



# Health and Equity in All Policies Alliance

## Understanding and Responding to COVID-19

As the COVID-19 crisis shines a light on growing inequities and gaps in our current systems at the local, national, and global level, it also serves as a urgent reminder of why a Health in All Policies approach is so critical to individual, family, and community health.

As communities around the country and here in Wisconsin grapple with how to understand and respond to COVID-19, we must recognize that the virus threatens to exacerbate inequities. This includes gaps in health care access, but also in things like lack of access to broadband, safe and healthy food, reliable transportation, stable and sustainable employment, affordable childcare, safe housing, financial resources, and education. Wisconsin's non-white, senior, rural, and low income communities are likely to be those hit hardest by these access issues, and by the threats to mental health that accompany them.

As just one small but relatable example, our rural and low income students are those most likely to lack access to broadband, tablets, and computers at home. This was true before COVID 19; while it's encouraging that many schools will be shifting to virtual classroom instruction or work, what will we do to ensure all students have access to the resources they'll need in the months ahead?

It's clear now more than ever before how health impacts every other aspect of our lives, and how everything that we do impacts our health. This crisis demands a Health in all Policies approach.

### COVID-19 and Health Equity in the News

- ['Everyone has to have it': Broadband gap leaves rural Wisconsin behind during coronavirus crisis](#)
- [Talking About COVID-19: A Call for Racial, Economic, and Health Equity](#)
- [COVID-19 and health \(and death\) disparities](#)
- [Coronavirus will also cause a loneliness epidemic](#)

### COVID-19 Related Community Resources

- [Wisconsin Department of Health Services](#)
- [Wisconsin Counties Association](#)
- [League of Municipalities](#)
- [Mayors Innovation Project](#)
- [Minnesota Department of Health Resources](#)
- [COVID Case map by county](#) (via Broadstreet)

### COVID-19 Wisconsin Funding Resources

The Wisconsin Partnership Program just announced the [COVID-19 Response Grant Program](#), designed to help community organizations and UW-Madison researchers address the urgent challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. This grant program will provide a strategic,

flexible, rapid-response mechanism to support innovative, responsive, high-impact projects that aim to improve the health of the people of Wisconsin by lessening the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic through scientific, medical, or public health approaches and/or by supporting those most at risk or experiencing the greatest disparities in care. *Applications due April 15.* To read the full request for proposals, [click here](#).

## Health & Equity in All Policies Alliance WEBINAR (HEAPA)

### February HEAPA Webinar Recording

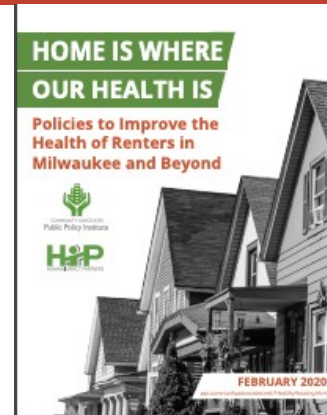
Our February webinar focused on moving Health in All Policies forward in rural Wisconsin. [Lisa Charron](#) led a presentation focused on barriers and best practices found in the literature as well as case stories from the [Legacy Community Alliance for Health](#). Throughout the discussion, participants were invited to discuss experiences implementing health equity work in rural communities. [To view the recording, click here.](#)



## Resource on Health and Equity

### Home is Where Our Health Is: Policies to Improve the Health of Renters in Milwaukee and Beyond

[This report](#) published by [Human Impact Partners](#) and [Community Advocates Public Policy Institute](#) shows how the affordability, quality, and stability of rental housing affect health, and includes 32 policy recommendations to improve health and equity for renters in Milwaukee and across Wisconsin. This resource can be used by advocates and policymakers to show how rental housing conditions are connected to health and how policy changes can improve housing and health outcomes.



## Funding/Support Opportunities



**Innovative Local Models to Provide Non-Medical Assistance to Older Americans, Persons with Disabilities, and Family Caregivers - Applications due May 1** (deadline extended due to COVID 19)  
[Community Care Corps](#) will award between \$30,000 and \$250,000 to establish, enhance, or grow volunteer programs.  
[The full Request for Proposals can be found here.](#)



**Regional Food Systems Partnership Program - Applications due May 11**  
[The Regional Food Systems Partnership Program](#) supports partnerships that connect public and private resources to plan and develop local or regional food systems. Effort is focused on building and strengthening local or regional food economy viability and resilience. [The full Request for Applications can be found here.](#)

**Farmers Market Promotion Program - Applications Due May 11**  
[The Farmers Market Promotion Program](#) funds projects that develop, coordinate and expand direct producer-to-consumer markets to help increase access to and availability of locally and regionally produced agricultural products. A 25% match is required. [The full Request for Applications can be found here.](#)

**Rural Community Development Initiative (RCDI) - Webinar, 1 pm CT on April 7, 2020**  
Join USDA Rural Development's Community Facilities Program to learn how to apply for [Rural Community Development Initiative Program grants](#). These



grants are for qualified intermediaries to provide capacity building assistance to help improve housing and community facilities, and to implement community and economic development projects in rural areas. To register, click [here](#).

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The Wisconsin Health and Equity in All Policies Alliance newsletter is published by 1000 Friends of Wisconsin and brought to you by COWS and MATCH at UW-Madison, with special thanks to our partners and collaborators at the Wisconsin League of Municipalities and the Wisconsin Counties Association.



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