

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Foundation



Brilliant Detroit. Photo by Zak Bratto.

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

— Equity. Quality. Access. —



**READY
TO HELP**



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Our history



In 1980, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan created the Michigan Health Care Education and Research Foundation as a supporting organization to conduct and fund research directed at cost containment and quality of care.

Now known as the BCBSM Foundation, our ongoing commitment is to grantmaking efforts that continue to provide a means to improve our community's capacity to conduct research, and to implement and evaluate community-inspired programs to improve health. Our goal is to always be there ready to help Michigan communities achieve their best health. We know providing increased capacity is key to discovering innovations to improve health outcomes in our state and access to quality, high-value care for all Michiganders.

The history of the Foundation speaks to Blue Cross' social mission — increasing access to affordable health care, enhancing the quality of care patients receive and improving the health of Michigan's citizens and communities. Our grants support both creative solutions in health care and efforts to ensure access to care for Michiganders.

The diversity, relevance and practical application of the research and service delivery projects we fund have earned us a reputation for excellence and innovation in health philanthropy.

Over the past 44 years, the Foundation has served as a catalyst to encourage the dissemination and utilization of insights gained from our funded projects.

Through 2023, we provided nearly \$64 million in grant funding from an initial endowment of \$20 million from Michigan physicians. The Foundation has a current endowment balance of approximately \$55 million.

Our support for university and hospital research, more than \$35 million, helps to address and enhance patient safety, and the quality and value of care. The balance of our investments, more than \$29 million, helps give universities and community organizations hands-on access to general care and increases the availability of innovative care solutions.

The Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, is the philanthropic affiliate of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network. All three organizations are nonprofit corporations and independent licensees of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.

For more information about our work and grant programs available, please visit bcbsm.com/foundation.



Motherly Intercession

Mission

To support health care research and innovative programs designed to improve the health of Michigan residents

Vision

Michigan's population will enjoy improved health and access to quality, high-value care. The Foundation will be a leader in fostering the development of socially responsible and innovative solutions to critical issues that affect the health of Michigan residents.

Values

- Commitment to quality performance
- Honesty, integrity, collaboration and teamwork
- Effective and efficient use of resources
- Excellence in programs, grants and communications
- Advancing health equity and eliminating health care disparities
- Increasing access to health care, improving the quality of health care and increasing the value of health care



Daniel J. Loepp
President and Chief Executive Officer
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan



Lynda M. Rossi
Executive Vice President
Strategy, Innovation and Public Affairs
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan



Presidents' letter



Strengthening population health in communities

For more than 85 years, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan has been committed to providing affordable access to care and innovative health insurance products that support the health of our members and customers. Through the efforts of the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Foundation, we are ready to help communities and local organizations solve complex health concerns.

The BCBSM Foundation is an integral part of our social mission to increase access to affordable health care, enhance patients' quality of care and improve the health of Michigan's citizens and communities. Focused on the health of people in all 83 Michigan counties, the Foundation's support of community-inspired programs and research addresses some of the state's most pressing health issues.

In 2023, the BCBSM Foundation awarded research and program grants to address the health of children and assist people planning for childbirth, seniors and people affected by behavioral health and substance use disorder concerns. This year's annual report highlights the BCBSM Foundation's grantmaking commitments to create a healthier Michigan through equity, quality and access.

By working with community organizations, physicians, researchers and other Michigan foundations, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and the BCBSM Foundation have reinforced their shared commitment to creating healthier outcomes for our state.

Daniel J. Loepp

Lynda Rossi





Audrey J. Harvey

Executive Director and CEO

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Foundation



Shauna R. Diggs, M.D.

Chairwoman, Board of Directors

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Foundation



From the Executive Director and Board Chairwoman



Responding to Michigan's health needs

The Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Foundation remains committed to a healthier Michigan and is ready to help community organizations, physicians, researchers and doctoral students respond to Michigan's health needs.

Through listening and learning sessions with people and leaders of community organizations, cities, municipalities and divisions of Michigan's Department of Health and Human Services about the health needs of Michiganders, we decided to continue grantmaking in health equity; health care value and access; the health of children, people planning for childbirth and seniors; and behavioral health and substance use disorder.

We responded to Michigan's health needs by awarding more than \$2.6 million to support community health projects. More than \$1.6 million was awarded in response to requests from communities and researchers to address critical health needs. One of our collaborative grants tackles health equity and infant-maternal health — a first-of-its-kind program — Rx Kids in Flint, which offers funds to support prenatal and newborn care. Collaborators include other Michigan foundations and the state of Michigan. The program will be evaluated by both the community and university researchers seeking to inform state and national policy on social determinants of health affecting young families, and economic and racial justice.

Addressing Michigan's health needs is too big to tackle alone. Thus, we continued our partnership with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan by collaboratively funding \$300,000 in grants to address maternal health equity, and food and nutrition insecurity. We also continued our collaborative funding efforts with the Ethel and James Flinn Foundation, the Michigan Health Endowment Fund and the Superior Health Foundation to address the behavioral health needs of Michiganders with nearly \$1.1 million in grant funding. Our collaboration with Superior Health Foundation and the Michigan Health Endowment Fund provided more than \$832,000 in funding to seven organizations to address pediatric mental health in the Upper Peninsula.

This year's annual report details our commitment to a healthier Michigan, remaining ready to help and able to respond to the state's health needs through grantmaking and collaborative funding efforts. In 2024, we look forward to new and continued partnerships to improve the health of Michiganders. We invite you to follow our progress by visiting our new website at [Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Foundation | BCBSM](https://www.mibluesperspectives.com/bcbsm-foundation) and subscribing to our blog at [mibluesperspectives.com/bcbsm-foundation](https://www.mibluesperspectives.com/bcbsm-foundation).

Audrey J. Harvey

Shauna Ryder Diggs

Community impact



Total grants by region

TOTAL GRANTS AWARDED: \$2,605,161.93**

Southeast Michigan: \$801,788*

County	Grants awarded	Amount awarded
Macomb	1	\$2,000
Monroe	1	\$38,000
Oakland	4	\$65,368
Washtenaw	11	\$167,300
Wayne	12	\$529,120*

Thumb Area Michigan: \$53,826

County	Grants awarded	Amount awarded
Huron	1	\$15,000
Tuscola	1	\$38,826

Bay Area Michigan: \$97,000

County	Grants awarded	Amount awarded
Genesee	3	\$97,000

Mid-Michigan: \$787,063*

County	Grants awarded	Amount awarded
Ingham	12	\$721,063*
Isabella	4	\$66,000

West Michigan: \$209,600*

County	Grants awarded	Amount awarded
Kalamazoo	2	\$100,000*
Kent	6	\$39,600
Muskegon	1	\$20,000
Ottawa	1	\$50,000

Northern Michigan: \$103,360*

County	Grants awarded	Amount awarded
Benzie	1	\$2,360*
Charlevoix	1	\$30,000
Grand Traverse	2	\$60,000
Otsego	4	\$11,000

Upper Peninsula: \$552,524.93*

County	Grants awarded	Amount awarded
Delta	1	\$70,194*
Houghton	3	\$41,000
Marquette	7	\$441,330.93*

*Includes partner funding

**Includes partner funding of \$1,381,547.50

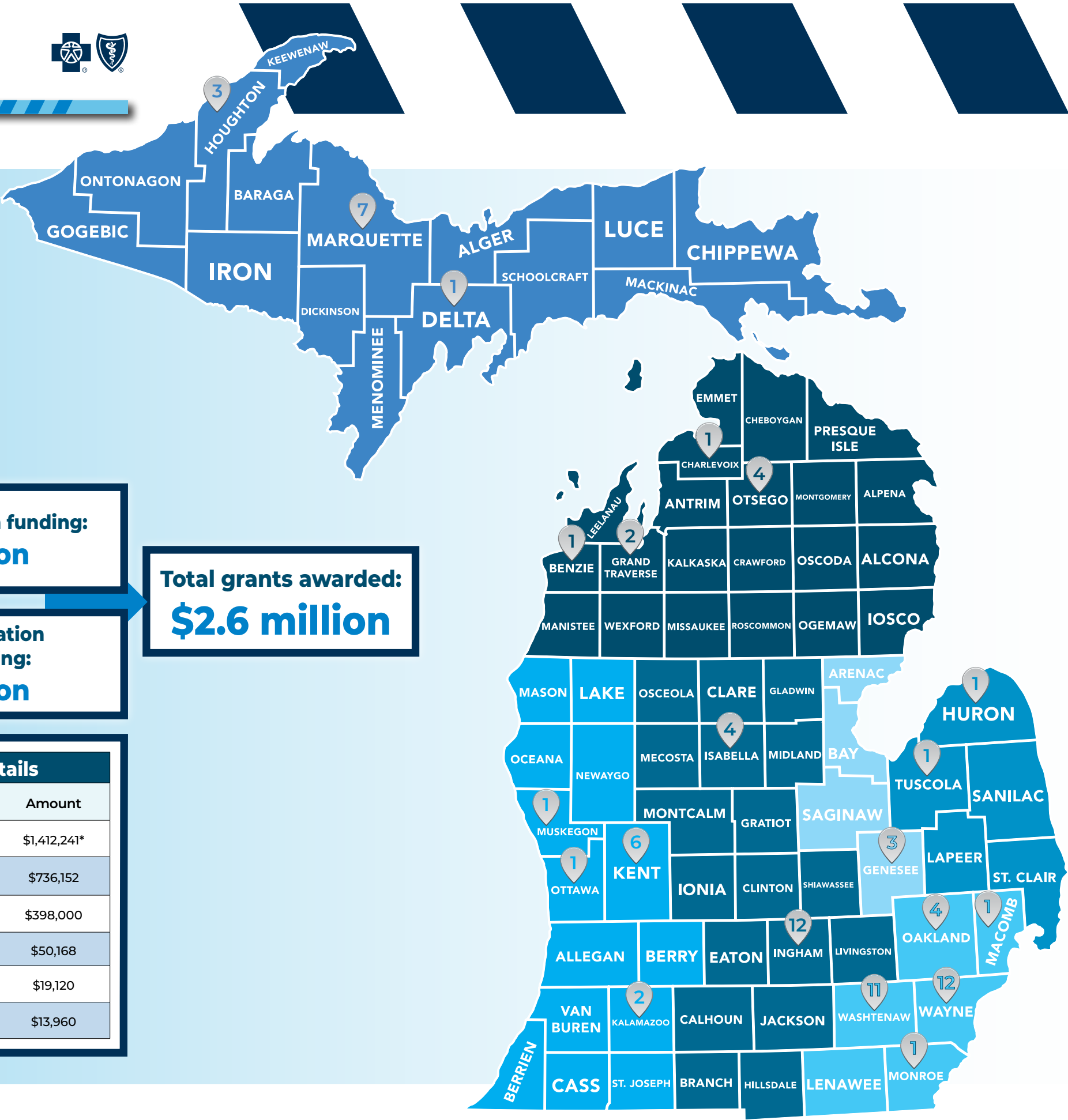
BCBSM Foundation funding:
\$1.6 million

BCBSM Foundation
partner funding:
\$1.0 million

Total grants awarded:
\$2.6 million

Funding program details

Program	Number of grants	Amount
Request for Proposal	14	\$1,412,241*
Community Health Matching	31	\$736,152
Investigator Initiated	7	\$398,000
Student Award	18	\$50,168
Physician Investigator	2	\$19,120
Proposal Development	7	\$13,960





BCBSM Foundation invests \$90,000 in cancer prevention and access to screening for Black Michiganders

As cancer screening rates in Michigan return to prepandemic levels, more focus can be given to the unique challenges of populations that have historically low rates of cancer screening and follow-up appointments for abnormal cancer screening results. Cancer screening rates among Black Michiganders are usually among the lowest in the state. The BCBSM Foundation invested in efforts to improve that in 2023.

According to the American Cancer Society, cervical cancer screening prevalence declined in Black women ages 21 to 65 years from 90% in 2000 to 82% in 2015, and has since increased to 87% in 2018. Black women appear to be less likely to receive recommended follow-up testing after a positive cervical cancer screening test. Additionally, the American Cancer Society reports that, despite similar self-reported colorectal cancer screening prevalence, Black people are more likely to receive a lower-quality colonoscopy. Recent research suggests that the screening disparity between Black and white patients has increased in recent years as rates continue to improve in white people (by 1% per year from 2008 to 2016) but have stabilized in Black people. Colorectal cancer mortality rates in Black individuals younger than 55 have increased by about 1% per year since the mid-2000s.¹



In 2023, the BCBSM Foundation awarded \$90,000 to address cancer prevention, screening and follow-up among Black people. The Foundation awarded Dr. Diane Harper \$10,000 of that through the Physician Investigator Research award to learn more about the reasons Black women forego follow-up testing after abnormal cervical cancer screenings. And we awarded \$30,000 to the R.L. Jones Community Outreach Center, under a Community Health Matching Grant, and \$50,000 to Dr. Todd Lucas at the Michigan State University College of Human Medicine, under an Investigator-Initiated Research Award Grant, to work together to create culturally adapted education to promote colorectal cancer prevention in Flint, and establish colorectal cancer prevention, education and risk-assessment resources at the R.L. Jones Community Outreach Center.

Dr. Harper has found that Black women have the highest cervical cancer screening rates of any race or ethnicity in the U.S., but also have the highest rates of cancer with the highest mortality. This paradox is not understood. The work funded by the BCBSM Foundation will allow Dr. Harper to study follow-up rates after an abnormal cervical cancer screening for white and Black women to identify and explain any inequities. The grant funds an interviewing process and data analysis of a small number of women who have not completed any follow-up testing for their abnormal screenings, to understand their particular barriers.

The program at the R.L. Jones Community Outreach Center has the potential to increase colorectal cancer prevention and screening in Flint among low-income and racial minority populations. The program will assess whether the use of culturally targeted messages can enhance screening readiness and uptake. This information will not only be useful in the context of colorectal cancer screening, but also for other public health concerns within at-risk communities.

“ *Prevention is crucial to addressing cancer disparities. The keys to prevention are effectively communicating useful information, as well as disseminating this information through meaningful community partnerships.* ”

Dr. Todd Lucas, Michigan State University

¹American Cancer Society. Cancer Facts & Figures for African American/Black People 2022-2024. Atlanta: American Cancer Society, 2022. [Cancer Facts & Figures for African Americans 2022-2024](#)



BCBSM Foundation, funding partners invest nearly \$916K in Michigan youth mental health programs in 2023

Between 2009 and 2019, the U.S Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s [Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System](#) found that feelings of persistent sadness and hopelessness, and suicidal thoughts and behaviors had increased by nearly 40% among children and teenagers.

Concerns, such as social media, climate change, mass violence, natural disasters and politics, attributed to the uptick. Then, when the pandemic hit in early 2020, young people faced unique challenges, such as social isolation, the loss of loved ones to COVID-19, the loss of employment in the family and an unprecedented academic disruption.

As the country looks to federal and state policymakers to invest more heavily in youth mental health care, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan is taking action in communities all over the U.S. In Michigan, the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Foundation and its funding collaborators awarded more than \$915,000 in youth mental health grants.

From the southern tip of Michigan to the Upper Peninsula, these organizations dedicated their time and resources to improving access to mental health treatment among young people in Michigan. These innovative programs reverse the negative trend we’ve seen for more than a decade. One of the largest youth mental health initiatives is a funding collaboration between the Foundation, the Superior Health Foundation and the Michigan Health Endowment Fund.

“We made funding pediatric mental health our proactive grant-giving initiative for 2023 and 2024. It is that critical of an issue. Together, with other funding partners, we are dedicating more than \$1.2 million to these efforts,” said Executive Director of the Superior Health Foundation Jim LaJoie.

“Access to good mental health is an essential ingredient for giving kids the opportunity to live healthy, happy lives,” said Michigan Health Endowment Fund CEO Neel Hajra. “To be successful, we must invest in the mental health support that our kids urgently need in all the places where they live, learn and engage. This means working together to find creative solutions and maximize the strengths of our communities — no one can do it alone. That’s what makes our work with the BCBSM Foundation and our partners in the U.P. so exciting and so important.”



Still a long way to go: 2024 will bring continued challenges

Efforts of the Foundation and its collaborators to fund innovative programs are so crucial because of a lack of in-care access, not only in Michigan but across the entire country. The shortage of mental and behavioral health practitioners in the U.S. who are trained to meet children’s unique needs is further affecting young people’s ability to access timely care. Pediatricians have become front-line mental health workers as a direct result of the shortage.

“ Families routinely face long wait times for appointments and sometimes must travel long distances to find care. These barriers can prevent adolescents from receiving treatment, leading to the current youth mental health crisis that the BCBSM Foundation is doing everything in its power to combat. ”

Audrey Harvey, Executive Director and CEO, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Foundation



Addressing health disparities

BCBSM Foundation invests \$120K in LGBTQI+ health equity

Social acceptance in Michigan of individuals who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, asexual, transgender, nonbinary, queer or intersex as well as those who express same-sex or same-gender attractions or behaviors, has been improving, yet they continue to face stigma and discrimination. These negative experiences, combined with a lack of access to culturally affirming and informed health care, result in multiple health disparities for LGBTQI+ populations.

There is an urgent need to provide inclusive, high-quality health care services to LGBTQI+ people so that they can reach their best possible health.

People who identify as LGBTQI+ experience:

- Higher rates of HIV and other sexually transmitted infections
- Lower rates of mammography and Pap smear screening
- Higher rates of substance abuse
- Higher rates of unhealthy weight control and perception
- Higher rates of smoking
- Higher rates of depression and anxiety
- Higher rates of violence victimization¹

In 2023, the BCBSM Foundation awarded three grants totaling \$120,000 to address the unmet needs of the LGBTQI+ population. The Foundation awarded AYA Youth Collective in Kent County a \$30,000 Community Health Matching Grant to provide on-site, low-barrier, trauma-informed and relational physical and behavioral health care, and Medicaid enrollment. We awarded Affirmations LGBTQ+ Community Center in Oakland County a \$30,000 Community Health Matching Grant to expand mental health and care management services. And we awarded Andrew Bossick, M.P.H., Ph.D., of Henry Ford Health Michigan State University Health Sciences a \$60,000 Investigator-Initiated Research Award grant to develop provider education to improve the care of transgender men undergoing a gender-affirming hysterectomy.



The support is already changing lives. Kia is a 23-year-old single mother of three kids. She had trouble getting services from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services and was about to give up. Fortunately, a friend encouraged her to try again by coming to AYA Youth Collective to see the organization’s new in-person MDHHS staff member.

The same day Kia arrived at AYA, she was able to complete her food assistance intake interview and process her application. Kia was approved in 45 minutes. The MDHHS worker and AYA staff also provided Kia with numerous community resources. She can take her kids to museums for free, get discounted internet service and is now a recipient of Christmas gifts for her family from a donor.

Due to this collaboration, AYA was able to make a significant impact on this family’s basic needs and ongoing stability. Kia shared that although she doesn’t want to be on state assistance, she feels better knowing that the needs of her kids are going to be met. Before leaving that day, Kia made a follow-up appointment to discuss childcare subsidies so she can enroll in the Michigan Technical Education Center at Grand Rapids Community College to get her nursing certificate.



“ The addition of the behavioral health administrative assistant has completely transformed the operations of our behavioral health care programming at Affirmations. In addition to optimizing systems and processes, this position has directly impacted our clients’ experiences by improving timely access to care. Our clients now have the ability to contact our department directly and receive immediate access to resources, referrals, information and access to care. ”

Cate Spinney, Director of Health and Human Services,
Affirmations LGBTQ+ Community Center

¹National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. (2020) Understanding the Well-Being of LGBTQI+ Populations. Retrieved from nap.nationalacademies.org/catalog/25877/understanding-the-well-being-of-lgbtqi-populations

Request for Proposal Program Grants



The Foundation’s Request for Proposals program is guided by gathering data, and listening and learning sessions with community leaders. We aim to solicit requests for proposals that are population led and community inspired.

In 2023, we supported four initiatives:

- Pediatric Mental Health in the Upper Peninsula
- Advancing Maternal Health Equity
- Systems Approach to Building a Continuum of Crisis Care Services
- Food and Nutrition Insecurity

The BCBSM Foundation, with our funding partners, supported 14 organizations with \$1.4 million throughout Michigan to address community-identified needs. We provide details about the initiatives on the following pages.

PEDIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH IN THE UPPER PENINSULA

The Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Foundation collaborated with the Superior Health Foundation and the Michigan Health Endowment Fund to address increasing rates of depression, anxiety, suicidal ideations and suicide in youth and increase access to mental health resources in the Upper Peninsula. The funding collaborative supported seven organizations with \$832,762.

Catholic Social Services of the U.P.

Kyle Rambo
\$70,194

Improve access to mental health treatment for young people.
Delta County; Upper Peninsula

Great Lakes Recovery Centers Inc.

Greg Toutant
\$160,000

Increased access to mental health treatment.
Marquette County; Upper Peninsula

Marquette-Alger Regional Educational Service Agency

Greg Nyen, Ed.D.
\$24,492

Pilot a school-based universal mental health screening program.
Marquette and Alger counties; Upper Peninsula

Marquette-Alger Regional Educational Service Agency

Greg Nyen, Ed.D.
\$46,000

Expansion of the Youth Wellness Task Force.
Marquette and Alger counties: Upper Peninsula
Michigan State University

College of Human Medicine

B. Keith English, M.D.
\$389,237

Creation of the Upper Peninsula Training and Enhanced Access to Children’s Health (UP-TEACH) hub.
Ingham County; Mid-Michigan and Upper Peninsula

Northern Michigan University

Elise Bur
\$36,673

Creation of the U.P. Behavioral Health Education Hub.
Marquette County; Upper Peninsula

Upper Peninsula Health Care Solutions Inc.

Melissa Holmquist
\$106,166

Establish a behavioral health and health care provider network to improve care access.
Marquette County; Upper Peninsula

ADVANCING MATERNAL HEALTH EQUITY

The Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Foundation and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan supported five community organizations to work on community-inspired, evidence-based and sustainable initiatives that advance health equity and reduce a birthing person’s risk of maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity. The total funding for the 2023 Advancing Maternal Health Equity initiative was more than \$250,000 for 12 months.

Because Of His Love Outreach

Lesley Gant, LMSW
\$50,000

Improving maternal and paternal mental health among Maternal Infant Health Program clients.
Wayne County; Southeast Michigan

Bronson Health Foundation Inc.

Terry Morrow
\$50,000

Support for the Southwest Michigan Perinatal Quality Improvement Collaborative to improve maternal mental health through increased awareness, assessment and treatment of perinatal loss.
Kalamazoo County; West Michigan

United Way for Southeastern Michigan

Darienne Driver Hudson, Ed.D.
\$50,000

Support for the Southeast Michigan Perinatal Quality Improvement Collaborative to improve maternal mental health through increased awareness, assessment and treatment of perinatal mood and anxiety disorders.
Wayne County; Southeast Michigan

Upper Peninsula Health Care Solutions Inc.

Melissa Holmquist
\$50,000

Continued support for expanding the Upper Peninsula Maternal Opioid (and other substance) Misuse Model by partnering with the Western Upper Peninsula Health Department.
Marquette County; Upper Peninsula

Young Women’s Christian Association of Kalamazoo

Lisa Rodriguez
\$50,000

Continued support for a home-visiting Cradle Kalamazoo’s Community Health worker.
Kalamazoo County; West Michigan

SYSTEMS APPROACH TO BUILDING A CONTINUUM OF CRISIS CARE SERVICES

Joining forces with the Ethel and James Flinn Foundation and the Michigan Health Endowment Fund, the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Foundation supported a planning grant to examine all crisis care models (office-based crisis response, mobile crisis response and co-response) in Michigan.

Wayne State University

Center for Behavioral Health and Justice
Sheryl Kubiak, Ph.D.
\$255,000

Improving the response to people experiencing mental health or substance use-related emergencies through crisis care models.
Wayne County; Southeast Michigan

FOOD AND NUTRITION INSECURITY

Continuing our support of addressing food and nutrition insecurity, the Foundation supported Fresh Food Connections, a partnership between the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services and Taste the Local Difference to increase fresh produce consumption by connecting Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program-eligible communities to farmers committed to food access in Baraga, Ingham, Lake, Luce, Oakland, Washtenaw and Wayne counties.

The Groundwork Center for Resilient Communities

Tricia Phelps
\$50,000

Increased access to fresh produce consumption by connecting Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program-eligible communities to online ordering of fresh produce and nutritious food.
Grand Traverse County; Northern Michigan



Community Health Matching Grants



Through our Community Health Matching Grant program, we collaborate with health professionals and community leaders at nonprofit organizations to develop population-led, community-inspired programs, or implement evidence-based programs to address community-identified needs and evaluate measurable programmatic and health outcomes. In 2023, we awarded 31 organizations \$736,152 in matching grants to address health care value and access, and to improve health. Learn more at [Foundation Grants: Community Health Matching | BCBSM](#) and contact us at foundation@bcbsm.com.

Affirmations LGBTQ+ Community Center

Dave Garcia
\$30,000

Expansion of mental health and care management services. Oakland County; Southeast Michigan



Alzheimer's Association Michigan Chapter

Jennifer Lepard
\$15,000

Support for the Arab American Dementia Outreach Program to increase Alzheimer's disease awareness and knowledge, reduce stigma and decrease access barriers by providing culturally tailored dementia support services. Oakland County; Southeast Michigan
Learn more at mibluesperspectives.com/Alzheimers.

Avalon Healing Center

Kimberly Hurst, MA, MS, PA-C, DFAAPA
\$28,000

Increasing mental and behavioral health services for sexual assault and trafficking survivors through an on-site advanced-practice provider. Wayne County; Southeast Michigan

AYA Youth Collective

Lauren VanKeulen
\$30,000

Provide on-site and low-barrier, trauma-informed and relational physical and behavioral health care, and Medicaid enrollment. Kent County; West Michigan

Brilliant Detroit

Cindy Eggleton
\$20,000

Support for implementing exercise and healthy food initiatives in four neighborhoods on Detroit's eastside, bolstering the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan commitment for the Detroit Neighborhood Initiative. Wayne County; Southeast Michigan
Learn more at mibluesperspectives.com/BrilliantDetroit.



Catholic Charities of Southeast Michigan

Paul Propson
\$18,000

Support for increasing access to substance use disorder treatment for the Latino community at La Casa Amiga. Oakland County; Southeast Michigan
Learn more at mibluesperspectives.com/LaCasaAmiga.



Child & Family Services of Northwestern Michigan, Inc.

Gina Aranki
\$10,000

Support for mental health services for families in Northwest Michigan. Grand Traverse County; Northern Michigan

Crossroads Ministries Inc.

Tamara Nemeth
\$2,500

Support the expansion of a fatherhood initiative, in-depth mentoring to moms, reproductive loss recovery and sexual risk avoidance education programs. Otsego County; Northern Michigan

Eastside Community Network

Donna Davidson
\$28,000

Increasing outreach and case management capacity to respond to the climate crisis. Wayne County; Southeast Michigan
Learn more at mibluesperspectives.com/EastsideCommunityNetwork

Firecracker Foundation

Tashmica Torok
\$10,000

Support for mental health programs and maternal health equity. Ingham County; Mid-Michigan

Flint Odyssey House

Ronald Brown
\$40,000

Expansion of substance use disorder treatment services to pregnant and postpartum women in Port Huron. Genesee County; Bay Area Michigan

Health Department of Northwest Michigan

Dan Thorell
\$30,000

Increase access to health care for school-age children by piloting telehealth services in rural Michigan school districts. Charlevoix County; Northern Michigan

Isabella County Child Advocacy Center

Britnee Neitzke
\$10,000

Increasing access to child abuse- and neglect-prevention education. Isabella County; Mid-Michigan

Jewish Family Services of Washtenaw County

Ellen Abramson
\$20,000

Expansion of the Caregiver Assessment Respite Education and Support program for caregivers and those receiving care. Washtenaw County; Southeast Michigan

Leaders Advancing & Helping Communities

Wassim Mahfouz
\$20,000

Improving mental wellness in schools through physical, cognitive, social, emotional and spiritual functioning activities. Wayne County; Southeast Michigan

Little Brothers Friends of the Elderly

Carol Korpela
\$35,000

Non-emergency medical transportation for individuals 60 and older. Houghton County; Upper Peninsula

Michigan League for Public Policy

Monique Stanton

\$50,000

Measure the health and well-being of children to improve the lives of Michigan’s children and families through Kids Count in Michigan.

Ingham County; Mid-Michigan



Michigan Public Health Institute

Renee Branch Canady, Ph.D.

\$38,826

Increase provider referrals to at-risk patients with postpartum depression as part of the Southeast Michigan Perinatal Quality Improvement Collaborative.

Ingham County; Mid-Michigan

Michigan State Medical Society Foundation

Rebecca Blake

\$36,000

Support for the 27th Annual Conference on Bioethics: Capacity and Consciousness.

Ingham County; Mid-Michigan

Monroe County Opportunity Program

Stephanie Kasprzak

\$38,000

Expansion of nutrition education at the Orchard East Health Hub.

Monroe County; Southeast Michigan

Motherly Intercession

Necole Hayes

\$27,000

Support for the Social Connections Program for women who have experienced or are affected by incarceration to build their external support system.

Genesee County; Bay Area Michigan



Northern Michigan Children’s Assessment Center

Rebecca Yuncker

\$1,500

Support for child abuse prevention and awareness programs to staff at schools, daycare centers, physician offices and other child-focused agencies.

Otsego County; Northern Michigan

Northern Michigan University Center for Rural Health

Elise Bur

\$18,000

Implement a publicly available, regional, digital health and social resource locator for residents of the Upper Peninsula.

Marquette County; Upper Peninsula

Otsego County Commission on Aging

Dona J. Wishart

\$3,500

Improve the quality of life, physical functioning and physical fitness among seniors.

Otsego County; Northern Michigan



Public Health-Muskegon County

Kathy Moors

\$20,000

Address infant mortality by expanding the Mom Mentoring and Safe Sleep programs.

Muskegon County; West Michigan

R.L. Jones Community Outreach Center

Sandra Jones

\$30,000

Implement a colorectal cancer prevention program for adults between the ages of 35 and 44 with Michigan State University College of Human Medicine.

Genesee County; Bay Area Michigan



Scheurer Health

Ross Ramsey, M.D.

\$15,000

Support for sustainability planning for the Huron County School-Based Health Clinics.

Huron County; Thumb Area Michigan



TRAILS to Wellness

Elizabeth Koschmann, Ph.D.

\$50,000

Support for Year 2: Statewide Implementation of Transforming Research into Action to Improve the Lives of Students.

Washtenaw County; Southeast Michigan

Tuscola County Health Department

Amanda Ertman

\$38,826

Conduct a birth equity and system assessment to develop a birth equity ecosystem map and an action plan as part of the Region 6 Perinatal Quality Improvement Collaborative.

Tuscola County; Thumb-Area Michigan

Washtenaw Area Council for Children

Tim Richey

\$19,500

Expand the scope and availability of abuse prevention education for Head Start and state-funded preschool programs.

Washtenaw County; Southeast Michigan



Women’s Resource Center of Northern Michigan

Gail Kloss

\$3,500

Support programming for emergency and ongoing services for domestic abuse and sexual assault survivors.

Otsego County; Northern Michigan

Investigator-Initiated Research Grants



Our Investigator-Initiated Research Award program provides grants to doctoral-level researchers to address critical gaps in health-related research; examine factors that may prevent or reduce the risk for disease; and examine associations and cause-and-effect relationships between health variables, secondary data analysis of large datasets, health care cost-analysis studies, robust evaluation projects and feasibility studies to test the implementation of innovative interventions to improve health outcomes. In 2023, we awarded seven researchers \$398,000 in funding. Our awards included the evaluation of a life-changing grant in Flint, Michigan. The Rx Kids program is the first-ever, citywide prenatal and infant cash allowance program. Rx Kids will prescribe all expectant mothers in Flint a one-time \$1,500 prenatal allowance and a \$500 monthly allowance to all newborns to 1-year-olds. The evaluation was funded by the Foundation through a grant to **Mona Hanna-Attisha, M.D.**, and the project will be done in collaboration with the community and led by experts at Michigan State University and the University of Michigan. The evaluation fills a scientific gap and will inform state and national policy around maternal-infant health, early childhood investments, economic and racial justice, and health equity.

Learn more at [Foundation Grants: Investigator Initiated Research | BCBSM](#) and contact us at foundation@bcbsm.com.

CENTRAL MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

Isabella County; Mid-Michigan

Department of Psychology

James Gerhart, Ph.D.

\$53,000

Evaluate a health care provider's program supporting patients experiencing illness, health-related anger and conflict.

HENRY FORD HEALTH

Wayne County; Southeast Michigan

Michigan State University Health Sciences

Andrew Bossick, MPH, Ph.D.

\$60,000

Develop provider education to improve the care of transgender men undergoing a gender-affirming hysterectomy.

HOPE COLLEGE

Ottawa County; West Michigan

Department of Nursing

Anita Esquerra-Zwiers, Ph.D.

\$50,000

Implement and evaluate the My Mother's Milk for Michigan Infants Lactation Coach program.

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Ingham County; Mid-Michigan

College of Human Medicine

Karren Campbell, Ph.D.

\$60,000

Evaluating programs and services for pregnant and postpartum women enrolled in residential substance use disorders treatment.

College of Human Medicine

Mona Hanna-Attisha, M.D.

\$75,000

Evaluating cash allowances to address racial and socioeconomic disparities in maternal and child health outcomes.

College of Human Medicine

Todd Lucas, Ph.D.

\$50,000

Develop and evaluate a community-informed intervention to educate and encourage younger adults to engage in colorectal cancer prevention with the R.L. Jones Community Outreach Center in Flint.

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN & MICHIGAN MEDICINE

Washtenaw County; Southeast Michigan

Michigan Medicine

Calista Harbaugh, MS, M.D.

\$50,000

Measure, understand and characterize why positive margins occur after colorectal cancer surgery.



Student Award Grants



The Student Award Program supports the health-related research of medical, terminal-practice degree and doctoral students in Michigan. The 2023 Student Award Grants totaled \$50,168 for 12 months of funding that supported the research projects of 18 students at seven Michigan universities. Each year, applications are due by Jan. 31. Learn more at [Foundation Grants: Student Award Program | BCBSM](#) and contact us at foundation@bcbsm.com.

CENTRAL MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

Isabella County; Mid-Michigan

College of Medicine
Paige Benard
\$1,500

Identify the challenges pregnant people with intellectual and developmental disabilities face in obtaining health care.

College of Medicine
Nicholas Sirhan
\$1,500

Identify the challenges pregnant people with intellectual and developmental disabilities face in obtaining health care.

EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

Washtenaw County; Southeast Michigan

College of Arts and Sciences
Sarah Freeman
\$3,000

Evaluate the acceptability, feasibility and effectiveness of a revised perinatal dialectical behavioral group therapy curriculum.

College of Arts and Sciences
Michelle Lobermeier
\$3,000

Explores neuroimaging while resting as a neural (brain) correlate of executive functioning development.

MICHIGAN SCHOOL OF PSYCHOLOGY

Oakland County; Southeast Michigan

Clinical Psychology
Breanna Thornton
\$2,368

Investigate how a woman's spirituality, religious practice and psychological coping contribute to post-pregnancy quality of life and psychological adjustment.

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Ingham County; Mid-Michigan

College of Human Medicine
Orezime Uyeh
\$3,000

Assess African American mental health literacy to decrease mental health disorder stigma and enhance help-seeking efficacy using comic illustrations.

College of Nursing
Teresa Ng
\$3,000

Understand the relationships between family resilience, adolescents' intrapersonal resilience and adolescents experiencing suicidal ideations.

College of Social Science
Hannah Tokish
\$3,000

Improve autism intervention services for underserved families by understanding the factors influencing active parent engagement in intervention sessions.

Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology
Basma Klump
\$3,000

Develop an evidence-based approach to incorporate opioid, vaping and marijuana misuse topics in high school.



Michigan School of Psychology

MICHIGAN TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY

Houghton County; Upper Peninsula Michigan

College of Engineering
Seyedehfatemeh Razaviamri
\$3,000

Design self-activating antimicrobial hemostatic nanoparticles to satisfy all the criteria for an effective hemostatic material.

College of Engineering
Sayedmostafa Rezaeitaleshmahalleh
\$3,000

Develop a machine-learning tool to investigate how the intraluminal thrombus structure may correlate to abdominal aortic aneurysm growth.



Michigan Technological University

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Washtenaw County; Southeast Michigan

Medical School
Courtney Burns
\$3,000

Investigate the under-diagnosis of heart failure in women with cardiovascular disease.



University of Michigan

Medical School
Zoey Chopra
\$3,000

Aid health systems' redesign care practices to overcome biased heuristics and produce equitable outcomes.

Medical School
Sophia Gutterman
\$3,000

Identify critical themes that leverage support from family and friends during patients' consideration of bariatric surgery.

Medical School
Alesha Kotian
\$2,800

Determine cesarean delivery's maternal-infant benefit for people who give birth with hypertensive disorders.

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

Wayne County; Southeast Michigan

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Christina Dandar
\$3,000

Investigate the relationship between hypoxic-ischemic risk and motor function.

School of Social Work
Jennifer Clift
\$3,000

Promote the health and well-being of urban Black and African American emerging adults.

School of Social Work
Laura Sutherland
\$3,000

Understand how art activities can assuage the biomedicalization of dementia.



Wayne State University

Physician Investigator Research Grants



The BCBSM Foundation supports Michigan physicians who want to improve health care access and the value and quality of their practices. In 2023, two physicians were awarded a total of \$19,120 to address the needs of their patients. Learn more at [Foundation Grants: Physician Investigator Research | BCBSM](#) and contact us at foundation@bcbsm.com.

COREWELL HEALTH

Wayne County; Southeast Michigan

Beaumont Schaefer Internal Medicine Clinic

Jonathan Zimmerman, MBA, M.D.

\$9,120

Develop and evaluate a program that compares the impact of blood pressure management by an interprofessional team as compared to patients managed by usual care.

MICHIGAN MEDICINE

Washtenaw County; Southeast Michigan

Department of Family Medicine

Diane Harper M.D., M.P.H., MS, FAAFP, FAAP

\$10,000

Conduct a retrospective review of all health records to investigate why Black women forego follow-up testing after an abnormal cervical cancer screening.



Proposal Development Award Grants



Grant funding is one way nonprofits meet their mission. However, many nonprofits don't have the capacity to write and submit health-related grants. The Proposal Development Award provides nonprofits with funding to contract a grant writer to develop, write and submit health-related grants. Our grantees and their contracted grant writers have successfully created and submitted proposals to public agencies and private, community and corporate foundations. In 2023, the total awarded to seven organizations was \$13,960. Learn more at [Foundation Grants: Proposal Development Award | BCBSM](#) and contact us at foundation@bcbsm.com.

Baxter Community Center

Sonja Forte

\$1,500

Grant writing support to increase health care access and services, and health programs. Kent County; West Michigan

Benzie Wellness and Aquatic Center

Diane Tracy

\$2,360

Grant writing support for increased wellness activities in Benzie County. Benzie County; Northern Michigan



Benzie Wellness and Aquatic Center

Fulton Street Farmers Market Inc.

Dana Eardley

\$1,000

Grant writing support to decrease food and nutrition insecurity in Kent County. Kent County; West Michigan

Healthy Homes Coalition of West Michigan

Jameela Maun, MA

\$3,200

Grant writing support for increased programming for children and families. Kent County; West Michigan

Mommies in the D

Marketia White

\$2,000

Grant support to address maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity and child development. Macomb County; Southeast Michigan

Safe Haven

Rachel VerWys, MSW

\$2,700

Grant writing support for current and new programs that enhance client physical and behavioral health outcomes. Kent County; West Michigan

StoreHouse of Community Resources

Jessica Johns

\$1,200

Grant writing support to address the social determinants of health needs of community members. Kent County; West Michigan

2022 Grants Advisory Panel



Grants Advisory Panel members are essential to ensuring that the BCBSM Foundation support is directed toward research of the highest quality, thus improving health care access, value and cost in our quest to improve the health of Michiganders. The BCBSM Foundation appreciates the time and service of those listed below who served as panel members during 2023. Without their efforts, the quality of the funded research could not be sustained.

Faris K. Ahmad, M.D., MBA, FACOG

Medical Director, Value Partnership Programs
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan

Clifford L. Broman, Ph.D.

Professor
Department of Sociology
Michigan State University

David Julius Brown, M.D.

Associate Vice President and Associate Dean for Health Equity and Inclusion
Associate Professor, Pediatric Otolaryngology
University of Michigan Medicine

Jade Burns, Ph.D., R.N., CPNP-PC

Assistant Professor
School of Nursing
University of Michigan

Cleopatra Howard Caldwell, Ph.D.

Professor and Chair
Department of Health Behavior & Health Education
School of Public Health
University of Michigan

Bhavin Dalal, M.D.

Associate Professor
Vice Chief, Division of Pulmonary Critical Care Sleep Medicine
Associate Program Director, Pulmonary Critical Care Fellowship
Corewell Health
Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine

Jessica D. Faul, Ph.D.

Associate Research Professor
Co-Director, Institute for Social Research Biospecimen Lab
University of Michigan

Gary L. Freed, M.D., M.P.H.

Percy and Mary Murphy, Professor of Pediatrics
Professor, Health Management and Policy
School of Medicine
University of Michigan

Megan C. Frost, Ph.D.

Professor and Department Chair
Kinesiology and Integrative Physiology
Michigan Technological University

Charles Given, Ph.D.

Professor Emeritus
College of Nursing
Michigan State University

John Goddeeris, Ph.D.

Professor
Department of Economics
Michigan State University

Allen Goodman, Ph.D.

Professor Emeritus
Department of Economics
Wayne State University

Robert Goodman, D.O., MHSA, FACEP, FACOEP

Consultant
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan
Gerod S. Hall, Ph.D., M.P.H.
Senior Statistician
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan

Androni Henry, M.D., MMM, FAAEM, FACEP

Senior Medical Director and Associate Chief Medical Officer
Care Delivery Experience and Health Equity
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan

Denise Soltow Hershey, Ph.D., R.N., FNP-BC, FAANP

Associate Professor
College of Nursing
Michigan State University

Kenneth A. Jamerson, M.D., FASH

Professor, Internal Medicine
Frederick G.L. Huetwell Collegiate Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine
University of Michigan Medicine

Jersey Liang, Ph.D.

Professor
Department of Health Management & Policy
School of Public Health
University of Michigan

Rob Lyerla, Ph.D., MGIS

Professor
Western Michigan University

Nora Maloy, DrPH

Adjunct Clinical Instructor
University of Michigan Medical School

Milisa Manojlovich, Ph.D., R.N., FAAN

Professor
School of Nursing
University of Michigan

Laurence McMahon, M.D., M.P.H.

Professor Emeritus
Department of Internal Medicine
University of Michigan Medical School

Sharon Milberger, Sc.D

Director
Michigan Developmental Disabilities Institute
Wayne State University

Jae A. Puckett, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor
Department of Psychology
Michigan State University

Neli Ragina, Ph.D., MSc

Associate Professor
Director, Students and Residents Clinical Research
College of Medicine
Central Michigan University

Phillip Rodgers, M.D.

Professor
Department of Family Medicine
University of Michigan

Sanjay Saint, M.D., M.P.H.

Chief of Medicine
VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System
George Dock Professor
University of Michigan

Herbert Smitherman, Jr., M.D., M.P.H., FACP

Vice Dean of Diversity and Community Affairs
Associate Professor, Internal Medicine
School of Medicine
Wayne State University
President and CEO, Health Centers Detroit Foundation

Michael Simon, M.D., M.P.H.

Professor
Karmanos Cancer Institute
Wayne State University

Miron Stano, Ph.D.

Professor Emeritus
School of Business Administration
Oakland University

Carmen Stokes, Ph.D., R.N., FNP-BC, CNE

Nurse Navigator
SM Gavini Center for Cancer Prevention
Ascension Michigan

Ira Strumwasser, Ph.D.

Executive Director & CEO (Retired)
BCBSM Foundation

Marianne Udow-Phillips, MHSA

Principal
MuConsulting
Instructor
University of Michigan School of Public Health

Ksenia I. Ustinova, Ph.D.

Professor
School of Rehabilitation and Medical Sciences
Central Michigan University

Gina Lynem-Walker, M.D.

Associate Medical Director
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan

Lori J. Warner, Ph.D., LP, BCBA-D

Licensed Psychologist, Board Certified Behavior Analyst
Lori J. Warner Ph.D., PLLC

2023 Foundation staff, officers and board of directors



Staff



Audrey J. Harvey,
M.P.H., C.P.H.
Executive Director
and CEO



Kelly Brittain,
Ph.D, R.N.
Senior Program
Officer



Myra M. Tetteh,
M.P.P., Ph.D.
Senior Program
Officer



Elba Huerta, MBA
Senior Analyst



Susan Shelton
Executive Assistant
and
Corporate Secretary

Officers

Chairwoman
Shauna R. Diggs, M.D.

Vice Chairman
Bruce A. Wolf, D.O.

President
Lynda M. Rossi

Executive Director and CEO
Audrey J. Harvey

Treasurer
James K. Haveman

Secretary
Susan Shelton

Board committees

Finance committee

Chairman
James K. Haveman

Haifa Fakhouri, Ph.D.

Grants committee

Chairman
Bruce A. Wolf, D.O.

Vice Chairwoman
Shauna R. Diggs, M.D.

Joel I. Ferguson
James D. Grant, M.D.
James K. Haveman
Paul C. Hillegonds

Board of directors and officers



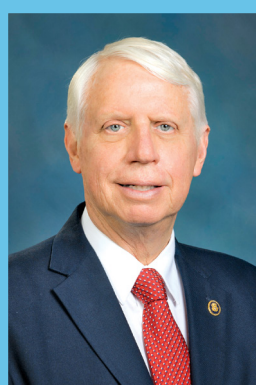
Shauna R. Diggs, M.D.
Chairwoman
Board-Certified
Dermatologist,
President and Founder,
CosmedicDerm



Bruce A. Wolf, D.O.
Vice Chairman
Associate Dean,
Macomb University
Center
Michigan State
University
College of Osteopathic
Medicine



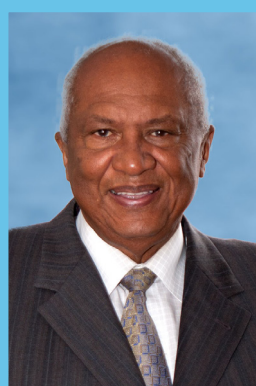
Lynda M. Rossi
President
Executive Vice President,
Strategy, Innovation and
Public Affairs
Blue Cross Blue Shield
of Michigan



James K. Haveman
Treasurer, Retired
Director of Michigan
Department of
Community Health



Haifa Fakhouri, Ph.D.
President and
Chief Executive Officer,
America's Community
Council



Joel I. Ferguson
President,
Ferguson
Development LLC



James D. Grant, M.D.,
MBA, FASA
Senior Vice President
and
Chief Medical Officer
Blue Cross Blue Shield
of Michigan



Paul C. Hillegonds
Senior Advisor and
Retired CEO Michigan
Health Endowment Fund



Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Foundation

Financial Statements as of and for the
Years Ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, and Independent
Auditor's Report

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR’S REPORT

To the Board of Directors of
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Foundation
Detroit, MI

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Foundation (the “Foundation”), which comprise the balance sheets as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the related statements of activities and changes in net assets, and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements (collectively referred to as the "financial statements").

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Foundation as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the changes in net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor’s Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Foundation and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Emphasis of Matter

As disclosed in Note 4 to the financial statements, certain expenses represent allocations made from the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Mutual Insurance Company. The accompanying financial statements have been prepared from the separate records maintained by the Foundation and may not necessarily be indicative of the conditions that would have existed, or the changes in its net assets if the Foundation had been operated as an unaffiliated entity. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Foundation’s ability to continue as a going concern for one year after the date that the financial statements are available to be issued.

Auditor’s Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor’s report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Foundation’s internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Foundation’s ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Deloitte & Touche LLP

April 10, 2024

BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD OF MICHIGAN FOUNDATION

BALANCE SHEETS		
AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022		
(\$ in thousands, except for share and per share data)		
	2023	2022
ASSETS		
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	\$ 242	\$ 1,430
INVESTMENTS	54,650	50,014
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	1	—
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE—affiliates	32	—
OTHER ASSETS	117	196
TOTAL	\$ 55,042	\$ 51,640
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
LIABILITIES:		
Grants payable	\$ 1,630	\$ 1,985
Agency grants payable	50	197
Accounts payable—affiliates	1	283
Other liabilities	110	90
Total liabilities	1,791	2,555
NET ASSETS:		
Common stock, \$100 par value—2 shares authorized, issued, and outstanding	-	-
Without donor restrictions	51,859	47,784
With donor restrictions	1,392	1,301
Total net assets	53,251	49,085
TOTAL	\$ 55,042	\$ 51,640

See notes to financial statements.

BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD OF MICHIGAN FOUNDATION

STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS		
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022		
(In thousands)		
	2023	2022
NET ASSETS WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS:		
Revenue:		
Investment revenue	\$ 1,133	\$ 1,157
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments	5,838	(8,147)
Contributions	18	173
Net assets released from restrictions	215	98
Total revenue (loss) without donor restrictions	7,204	(6,719)
Expenses:		
Grants	1,525	1,368
Supporting activities	1,604	1,585
Total unrestricted expenses	3,129	2,953
TOTAL INCREASE (DECREASE) N NET ASSETS WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS	4,075	(9,672)
NET ASSETS WITH DONOR RESTRICTIONS:		
Investment income—net	18	23
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments	288	(321)
Net assets released from restrictions	(215)	(98)
Total increase (decrease) in net assets with donor restrictions	91	(396)
TOTAL INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS	4,166	(10,068)
TOTAL NET ASSETS—Beginning of year	49,085	59,153
TOTAL NET ASSETS—End of year	\$ 53,251	\$ 49,085

See notes to financial statements.

BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD OF MICHIGAN FOUNDATION

STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022
(In thousands)

	2023	2022
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		
Increase/(decrease) in net assets	\$ 4,166	\$ (10,068)
Reconciliation of increase (decrease) in net assets to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities:		
Net loss on sale of investments	150	209
Unrealized (gain) loss on investments	(6,268)	8,406
Changes in:		
Accounts receivable	(1)	—
Accounts receivable—affiliates	(32)	—
Other assets	(13)	4,015
Grants payable	(355)	(307)
Agency grants payable	(147)	109
Accounts payable—affiliates	(282)	122
Other liabilities	20	(113)
Net Cash (used in) provided by operating activities	(2,762)	2,373
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:		
Purchase of investments	(189)	(10,705)
Proceeds from sales of investments	1,763	8,961
Net Cash provided by (used in) investing activities	1,574	(1,744)
(DECREASE) INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	(1,188)	629
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS—Beginning of year	1,430	801
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS—End of year	\$ 242	\$ 1,430

See notes to financial statements.

BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD OF MICHIGAN FOUNDATION

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
AS OF AND FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022
(In thousands, except share and per share data)

1. DESCRIPTION OF ORGANIZATION AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Organization—Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Foundation (the Foundation) is a Michigan nonprofit corporation and a wholly owned subsidiary of Blue Care Network of Michigan (BCN), which is a wholly owned subsidiary of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Mutual Insurance Company (BCBSM). Neither BCN nor BCBSM exercise control over the Foundation, therefore, the Foundation is not consolidated in the financial statements of these entities.

The Foundation was organized to improve individual and community health through the support of research and innovative health programs designed to provide high quality, appropriate access to efficient health care for the residents of Michigan.

Basis of Presentation—The accompanying financial statements have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (US GAAP).

Cash Equivalents—Cash equivalents, which are carried at fair value, are composed of short-term investments that mature within three months or less from the date of acquisition and have minimal credit or liquidity risk. If applicable, cash overdrafts are reported in the other liabilities section of the Balance Sheets.

Investments—The Foundation’s investments in securities are carried at fair value. The investment portfolio is actively managed by Bricktown Capital, LLC (Bricktown), a wholly owned subsidiary of BCBSM, with authority to buy and sell securities with oversight by the Foundation’s Finance Committee to ensure investment activities adhere to the Foundation’s Investment Policy.

Realized gains and losses on sales of securities are determined based on the specific identification method, and both realized and unrealized gains and losses are included in the Statements of Activities and Changes in Net Assets.

Fair Value Measurements—The fair value of an asset is the amount at which that asset could be bought or sold in a current transaction between willing parties, that is, other than in a forced liquidation or sale. The fair value of a liability is the amount at which that liability could be incurred or settled in a current transaction between willing parties, that is, other than in a forced liquidation or sale.

Fair values are based on quoted market prices when available. The Foundation obtains quoted or other observable inputs for the determination of fair value for actively traded securities. For securities not actively traded, the Foundation determines fair value using discounted cash flow analyses, incorporating inputs such as nonbinding broker quotes, benchmark yields, and credit spreads. In instances where there is little or no market activity for the same or similar instruments, the Foundation estimates fair value using methods, models, and assumptions that management believes market participants would use to determine a current transaction price. These valuation techniques involve some level of management estimation and judgment. Where appropriate, adjustments are included to reflect the risk inherent in a particular methodology, model, or input used. The Foundation’s financial assets and liabilities carried at fair value have been classified, for disclosure purposes, based on a hierarchy defined by the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) 820, *Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures*. ASC 820 defines fair value as the price that would be received for an asset or paid to transfer a liability (exit price) in the most advantageous market for the asset or liability in an orderly transaction between market participants. An asset’s or a liability’s classification is based on the lowest-level input that is significant to its measurement. For example, a Level 3 fair value measurement may include inputs that are both observable (Level 1 and Level 2) and unobservable (Level 3).

Fair Value Classification of Investments—The Foundation classifies fair value balances on these investments based on the hierarchy defined below:

Level 1—Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities as of the reporting date.

Level 2—Inputs other than Level 1 that are observable, either directly or indirectly, such as: (a) quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities, (b) quoted prices in markets that are not active, or (c) other inputs that are observable or can be corroborated by observable market data for substantially the full term of the assets or liabilities as of the reporting date.

Level 3—Unobservable inputs that are supported by little or no market activity and are significant to the fair value of the assets and liabilities.

Certain securities that do not have readily determined fair values are measured at fair value using methods, models, and assumptions that management deems appropriate.

Certain securities do not have readily determined fair values; however, the securities' underlying investments are measured at fair value. The Foundation uses the net asset value per share as a practical expedient (NAV) for valuation purposes on these securities. Securities measured using NAV are not required to be classified into the fair value hierarchy levels.

The following techniques were used to estimate the fair value and determine the classification of assets and liabilities pursuant to the valuation hierarchy:

Cash Equivalents—Consist of short-term investments and have minimal credit or liquidity risk. Valuation is based on unadjusted quoted prices and are classified as Level 1.

Exchange Traded Funds—Consist of actively traded exchange-listed equity securities and equity exchange traded funds (ETFs). The price of an ETF's shares will change throughout the trading day as the shares are bought and sold on the market. Valuation is based on unadjusted quoted prices for these securities or funds in an active market and are classified as Level 1.

Limited Liability Companies—Consist of interests in limited liability companies providing large cap U.S. equity exposure. Valuation is recorded at NAV based on the underlying investments held by the limited liability companies. These securities are not required to be classified in the fair value hierarchy.

International Equity Funds—Consist of an international equity fund and an investment in a commingled investment vehicle that holds underlying international equity securities with readily determinable market prices. The equity fund valuation is based on unadjusted quoted prices and are classified as Level 1. For the commingled international equity fund, valuation is recorded at NAV based on the underlying investments in the vehicle. This security is not required to be classified in the fair value hierarchy.

Limited Partnerships—Consist of interests in hedge funds structured as limited partnerships. Valuation is recorded at NAV based on information provided by the fund managers along with audited financial information. These securities are not required to be classified in the fair value hierarchy.

Liquidity—As of December 31, 2023 and 2022, the Foundation had \$53,533 and \$50,266 respectively, of financial assets available within one year to meet its cash needs to cover grants and administrative expenses. These assets include cash and cash equivalents of \$242 and \$1,430, short-term investments of \$53,258 and \$48,712 and other assets of \$33 and \$124, as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively. A portion of investments are subject to donor restrictions and are unavailable for general expenditure. Additionally, income from the investments held related to the contribution is also limited to the specified purposes and, therefore, is not available for general expenditure.

As part of the Foundation's liquidity management, the Foundation structures its investment portfolio to provide sufficient liquidity to cover grants and administrative expenses as they come due. Investments with lock-up provisions, gates or redemption limits may reduce the total amount of investments immediately available to cover grants and administrative expenses.

Other Assets—As of December 31, 2022, other assets include \$4,000 of loss recovery receivable associated with investment portfolio losses recorded in 2020. The recovery was recorded in net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments in the Statements of Activities and Changes in Net Assets in 2022. The funds related to the settlement were received in March of 2023.

Grants Payable—Grants payable are recorded as of the date of approval. Grants subsequently canceled or adjusted are recorded as reductions of grant expense in the year of cancellation or adjustment.

Agency Grants Payable—Periodically, the Foundation enters into certain collaborative agreements with community partner entities to jointly fund certain grant programs within the community. In these arrangements, the Foundation receives monies from these organizations in an agency capacity and transfers those assets to a grantee that is specified by the community partner entity. These agency transactions are reported on the balance sheet as agency grants payable to the specified grantee rather than as a contribution to the Foundation.

Common Stock—In the event of dissolution, the sole stockholder, BCN, is entitled to the original subscription price of the stock. All other assets, after all obligations have been met, must be distributed to one or more organizations described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The Foundation authorized 2 shares of \$100 per share par common stock of which 2 shares are issued and outstanding.

Net Assets without Donor Restrictions—Net assets without donor restrictions are those not limited by donor-imposed restrictions and are available for the designated purposes of the Foundation. These funds are available for and used in the Foundation's regular activities entirely at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

Net Assets with Donor Restrictions—Net assets with donor restrictions consist of monies received in 2017 in support of grants to be awarded by the Foundation to qualified recipients for use in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. Any earnings on these funds are also restricted and included in net assets with donor restrictions. As the funds are paid, amounts are released from restrictions. Monies that are received in the same year that the restriction has been met are not reported in net assets with donor restrictions but are reported as contributions without donor restrictions.

Income Tax Status—The Internal Revenue Service has determined that the Foundation meets the applicable requirements of Sections 501(c)(3) and 509(a)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and is generally exempt from federal income taxes under Section 501(a).

Use of Estimates—The preparation of financial statements in conformity with US GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Accounting Standards Adopted—In June 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-13, *Financial Instruments—Credit Losses (Topic 326): Measurement of Credit Losses on Financial Instruments*, as modified by ASU 2018-19, *Codification Improvements to Topic 326 Financial Instruments—Credit Losses* and ASU 2019-04, *Codification Improvements to Topic 326 Financial Instruments—Credit Losses* and ASU 2019-05, *Financial Instruments—Credit Losses (Topic 326) Targeted Transition Relief*, as modified by ASU 2019-11, *Codification Improvements to Topic 326, Financial Instruments—Credit Losses*. The guidance in ASU 2016-13 amends the reporting of credit losses for assets held at amortized cost basis, eliminating the probable initial recognition threshold, and replacing it with a current estimate of all expected credit losses. Estimated credit losses are recognized as a credit loss allowance reflected in a valuation account that is deducted from the amortized cost basis of the financial asset to present the net amount expected to be collected. The guidance also addresses available-for-sale securities, whereby credit losses remain measured on an incurred loss basis with the presentation of the credit losses using an allowance rather than as a write-down. ASU 2019-10, *Financial Instruments—Credit Losses (Topic 326), Derivatives and Hedging (Topic 815), and Leases (Topic 842) Effective Dates deferred the effective date of ASU 2016-13 to January 1, 2023*. The adoption of ASU 2016-13 did not have a material impact on the financial statements and related disclosures.

2. INVESTMENTS

Investments at December 31, 2023 and 2022 are as follows:

	2023	2022
Exchange traded funds	\$ 37,590	\$ 35,505
Limited liability companies	3,736	3,341
International equity funds	13,324	11,168
Total investments	<u>\$ 54,650</u>	<u>\$ 50,014</u>

Unrealized Losses—The Foundation recognized net unrealized losses of \$6,268 and \$8,406 at December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively, relating to investments still held at year end.

During the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, the Foundation sold \$1,672 and \$8,768 of investments, which resulted in gross realized gains of \$0 and \$285 and gross realized losses of \$150 and \$494, respectively.

As of December 31, 2023, the Foundation's investment portfolio includes \$3,736 of investments in limited liability companies and \$13,324 of investments in a commingled international equity fund that can be redeemed with 30 days' notice. None of the investments have unfunded commitments.

As of December 31, 2022, the Foundation's investment portfolio includes \$3,341 of investments in limited liability companies and \$11,168 of investments in a commingled international equity fund that can be redeemed with 30 days' notice. None of the investments have unfunded commitments.

The Foundation entered into investment transactions that were not settled. As of December 31, 2023 and 2022, there was \$33 and \$124, respectively, in other assets, for investments sold. As these amounts were pending settlement, they have been excluded from proceeds from sales of investments on the statement of cash flows.

3. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

The Foundation's assets recorded at fair value at December 31, 2023 and 2022, are as follows:

	Fair Value Measurements Using			
	Quoted Prices In Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)	Total Fair Value
2023				
Cash equivalents	\$ 219	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 219
Exchange traded funds	\$ 37,590	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 37,590
International equity funds	5,059	\$ —	\$ —	5,059
Total investments measured at fair value	<u>\$ 42,649</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 42,649</u>
Total investments measured at NAV				12,001
Total investments				<u>\$ 54,650</u>
	Fair Value Measurements Using			
	Quoted Prices In Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)	Total Fair Value
2022				
Cash equivalents	\$ 932	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 932
Exchange traded funds	\$ 35,505	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 35,505
International equity funds	4,395	-	-	4,395
Total investments measured at fair value	<u>\$ 39,900</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 39,900</u>
Total investments measured at NAV				10,113
Total investments				<u>\$ 50,014</u>

There were no transfers into or out of Level 3 and no purchases or issues of Level 3 assets in 2023 and 2022.

4. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

On a routine basis, the Foundation conducts business transactions with BCBSM and its subsidiaries. These transactions include management, treasury, administrative, and professional services, including computer operations and accounting services. Additionally, the Foundation receives monies from BCBSM in an agency capacity to make payments for grant awards being administered by the Foundation and co-funded by BCBSM and the Foundation. These amounts are reported as part of agency grants payable.

For the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, \$636 and \$1,447, respectively, were billed from BCBSM and its subsidiaries and are included in supporting activities in the Statements of Activities and Changes in Net Assets. As of December 31, 2023 and 2022, the Foundation had \$1 and \$283, respectively, in accounts payable—affiliates. As of December 31, 2023 and 2022, the Foundation had \$32 and \$0, respectively, in accounts receivable—affiliates.

The accompanying financial statements present the financial position, results of operations, and changes in net assets and cash flows for the Foundation and are not necessarily indicative of what the financial position, results of operations, and changes in net assets and cash flows would have been if the Foundation had been operated as an unaffiliated corporation during the periods presented.

All outstanding shares of the Foundation are owned by BCN. In addition, the Foundation, BCBSM, and several of BCBSM’s subsidiaries have common officers and board members.

5. CLASSIFICATION OF EXPENSES

The financial statements include certain categories of expenses that are attributable to more than one program or supporting function, and therefore, requires an allocation. Salaries and benefits are allocated based on estimates of time spent on each program. Office expense, information technology, occupancy, travel, dues and subscriptions, and other expenses are allocated based on their impact to the programs.

The table below presents expenses by both their nature and function for the year ended December 31, 2023:

	Program Service Expenses	Management & General Expenses	Total expenses
Grants	\$ 1,525	\$ -	\$ 1,525
Salaries and wages	876	547	1,423
Other employee benefits	10	3	13
Accounting fees	-	48	48
Office expense	8	6	14
Information technology	8	5	13
Occupancy	32	21	53
Travel	20	9	29
Contractors	7	-	7
Grants review panel	4	-	4
Total expenses	<u>\$ 2,490</u>	<u>\$ 639</u>	<u>\$ 3,129</u>

The table below presents expenses by both their nature and function for the year ended December 31, 2022:

	Program Service Expenses	Management & General Expenses	Total expenses
Grants	\$ 1,368	\$ -	\$ 1,368
Salaries and wages	839	577	1,416
Other employee benefits	(14)	(4)	(18)
Accounting fees	-	47	47
Office expense	3	13	16
Information technology	7	4	11
Occupancy	37	25	62
Travel	24	13	37
Contractors	8	-	8
Grants review panel	6	-	6
Total expenses	<u>\$ 2,278</u>	<u>\$ 675</u>	<u>\$ 2,953</u>

6. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Management has evaluated all events subsequent to the balance sheet date of December 31, 2023, through April 10, 2024, the date the financial statements were available to be issued, and has determined that there are no subsequent events that require disclosure under FASB ASC 855, *Subsequent Events*.



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The Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Foundation and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan are nonprofit corporations and independent licensees of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.

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