

FY 24 Budget: Strengthening Families and Health

Governor Whitmer is committed to building a Michigan where everyone can live, a safe, healthy life. She signed legislation lowering prescription drug costs, increasing access to telemedicine, and fostering competitive healthcare pricing, extended Healthy Michigan to over 1 million people, invested in health care worker training, recruitment, and retention, and launched Healthy Moms, Healthy Babies, addressing disproportionate racial impacts on maternal and infant mortality, among other initiatives.

The FY2024 budget makes key investments to strengthen health care access close equity gaps and make Michigan the best place to raise a family. It makes school breakfast and lunch free for every kid, every day, helps Michiganders set up Children's Savings Accounts, invests to prevent water shut-offs, and continues funding for Healthy Moms, Healthy Babies and Plan First!. It boosts access to behavioral health services on and off school campuses. It also works to close health equity gaps, invest in services for the homeless, and reform Michigan's juvenile justice system.

Family

- \$160 million to make free school breakfast and lunch available to every kid, every day.
- \$35 million to prevent water utility shut offs.
- \$19.3 million to increase payments to foster parents, adoptive parents, and juvenile guardians.
- \$3.5 million to forgive school meal debt and set up a food basket for low-income kids.
- \$2.5 million to establish the Children's Savings Accounts program to help Michiganders save money, build wealth, and pay for educational expenses.
- \$2 million to support Governor Whitmer's Growing Michigan Together Commission.

Health

- \$279.7 million to expand Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics which serve anyone who requests care for mental health or substance use, regardless of their ability to pay.
- \$156.8 million to increase reimbursement rates to Medicaid so more can access services.
- \$140.1 million to increase wages for direct care workers and other staff assisting those with disabilities and seniors who require home-based and nursing home services and supports.
- \$56.4 million for Healthy Moms, Healthy Babies initiative, removing 5-year waiting period for immigrant women and children, investing in hospital maternal health incentives, and more.
- \$45 million to improve facilities for school-based health services.
- \$28.9 million to continue school-based mental health services on campuses.
- \$6.2 million to expand access to family planning coverage through Plan First!, helping 25,000 Michiganders protect bodily autonomy and strengthen reproductive freedom.
- \$5 million for the Michigan Crisis and Access line.
- \$5 million to offer scholarships for those going to college studying behavioral health.
- \$4 million to expand coverage for young adults enrolled in the Children's Special Health Services program, ensuring nearly 1,000 Michiganders every year with chronic conditions like sickle cell and cystic fibrosis are not kicked off their lifesaving coverage.

Equity

- \$49.5 million in ongoing and one-time funding to carry out the recommendations of the COVID-19 Racial Disparities Task Force.
- \$32.8 million to increase juvenile justice reimbursement rate and carry out recommendations.
- \$10 million to provide LGBTQ organizations with healthcare grant funding
- \$12.4 million to combat homelessness, including among youth and veteran populations.
- \$3 million for MI Contracting Opportunity to connect small businesses with federal funding.