

The Western Reserve Health Foundation

2024 Grant Focus Areas



The Western Reserve Health Foundation seeks to improve the health and well-being of *all residents* of Mahoning County. We recognize that residents experience varying degrees of health based on the structures, cultures, and geographies in which they are situated. For example, some problems are experienced more intensely by different racial or ethnic populations; rural or urban communities; women; LGBTQAI+ persons; or people with disabilities. Therefore, the varying size and scope of our grants will reflect the different depths and complexities of these barriers to ensure all residents can equitably achieve and maintain health and well-being.

2024 Granting Priorities:

1. Innovative projects that address the current priorities and strategies identified by the 2023-2025 Mahoning County Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP):
 - **Mental health and Substance Abuse**
 - Priority will be given to community coalitions and collaborative efforts as well as proposals that seek to expand evidence-based practices.
 - **Access to Care**
 - Priority will be given to proposals addressing culturally congruent care, serving residents in high social vulnerability index areas, utilizing partnerships, strengthening data tools and/or advocating for policies that promote access to care.
 - **Community Conditions & Safety**
 - Priority will be given to proposals addressing housing quality, expanding public transit access and connectivity, including pedestrian access, increasing greenspace and safe parks and/or increasing access to healthy food.
2. Organizations and programs that address needs of cancer patients and/or their families.

In addition, we consider *how* an organization works and *who* leads the work. Strong proposals will incorporate the following:

- Individuals with personal knowledge or direct experience have key roles in planning & implementation.
- Success is clearly defined as are plans to achieve it and evaluate results toward it.
- Qualitative and quantitative data is used to inform approach and measure impact.
- Underlying social and economic challenges contributing to poor health are addressed, such as racial inequity, poverty, as well as barriers to healthy food, quality housing and safe parks/recreational spaces.
- Projected outcomes include change in policies, systems and environments to help make healthy options practical and readily available in an equitable manner to all residents.
- Requested funds will leverage other public and private funding sources.
- Partners from different sectors, including public health, government, education, healthcare, etc., have been engaged to develop shared priorities and strategies.

The Western Reserve Health Foundation values the efforts of the Healthy Community Partnership, a regional cross-sector collaborative working to address several of the CHIP's priorities and strategies. Priority is given to grant seekers who are connected to the Healthy Community Partnership and aligned with the shared vision and goals. If your organization is not currently active in the Healthy Community Partnership, please contact Sarah Lowry at slowry@cfmv.org or 330-743-5555 to be connected.

We recognize that numerous terms and phrases are used in our language that you may not be familiar with or have a different interpretation of than we do. In order to provide clarity to our words, please visit the "Glossary of Commonly Used Terms" section of our website: www.cfmv.org/glossary