You may know us from the White Coat Campaign, but we do so much more...
Our Mission
To advance the health of the people of Wisconsin by supporting medical education and health initiatives.

Who We Are
As the 501(c)(3) public, nonprofit affiliated with the Wisconsin Medical Society, the Foundation’s programs complement the mission of the Society and our shared priorities.

• Physician-led—Strategic goals set primarily by physicians.
• Independent—Not tied to a corporate service area, government agency or medical school.
• Evidence-based—Support physician-recommended programs, research and pilot projects.
• Trusted—Since 1955.
Wisconsin Medical Society Foundation programs are integral to great health care in Wisconsin. From helping students with the daunting task of funding their medical education, to enhancing their formal training with opportunities to engage with the community, to funding timely health initiatives and research, Foundation programs improve access to well-trained and dedicated physicians, help physicians maintain a connection to the heart of why they chose medicine, and can lead to changes in the standard of care that benefit us all. Thank you for supporting this important work.

—Claudia Reardon, MD, President, Foundation Board of Trustees

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Far-reaching Impact

Intervening to help the vulnerable

The Foundation’s fellowship program has advanced research on timely health topics and has improved health care in Wisconsin and nationally.

2013

Megan Beck, a Medical College of Wisconsin student—pictured here with her mentor Marlene Melzer-Lange, MD—conducts a study of sex trafficking in Milwaukee as part of a Foundation-supported research fellowship.

2015

A report is published in WMJ, the Wisconsin Medical Society’s scientific journal and medical student Sydney Hansen continues the work during her fellowship by designing an educational module on sex trafficking for medical providers.

Today

The educational module is now in use by a variety of health care workers in Wisconsin. A report on the project has been accepted for national publication and Megan Beck is speaking with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHS) about using their outreach programs to better enable hospitals and providers to identify and care for trafficking victims.
Based on the success of the pilot, this model is now being used in most Dane County hospitals, area police departments and Emergency Medical Services agencies as well as hospitals in 17 counties across the state, employing 146 certified recovery coaches, who have had similar experiences as the patients they serve.

“Instilling hope, courage and motivation while connecting to resources and advocating for change—one call at a time.”
—Joseph Galey, peer recovery coach
The Foundation at Work

In 2018, the Foundation awarded a total of $878,550 to projects that impact mental and behavioral health, disease prevention and research and support a strong physician workforce. More than 30,000 individuals across the state are expected to benefit directly from Foundation-supported programs during 2018.

Mental and Behavioral Health

BROWN COUNTY UW-EXTENSION COMMUNITY GARDENS PROGRAM
$4390 grant for health and resiliency program ming for teens in foster care.

COLUMBIA-ST MARY’S, ASCENSION HEALTH CARE
$10,000 grant for community health workers to serve as pain navigators for patients with acute pain in emergency departments to receive better pain management and reduce opioid use.

WESTERN WISCONSIN HEALTH
$3500 grant for a resiliency program for teens in the Baldwin-Woodville School District.

Wisconsin Literacy, Inc. – Wisconsin Health Literacy Division
$10,000 grant for physician-led community workshops on safe and effective use of prescription opioids.

Wisconsin Medical Society
$6000 grant for continuing medical education on the stigma associated with mental and behavioral health.

Wisconsin Society of Addiction Medicine (Wisam)
$6000 grant for continuing medical education webinars on substance use disorders.

Wisconsin Book Festival
A public talk on addiction at Madison Public Library featuring journalist and author David Sheff.

Disease Prevention

ACCESS COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS
$3000 grant for physician- and dietitian-led education for individuals with hypertension, diabetes, high cholesterol and obesity.

Aurora Health Care Inc.
$5000 grant for a program to improve biomarkers of chronic disease by removing barriers to accessing fresh produce.

Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin Foundation
$10,000 grant for Reach Out and Read, a program that helps mitigate toxic stress from adverse childhood experiences.

Grow La Crosse, Inc.
$2500 grant for school garden at Hintgen Elementary School.

Medical College of Wisconsin
$2400 grant for a program that brings medical students into third grade classrooms to teach nutrition lessons.

Prescription for a Healthy You
Medical students teach healthy living sessions to youth at Boys & Girls Clubs around the state.

Sixteenth Street Community Health Centers
$5000 grant for a bilingual, family-based program that encourages a more active lifestyle and healthier eating.

Wisconsin Science Festival
Physician and medical student volunteers teach youth about the human body and encourage careers in medicine and health care.

White Coat Campaign
Physicians sponsor a white coat and write a message of welcome for each first-year medical student in Wisconsin.

Operation: Education
Physicians representing various specialties meet with medical students for career exploration.

Scholarships
$160,500 in financial support for 50 students pursuing medicine and related health careers.

Student Loans
$560,000 in student loans available to medical students to assist in funding their education.

Summer Fellowships
$17,500 to fund opportunities for medical students to work with physicians on important public health research.

Financial Literacy for Medical Students, Residents and Young Physicians
Podcasts and other resources for a smoother financial transition into the profession.

Awards
Recognition for physicians who go above and beyond the call of the profession and for medical students who are already making their mark.

Physician Leadership and Workforce
$67,500 to support the Wisconsin Medical Society’s Leading Healthy Work Systems leadership program. Also convened a meeting focused on physician workforce issues.

Your financial support is vital to these programs and initiatives. Add your contribution using the enclosed envelope or make a tax-deductible donation online at https://wisconsinmedicalsociety.ejoinme.org/engage.
The Wisconsin Medical Society Foundation facilitates meaningful community volunteer and mentoring opportunities for physicians. In the above photo, physicians and medical students volunteer side-by-side at the Foundation’s booth at the Wisconsin Science Festival to teach youth and their families about the fascinating human body and encourage them to consider medical careers. Other opportunities have included working with school and community garden programs, medication safety workshops and more.

To learn more about volunteer opportunities, call Eileen Wilson at 608.442.3722 or email eileen.wilson@wismed.org.