

WASHTENAW HEALTH INITIATIVE



NEWSLETTER | JUNE 2021

A voluntary, county-wide collaboration focused on improving the health, health equity, and health care of low-income, uninsured, and under-insured populations.



WHI's MMOE workgroup to offer community presentations to describe free and low-cost insurance options, encourage enrollment

Informing and educating for better health. The American Rescue Plan, passed in March, dramatically decreased consumer costs for health insurance offered through the Affordable Care Act (ACA) Health Insurance Marketplace. However, many of the uninsured still don't know if they are eligible, if they can afford it, or how to navigate the enrollment process.



To learn more about plans to spread the word throughout Washtenaw County, we chatted with Alena Hill of Michigan Medicine and Kim Hulbert of the Saint Joseph Mercy Health System, co-

chairs of the Medicaid and Marketplace Outreach and Enrollment (MMOE) workgroup, a WHI collaboration focused on increasing health insurance enrollment.

[Read more](#)

Request Mental Health First Aid training for your organization

What is Mental Health First Aid? Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) is a course that teaches you how to help someone who is developing a mental health problem or experiencing a mental health crisis. The training helps you identify, understand, and respond to signs of addiction and mental illness.



The **Washtenaw County Public Safety and Mental Health Millage** funded training for local instructors who are now equipped to teach this course to community organizations and residents free of charge. There is an initial focus on training health and human services organizations before opening trainings up to a wider audience.

[Request a training](#)

WHI Member Spotlight

Huron Valley Ambulance

Year founded: 1981

Key focus areas: Emergency response, transportation to medical care

Mission: To provide accessible, high-quality pre-hospital health care services to the people and organizations we serve in southeast and south-central Michigan.

Signature programs:

911 emergency response to 40 municipalities using more than 70 ambulances and 300 licensed personnel.



Licensure and advanced courses for EMS and CPR certification courses.

Standby medical coverage for community events.

President and CEO: Ron Slagell

Address: 1200 State Cir, Ann Arbor, MI

Phone: 734-971-4420

Non-emergency transportation for patients traveling to and from the following locations: private residence, assisted living residence, skilled nursing facility, or hospital. Since this program began, HVA has completed more than 100,000 non-emergency transports.

Website: <http://www.emergenthealth.org/hva/>

LinkedIn: [@huron-valley-ambulance](#)

Facebook: [@HuronValleyAmbulance](#)

[Read More](#)

News of Note

Long-lived Ann Arbor nonprofit refocuses efforts on reforming Michigan's youth justice system, Concentrate, Jeanne Hodesh

Care teams differ for Black, white surgical patients in the same hospitals, MHealth Lab, Haley Otman

Even small bills for health insurance may cause healthy low-income people to drop coverage, IHPI News, Richard Hirth & John Ayanian

Packard Health \$8 million expansion plan receives boost, All About Ann Arbor, Sarah Parlette

New partnership offers free rides to vaccines, low-cost rides to essential trips in Washtenaw County, Concentrate, Maria Patton

Michigan finalizes bias training rule for all health care workers, Associated Press, David Eggert

Washtenaw County women leaders of Asian heritage speak out on hate, violence, and healing, Concentrate, Jaishree Depaul-Bruder

Ann Arbor District Library sets full reopening date for all branches, MLive, Martin Slagter

Grant Opportunities

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, **Health services and health equity.**
Deadline: June 2021

Department of Health and Human Services, **Learning health system small grant pilots.**
Deadline: June 16, 2021

Harry A. and Margaret D. Towsley Foundation, **Health and human services.**
Deadline: July 2, 2021

American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP), **Family Medicine Cares.**
Deadline: July 15, 2021

Ethel & James Flinn Foundation, **Various opportunities in mental health care and services.**
Deadline: Mid-July 2021

McGregor Fund, **Basic needs and housing.**

Deadline: Rolling

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, **Community Health Matching Program.**

Deadline: August 11, 2021

Community Resources

Marschall Runge, Executive VP for Medical Affairs at the University of Michigan, shares a list of solutions to vaccine hesitancy. **Learn more.**

United Way of Washtenaw County is organizing a new 21 Day Equity Challenge, begins June 18. **Register.**

Parkridge Community Center is registering youth ages 6-12 for its Summer Learning Experience. **Learn more.**

Washtenaw Alliance for Children and Youth has published a list of low-cost camp options and scholarships in Washtenaw County. **Learn more.**

Michigan Medicine's Adolescent Health Initiative features free training modules on youth-friendly behavioral health care topics. **Learn more.**

EMU is conducting a study about the effects of racism on mental health. Please take, share. **Learn more.**

The Emergency Broadband Benefit is providing discounts for high-speed internet service. **Learn more.**

The YMCA is hosting free Safety Around Water (SAW) classes for kids and their families at various Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti locations. **Register.**

COVID-19 information

Latest Washtenaw County Health Department COVID-19 vaccination updates. **Read.**

Washtenaw County COVID-19 vaccine clinic changes. **Read.**

COVID-19 cases in Washtenaw County. **Read.**

Are you or a loved one in need of a ride to a COVID-19 vaccination appointment? **Read.**

A CHRT survey analyzes who isn't getting vaccinated against COVID-19. **Read.**

[Find COVID vaccine appointments](#)

WHI calendar



WHI Communications Committee

June 8 @ 4:00 - 5:00 pm

Hospital community health assessments and improvements (UNITE)

June 10 @ 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Washtenaw County Healthy Aging Collaborative

June 11 @ 10:30 am - 12:00 pm

WHI Opioid Project

June 15 @ 11:00 am - 12:30 pm

Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder workgroup

June 15 @ 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm

[Additional WHI events](#)

SHARE THE WHI

If you know others who might be interested in the work of the **Washtenaw Health Initiative** — share this newsletter and encourage them to **sign up** for regular updates.

SHARE YOUR STORY

We are happy to report on work group activities, the accomplishments of our **member organizations**, and more. **Share your news** via our simple online form.

