

Wisconsin Health and Educational Facilities Authority

# **ANNUAL REPORT**

FISCAL YEAR 2024

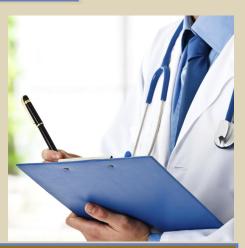
Celebrating

45

Years







Since 1979, WHEFA has completed 980 financings totaling more than \$32.6 billion, representing more than \$14.6 billion in new money capital projects and supporting more than 233,000 jobs in the Badger State.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE**

JULY 2023 – JUNE 2024

13 13

FINANCINGS BORROWERS

13 8

CITIES COUNTIES

47 JOBS CREATED

\$556

MILLION FINANCED

On behalf of the Wisconsin Health and Educational Facilities Authority (WHEFA), I am pleased to present WHEFA's Annual Report for its fiscal year ending June 30, 2024 (FY 2024).

WHEFA is committed to being a partner to nonprofit organizations throughout Wisconsin and providing knowledgeable and experienced assistance in obtaining low-cost capital financing.

Tax-exempt private activity bonds are a vital tool for nonprofit organizations' ability to provide their services in an efficient and effective manner. Access to this lower cost financing provides critical resources without placing undue financial strain on operations, allowing these organizations to reinvest the savings into their core missions supporting local, community-focused services.

WHEFA is proud of the positive role it has played supporting financial success, economic development, and job growth throughout Wisconsin for 45 years.

FY 2024 represents another successful year during which WHEFA assisted numerous nonprofits throughout Wisconsin. WHEFA completed 13 tax-exempt bond financings, supporting 13 different nonprofit borrowers. Also of note is that WHEFA assisted 2 first-time WHEFA borrowers in FY 2024. Other key details are provided in the graphic to the left. It is exciting to see this level of activity, as this is an indication that the organizations we serve find value using tax-exempt financing issued by WHEFA to support their mission.

WHEFA remains uniquely positioned to use its knowledge and experience to provide access to capital on a tax-exempt basis and is proud to support the mission-critical projects of the nonprofit organizations we serve.

As we continue into the new year, I encourage all nonprofit organizations to contact WHEFA when contemplating borrowing for a new capital project or refinancing existing debt. WHEFA would be honored to serve as a resource, regardless of whether it is part of the ultimate plan of finance.

I would also like to thank WHEFA's governing board, employees, and each of the experienced professionals who serve on the financing teams for their ongoing commitment and dedication to WHEFA and the nonprofit organizations we serve. It is because of their hard work and support that WHEFA has been able to continue to assist hundreds of nonprofit organizations in an efficient and cost-effective manner.

Sincerely,

Larry D. Wiemer II, Executive Director

Nonprofit organizations, including acute care hospitals, senior care facilities, higher education institutions, K-12 schools, and other community-based service organizations, provide critically important community services, contribute to the health and well-being of folks across our state, and help create a vibrant and thriving economy. Tax-exempt bonds are important tools, allowing these organizations to fulfill and expand their missions. For the past 45 years, WHEFA has played a vital part in ensuring nonprofit organizations have access to low-cost, tax-exempt financing to expand services while staying cost-effective in continuing their mission to serve and support local communities."

Governor Tony Evers
December 13, 2024

## ABOUT WHEFA

# MISSION STATEMENT

The Wisconsin Health and **Educational Facilities Authority** ("WHEFA") assists all eligible Wisconsin nonprofit organizations to obtain and maintain access to tax-exempt financing in order to finance or refinance their capital expansion improvement and needs.

### **VISION STATEMENT**

Regardless of whether WHEFA is involved in the ultimate issuance of bonds, WHEFA will be a resource to Wisconsin nonprofit organizations when researching and evaluating various financing options.

WHEFA will fulfill its mission by providing prompt, userfriendly, efficient, and cost effective financing, communication, education, and advocacy services to all stakeholders including financing team participants, government, trade associations, and the public.

WHEFA's ability to be successful is dependent on effective governance and a staff that can provide operational excellence. This success requires Members and staff to be well informed about issues facing the industries served by WHEFA and to stay abreast of financing options available to them.

#### WHEFA OVERVIEW

WHEFA, created by the Wisconsin legislature in 1973 (Chapter 231, Wisconsin Statutes), has been providing active capital financing assistance to Wisconsin nonprofit health care organizations since 1979. Over the years, the Wisconsin legislature has expanded the types of nonprofit entities eligible for WHEFA financing assistance from just hospitals and other health care entities, to also include independent colleges and universities, certain continuing care facilities, private elementary and secondary schools, research facilities, and community rehabilitation providers. WHEFA's charter now allows all 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations with a project in Wisconsin access to low-cost capital financing.

Funds for each project financed by WHEFA are obtained through the sale of revenue bonds of WHEFA. Bonds are sold to either an institutional lender(s) in "direct placement" transactions and to an underwriter(s) for resale to individual and institutional investors in "public offerings". Bond sale proceeds are loaned by WHEFA to the nonprofit borrowing organization or project sponsor. No state or other public funds are used.

WHEFA's bonds are payable solely out of loan repayments from the borrowing organization, sponsor or guarantor. The bonds are not a debt, liability, or "moral" obligation of the State of Wisconsin or any of its political subdivisions. WHEFA has no taxing power.

The credit supporting any WHEFA bond issue is the credit of the borrowing entity involved. The availability of financing and its terms and conditions depends in each case upon the credit-worthiness of each borrower. When tax code requirements are met, the interest paid on WHEFA bonds is exempt from federal income taxation, resulting in materially lower financing costs to the borrowing organization. Interest on certain bonds issued by WHEFA is exempt from present Wisconsin income taxation.

## **ABOUT WHEFA**

### **WHEFA Members**

WHEFA consists of seven Members, all of whom must be Wisconsin residents, appointed by the Governor of the State of Wisconsin, by and with the consent of the Wisconsin State Senate. Members of WHEFA serve staggered seven-year terms and continue to serve until their successors are appointed. The current Members are:

James Dietsche, Chairperson

Chief Financial Officer, KerberRose, Green Bay, WI

Tim Size, Vice-Chairperson

Executive Director, Rural Wisconsin Health Cooperative, Sauk City, WI

Renee Anderson, Member

President/CEO, Saint John's Communities, Inc., Milwaukee, WI

Billie Jo Higgins, Member

Vice President Finance & Information Services, Evergreen Retirement Community, Oshkosh, WI

James Oppermann, Member

Former Senior Vice President - Finance and Management Services, Alverno College, Milwaukee, WI

Pamela Stanick, Member

Vice President, Finance & Treasury, The Medical College of Wisconsin, Inc., Milwaukee, WI

Robert Van Meeteren, Member

President/CEO, Reedsburg Area Medical Center, Inc., Reedsburg, WI

## WHEFA CONSULTANTS

Quarles & Brady LLP has been General Counsel to WHEFA since 1979.

CliftonLarsonAllen LLP has been Independent Auditors to WHEFA since 2019.

1979
WHEFA's first financing

### WHEFA STAFF

Larry D. Wiemer II, Executive Director

Tatiana M. Graver, Associate Executive Director

Tanya L. Coppersmith, Manager of Operations and Finance

**Stephanie L. Schirripa**, Executive Assistant

# WHEFA FISCAL YEAR 2024 ACTIVITY

# 13 Different Nonprofit Borrowers

4 SINGLE-SITE ACUTE CARE FACILITIES
3 SENIOR LIVING FACILITIES
4 EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES
2 OTHER FACILITIES

# NET PRESENT VALUE SAVINGS

Approximately \$2.2 million for WHEFA Borrowers

# ECONOMIC IMPACT

47 direct jobs & 3,029 total jobs created through WHEFA financed projects

4 Public Offerings \$383,780,000

9 Private Placements \$172,953,556

### **TOTAL**

13 Financings \$556,733,556

FISCAL YEAR 2024

NUMBER OF FINANCINGS

12 New Capital
1 Refinancing

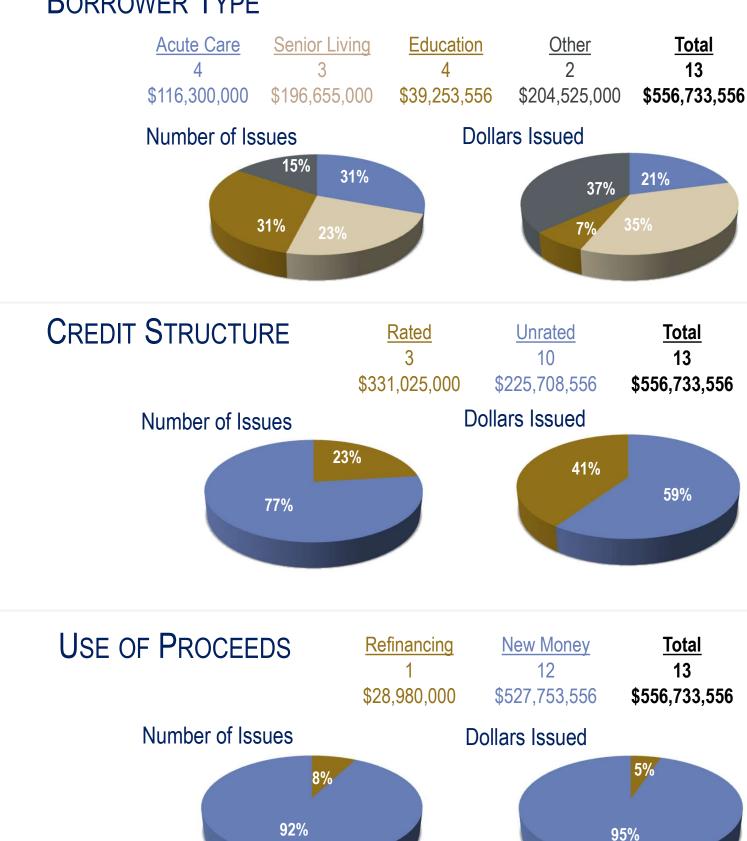
### **NEW MONEY**

\$527,753,556 (95%)

REFINANCING

\$28,980,000 (5%)

### **BORROWER TYPE**



# FINANCINGS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024

WHEFA proudly assisted the nonprofit organizations listed to the right in financing and refinancing critical capital improvement and expansion projects by providing access to low-cost, tax-exempt financing.



### **Single-Site Acute Care Facilities:**

Bellin Memorial Hospital Fort Healthcare Reedsburg Area Medical Center Stoughton Hospital Association

### **Educational Facilities:**

Carroll University
Carthage College
Kenosha Area Business Alliance Foundation
Lawrence University of Wisconsin

### **Other Facilities:**

Forensic Science and Protective Medicine Collaboration Milwaukee Regional Medical Center Utility and Infrastructure

### **Senior Living Care Facilities:**

PHW Menomonee Falls
Three Pillars Senior Living Communities
Woodside Senior Communities

Additional details about each financing can be found on the following pages.

# SINGLE-SITE ACUTE CARE FACILITIES



\$15,165,000 Construction

20 Jobs Retained 300 Construction Jobs Created

251 Total FTEs

# Stoughton Hospital Association

Critical Access Hospital • 57,624 people in service area

"We were fortunate to once again have a partner like WHEFA to provide us with a way to issue tax-exempt bonds which helps us to keep the cost of financing lower. Keeping financing costs lower allows us to continue to grow service lines, exceed expectations of our patients and staff, and better serve the communities in our service area. As with our previous issues, we truly appreciate the expertise and professionalism of the WHEFA staff."



- Michelle Abey, Vice President – Finance/CFO Stoughton Hospital Association

"The new clinic has been a "want" for several years. Due to the growing need for access to primary care and a huge need for the underserved in behavior health, the new Rural Health Clinic has become an absolute necessity. The new Clinic will allow Reedsburg Area Medical Center to continue to recruit primary care and behavioral health providers into our growing community. We are grateful that WHEFA has been able to provide tax-exempt funding for this much needed project."



- Barry Borchert, Vice President-Finance/Chief Financial Officer Reedsburg Area Medical Center, Inc.

# Reedsburg Area Medical Center

Critical Access Hospital • 23,000 people in service area

\$18,200,000 Construction

60 Jobs Retained 210 Construction Jobs Created

448 Total FTEs



# SINGLE-SITE ACUTE CARE FACILITIES



\$53,955,000 Renovation

57 Jobs Retained50 ConstructionJobs Created

695 Total FTEs

# Fort HealthCare

Rural Hospital • 86,148 residents in service area

"Access to tax-exempt financing is allowing Fort HealthCare to economically invest in its physical plant in a way that will help keep its ongoing operating costs low through the reduced interest rate burden."

- James Nelson, SVP/CFO Fort HealthCare, Inc.



"The Authority provides a simple, streamlined process that facilitated Bellin Health achieving **nearly \$4 million in interest cost savings**. The savings will allow us to continue to better serve the community."



- John Ceelen, Chief Financial Officer Bellin Health Systems, Inc.

# **Bellin Memorial Hospital**

195 Beds • 738,800 people in service area

\$28,980,000 Refinancing

4,484 Total FTEs



# **EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES**



\$7,328,556
Energy Improvements

# **Carroll University**

Approximately 2,700 students

Project financing facilitated by WHEFA was used to help Carroll University finance costs associated with the acquisition and installation of certain energy improvement equipment, measures and renovations, including weatherization and retro-commissioning, on the University campus.



"The expansion of LakeView Technology Academy is a very important project that simply wouldn't have been possible without WHEFA's tax-exempt financing. Bringing our blue-ribbon STEM academy – recently named the second-best high school in Wisconsin – to the Kenosha Innovation Neighborhood in the heart of Kenosha, allows us to upgrade the facilities and expand STEM education offerings to all Kenosha Unified high school students."



- Brock Portilia, Director of Finance and Administration Kenosha Area Business Alliance Foundation, Inc.

# Kenosha Area Business Alliance Foundation STEM High School • Approximately 400 Students

\$10,775,000 Construction

100+ Construction
Jobs Created

30 Total FTEs



# **EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES**



\$6,000,000 Construction

20 Jobs Created40 ConstructionJobs Created

452 Total FTEs

# Carthage College Approximately 2,600 students

"Carthage College recently completed a series of significant projects, including the renovation of the Lentz Hall building to support the growing needs of its Engineering Department. The upgraded Lentz Hall is expected to enhance the academic experience for engineering students by providing modern classrooms, labs, and collaborative spaces. The investment aligns with Carthage's commitment to strengthening its academic programs and expanding opportunities for students pursuing careers in engineering."

 Vince Ceja, Vice President for Finance and Chief Financial Officer Carthage College



"As a not-for-profit higher-education institution, Lawrence was looking for low-cost financing for a critical project that will serve the interests of Lawrence's students (both current and future) as well as multiple communities throughout the Fox Valley. Tax-exempt financing achieves this outcome for Lawrence. We are excited to continue to strengthen our relationship with our Fox Valley partners. We cannot understate the benefits this has for our students (current and future) and for those within our local communities."



- Samir Datta, Vice President for Finance & Administration Lawrence University of Wisconsin

# Lawrence University

Approximately 1,480 students

\$15,150,000 Construction

100 Construction
Jobs Created

542 Total FTEs



# OTHER FACILITIES



\$35,750,000 Construction

300 Construction Jobs Created

Operational and shared service components of a shared healthcare campus

# Milwaukee Regional Medical Center Utility and Infrastructure Obligated Group

"Milwaukee Regional Medical Center is proud to provide the infrastructure and utility improvements on this campus to enable the continued growth of critically necessary healthcare services, research, and medical education. This financing will allow MRMC to improve the access to and around the campus, enhance the safety of our roads, and ensure the infrastructure is established for currently planned and future growth."



- Rachel Stauffer, Vice President of Finance Milwaukee Regional Medical Center "Tax-exempt financing of the Forensic Science and Protective Medicine facility will provide the taxpayers the best terms available to finance the construction of this State and County partnership facility."

- Jeffrey R. Bornemann, President Forensic Science and Protective Medicine Collaboration, Inc.

State of Wisconsin Crime Lab

Milwaukee County Medical Examiner's Office & Milwaukee County Office of Emergency Management

# Forensic Science and Protective Medicine Collaboration

\$168,775,000 Construction

10 Jobs Created 1,097 Construction Jobs Created



# SENIOR LIVING FACILITIES



\$108,295,000 Construction

20 Jobs Created50 ConstructionJobs Created

202 Total FTEs

# Three Pillars Senior Living Communities

Independent living, assisted living, memory care, rehabilitation & skilled nursing

"Since 1905, Three Pillars has served thousands upon thousands of residents and families. As a not-for-profit, our proceeds are reinvested back into the organization to improve our product and services, as well as providing care for residents who may outlive their assets. When we can secure tax-exempt financing, it allows us to invest even more money to directly support our residents. In addition, the charitable contributions to our mission over the past century have helped build our strong balance sheet that investors find attractive."



- Jean Freuck, CFO / VP of Finance and Sales Three Pillars Senior Living Communities "Woodside Senior Communities' current campus is organized for the purpose of providing health care and senior housing services to individuals in the general geographic area of the Green Bay Conference of the East Central Wisconsin Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America. The new project will be owned and used exclusively by this nonprofit entity. The revenue from this project will help to offset increasing deficits as reimbursement rates from Medicare, Medicaid and other insurances continue to decrease and do not cover the full cost of care."



- Polly Gretzinger, Executive Director Woodside Senior Communities

# Woodside Senior Communities

Independent living, assisted living, memory care, rehabilitation & skilled nursing

\$35,605,000 Construction

2 Jobs Created500 ConstructionJobs Created

221 Total FTEs



# SENIOR LIVING FACILITIES



\$52,755,000 Construction

5 Jobs Created125 ConstructionJobs Created

48 Total FTEs

# PHW Menomonee Falls

Independent living, assisted living & memory care

"Having access to tax-exempt financing allows us to borrow at lower rates and therefore keep rents and other services as affordable as possible for the seniors we serve. We have had a great relationship with WHEFA in the past and appreciate their flexibility and partnership."

- Mark Meyer, Chief Financial Officer Presbyterian Homes and Services





# PROUDLY SERVING ALL WISCONSIN NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS



Access to Tax-Exempt Financing for Capital Improvement & Expansion Needs

Finance | Refinance

# EDUCATOR | RESOURCE | ADVOCATE

# Wisconsin Locations of WHEFA Borrowers



### ★ FISCAL YEAR 2024:

### **4 SINGLE-SITE ACUTE CARE FACILITIES:**

Bellin Memorial Hospital – Ashwaubenon and Green Bay

Fort Healthcare – Fort Atkinson

Reedsburg Area Medical Center - Reedsburg

Stoughton Hospital Association - Stoughton

### **4 EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES:**

Carroll University - Waukesha

Carthage College – Kenosha

Kenosha Area Business Alliance Foundation – Kenosha (New Borrower)

Lawrence University of Wisconsin - Appleton

### 3 LONG-TERM CARE FACILITIES:

PHW Menomonee Falls - Menomonee Falls

Three Pillars Senior Living Communities – Dousman

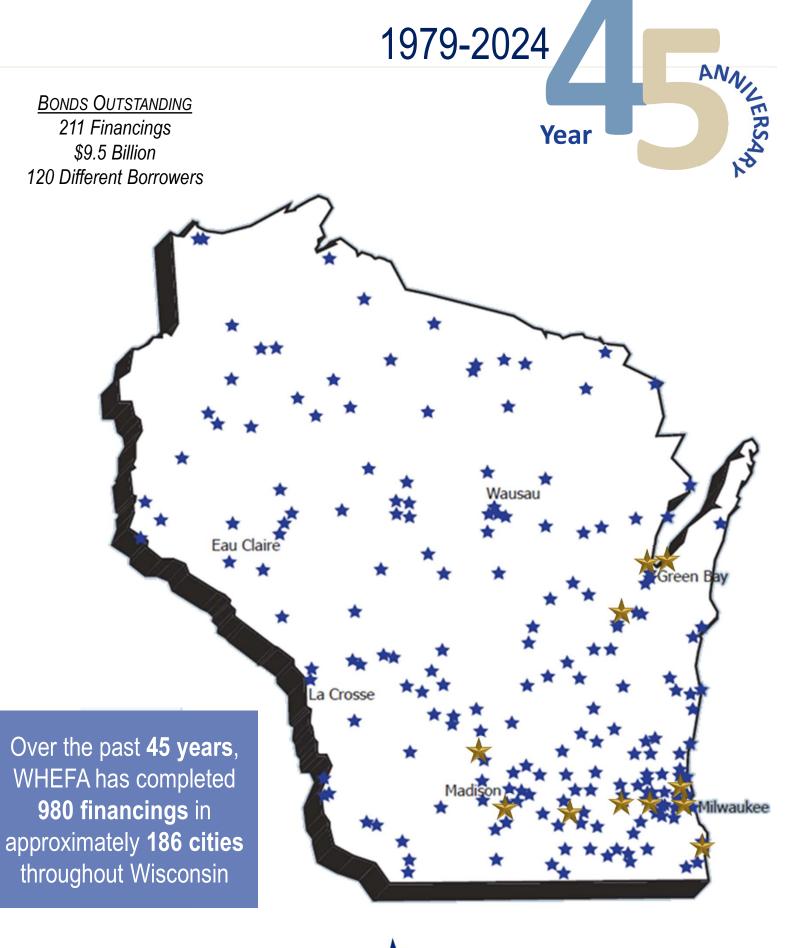
Woodside Senior Communities - Ashwaubenon

### **2 OTHER FACILITIES:**

Forensic Science and Protective Medicine Collaboration – Wauwatosa (New Borrower) Milwaukee Regional Medical Center Utility and Infrastructure – Wauwatosa

13 Borrowers

LOCATED IN 13 WISCONSIN CITIES ACROSS 8 COUNTIES





# YEARS OF WHEFA HISTORY

The Wisconsin
Supreme Court declares
the Wisconsin Health
Facilities Authority
valid and constitutional.

1979

1980's

### 1987

The Authority's name changes to the Wisconsin Health and Educational Facilities Authority (WHEFA) to reflect statute change to include the ability to finance higher educational facilities.

1990's

1999
20 Years of Cumulative Activity
347 financings
totaling over \$6.07 Billion

### 1981

First Hospital Financing \$7,615,000 for DePaul Rehabilitation Hospital in Milwaukee.

### 1987

First College Financing \$3,000,000 for Carroll College in Waukesha.



1979

First Financing \$1,300,000 for Marquardt Memorial Manor in Watertown. (2019 Marquardt Project Rendering pictured)

1989

10 Years of Cumulative Activity 121 financings Totaling Over \$1.3 Billion

#### 2013

First financing using statute expansion \$1,750,000 for Briarpatch Youth Services in Madison.

#### 2004

First K-12 financing \$3,315,000 for Wisconsin Institute for Torah Study in Milwaukee.

# 2000's

### 2004

WHEFA statute
expanded to include
the ability to finance private,
nonprofit elementary or
secondary educational
institutions (K-12).

### 2009

WHEFA statute expanded to include the ability to finance nonprofit research facilities.

Legislative change authorizes a state tax-exemption on healthcare IT projects financed by WHEFA.

### 2013

2010's

WHEFA statute
expanded ability to finance
all nonprofit institutions and to
allow interest income on WHEFA
bonds to be exempt from State
income tax under certain
circumstances.

### 2019

WHEFA statute
expanded to allow
interest income earned
on WHEFA Bonds totaling
\$35 million or less to be
exempt from payment
of State income tax.

#### 2019

40 Years of Cumulative Activity 884 Financings Totaling Over \$28.1 Billion

# Current

2024
45 Years of
Cumulative Activity
980 Financings
Totaling Over
\$32.6 Billion

2009

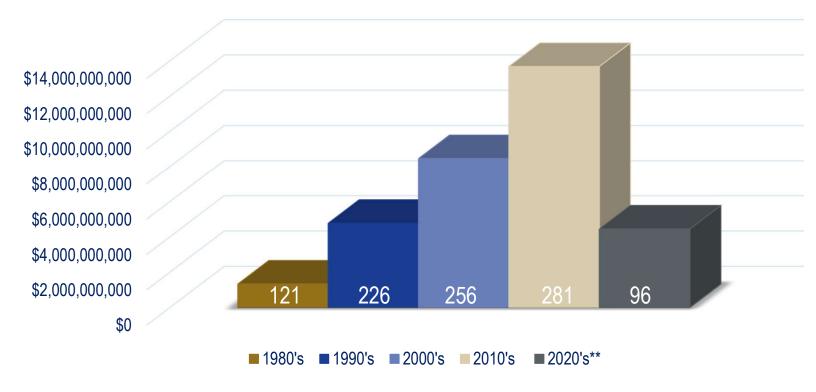
30 Years of Cumulative Activity 603 Financings Totaling Over \$14.5 Billion

# FINANCINGS BY DECADE

2013 Largest number of financings and largest dollar amount in a fiscal year:

47 financings totaling \$1,790,604,804.



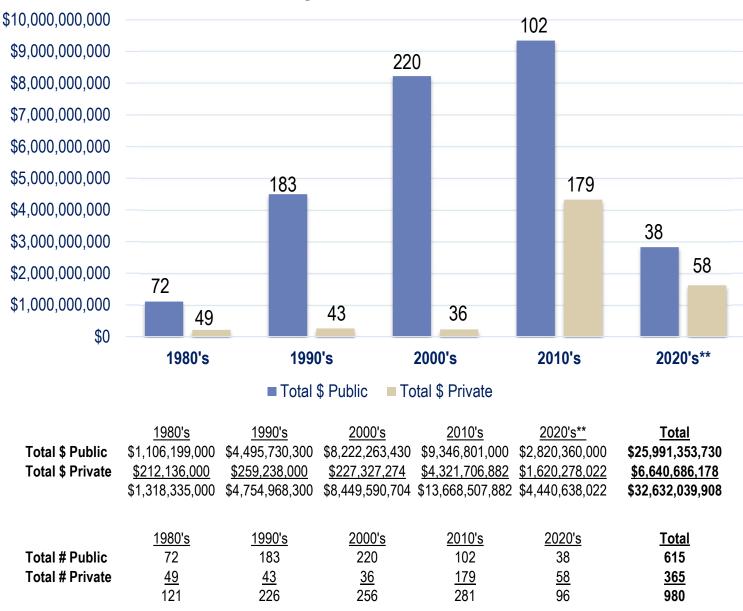


	<u>1980's</u>	<u>1990's</u>	<u>2000's</u>	<u>2010's</u>	2020's**	<u>Total</u>
<b>Total Dollars</b>	\$1,318,335,000	\$4,754,968,300	\$8,449,590,704	\$13,668,507,882	4,440,638,022	\$32,632,039,908
<b>Total Number</b>	121	226	256	281	96	980

\*\*Through 6/30/2024.



## Public Offerings and Private Placements



# TOTAL WHEFA ACTIVITY

### **BORROWER TYPE**

**Acute Care** 475

Senior Living 261

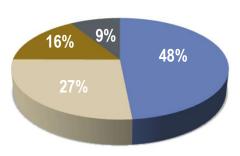
Education 157

Other 87

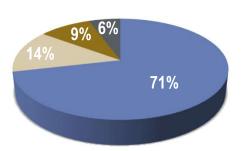
**Total** 980

\$23,291,404,099 \$4,468,469,247 **\$3,024,836,323** \$1,847,330,239 **\$32,632,039,908** 

### Number of Issues



### **Dollars Issued**



### **CREDIT STRUCTURE**

Enhanced 317

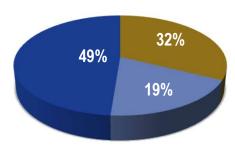
Rated 185

Unrated 478

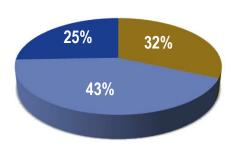
**Total** 980

**\$10,340,066,000 \$13,943,544,430 \$8,348,429,478 \$32,632,039,908** 

### Number of Issues



### **Dollars** Issued



## USE OF BOND PROCEEDS

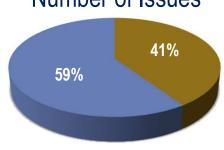
Refinancing 398

New Money 582

**Total** 980

**\$15,216,981,483 \$17,415,058,425 \$32,632,039,908** 

Number of Issues



### **Dollars Issued**



### **ECONOMIC IMPACT:**



### JOB CREATION

	Jobs	Jobs	Construction Jobs	Total Borrower
Fiscal Year <sup>1</sup>	Created	Maintained	Created	FTE Employees
2015	829.0	2,388.0	2,134.0	39,505.6
2016	113.0	1,026.0	1,051.0	17,526.0
2017	421.0	1,811.0	2,868.0	26,564.0
2018	234.3	1,833.0	2,603.0	40,415.5
2019	442.0	695.7	1,009.0	52,327.7
2020	369.0	1,054.0	2,485.0	38,331.8
2021	74.0	209.0	810.0	22,285.0
2022	726.0	1,1813.0	2,155.0	38,766.3
2023	180.5	1,895.0	1,475.3	29,930.0
2024	47.0	357.0	2,982.0	11,727.0
10-Year Total	3,388.8	22,724.7	16,590.3	N/A <sup>2</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>July 1 – June 30. <sup>2</sup>Not totaled to avoid double counting repeat borrower FTE numbers.

# NET PRESENT VALUE OF SAVINGS FROM REFINANCINGS

Fiscal Year <sup>1</sup>	Net Present Value of Savings	Number of Refinancings
2015	\$59,105,581	26
2016	160,086,839	12
2017	38,409,894	10
2018	39,952,892	12
2019	3,895,703	7
2020	70,576,380	14
2021	24,333,201	4
2022	66,795,710	14
2023	19,258,011	9
2024	2,282,142	1
10-Year Total	\$550,079,267	109

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>July 1 – June 30.

# ANNUAL AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

PLEASE CONTACT WHEFA:

<u>INFO@WHEFA.COM</u> (262) 792-0466



# WISCONSIN HEALTH & EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES AUTHORITY

18000 W. Sarah Lane, Suite 300
Brookfield, WI 53045
P: 262-792-0466
info@whefa.com - www.whefa.com