

Transforming Times



2024-2025 round-up edition

Kimberlydawn Wisdom, MD, MS, FACEP



Cultivating connection and creating community in the workplace

Inclusion and a sense of belonging are crucial for everyone's well-being. When we belong and feel included, we feel a sense of safety and security, and we are more likely to engage with others and achieve greater success in various aspects of life. In the workplace, inclusion and belonging are essential for team members to reach their full potential and contribute their best. Many people seek community and belonging in their places of work. According to the American Psychological Association 2023 Work in America [survey](#), 94% of respondents reported that it's somewhat or very important to them that their workplace be somewhere they feel they belong.

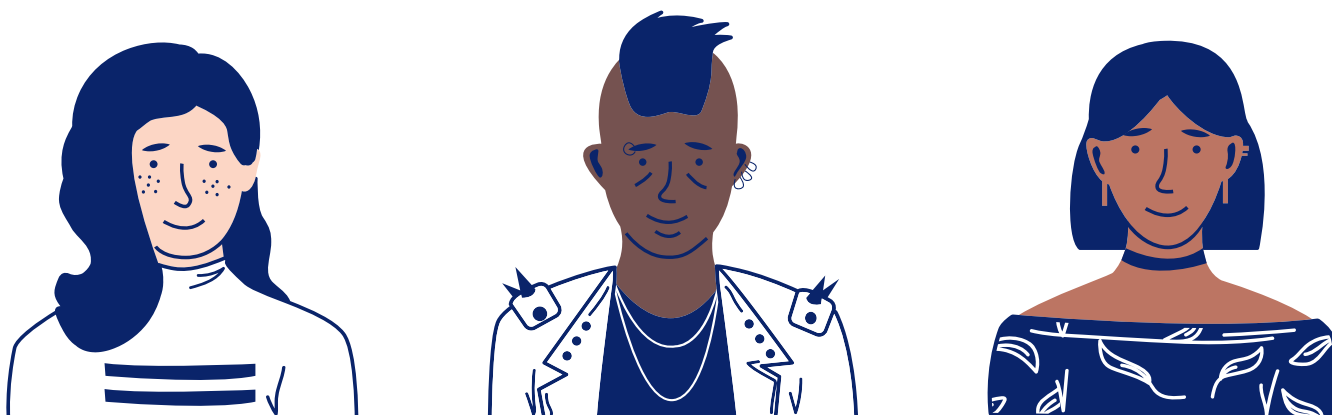
Let's take a closer look at what these terms mean:

- Inclusion refers to creating environments where individuals feel welcomed, respected, supported, and valued, regardless of their background, identity or differences.

- Belonging is the feeling of being accepted, connected to a community, and having a sense of security and support.
- Well-being encompasses physical, mental, emotional, and social health, and a sense of purpose and fulfillment.

Team members who feel seen, heard, respected, and valued at work contribute to strong team dynamics and connect with the work they do in an impactful way. Fostering positive social relationships, like the ones we establish in our departments and teams, leads to increased mental and physical health. Team members who feel connected are more likely to be happy, engaged, and productive at work.

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Conversely, a lack of inclusion and belonging can lead to social isolation and loneliness, increased risk of mental and physical health problems, reduced self-esteem and confidence, and difficulty in forming and maintaining relationships. Henry Ford Health is an organization that prioritizes inclusion and belonging for every team member. One example of this is the [Henry Ford ENHANCE Employee Assistance Program](#). Henry Ford ENHANCE is a voluntary, confidential counseling and referral program aimed at helping to manage life's challenges. Henry Ford ENHANCE can help with mental and emotional health, family support, relationships, workplace issues, substance abuse and addictions. Henry Ford ENHANCE counselors can also provide referrals to resources such as eldercare support, legal help and financial services.

To promote inclusion and belonging in our workplace and within our teams, there are a few steps we can take:

Create welcoming environments

Foster a culture of respect, empathy, and understanding. Encourage teamwork and collaboration.

- Henry Ford Health's Employee Resource Groups (ERGs) play a vital role in enhancing team member engagement and belonging. This is another way our organization supports and encourages the unique ideas, contributions, needs and talents of our employees. ERGs serve as dynamic spaces for connection, collaboration, and empowerment, bringing together team members with shared experiences, interests, or goals to strengthen our organization and deepen our connection to the communities we serve.

Lead by example

Leaders should model inclusive behaviors and create a culture of belonging.

- Since Henry Ford and Ascension began our joint venture in October 2024, our leadership has been very intentional about creating a culture that includes both organizations' values and principles. One way this has been accomplished is through the inclusion of Reflections - a tradition Ascension has used to offer an intentional pause at the start of meetings, inviting mindfulness, connection to shared values, and emotional well-being. This tradition continues to be a part of meetings, and other shared communication spaces for employees across the organization. A Reflection is meant to provoke thoughts, open hearts, and connect our team members to our shared values, what they hold meaningful, and their purpose in our collective healing work. A Reflection can be a poem, story, article, patient letter, song or something else, and is another impactful way we prioritize inclusion and belonging.

Encourage open communication

Make space for team members to share their ideas and unique perspectives.

- This year, Henry Ford Health launched "Healing Harmonies," our new employee choir. The choir is open to all team members, regardless of skill level, to come together to harmonize health, togetherness, and belonging, one note at a time. Healing Harmonies made its debut performance at the Henry Ford Health MLK Day Celebration on January 20, 2025. The choir fosters connection, creativity, and joy; highlighting communication in all aspects, even through music!

Celebrate success and milestones

Take time to acknowledge and appreciate the contributions of all team members.

Provide support

Offer resources and support to employees who may be struggling.

As we move forward, we continue in our commitment to inclusion and belonging at Henry Ford Health. Together, we can continue to build a workplace culture where everyone's voice is heard, and all individuals can achieve their full potential.

CHEW supports the community with online resources

[LiveWell blog](#)

HFH's popular health and lifestyle blog, supported by the Center for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention (CHPDP) and Marketing, continues to be the top driver of traffic to henryford.com, accounting for more than 50 percent of user visits. In 2024 and 2025 we had:

- 506 articles published
- 11.7 million users visiting the blog
- 13.2 million sessions (single visit to the website, consisting of one or more page views, purchases, or other events)
- 14.7 million page views
- 83.89% engagement rate (number of engaged sessions divided by the total number of sessions)

[Centralized community health requests for events](#)

To enhance efficiency and resource coordination, CHPDP has introduced a single request form for all health service requests for community events. This streamlined process ensures that the appropriate departments and programs are involved, making it easier for us to support your needs and improve your access to these services. By using this single point of entry, we can improve coordination, enhance reporting, and collect valuable data to better share Henry Ford Health's community outreach impact. Whether you're a Henry Ford Health team member or a community member, please use [this form](#) for all requests.

2024 news & media highlights

- **Verlycia Dixon** was featured on Channel 4 in a story highlighting Henry Ford Health's efforts to expand access to CHWs and the work she does for patients and families at the Henry Ford Cancer Institute. [Hospital systems see growing demand for Community Health Worker services in Metro Detroit \(clickondetroit.com\)](#)
- **Jaye Clement** was interviewed for a piece discussing WIN Network and its effects on maternal and infant health disparities for an article in The Michigan Daily, "[How health care systems are shaping the future of health equity in Michigan](#)"
- **Dr. Kimberlydawn Wisdom** was featured in an article on WIN Network's efforts and ways to support Black moms and babies in Planet Detroit: "[To cut Black infant mortality, Henry Ford program supports Black moms](#)"
- **Dr. Wisdom** also discussed the development of the "First Tri" campaign, part of the Hope Starts Here early childhood initiative to encourage expecting mothers and health professionals to focus more on the first trimester of pregnancy for the health of pregnant person and baby in an article in Outlier Media, "[Hope Starts Here begins well-being work by promoting health and child development](#)"
- **Dr. Wisdom** was quoted in an article discussing the policy impact of the passage of bills to address racial disparities in maternal health in Planet Detroit, "[Michigan Senate committee pushes forward on Omnibus package to tackle maternal health gaps](#)"
- **The Women-Inspired Neighborhood (WIN) network** was mentioned in a press release from CHC: Creating Healthier Communities that highlighted the release of the Black Birthing Initiative Impact Report: "[CHC's Innovative Birthing Initiative Improves Housing Stability and Mental Health Outcomes](#)"
- **HFH & WIN network** were featured as a case study in a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation-funded study of collective leadership. The report, "[Beyond the Binary: Toward More Collective Forms of Leadership – Leadership Approaches to Drive Systems Change](#)" underscores the importance of community-driven, equity-centered health initiatives.

Grants Awarded to CHEW in 2024

Generation with Promise (GWP), via Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Ed) (\$690,000 in FY24)

GWP provided direct education to 2615 people (aged 3-80+ years), 13,048 indirect channels (reaching the families of those who received direct education), and 17,562 policy/systems/environmental change outreaches to encourage improvement of the built environment for active living, for a total reach of 33,225 increased nutrition security and opportunities for physical activity in lower-resourced/historically underinvested communities.

Black Birthing Initiative via Creating Healthier Communities (\$244,582)

The WIN Network leadership team, along with Detroit Health Department and JFM Consulting, presented at the Creating Healthier Communities convening of grantees for the Black Birthing Initiative in Atlanta, GA. The program has enrolled 100 participants and already shown improved birthing outcomes.

Michigan State University (MSU) Research partnerships

- **Addressing Disparities in Maternal Mortality and Severe Morbidity for Medicaid-insured Pregnant/Postpartum Individuals of Color: A Multilevel, Community-Clinical Intervention for Hypertension Disorders of Pregnancy via the Michigan Health Endowment Fund (\$17,760).** This project collected information on patients' opinions of hypertension education developed by MSU and Strong Beginnings, and provided education about prenatal hypertension and high blood pressure self-monitoring.
- **Pay for Success Strong Beginnings: Care Improvement for Medicaid-insured African American and Latina Women via the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (\$300,000).** This project completed its second year of research focusing on demonstrating the impact of perinatal care provided by CHWs.
- **Maternal Health Multilevel Interviews for Racial Equity (MIRACLE) Center via the National Institutes of Health (NIH) (\$159,601).** This renewed initiative aims to reduce maternal health disparities in African American, Hispanic, and rural populations by focusing on innovative, culturally relevant community-partnered research to address pregnancy-related and pregnancy-associated maternal morbidity and mortality disparities. Key accomplishments in 2024 include launching a 12-county plan to advance ambulatory-community maternal safety bundles, pursuing clinical-community integrated maternal workforce strategies and more.

Triple Crown: Babies win. Families thrive. Communities transform via the Federal Office of Minority Health (\$1.23 million)

This continuation grant supports HFH's partnership with Black Mothers Breastfeeding Association (BMBFA) and the University of Michigan-Child Health Evaluation and Research Center (UM-CHEAR) for their project that aims to improve health equity and reduce racial disparities in health outcomes for Black women by integrating community-based maternal support services within the perinatal care system in Detroit. During the event, Dr. Wisdom was proudly recognized with the Phillis Wheatley Award for her outstanding contributions to improve the health of mothers and babies.

University of Michigan Research partnership

Seniors using Technology to Engage in Pain Self-management (STEPS): CHWs & Chronic Pain Management for Seniors via NIH (\$226,804). Program has enrolled 384 participants out of 414 goal – about 93%.

Hope starts here: early childhood initiative

via the W.K. Kellogg & Kresge Foundations - (\$115,500)

Replication of WIN network

At two federally qualified health centers (FQHCs), CHASS in Detroit & the Center for Family Health in Jackson, via the Michigan Health Endowment Fund (\$150,000)

HFH launches project to foster trauma & resiliency-informed care

Becoming a trauma- and resiliency-informed community and healthcare organization is an intentional and innovative pathway to better serve patients, employees and communities and to live up to our core purpose of healing. In 2024, HFH established the Trauma & Resiliency-Informed Community & Healthcare Organization (TRICHO) Taskforce and two workgroups (Education/Training and Assessment/Evaluation). TRICHO is an organization-wide effort dedicated to creating a trauma-informed enterprise by reimagining our practices and policies, equipping team members with tools and prioritizing compassion in all interactions.

TRICHO's strategic commitments

- **Education:** to reduce stigma associated with trauma screening and services; increase awareness of trauma and what it means to be a trauma- and resiliency-informed organization
- **Response:** provide support to employees, patients and community during and after traumatic events; be a community leader in trauma-related care
- **Prevention:** center employee, patient and community well-being; implement trauma-informed best practices
- **Evaluation:** understand impact and serve as a model for other organizations.

To kick off this project, staff completed core courses and additional trainings in Michigan State University's Trauma-Informed Care certificate program. A broad-based TRICHO Task Force has been convened by Henry Ford LiveWell's Childhood Wellness group and encompasses a variety of related departments across HFH. The Task Force's first project will be to develop a designation and launch a pilot with the University of Buffalo Institute on Trauma and Trauma Informed Care and MSU School of Social Work.



Diabetes prevention program reports outstanding achievements

In 2024, HFH's Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP) continued to scale and spread to support all patients with prediabetes. DPP attained excellent outcomes for participants, including completion rates close to 63%, and 71% of participants achieving a weight loss of 5% or more. These outcomes demonstrate a \$378,000 savings in health care costs by preventing type 2 Diabetes in 2024 for those completers.

In addition, DPP launched automation within our electronic health record (EHR) to position us for growth and reach priority populations with the program. DPP built functionality into the EHR that identifies patients with prediabetes, facilitates outreach and enrolls them into the program, lessening the burden on health care and program staff. The DPP program is working alongside the Community Health Worker (CHW) Hub to maximize utilization and deployment of CHWs. The DPP team includes CHWs trained to manage referrals and address social needs of participants.

Finally, in association with the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan, we provided 11 DPP classes in Spanish for 148 HFH patients.

Special section: 2024-2025 rewind

CHEW active in the community throughout the years

April 2024

A bill to license registered dietitians in Michigan was passed and signed into law! Beth Thayer, Director of the Center For Health Promotion & Disease Prevention has been leading the charge to license dietitians in the state of Michigan for the past 6 years. On April 30, that dream was realized when Governor Whitmer signed HB 4608 into law. Michigan was one of only 2 states (Arizona is the other) that had no regulations and/or licensure for registered dietitians. Next steps are to build a state licensure board and write rules and regulations for the implementation of this law. Registered dietitians in the state of Michigan should be able to apply for their first Michigan state license on or before October 17, 2027.

See page 12 for the 2025 update on this topic.



Beth Thayer (left) with Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer, Emily Camiener, and Rep. Laurie Pohutsky at the signing of HB 4608

May 2024



Dr. Kimberlydawn Wisdom and Malikah Garner were invited to be speakers on a round table panel with Lieutenant Governor Garlin Gilchrist for the **Healthy Moms, Healthy Babies** policy initiative on May 13th. Jaye Clement, Shanayl Reed, Malikah Garner, and other HFH employees showed their support for the first freestanding birth center in Detroit by attending the Birth Detroit Grand Opening Gala on Friday, May 3rd.



Generation with Promise holds youth wellness ambassador kick-back event

On May 24, 2024, the Generation With Promise (GWP) team held a Youth Wellness Ambassador (YWA) Kick-back event to celebrate the past, present and future of YWA and honor its graduates and their families. It was also a celebration and reunion of former YWAs and some prospective participants. Special remarks were made by Dr. Kimberlydawn Wisdom, who created the program in 2011. Recent graduates shared their experience in the YWA program and the impact it has had on their career choices and future plans – from studying law and becoming an immigration lawyer to studying political science, public health and pursuing social justice.

At the event, Dr. Wisdom was presented with the Megaphone Award by its creator, Yvonne Price. The Megaphone award symbolizes one who courageously and diligently uses their voice to dare or boldly disrupt the status quo, bring excitement and awareness of a notable cause and does not waiver in the site of adversity. Dr. Wisdom is one of three recipients following Dr. Tsu-Yin Wu, PhD, RN, FAAN, Director of the Center for Health Disparities Innovation and Studies at Eastern Michigan University, and Barry Blackwell, Manager of Community Relations at Henry Ford Health.

The history of the program goes back to the origins of GWP in 2007, where youth were the focus of the program's goals to Move More, Eat Better and Don't Smoke (later changed to Change Lives!). Thousands of youth have participated through school-based sessions in their classrooms, youth leadership efforts, Student Action Teams in schools and/or the Youth Wellness Ambassador program, which meets outside of school time. YWA alumni who attended the event have gone on to do great things, including studying public health, becoming a clinical manager of the Trauma Recovery Center, or working as a program coordinator at the University of Michigan in Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Many report that they learned how to eat and live healthy lives through the program. The highlight of the event may have been when the GWP team got on the dancefloor as a group! Everyone enjoyed the sounds of the DJ, the delicious food, and the fellowship.

June 2024



Amigos ERG (Employee Resource Group)
Volunteered at a Gleaners food distribution at Patton Recreation Center. More than 40,000 pounds of food were distributed.

June 2024



Janetta Hubbard led 300 K-5 students at Endeavor Elementary in New Haven in a half-mile walk and 15 minutes of the “cha-cha” slide for ACES Day (All Children Exercising Simultaneously). They also discussed healthy lifestyles, tasted fresh fruit salad and flew kites - many of them for the first time!



WIN network hosts heartwarming group prenatal care reunion

In June 2024, WIN Network: Detroit families and their new babies were invited to celebrate their unique and empowering journey through our group-prenatal experience. Focused on preventing infant mortality and improving maternal health, our model of group prenatal care pairs expectant parents with certified nurse midwives and community health workers for regular check-ups, education sessions and community connections. This is the 20th reunion since originally launching the group prenatal care model in 2016. To date, WIN Network has delivered around 700 healthy babies.



July 2024

Health screening event accompanies celebrations and a fun run/walk in Detroit

On July 10, in partnership with WERUN313, Detroit City Council President Mary Sheffield, the Detroit Pistons and the Detroit Phoenix, Henry Ford Health hosted an event honoring the emancipation of enslaved African-Americans. The celebration included music, blood pressure screenings and a brief program prior to a 3.1-mile run/walk event. The run/walk route wound through the vibrant District 5, passing by landmarks such as Henry Ford Health Campus and the Detroit Pistons Practice Facility, and highlighted significant historical sites in the neighborhood.



CHEW team packages and organizes books for 313 Reads

In an exciting partnership, Henry Ford Health has been awarded a grant through “313Reads: Books in the D.” This initiative aims to promote literacy in a clinical setting and will provide thousands of books to pediatric patients aged 0-18 across HFH medical centers in and around Detroit. Medical Centers identified to receive books include Livonia, Ford Road (Dearborn), Taylor, New Center One (Detroit), Hamtramck, Harbortown, select school-based health sites and Community Health and Social Services (CHASS).

In support of the program, several CHEW Team members shopped for, packaged and organized thousands of books at the Focus: HOPE warehouse on July 30. By leveraging this opportunity, HFH will enhance early learning access for children who might not encounter such resources in traditional educational settings. Books will be available to children during their visits for wellness checks, health screenings, counseling services, and more. This initiative ensures that every visit to our clinics can be a step toward a brighter, literate future for Detroit’s youth.

August 2024



HFH community health worker hub team leader selected as ambassador for Michigan

Linda Reyes, CHW Hub Team Leader was chosen by the National Association of Community Health Workers to represent Michigan CHWs as an Ambassador at the national level.

Ambassadors contribute to program development and share updates on outreach efforts in their own regions. Congratulations Linda!

CHEW team members accepted to second cohort of MDHHS SDOH community influencer program

On August 14, 2024, CHEW team members Robert Latimer and Malikah Garner joined the second cohort of the MDHHS Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) Community Influencer Program for their orientation at the AC Hotel in Lansing, MI. This marked the beginning of an exciting journey for the new community influencers, who are ready to make a difference in Michigan's health landscape.

The SDOH Community Influencer Program brings together Michigan residents from diverse backgrounds who provide essential feedback to MDHHS on social determinants of health strategy programs and policies. By amplifying community voices, influencers help ensure these programs are impactful and relevant to Michigan residents. This collaboration helps bridge the gap between state strategies and the needs of our communities.

Robert and Malikah bring a wealth of community expertise, health programming experience, and a strong focus on equity, making them invaluable contributors to this opportunity.



September 2024

HFH's Destination: Grand supports home repair and rental assistance through community organizations

Two community non-profit organizations have been selected to receive, administer and manage funding for home repair and rental assistance funds committed under the community benefits agreement created as part of HFH's Destination: Grand project. Central Detroit Christian Community Development Corporation will receive \$2 million as a part of the home repair funding benefits, and Black Family Development, Inc. will be awarded \$500,000 as a part of the rental assistance funding benefits. Both organizations will receive these funds over the course of five years.

October 2024

Amigos ERG's successful school supply drive

Amigos ERG had a highly successful school supply drive and backpack distribution benefiting families in Southwest Detroit and at our Detroit hospital – one of the many ways Amigos gave back to our local Latino and Hispanic communities during Hispanic Heritage Month. Click [here](#) to view a one-minute video.

Dr. Wisdom & Brenda Smith co-keynote annual MICHWA meeting

Dr. Kimberlydawn Wisdom and community health worker (CHW) Brenda Smith served as co-keynote speakers at the 12th Annual Meeting of the Michigan Community Health Worker Alliance on October 11, 2024. Their address, "Empowering Change: Building a Resilient Future Together," covered an understanding of the CHW role, the impact of social determinants of health, how best to integrate CHWs into clinical models of care, and career pathways for CHWs. Dr. Wisdom and Brenda received a standing ovation following their remarks at the event attended by nearly 300 CHWs, CHW supervisors/managers, funders, research scientists and policy makers.



November 2024

Trauma Quality Improvement Program annual conference

In November 2024, the TRICHO team attended the 2024 Trauma Quality Improvement Program Annual Conference in Denver.



The TRICHO Team at Denver Health, RESTORE program site visit: Stephanie Kendzierski, Kieandra Harvey-Scott, Dr. Leatherwood, Maria Gonzalvez Schimpf (Director at Denver Health), Dr. Wisdom, Barbara Blum-Alexander, and Ali Lakhani

December 2024



Black Mothers Breastfeeding Association's Triple Crown Gala

CHEW team members had the honor of attending the Black Mothers Breastfeeding Association's Triple Crown Gala and Awards Ceremony on December 6th at the Dossin Great Lakes Museum. During the event, Dr. Wisdom was proudly recognized with the Phillis Wheatley Award for her outstanding contributions to improve the health of mothers and babies.

February 2025

Birth Center Licensure bill

On Friday, February 21st, 2025, the WIN Network team attended the Celebration of the Birth Center Licensure Bill (HB 5636) becoming a law! The event was hosted by Birth Detroit, Mothering Justice, Michigan Chamber of Reproductive Justice and the State of Birth Justice. Special guests included notable legislators Senator Erika Geiss and State Representative Laura Pohutsky, who championed the bill.

Pictured left to right: Courtney Latimer, Ma'Khya Culbreath, Malukah Garner, Kristine Walton, Marta Lugo-Rodriguez



March 2025

American Medical Group Association (AMGA) 2025 Annual conference poster presentation: moving toward meaningful consent for SDoH screening

Henry Ford Health's "Moving Toward Meaningful Consent for SDoH Screening" poster was featured at the AMGA 2025 Annual Conference, highlighting the impact of providing Social Determinants of Health (SDoH) screenings in a multidisciplinary, data-driven approach to enhance patient satisfaction, trust, and transparency in privacy and data sharing through a Community Information Exchange (CIE). The poster was also featured in the final round of the Henry Ford Health 2025 Quality Expo. David



Fuller Jr., presented the poster, representing work with his colleagues, former 2023-2024 Administrative Fellows Stephanie Robinson and Emily Morrow. The poster highlights the enterprise-wide strategic priority to standardize the implementation of SDoH screenings to address patients' non-medical drivers of health. The

poster shared data insights

on screening methods and best practices, specifically comparing Medical Assistants to Community Health Workers (CHWs) across over 1 million SDoH screenings conducted in 2023. Results showed that CHWs had a higher yield of patients with an identified need and who consented to assistance. CHWs are trained in providing SDoH assistance as core competency and support patients across the entire closed-loop process.

Since then, the Henry Ford SDoH Council has implemented recommendations to establish an enterprise-wide policy for SDoH screenings and interventions, and developed patient-facing messaging to improve transparency in information sharing through the CIE. In addition, the SDoH Council has leveraged the Henry Ford University Empathic Inquiry training module at scale to support education for team members to understand the importance of providing SDoH assistance and build trust with patients.

April 2025

Community health worker advocacy day

Many CHEW CHWs participated in the Michigan Community Health Worker's Alliance (MiCHWA) Advocacy Day in Lansing. While there, they met with Representatives Tullio Liberati and Joe Tate.



Wisdom, Thayer appointed to MI Board of Dietetics and Nutrition

On April 25, 2025, Dr. Wisdom and Beth Thayer were appointed by Governor Gretchen Whitmer to the inaugural Michigan Board of Dietetics and Nutrition. They will serve through June 30, 2029. The Michigan Board of Dietetics and Nutrition was created by Michigan's 102nd Legislature to license and regulate the practice of professional dietetics and nutrition in Michigan. The Board works with the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs to promulgate rules to establish a code of ethics for licensees. The Board and the Department will work together to announce initial rules for individuals seeking licensure as a dietitian nutritionist.

Dr. Wisdom encourages Channel 4 watchers to 'go for it' for health

April 2025 marked the one-year anniversary of the community health commercial featuring Dr. Wisdom on Channel 4. The campaign has helped inspire healthier choices and encouraged our community to take positive steps toward better well-being.

June 2025

WIN Network team hosts NIH site visit for MIRACLE Center project

On June 16-17, program officers from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) visited Detroit, Grand Rapids, Flint and East Lansing to assess progress of the MIRACLE Center research project. As a collaborative between Michigan State University, Henry Ford Health and Corewell Health, the MIRACLE Center's goal is to reduce maternal morbidity and mortality disparities in African American, Hispanic, and rural populations in Michigan. Dr. Wisdom, Jaye Clement, and Malak Ismail were proud to co-host their stop in Detroit which included our own Courtney Latimer, Kristine Walton, Linda Reyes, Marta Lugo-Rodriguez, Ma'Khya Culbreath, Markita Close, Dr. Leach, Dr. Pitts and Homa Wenah.



Photo features attendees during the Detroit NIH site visit. Participants in order from L to R: Marta Lugo-Rodriguez, Dr. Richard Leach (Chair of Women's Health), Markita Close, Ma'Khya Culbreath, Dr. D'Angela Pitts (Women's Health), Nahida Chakhtoura (NIH), Diane Gumina (NIH), Rada Dagher (NIH), Homa Wenah, CNM (Women's Health), Kristine Walton, Cristian Maghea (MSU), Juanita Chin (NIH), Dr. Kimberlydawn Wisdom, Jaye Clement, Malak Ismail, Amy Loree (Center for Health Services Research), Courtney Latimer



MDHHS Annual Maternal Infant Health Summit

June 17-18, Kari N. Foote-Johnson, LMSW, Home Visiting Social Worker, and Neefesha Marion, MSW, Program Specialist and MIHP Coordinator, attended the MDHHS Maternal Infant Health Summit. The annual summit provides a unique opportunity for multidisciplinary collaboration, convening both National and Statewide stakeholders working to improve maternal, infant, and family health.

Kari Foote-Johnson and Neefesha Marion are pictured with Dr. Joia Crear-Perry (center), keynote speaker.

July 2025

Healthy Community Zones highlights

Through the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, in conjunction with Henry Ford Health's Generation with Promise, the NW Goldberg Cares Organization was awarded the Healthy Community Zones (HCZ) Grant to support their community programming. With the help of HCZ grant funds, NW Goldberg Cares introduced the Ferry Park Summer Market, a community farmers market; continued programming for their community chef-hosted event Breaking Bread; provided summer youth programming for Play NW Goldberg; and planned for a community grocers' market, "Imma & Abbas," in conjunction with Mezuzah Detroit.

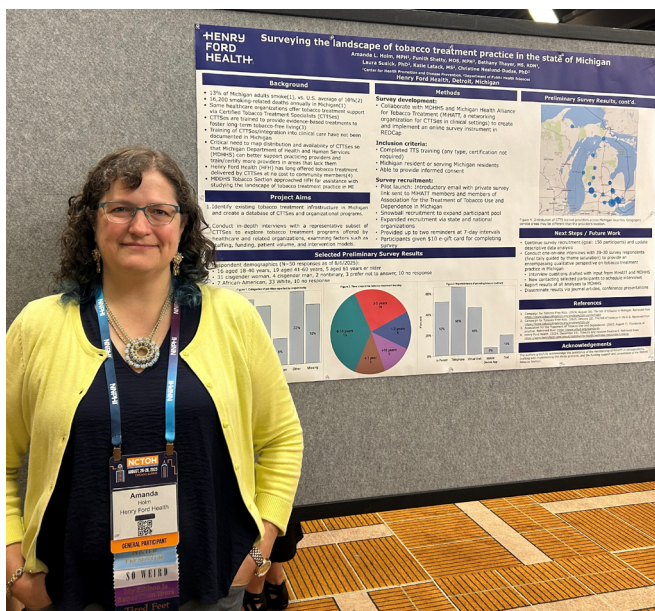


Daniel Washington, founder of the NW Goldberg Cares Organization pictured with Cicely Turner (Generation with Promise)

August 2025

Amigos ERG school supply drive

During the week of August 11-15, a total of 20 staff and volunteers engaged in picking up school supplies and backpacks as part of the Amigos ERG School Supply Drive. On August 16, staff and volunteers distributed 106 backpacks to families at Council Member Gabriela Santiago-Romero's District 6 Annual Celebration.



Amanda Holm, Senior Project Manager, Tobacco Treatment Service

National Conference on Tobacco or Health

On August 26, 2025, Amanda Holm presented at the National Conference on Tobacco or Health in Chicago. Her poster outlines CHEW's MDHHS-funded project to map out the landscape of Tobacco Treatment Specialists in Michigan and features some preliminary results of the ongoing survey they have been distributing. The team has conducted follow-up qualitative interviews with participants and is developing journal manuscripts to submit for publication.

September 2025

Men's Health Fair With Jeezy

On September 12, Henry Ford Health participated in a collaborative event with Cass Technical High School and JWW Enterprises, featuring Jay Wayne Jenkins aka Jeezy. Dr. Wisdom spoke at the pep rally to highlight the importance of men's health for students and community members present. Henry Ford Health, including the CHEW team, provided health education on men's health topics, blood pressure and glucose screenings, and information on prostate cancer and diabetes prevention.



Jay Wayne Jenkins aka Jeezy pictured center, alongside Dr. Wisdom, CHEW and Henry Ford Health team members.

Moving & grooving to support Black moms

Dr. Wisdom graced the stage at "The 2025 Motown Experience: Birth & Breastfeeding Conference", hosted by Black Mothers' Breastfeeding Association (BMBFA) on September 26th. Her keynote address, "From the Ground Up: Transforming Birth and Breastfeeding Through Community-Rooted Leadership", focused on how to drive lasting improvements in maternal and infant health through authentic community partnerships, culturally responsive care, inclusive leadership, and bold system transformation to reshape outcomes for pregnant women, families and communities. Project manager Malika Garner, who also serves as a Board Member and Lead Mommy Ambassador for BMBFA, hosted a workshop titled: "Passion. Purpose. Advocacy. Mobilizing Mommy Ambassadors for Community Impact". Throughout the 3-day conference, the WIN Network team had a strong presence, including hosting an exhibitor's booth and site visit tour of our dedicated space for group prenatal care at Henry Ford Medical Center - New Center One.



Dr. Wisdom provides the keynote address at The 2025 Motown Experience: Birth & Breastfeeding Conference, hosted by BMBFA.

Hustle Up hustles harder for Game On Cancer

The emPOWER ERG held the Hustle Up 2025 event on September 7, 2025. The event started in 2018, and the 2025 event marked the largest Hustle Up yet, with over 400 people in attendance. The event raises funds for Game On Cancer. Every dollar helps patients in our community with critical needs like housing, food, transportation, and more.

Pictured: Attendees participate at the Hustle Up 2025 Event on Sep. 7 at the Adams Butzel Recreation Complex



Henry Ford Health recognized at SEMPQIC'S 2025 Annual Black Maternal and Infant Health Summit

Henry Ford Health was selected as an honoree at the Southeast Michigan Perinatal Quality Improvement Coalition's (SEMPQIC) 2025 Annual Black Maternal and Infant Health Summit. This recognition reflects the health system's outstanding contributions and ongoing commitment to advancing maternal and infant health in our region. The leadership of HFH, its active participation in SEMPQIC's work since its inception, and continued involvement in initiatives that promote healthier outcomes for mothers and infants exemplify the spirit of this award.



Pictured (left to right): Marta Lugo-Rodriguez, Kristine Walton, Linda Reyes, Courtney Latimer, Patricia Miller, Markita Close, Neefesha Marion, Shannon Mitchell, Kari N. Foote-Johnson, Malikah Garner.

Detroit URC 30th anniversary symposium and celebration

Dr. Wisdom and CHEW team members Michael Anderson, Cicely Turner, Haley Crimmins, Renee Aboona Zack and Malikah Garner attended the Detroit URC 30th Anniversary Symposium and Celebration. Dr. Wisdom introduced Kresge Foundation CEO Rip Rapson for the keynote address and interviewed him on the longstanding commitment to the city of Detroit. The event also highlighted their organization's success with spearheading community based participatory research with community-based organizations.



Dr. Wisdom with Detroit URC colleagues Angela Reyes, Dr. Barbara Israel, Rip Rapson and Enrique Neblett, Jr.



Dr. Wisdom interviews Rip Rapson.

October 2025

Center for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention celebrates 30th anniversary

Henry Ford's Center for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention, affectionately known as CHPDP ("chip dip"), celebrated the 30th anniversary of its founding in 2025. In August 1994, inspired and guided by the vision of then-President & CEO Gail Warden, Dr. David Siegel convened a group of national experts at the Dearborn Inn for the Henry Ford Center for Health Promotion Strategy Symposium. The goal was to discuss his white paper "Integrated, Regional Health Systems: Models for Health Care Delivery Reform". From that symposium, the idea for the Center for Health Promotion & Disease Prevention was born. And in 1995, CHPDP was established, with Dr. Ron Davis becoming the Center's first director. The milestone celebration welcomed past CHPDP team members, participants in the original symposium, members of the advisory board, and internal and external partners. Henry Ford President and CEO Bob Riney and Executive Vice President & Chief Operating Officer Denise Brooks-Williams provided remarks and reminiscences. We're looking forward to the next 30 years of innovation and impact!



*Pictured, left to right:
Denise Brooks-Williams,
CHPDP Director Beth Thayer,
Dr. Kimberlydawn Wisdom
and Bob Riney at the CHPDP
Anniversary event.*



Bridging Birth and Mind Conference

CHEW Project Manager Malikah Garner attended the Bridging Birth and Mind Conference sponsored by PSI on October 24th. Rooted in the connection between obstetric care and mental health, the conference offers a valuable opportunity to explore best practices for supporting individuals through childbirth and early parenting. Held at Henry Ford West Bloomfield Hospital, the event features expert-led sessions grounded in empathy, collaboration, and clinical insight.

*Malikah Garner (left) pictured with the Detroit
Health Department Sister Friends Program team*

October 2025

Group prenatal care reunion 2025

On October 11, 2025, the WIN Network Detroit Group Prenatal Care Reunion invited families that have participated in Group Prenatal Care to come together to celebrate healthy birth journeys, healthy moms and babies, and healthy outcomes.



Moms and babies at the WIN Network Detroit Group Prenatal Care Reunion.



The team members that make it happen!

(L to R top row): Kalyn Tinsley, Kristine Walton, Alyssa Allen, Markita Close, Ariyanna Peterson.

(L to R bottom row): Marta Rodriguez-Lugo, Ma'khya Culbreath, Linda Reyes

October 2025

CHEW team presents session, poster at 2025 Quality Expo

Dr. Kimberlydawn Wisdom, Jaye Clement, Courtney Latimer, David Fuller, and Danielle Stewart of the CHEW Team, along with Camille Romain, Cancer Supportive Oncology Services Manager, presented “The Flow of Impact: CHWs Uncovering Needs, Unlocking Support” at the 2025 Quality Expo. Their presentation highlighted how embedding Community Health Workers (CHWs) enhances whole-person care, strengthens intervention effectiveness, and advances system goals for closed-loop referrals—all key steps toward improving health outcomes for every patient. Congratulations to the team for driving innovation and demonstrating the powerful impact of CHWs in advancing community-centered care!



Pictured (L to R): David Fuller, Camille Romain, Jaye Clement, Dr. Kimberlydawn Wisdom, Courtney Latimer, Danielle Stewart



Henry Ford Mother and Baby Support Program hosts parenting workshop

The Henry Ford Mother and Baby Support Program hosted a 4-week Parenting Workshop + Baby Shower Series in September, made possible through funding from our SEMPQIC Grant for Advancing Healthy Births. Special thanks to the WIN Network team for assisting. Over 25 participants attended weekly, with childcare and transportation provided to ensure accessibility. Families also received diaper bags filled with baby essentials, Pack 'n Plays, and gas gift cards to support their ongoing parenting journey. The series was a great success, providing education, community, and essential resources to help parents and caregivers build stronger, healthier family foundations.

December 2025

Courtney Latimer Selected for Leadership Fellowship

Courtney Latimer, MSA, Manager in the Office of Community Health, Education & Wellness, was selected for the W.K. Kellogg Foundation's Community Leadership Network Fellowship, Class #4. This competitive 18-month program supports leaders advancing equity and strengthening communities, with only 80 participants chosen from priority regions. Recognized for her leadership in maternal health and Community Health Worker programs, Courtney joins a distinguished cohort focused on driving systems change. She follows Jaye Clement, VP of Community Health Programs and Strategies, who participated in the inaugural class—continuing our department's strong legacy.



MLK Day 2025: kicking off a “Season of Service”



Henry Ford Health hosted its 25th annual celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day on January 20, 2025, with festive choir performances and a thought-provoking community panel discussion at the Detroit Pistons Performance Center. The event was coordinated by the Institute on Multicultural Health (IOMH). Retirees joined current staff for a fellowship breakfast ahead of the event. This was the kickoff of a planned “Season of Service” throughout the organization, with HFH’s Center for Health Education and Wellness connecting employees with volunteering opportunities at community partner organizations. Watch for updates on this initiative in future newsletters!