

# 2023 Impact Report



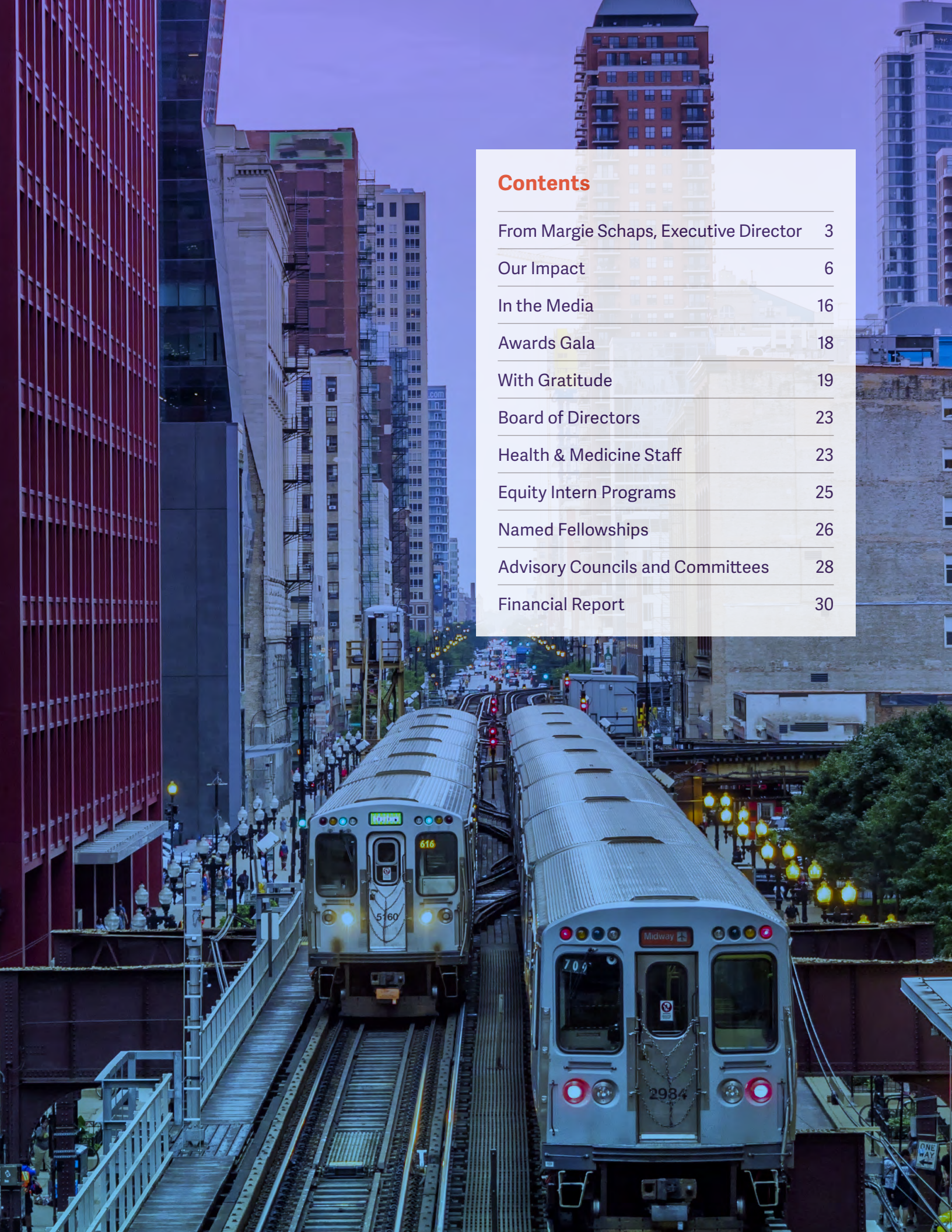


# Health & Medicine's mission is to build power and momentum for social justice and health equity in Illinois.

**How We Work:** We are an independent policy center that conducts research, educates, and collaborates with other groups to advocate policies and impact health systems to improve the health status of all people.

**Vision:** A society free of social and health inequities so that all people can attain their full potential.





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# Health Equity in Action: A Year of Impact

Dear Friends and Supporters,

In 2023, we re-dedicated our focus and our mission to build power and momentum for social justice and health equity in Illinois. Our board and staff worked hard to create this new



mission to reflect our commitment to action and movement building as the central building blocks of a more just and healthy society.

I am proud of what we've accomplished this year. In addition to the achievements you'll read about below, we've grown our staff and our board to better respond to new, immediate, and emerging public health challenges. Our multi-layered approach focuses on creating local and state policy, education and training, and development of public systems that will support health.

We acknowledge that addressing structural and social determinants of health requires collaboration across disciplines, engaging the public, and developing relationships with elected and institutional leaders. This is hard and deep work, and our commitment is steadfast.

And we couldn't do this without the support of you, our community of friends, sponsors, and foundations, who share our vision.

## This Year's Milestones:

**Strengthening Workforce Development:** We relaunched the Public Health Workforce Collaborative. As we continued to build policy and practice in support of this workforce, we worked to enhance health career pathways and build a stronger Community Health Worker ecosystem through learning collaboratives (32) and statewide policy.

**Promoting Health Equity and Social Justice:** Our advocacy has been pivotal in supporting policies and systems anchored in these principles. Initiatives like advocating for just cause in evictions and proactive rental housing inspections are key examples.

**Advancing the Illinois Aging Together Campaign:** We mobilized people across Illinois to develop an Illinois Strategic Action Plan for Aging Equity.

**Advocacy for Public Health Funding:** We've been vocal in demanding that elected officials provide adequate, flexible, and long-term funding for state and local public health departments.

**Legislative Achievements:** Health and Medicine’s persistent advocacy for trauma-informed systems and supports led to the creation of the Task Force for a Healing-Centered Illinois, convened by Lt. Gov. Juliana Stratton. The Task Force is focused on transforming Illinois into a healing-centered, trauma-informed state.

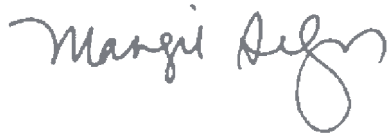
**Progress in Birth Center Licensing:** Our Birth Center Task Force powered the coalition that forced the Illinois Department of Public Health to issue rules for Birth Center licensing. This achievement has led to the successful operation of four birth centers and the development of four more across Illinois.

Reflecting on our accomplishments and the challenges ahead, I’m filled with gratitude for our board and staff’s courage to challenge norms and achieve transformative work. The task of confronting racism and structural health barriers is daunting, but I am confident in our collective strength and dedication.

I extend my heartfelt thanks to our collaborators and funders. Your trust and support fuel our mission. As we look to 2024, I am excited about what we can achieve together.

In unity and hope, we continue to shape a future where every individual in Illinois can flourish.

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Margie Schaps". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end of the last name.

Margie Schaps, MPH  
Executive Director

**“At HMPRG, we believe that health is a human right, and we believe in doing what’s right. Our health and well-being are influenced by more than medical care alone, and we work to reshape public understanding of what makes and keeps us healthy and confront inequities in the structures, systems, and everyday conditions that shape our health.”**

**A. Gita Krishnaswamy, Deputy Director, Health & Medicine**





# Our Impact

## Public Health Equity Center

Our Public Health Equity Center helps us find new opportunities to live our values by working with key agencies and officials to make health equity a shared value, combating structural inequities, advocating for progressive public health policy reform, and providing training and technical assistance to grow the capacity of the public health system.

Through health organizing, collaboration, and narrative change, we build power for health equity. In 2023, the Center celebrated these key accomplishments:

- Supported increased local funding for both the Cook County and Chicago health departments. Presented testimony to Chicago's City Council Committee on the Budget and Government, and wrote an op-ed, *Chicago's Public Health Department gets alarmingly little funding from the city. That needs to change now.*
- Supported key housing initiatives in Chicago, including the just cause for evictions and proactive housing inspections ordinances.
- Launched project focused on enhanced capacity and collaboration among local health departments in Cook County
- Continued serving on the Partnership for Healthy Chicago, providing guidance on implementation of Healthy Chicago 2025
- Served as member of the Cook County Equity Fund Taskforce, providing input, feedback, and a public health perspective



## Health Care Safety Net Center

Health & Medicine's Health Care Safety Net Center works to advance equitable health care as a human right for all people through policy research and development, advocacy, and engaged discourse on complex challenges.

This year, key accomplishments included the following:

- Advocated for strong support, outreach, and services to help Medicaid members going through the restarted redetermination process, including an op-ed, *We need to secure the right to health care for all Illinoisans*.
- Conducted a survey of service providers throughout Illinois related to readiness, plans, and funding needed to support Medicaid members through redetermination
- Advocated for increased funding for Cook County Health for the provision of health care for people who are uninsured
- Served on and chaired the Nominating Committee for the Cook County Health and Hospitals System Board
- Supported the Healthy Illinois Campaign work for the improvement and expansion of the Health Benefit for Immigrant Adults and Health Benefit for Immigrant Seniors Programs

**"Do we want an America that stands with other wealthy countries to ensure that its people enjoy access to health care without bearing an undue personal financial burden? Or are officials more committed to bureaucratic obstacles intended to limit the number of people who qualify for government-supported health insurance? After a solid decade dramatically increasing the number of Americans with health insurance, does our country now want more people unable to see a doctor, unable to get their prescriptions filled, unable to afford tests and immunizations, and to further squeeze doctors and other providers who accept Medicaid and serve low-income communities? We don't think most Americans want that."**

**Wesley Epplin**, Policy Director, Health & Medicine

**Michael Gelder**, Health & Medicine Board Member

**Margie Schaps**, Executive Director, Health & Medicine





## Aging Equity Center

The Aging Equity Center, formerly known as the Center for Long Term Care Reform, promotes equitable aging within communities for all Illinoisans at all ages. The Center works toward a just society that enables people to age well across the entire life course and an equitable system of long-term services and supports so that people can live according to their own goals and values, without exploitation or unmet needs. The Center advocates for caregiving that supports both the needs and rights of older persons and caregivers.

Highlights from this year include the following:

- Rallied supporters to file 160+ positive witness slips in support of the Aging Equity Act, which was re-introduced in the Illinois General Assembly
- Held roundtable discussions with five key demographic groups—Black, Latine, Asian, LGBTQ+, and people with disabilities—regarding their views on aging, including hopes, needs, and challenges
- Joined the new Fix Our Homes Illinois coalition, focused on developing statewide home repair funding and programming, including for older persons
- Continued growing the aging equity movement in Illinois through the Illinois Aging Together campaign at [www.illinoisagingtogether.org](http://www.illinoisagingtogether.org)

## Illinois ACEs Response Collaborative

Health & Medicine is the lead convener of the Illinois ACEs Response Collaborative, a group of multi-sectoral stakeholders committed to expanding the understanding of trauma and its impact on people's lives. Through advocacy and mobilization efforts, we work to put the issues of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and resilience on the forefront of the equity agenda in Illinois.

This year, the Collaborative made major strides toward our long-term goal of creating a trauma-informed, healing-centered Illinois, including the following key accomplishments:

- Led Illinois' fifth-annual Trauma-Informed Awareness Day, engaging over 300 partners, advocates, policymakers, and community members from across the state, representing diverse sectors and communities with a shared commitment to support resilience and thriving for all Illinoisans. The event featured a keynote address by Lieutenant Governor Juliana Stratton, highlighting her commitment to trauma-informed policy and systems change, followed by interactive breakout sessions on health, the criminal-legal system, youth and education, and community in which attendees shared their ideas and visions for healing in their communities.
- Developed and passed Senate Bill 646, establishing the Task Force for a Healing-Centered Illinois to support state and community-based agencies across multiple sectors to become trauma informed and healing centered.
- Reached 899 participants across 33 training sessions with 14 organizations, including seven free public trainings hosted by the Illinois ACEs Response Collaborative. We trained public health professionals, social service workers, public school teachers and social workers, and health care graduate students. Among these sessions, we presented at Chicago Public Schools' inaugural Healing-Centered Conference hosted by their Office of Social and Emotional Learning, developed a customized year-long series of our trainings for Cook County Department of Public Health, and shared a revamped session on burnout for community health workers through the HAP Foundation.

**"Healed people heal people. To fully realize the brighter future we seek, we need to heal, and we need to get other people to be healed. We all play our roles to uplift communities and provide the support for everyone to take the next step on this journey with us."**

**Juliana Stratton**, Illinois Lieutenant Governor, 2023 Trauma Informed Awareness Day



## Chicago Area Schweitzer Fellows Program

For 27 years, the Chicago Area Schweitzer Fellows Program has provided a platform for graduate students to design and implement innovative projects that improve the health and well-being of under-resourced and marginalized populations throughout Chicago. In collaboration with existing community-based organizations, Fellows use a broad public health lens to improve well-being and target the social determinants of health. Not only do their projects promote positive change within Chicago communities, the practical on-the-ground experiences of the Fellows complement Health & Medicine's policy and systems work.

This year, our Chicago Area Schweitzer Fellowship Program continued to build a pipeline of health care professionals committed to social justice and contributed to the community by:

- Revising the Fellowship learning objectives and curriculum to align with program priorities and National Schweitzer Fellowship Chapters
- Inviting vital stakeholders to participate in comprehensive review of the Fellowship program intended to set the direction of future activities
- Guiding the 2022–23 Schweitzer Fellows to reach 2,178 community members through 6,021 hours of service
- Welcoming 28 new fellows into a program who are meeting in person again, post-pandemic
- Providing financial support to three Fellows for Life (program alumni) through Seed Grants to continue and expand their health focused community collaborations
- Supporting more than 750 Fellows for Life with networking, leadership, and educational opportunities through both our own chapter and in partnership with other Schweitzer programs across the country

2023–24 Chicago Area Schweitzer Fellows enjoy a day together during the mid-year retreat.





Chicago AHEC Youth Pathway Program high schoolers celebrate graduation in the spring 2023 cohort. Pictured left to right: Jennifer Plascencia, Unique Walton-EI, Bella Michel, Ellie Edgeworth, Jennifer Macias, and Chicago AHEC and Workforce Programs Director Ronisha Edwards-Elliott.

## Chicago Area Health Education Center

The Chicago Area Health Education Center (AHEC) works at the intersection of policy and practice to recruit, train, and retain a diverse health care workforce committed to under-resourced and marginalized populations.

Highlights of the Center's work this year include the following:

- Successfully trained over 100 direct care workers in active listening and advanced active listening skills for caregivers of older adults
- Developed active listening train the trainer and piloted the program with over 60 interprofessional health professionals in Southern Illinois
- Recruited a new cohort of AHEC Scholars and convened a webinar on migrant health
- Recruited and trained two cohorts of high school juniors and seniors for the CHW Youth Pathway Program
- In partnership with the Chicagoland Healthcare Workforce Collaborative, increased Speakers' Bureau professionals and disciplines to include a more diverse portfolio for Chicago Public Schools and other partners



## Workforce—Community Health Workers

Community health workers (CHWs) are frontline public health workers who serve as trusted caregivers and are embedded in the communities they serve. Health & Medicine has a longstanding commitment to the CHW model, and we advocate at the state level and within health systems to strengthen the role and recognition of CHWs as integral members of the health care team.

Highlights from our work this year include the following:

- Successfully led the fifth year of our CHW Learning Collaborative Initiative in the Western Suburbs
- Supporting the Illinois Community Health Worker Association and the Illinois CHW Review Board as they work to support the CHW workforce, establish standard CHW certification, and operationalize Medicaid reimbursement
- Expanded learning and networking opportunities for West Suburban CHWs with the quarterly CHW Learning Lab
- Supported 14 organizations through the expanded Cook County Department of Public Health CHW Learning Collaborative model
- Presented at the National CHW Association Unity Conference with Sinai Urban Health Institute, the Cook County Department of Public Health, and private foundations of the West Suburbs on a partnership-building process for CHW sustainability

Community Health Workers visit BEDS Plus for the June meeting of the West Suburban CHW Learning Collaborative.



## Workforce—Public Health Workforce Collaborative

Health & Medicine is the convener of the Public Health Workforce Collaborative (PHWC), a coalition of over 50 organizations working to build a unified, sustainable, and equitable public health workforce in the Chicagoland region. The Collaborative includes the region's local health departments, public health academic institutions, Federally Qualified Health Centers, funders and training providers, and community-based organizations, bringing together leading public health employers to identify shared challenges and collectively build and implement improvement strategies.

Highlights from this year include the following:

- Reconvening the PHWC with returning and new members and establishing a new mission, vision, and focus areas for our work together
- Launching three Action Teams that work on Supporting Workers, Building Career Pathways, and Growing Capacity and Funding Sustainability, respectively
- Building collaborative applications for the Good Jobs Challenge grant, which will cover tuition and related costs to train new and incumbent community health workers, doulas, midwives, behavioral health workers, EMTs, front-line FQHC workers, and certified nursing assistants
- Welcoming our sister table, the Chicagoland Healthcare Workforce Collaborative (CHWC), which supports workforce development in Chicago's large health and hospital systems, under the Health & Medicine umbrella
- Joining the CHWC in relaunching the Health Careers Youth Pathways Committee, which seeks to increase awareness and recruitment of young people into training opportunities and jobs in the health sector





## **Birth Center Task Force**

For over 30 years, Health & Medicine's Birth Center Task Force has led the movement to establish and expand birth centers in Illinois. Birth centers provide an alternative home-like setting for pregnant people and their families to give birth outside of their home or a hospital following a normal, uncomplicated, and low-risk pregnancy. They offer cost-effective, high-quality prenatal care and obstetrical services along with other community health care services.

Health & Medicine has long championed the value of birth centers to provide cost-effective, high-quality prenatal and obstetrical services, offering birthing people and their families an additional option when choosing where to give birth in Illinois. We continue to serve as a resource and planning force for the continued development of legislation and establishment of birth centers to ensure that birth centers remain viable in the state.



**“Due to the active involvement of the Illinois Birth Center Task Force of Health & Medicine Policy Research Group, there are now four Birth Centers providing care to birthing people in Illinois, with another four Birth Centers under development. Since 2012, there have been over 1000 babies delivered at Birth Centers in Illinois. Compared to hospital births, birth center care is consistently associated with lower cesarean rates, fewer medical interventions, higher rates of breastfeeding, and greater satisfaction with care.”**

**Lon Berkeley**, Co-Chair, Illinois Birth Center Task Force; Treasurer, Health & Medicine Board

**Gayle Riedmann, CNM**, Co-Chair, Illinois Birth Center Task Force; Health & Medicine Board Member

Key achievements of the Birth Center Task Force include:

- Submission of extensive recommendations to the Illinois Department of Public Health relative to proposed Administrative Rules for the new Birth Center Licensing Act (PA 102-518)
- Fiscal sponsorship of the new Chicago Southside Birth Center, which will be led by Black midwives and offer professional healthcare and counseling services embedded in the local community
- Assisting in securing a small increase in the Medicaid reimbursement rate for birth centers
- Ongoing representation at the I-PROMOTE Illinois Maternal Child Health Task Force coalition to increase public awareness of birth and maternity setting options
- Ongoing representation, advice, and support of the recommendations to collaborative organizations for IDFP (Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation) proposed Administrative Rules for Certified Professional Midwives
- Completion of a UISPH project “Mapping the Key Events, People, and Politic,” around describing the successful passage of the Birth Center Licensing Act in 2021



# In the Media

## Media Consultation and Press Coverage

As a trusted resource on health equity matters in Illinois, Health & Medicine elevates issues of health and social justice by collaborating with the media. This coverage serves to increase attention to core issues, provide accurate information and analysis to the public, and raise awareness of Health & Medicine's mission and programming. Throughout the year, WBEZ, Crain's Chicago Business, Illinois Health News, Chicago Sun-Times, and other news outlets sought insights from Health & Medicine for coverage of various public health and health-related coverage.

### OP-ED: March 2, 2023

*We need to secure the right to health care for all Illinoisans*

Crain's Chicago Business published a Q&A by Executive Director Margie Schaps, Policy Director Wesley Epplin, and Board Member Mike Gelder. **Read the op-ed.** [↗](#)

<https://www.chicagobusiness.com/opinion/opinion-illinois-needs-keep-residents-medicare>

### INTERVIEW: March 27, 2023

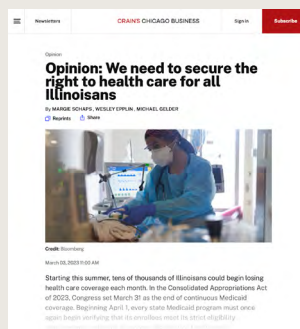
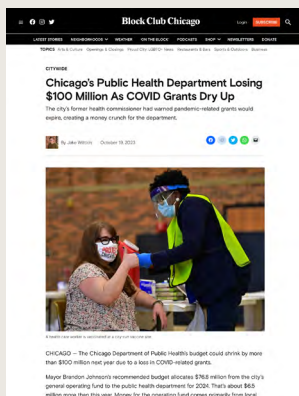
VoiceAmerica's *Resiliency Within* podcast interviewed Illinois ACEs Response Collaborative Director Bridget Gavaghan and long-time consultant Audrey Stillerman as inspiring global leaders actively promoting healing and resiliency. **Listen to the podcast.** [↗](#)

<https://www.voiceamerica.com/guest/61920/bridget-gavaghan#guest-episodes>

### RADIO REPORT: August 18, 2023

Margie Schaps interviewed on WBEZ regarding Swedish Hospital's decision to no longer allow people to choose a midwife only option at the hospital. **Listen to the radio report.** [↗](#)

<https://www.wbez.org/stories/wbez-newscast-for-friday-august-18-2023-5-00-pm/2ba619cd-681f-4797-b79a-2011bc9a19c1>



**INTERVIEW: August 28, 2023**

*Swedish Hospital ends midwife-only care, patients speak out*

Margie Schaps interviewed on WBEZ's Reset with Sasha-Ann Simons regarding Swedish Hospital's decision to no longer allow people to choose a midwife only option at the hospital.

**Listen to the interview.** [↗](#)

<https://www.wbez.org/stories/swedish-hospital-ends-midwife-only-care-patients-speak-out/9dfe216d-6304-4a1e-b131-c49058f568c9>

**OP-ED: October 6, 2023**

*Chicago's Public Health Department gets alarmingly little funding from the city.*

*That needs to change now.*

Wesley Epplin, Health & Medicine Policy Director, discusses funding for the Chicago Department of Public Health in a recent Op-Ed in Crain's Chicago Business. **Read the op-ed.** [↗](#)

<https://www.chicagobusiness.com/opinion/chicago-public-health-department-needs-more-funding-opinion>

**PUBLISHED: October 19, 2023**

*Chicago's Public Health Department Losing \$100 Million As COVID Grants Dry Up*

Wesley Epplin, Health & Medicine Policy Director, discusses funding for the Chicago Department of Public Health. **Read the article.** [↗](#)

<https://blockclubchicago.org/2023/10/19/chicagos-public-health-department-losing-100-million-as-grant-funding-dries-up/>

**PUBLISHED: November 21, 2023**

*Underfunding In Chicago's Health Department Hurts Black and Brown Communities Most, Advocates Say*

Wesley Epplin, Health & Medicine Policy Director, discusses funding for the Chicago Department of Public Health. **Read the article.** [↗](#)

<https://blockclubchicago.org/2023/11/21/chicagos-underfunded-public-health-department-hurts-black-and-brown-neighbors-most-advocates-say/>



# 2023 Health & Medicine Awards Gala

Each year, Health & Medicine hosts an Awards Gala at which we honor extraordinary public health leaders whose work embodies our shared commitment to equity and social justice. Congratulations to this year's award winners!



## Health

Nasir Zakaria, *Founder & Executive Director, Rohingya Culture Center*

## Medicine

Jorelle Alexander, DMD, MPH, *Department Chair, Oral Health, Cook County Health*

## Policy

Katie Thiede, *Cofounder & Executive Director, ICAN! (Illinois Contraceptive Access Now)*

## Research

Diana Lemos, PhD, MPH, *Director of Evaluation and Learning, Center for Health Equity, American Medical Association*

## Group

Acclivus, Inc.

## Group

Healthy Illinois Campaign

## Emerging Leader

Bonnie Ewald, *Managing Director, Center for Health and Social Care Integration, Manager of Strategic Development and Policy, Social Work and Community Health, Rush University Medical Center*

## Emerging Leader

Ezekiel Richardson, MD, *Emergency Medicine Physician, Cook County Preventive Medicine Fellow*

# With Gratitude

Health & Medicine expresses sincere gratitude for all of those who have made our work possible in 2023—individual one-time donors, monthly donors, funders, event sponsors, and contributors to our Summer and Winter Friends campaigns.

## **\$100,000 and above**

Ann & Robert H Lurie Children's Hospital  
of Chicago  
Chicago Department of Public Health  
Cook County Department of Public Health  
Fry Family Foundation  
Health First Fund  
Illinois Department of Public Health  
Michael Reese Health Trust  
RRF Foundation on Aging  
University of Illinois at Chicago

## **\$50,000–\$99,999**

Chicago Community Trust  
Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership  
Coleman Family Foundation  
Community Memorial Foundation  
Healthy Communities Foundation  
Illinois Children's Healthcare Foundation  
Polk Bros. Foundation

## **\$25,000–\$49,999**

Anonymous  
Chicagoland Workforce Funder Alliance  
Christopher Family Foundation  
Mike & Karen Koronkowski

## **\$10,000–\$24,999**

Blowitz-Ridgeway Foundation  
Rachel Kohler  
Adele Simmons

## **\$5,000–\$9,999**

American Medical Association  
Center for Health Care Strategies  
Chicago Department Of Public Health  
Joseph & Bessie Feinberg Foundation  
Midwestern University  
Rush Center for Excellence in Aging  
Rush University Medical Center  
UIC College of Dentistry  
University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine  
Lon Berkeley  
Claudia Fegan  
Marsie Hass & Scott Hite  
Caryle & Robert Perlman  
Amy Squires & Sarah Squires-Doyle  
Robert & Marie Weissbourd

## **\$2,500–\$4,999**

ACLU of Illinois  
After School Matters  
The Chicago Bulls  
Chicago Federation of Labor, Workforce &  
Community Initiative  
Concordia University  
Jewish United Fund of Chicago  
Northwestern University Institute for Public  
Health and Medicine  
SB Friedman & Co  
Leatrice Berman & Stephen Sandler  
Mardge Cohen & Gordon Schiff  
Fikry Ibrahim & Mona Rizk Ibrahim  
Sara Jean Lindholm  
Lisa Oppenheim & Steve Rothschild



**\$1,000–\$2,499**

Age Options  
Alivio Medical Center  
ATHENA Fund  
Center for Health Equity  
Transformation  
Elevate  
Erie Family Health Centers  
Thresholds  
Prevention First  
UIC School of Public Health  
Karol Dean & Ralph Cataldo  
Janice L. Benson & Barry  
Mizock  
Suzanne Carlberg-Racich &  
Blake Racich  
Rowland Chang  
Raymond Curry & Kristi  
Kirschner  
Mary Pat Eitzen & Robert  
Bowser  
Sodabeh Etminan & Azar  
Majeed  
Joe Feinglass & Mardi Klevs  
Lachlan Forrow  
Robyn Golden  
Arthur Hoffman & Paula  
Weinbaum  
Ray Jorgensen  
Robert & Barbara Katzfey  
Maurice Lemon & Catherine  
Kallal  
Ray Mendez  
Myrtis Meyer & Martin Cohen  
Anna Murphy  
Elaine Murray  
Sonia Oyola  
John Raba & Suzie Muellman  
Gayle Riedmann  
Susan Rogers

Anthony & Jane Rothschild  
Margie Schaps & Jack Doppelt  
Debra Shore

**\$500–\$999**

CPASS Foundation  
Allan Alson & Sue Ann Glaser  
Anne B. Blanton  
Rachel Boutte  
Michael Gelder & Mary Rita  
Luecke  
Joy L. Getzenberg  
Barbara Goodman & Seth  
Weinberger  
Carolyn Goodman  
Merrill & Karen Goozner  
JoAnn Gruca  
Ada Mary Gugenheim & Jon  
Will  
Julie Hamos  
Rachel Hayman & Edward  
Michael  
Rebecca Janowitz  
Kiran Joshi  
Jack Kaplan & Marian Macsai  
Rudolf Kumapley  
Paul Lehman & Ronna Stamm  
Joan D. Levin  
Michael Losoff & April Singer  
Antoinette Lullo  
Jennifer McGowan-Tomke &  
Christopher Tomke  
David Melton & Nancy Segal  
Erika Meraz  
Noelle Moore  
Linda Rae Murray  
Michael Nathanson  
Heather O'Donnell  
Kevin Osten-Garner  
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Sharon Ranieri  
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Lisa Rosenberg  
Rachel Rubin  
Leonard & Linda Rubinowitz  
Erica Salem & Patrick Lenihan  
Robert & Lezli Schiff  
Judy Schneider  
John Jay & Robin Adair Shannon  
Audrey Stillerman & David  
Freedman  
Dan Swartzman  
Kai Tao  
Erin Tiburcio  
Karin Weaver  
Anita Weinberg & Mark Miller  
Mildred Williamson  
Marsha Yankelev  
Joseph Zaroni & Albert Prieto  
Sheldon Zenner & Ellen Morgan

**\$500 and Below**

Asmani Adhav  
Karen Aguirre  
Gary Alder  
Jorelle Alexander  
Joseph Altonji & Cynthia Nethercut  
Erin Ammer  
Meera Ananth  
Allison Arwady  
Ndang Azang-Njaah  
Verneda Bachus  
Claudia Baier  
Adea Bajgora  
Tami Bartell  
John Bartlett  
Nick & Patricia Basan  
Maya Basan

Stephani Becker	Mary Driscoll	Jeni Hebert-Beirne
Tatia Beckwith	Peg Dublin	Allison Heffernan
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Eddie Burks	Gowri Eswaran	Todd Ingier
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Jill Cuba	Heidi Gider	Beatrice Kumar
Jennifer Cunningham	Robert Ginsburg	Rebecca Lai
Charles Cush	Ed Gogol	Richard Larson & Jane Winter
Glenna Cush	David Goldberg & Mary Fabri	Margaret Lassar
Jeannie Cusj	Arvid & Renu Goyal	Wayne Lerner
Andrew Davis & Lynn Dykstra	David & Elizabeth Graham	Emily Levi-D'Ancona
Mort & Reva Denlow	Benn Greenspan	Stuart & Roberta Levin
Skylar Dennerlein	Colleen Grogan	Laura Liao
Teri Derr	Stephen Grossmark	Mary Livingston-Weston
Grace Dorsey	Arden Handler	Carolyn C. Lopez
Meghan Doyle	Nancy & Tom Hanson	Lissette Lopez
Misty Drake	Joseph Harrington	Katherine Lueken
	Ava Harston	Dennis Lueken
	Cheryl Heads	



Douglas Lueken	Simon Piller	Andy Slater & Rene Matatia
Amy Lulich	Ratna Kanumury Prachand	Thomas Smith
Donald Lurye	Mavis Prall	Gerta Sorensen
Rose Mabwa	Patrick Quinn	Kanee Soufi
Ramana Madhavpeddi	Subramanian Ramachandran	Marya Spont-Lemus
Ina Marks & Roger Harper	Usha & Sumant Ranji	Shreedevi Srinidhi
Ellen Mason & Henry Cjetin	Vaidehi Ravikumar	Nikki & Fredric Stein
Sharon & James McGowan	Rachel Reichlin	Elizabeth Stigler
Robert McKersie	Becky Reimers	Bryan Stokes
John & Marsha McKnight	Mike Reschke	Sajid Syed
Erin McNerney Smith	Jessie Reuteler	Sharon Telleen
Connie Mennella-Zasso	David Rice	Dan Terkell
Barry & Laura Miller	Sarah S. Rittner	Joanna Tess
Andrea Miller-Finch	Jessica Rodriguez	Sidney Thomas
Phyllis & Michael Mitzen	Jeremy Rosenberg	Peyton Thomas
Naoko Muramatsu	Walter Rosenberg	Meg Tomlins
Joseph Musco	Maggie Rothberg	Cirstin Tremante
Jason Nerad	Jane Rothman	David & Bonita Turner
Esmeralda Nettles	Emmy Rothschild	Jim & Katherine Valek
Michelle Newman	Joel Rubin	Carmen Velasquez
Nathan Nichols	Julianne G. Russell & Steve Cetjin	Alisa Velonis
Pamela Nichols	Norm & Brae Ryan	Sarah Wagener
Judith Norsigian	Elizabeth Salisbury-Afshar	Babs Waldman & Avi Shaked
Gina Novick	Daniel Sayas Jr.	Hunter Wall
Timothy O'Connor	Ellen Schumer	Jean Waller
Stephen and Lori O'Hara	William Schwer & Mary Pat Benz	Candace Wayne
Hokan Ojert	Stefani Scott	Janet Webb
Samantha Oliveri	Eileen Scudder	James Webster
Karin Opacich	Alton Shader	Richard Weil
David Orr & Kim Bobo	Belle Shenoy	Richard Wilk
Peter Orris & Sita Rao	David Shevrin	Tom Wilson
Natalie Palm	Susan Sholtes	Oriana Wilson
Judy Panko-Reis & Sheldon Reis	Leslie and Stuart Shulruff	Gabrielle Wimer
Ella Paratusic	Fariha Siddiquie	Donna Curran Wolf & Benjamin Wolf
Michelle Pastrana	Norman Singfield	Sherrod Woods
Tulsi Patel	Lauren Singh	Polly Young & Bill Veale
Audrey Percival	Ann Sitrin	James & Katherine Zartman
Brianna Peters	Abigail Sivan	
Oleh Petrus		
Olyvia Phillips		

# 2023 Board of Directors and Staff

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Schweitzer Fellows Program*

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Response Collaborative*

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*Career Pathways Analyst*

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*Health & Aging Organizer*

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Manager, Illinois ACEs  
Response Collaborative*

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*Director of Development &  
Communications*

Anson Tong  
*Health Policy Analyst*

Anna Yankelev  
*Director of Strategic Workforce  
Initiatives*



## Staff Affiliations

Alliance for Research in Chicagoland Communities	Healthy Illinois Campaign	Northwestern Program in Public Health (Community Engagement Committee)
BRIDGES Community Planning Team	Illinois Childhood Trauma Coalition	Partnership for Healthy Chicago
Collaborative Action Team	Illinois Coalition for Occupational Safety and Health	Cook County Equity Fund Taskforce
training for Community Health—Older adult Network (CATCH-ON)	Illinois Community Health Workers Association	Protect Our Care Illinois
Chicagoland Community Health Worker Training Alliance	(Finance and Reimbursement Committee, Workforce Development Committee)	Resilient Schools Certification Steering Committee
Chicago Foundation for Women (Giving Circle)	Illinois Family Caregiver Coalition	Resources and Programs for Increasing Diversity in Health Professions (RAPID-IL) Advisory Board
Chicago Healthy Housing Coalition	Illinois Public Health Association	University of Illinois Center for Healthy Work (Advisory Board)
Chicago Housing Justice League	Nominating Committee for the Independent Board of the Cook County Health System	University of Illinois Chicago School of Public Health Partner Advisory Board
Chicago Women in Philanthropy	National Albert Schweitzer Fellows Program Collaborative	
Collaborative for Health Equity Cook County (Leadership Team)	Network of Employer-led Workforce Solutions (NEWS)	
Cook County Community Information Exchange Steering Committee		

## Health & Medicine facilitates:

Illinois Aging  
Together

PUBLIC  
HEALTH  
WORKFORCE  
COLLABORATIVE

CHICAGOLAND  
HEALTHCARE  
WORKFORCE  
COLLABORATIVE

HEALTH CAREERS  
YOUTH  
PATHWAYS  
COMMITTEE

# Equity Intern Programs

## Ben Squires Equity Internship



Inspired by their father's commitment to mentoring future generations, Amy Squires and Sarah Squires-Doyle graciously support the Ben Squires Equity Internship. As a board member at Health & Medicine Policy Research Group for 25 years, Ben made significant and lasting contributions to public health in Illinois. In 2021, Ben posthumously received the Quentin D. Young Board of Directors Award of Excellence for his tireless commitment to public health and his mentorship of young people starting out in their careers. Established in the fall of 2021, the Internship has supported five interns.

## 2023 Equity Interns

Nicole Glaser  
Marissa Jones\*  
Norma Narsa  
Joanna Paul  
Denesha Pruitt  
Yasmeen Santana†

*\*HiteHass Equity Intern*

*†Ben Squires Equity Intern*

## HiteHass Equity Internship



Drs. Marsie Hass and Scott Hite generously support one equity intern each year through the HassHite Equity Internship. Drs. Hass and Hite established the named internship in 2023 to further the work of Health & Medicine co-founder Dr. Quentin Young by bringing more equity to health care. "Although there have been many initiatives to further this goal by educating and encouraging doctors to view health equity as an inalienable right, the country has not yet come far enough to actualize Dr. Young's vision," they say. Rooted in classical rabbinic teachings, Drs. Hass and Hite believe that social policy legislation should provide extra protection to those potentially at a disadvantage. "We believe that we must continue to do what we can to promote equity in both health and medicine."

**"During my internship, I researched access to gender-affirming healthcare in Illinois and, specifically, what that may look like for transgender youth who have traveled from out-of-state to receive care. This internship proved to be a valuable experience, providing me with an opportunity to work toward a more just, healthy, and equitable future for transgender youth while honing my research and advocacy skills."**

**Yasmeen Santana**, Ben Squires Equity Intern



# 2023-24 Named Schweitzer Fellowships

## Tarik F. Ibrahim, MD, MS, Fellow

### Tyler M. Linder, Rush University, Medicine

Tyler is facilitating a community educational program through Rush University and ProjectsWish Chicago for underserved youth affected by gang violence.

ProjectsWish hosts basketball tournaments during times of high gang violence, and by working together,

this program educates children about mental/physical health and provides information regarding health care.



Tarik F. Ibrahim, MD, MS



Tyler M. Linder

## Frank J. Indihar, MD, Fellows

### Ivana Chmielewski, North Park University, Nursing and Business

Through collaboration with Swedish Hospital, Ivana

developed literacy education with a focus on mental health and social determinants of health to provide transcultural nursing resources that empower the community of immigrants and refugees, minorities, and unhoused individuals in a safe community space.

### Preetham Kastury, University of Chicago, Medicine

Preetham created a longitudinal community-based curriculum for older adults in the South Side of Chicago, focusing on digital equity topics (digital well-being, access, safety, literacy, etc.).

Preetham's project is in collaboration with the SHARE (Supporting Healthy Aging Resources & Education) Network.



Frank J. Indihar, MD



Ivana Chmielewski



Preetham Kastury

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**Leslie Nickels, MEd, PhD, Fellow**

**Fatima Rasoul, Loyola University, Social Work**

Fatima developed a program to provide social supports for refugee and immigrant mothers. Her program foci are maternal education and mental health support to promote maternal and child health, as well as providing support to diminish the bureaucratic barriers preventing access to social welfare programs.



Leslie Nickels, MEd, PhD



Fatima Rasoul

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**Bob and Caryle Perlman Fellow**

**Angela Victoria Olivar, University of Illinois Chicago, Dentistry**

Angela is raising awareness about the importance of oral healthcare by providing educational sessions addressing factors that limit Latino communities in seeking continuous oral healthcare services.



Bob and Caryle Perlman



Angela Victoria Olivar

# Advisory Councils and Committees

## Chicago Area Schweitzer Advisory Council

Ray Mendez, MD, MA  
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Claudia Baier, MPH  
François Blumenfeld-Kouchner, MA,  
PhD, DO  
Raymond Curry, MD  
Misty G. Drake  
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Eva Hernandez-Thomas, MSN  
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## Chicago Area Schweitzer Fellows Program Fellows for Life Steering Committee

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Nyahne Bergeron, MPH  
Kelli Bosak, LCSW  
Eddie Burks, MEd, PsyD  
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Peter Byer, MSW  
Ellen Byrne, MPP  
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Bailey Huffman, MSW  
Courtney Hughes, MS, PhD  
Sue Hughes, PhD  
Kim Hunt, MUPP, MPP  
Elaine Jurkowski, MSW, PhD  
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Gretchen Knowlton  
Winnie Lam, MSW  
Margaret Laraviere  
Diane Limas  
Sara Lindholm  
Rose Mabwa  
Ryan McGraw, MS  
Phyllis Mitzen  
Darby Morhardt, PhD  
Naoko Muramatsu, PhD  
Rebecca Ozaki, MSW  
Joy Paeth  
Laura Payne, PhD  
Susan Real  
Margie Schaps, MPH  
Jennifer Schindl, MS  
Desiree Scully, MA  
Raj Shah, MD  
Itadel Shelabi, MSW  
Diane Slezak, MBA  
Kyle Smith  
Padraic Stanley, MSW, LCSW  
Richard Suarez  
Tim Wang, MPH  
Tom Wilson  
Amy Zimmerman, JD



**"We can't achieve health justice without fighting for it.  
Health & Medicine stands up, shows up, and speaks out  
for equitable health systems every single day."**

**Steven K. Rothschild, MD, President, HMPRG Board of Directors**



# Financial Report

January 1–December 31, 2023

Unaudited financials as of January 15, 2024. Final audited financials will be posted on the website when complete.

## Statement of Financial Position

### Assets

Cash + Cash Equivalents	\$1,036,555
Accounts Receivable	1,509,664
Prepaid Expenses	4,346
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$2,550,590</b>
Property and Equipment	1,792
Other Assets	3,969
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$2,556,350</b>

### Liabilities and Net Assets

#### Liabilities Accounts

Payable and Accrued Expenses	\$60,844
Amounts Held for Others	473,025
Payroll Liabilities	8,789
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$544,119</b>

#### Net Assets

Unrestricted	\$610,487
Temporarily Restricted	1,433,115
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>\$2,012,231</b>

<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>\$2,556,350</b>
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## Statement of Activities

### Support and Revenue

Grants and Contributions	\$1,650,616
Government Contracts	765,901
Special Events (net of direct costs)	91,759
Program Income	36,167
Interest	7,705
<b>Total Support and Revenue</b>	<b>\$2,552,148</b>

### Expenses

Program Services	\$1,966,370
Support Services Administrative	421,569
Fundraising	152,421
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$2,540,360</b>

Net Assets Beginning of Year	\$2,053,602
<b>Net Assets End of Year</b>	<b>\$2,012,231</b>

## Fiscal Sponsorships

*In 2023 Health & Medicine acted as a fiscal sponsor for the following organizations and programs:*

### Rush University

- CATCH-ON Geriatric Workforce Enhancement Program
- Center for Health and Social Care Integration (CHaSCI)
- E4 Center of Excellence in Behavioral Health Disparities in Aging

### CHE Cook County

Chicago South Side Birth Center (CSSBC)



# HEALTH & MEDICINE

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