assessment of whether the applicants have other financial resources available for the project. Applicants must certify that no financial resources will be supplanted and provide a complete listing of current funding sources for the project or similar other projects.

Application and Review Process

AHW's *Call for Applications: Community-led Learning Event Support* uses a one-stage application and multi-stage review process.

Application

All applicants that meet the eligibility requirements should submit an application via the [online application form](#) available on the AHW website. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis through December 31, 2023, and are reviewed on a first-come, first-serve basis until available funds have been distributed.

Please use the following instructions to prepare the application for final submission via the online form. Applicants must answer all required fields and follow the restrictions set within the online form. No paper or emailed applications will be considered, and no attachments beyond those requested in the form will be accepted.

When filling out the online form, you may save your progress and resume at a later time by checking 'Save my progress and resume later' in the upper right-hand corner of the form. If saving, please follow the system prompts to save and re-access the form. Only one applicant team member may begin and save the online form by creating a login (email address and password) that will allow that individual to return to saved work. We recommend you designate one individual to enter the completed application information online.

The application includes the following sections:

1. Online Application Form

The online application form allows the project team to provide general project information and must be completed via the [online form](#) accessible on the AHW website. The online form includes:

- Learning event details, including event title, date(s), and anticipated location and venue
- Learning event host details, including the applicant organization, contact information and optional demographic information, as well as any collaborating organizations or individuals supporting event planning and implementation
- AHW alignment information and geographic area impacted by the proposed event
- Narrative responses to the following prompts with a maximum of 2,000 characters, including spaces, for each prompt:
 - Description of the goal of the learning event, the learning or professional development need the event aims to address, and how the event content (including speakers, materials, etc.) will help meet the learning goal
 - Description of the primary audience that will attend the learning event, the anticipated number of participants, and how the event is informed or supported by the target audience, co-hosts, or collaborators
 - Description of how the learning event will support participants to apply their learnings to their work and how the event hosts will evaluate participant learning and event objectives



- Budget workbook (attachment using AHW provided form accessible from the Forms section of the funding opportunities page on the [AHW website](#)) detailing the event-specific, direct expenses that AHW funds are proposed to support
- Budget justification (attachment using AHW provided form accessible from the Forms section of the funding opportunities page on the [AHW website](#)) to provide a description of all proposed direct expenses included in the budget workbook
- Non-supplanting attestation (attachment using AHW provided form accessible from the Forms section of the funding opportunities page on the [AHW website](#)) for the learning event host organization

2. Signatures

Following successful submission of the completed application through the online form and technical review, signatures from key project personnel will be required via an AHW-initiated DocuSign process to indicate their awareness and support of the submitted application. The learning event host contact and an authorized signer (if applicable) will receive an email with instructions to complete and submit their signature. All required signatures should be submitted **within three business days** of the technical review notification.

Review

All submitted applications will undergo technical and programmatic review by AHW staff to ensure that all requirements are met, including but not limited to eligibility criteria and adherence to the guidelines and restrictions.

Applications that pass technical and programmatic review will be eligible for review and initial funding determination by AHW leadership before undergoing review by the MCW Controller's Office to confirm that the requested funds are not supplanting existing funds or funds available through other sources.

Throughout the review process, AHW may request that applicants adjust their scope, budget, or timeline based on the outcome of the review process.

Award Determination

Notification emails of award determination are anticipated to be sent to the event host organization contact at least one month prior to the date of the event.

Application Resources

AHW's goal is to support applicants through the application process to the best of our abilities, and we encourage applicants to contact AHW staff with questions throughout the application process.

AHW Online Resources

AHW's website provides information, application resources, and answers to frequently asked questions related to each funding opportunity and the AHW funding process. Visit the AHW website at www.ahwendowment.org.

A fillable template of the online application form is available for download via the [AHW website](#). The template will not be accepted as a final submission but is designed to be used by the applicant to prepare their responses prior to completing and submitting the online form.



Pre-Application Consultation with AHW Program Manager

Applicants are highly encouraged to contact AHW staff with questions throughout the application process. Applicants are encouraged to connect as early in the development of their application as possible. Contact Benjamin Martinez at bemartinez@mcw.edu to set up a time to discuss your proposal idea.

