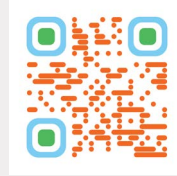


Nominations Now Open

Nominations will be accepted beginning now for the third annual Health Equity Innovation Award, presented at the 2025 Health Equity Summit.

<https://www.kfmc.org/health-equity-innovation-award/>



Examples of health equity innovation may include:

Technology-based solutions: The use of technology, such as mobile health apps, telemedicine, and wearable devices, can improve access to healthcare services and health information for populations in remote or underserved areas.

Community Health Worker programs: These programs train individuals from the community to serve as liaisons between healthcare providers and community members. Community health workers can provide culturally competent care, health education, and advocacy, helping to bridge the gap between healthcare systems and marginalized populations.

Culturally tailored interventions: Designing interventions that consider cultural beliefs, values, and practices can improve engagement and health outcomes. This includes adapting health education materials, providing language services, and ensuring representation of diverse communities in healthcare decision-making.

Social drivers of health interventions: Recognizing that health disparities are influenced by social drivers such as education, housing, employment, and income, innovative programs can address these underlying factors. For example, initiatives that provide access to affordable housing, education and job training, or income support can have positive impacts on health equity.

Collaborative partnerships: Building partnerships among healthcare providers, community organizations, government agencies, and other stakeholders can foster innovative approaches to address health disparities. Collaborative efforts can leverage resources, expertise, and collective action to tackle complex health equity challenges.

Kansas Health Equity Summit

Creating Oases in Deserts

Presents

The Health Equity Innovation Award

Wednesday, October 30, 2024

Eugene M. Hughes Metropolitan Complex, Wichita, KS









KFMC Health Improvement Partners is pleased to present the second annual Health Equity Innovation Award. The award recognizes organizations, affiliated groups, partnerships or individuals that have developed and implemented novel approaches, strategies and interventions aimed at reducing health disparities and promoting health equity in their community.

Award winners think outside the box, challenge existing systems, and implement creative solutions to ensure that everyone has a fair and equitable opportunity to achieve optimal health.

The Innovation Award winner is recognized at today's event and in subsequent social media and marketing campaigns, plus receives a \$500 cash award and free registration to the Kansas Health Equity Summit.

Criteria for the Health Equity Innovation Award

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1. Impact on health disparities: Degree to which the nominee addresses and reduces health disparities among different populations, particularly those that are marginalized and underserved.
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2. Reach and accessibility: The nominee's ability to reach and benefit their targeted population, taking into account how they improve access to healthcare services, health information, and/or resources for marginalized communities, including those facing barriers such as geographic location, language, and/or socioeconomic status.
- 
3. Cultural competence: The nominee demonstrates cultural competence and sensitivity by considering the unique needs, beliefs, and values of the target population, including how they address cultural barriers and promote inclusivity and understanding.
- 
4. Sustainability and scalability: The potential for the intervention to be sustained over time and replicated in different settings or communities. This includes its feasibility, cost-effectiveness, scalability, and potential for long-term impact.
- 
5. Collaboration and partnerships: The nominee promotes collaboration and partnership among stakeholders, such as healthcare providers, community organizations, policymakers, and individuals from the affected communities.
- 
6. Evidence-based (if applicable): There is evidence supporting the innovation, including research, data, and/or evaluation studies demonstrating its effectiveness in improving health equity outcomes if available.

Congratulations to all nominees!

Read more about this year's impressive group of healthcare organizations working to further health equity in their communities on the next page.

Attane Health: Overcoming Disparities Through Inclusive Nutrition

Attane Health is the first patient-driven digital health platform providing inclusive access to personalized, nutritious groceries and educational resources for people living with chronic conditions. Offering more than 1,500 food selections to meet individual cultural norms and preferences, its focus populations include maternal health, diabetes, hypertension, food allergies/gastrointestinal, and hyperlipidemia.

Under the leadership of founder Emily Brown, Attane Health partners with health systems, payers and community-based organizations to give patients and members access to high-quality foods and telehealth coaching. While reducing the cost of care and driving behavioral change, Attane Health also leverages the power of data to measure outcomes and enhance the journey toward better health.

Attane Health recently partnered with United HealthCare Community Plan of Kansas and the Health Forward Foundation on the “Food is Medicine” pilot program, expected to identify 400-600 members experiencing high-risk pregnancies across the state to participate. The pilot will measure birth outcomes and additional health outcomes for the post-partum parent, along with self-reported stress levels and satisfaction with the program.

The approach of Attane Health, guided by Brown, represents a paradigm shift in addressing health and wellness for marginalized populations facing food insecurity. Along with offering holistic strategies and culturally relevant solutions, they advocate for systemic change to address disparities in access to nutritious foods – ultimately advancing equity and inclusion in healthcare.

For more information about Attane Health and its inclusive nutrition program, visit attane-health.com.



Kiowa County Memorial Hospital: Delivering Care in the Community

Many communities in and around Kiowa County lack access to rural health clinics, particularly after Bucklin lost its clinic. Haviland, home to a college, also faces challenges as many students lack transportation to the nearest clinic in Greensburg, 10 miles away. In response, Kiowa County Memorial Hospital (KCMH) has launched a mobile rural health clinic to serve these areas on designated days each week, significantly improving their access to healthcare. This initiative not only addresses the transportation barrier for both younger and older patients but also allows KCMH to provide services in multiple counties without the costs of a physical clinic. The mobile clinic will cater to community needs, including nursing home patients in Bucklin, and has garnered local support, with communities offering spaces and electricity for its operation.

For more information about Kiowa County Memorial Hospital and its mobile rural health clinic, visit kcmh.net or contact CEO Morgan Allison at mallison@kcmh.net or 620-723-3341.



Prairie View: Improving Critical Access to Mental Health Support

To address the national average wait time of eight weeks for new patients to see a therapist, Prairie View launched a Same Day Access Program in Harvey, McPherson and Marion counties, allowing walk-ins for immediate outpatient therapy and mental health services. Since its implementation in May 2023, this initiative has significantly increased access, especially for the uninsured and severely mentally ill. The program has led to a 103% increase in new patient volume, with a cancellation and “no-show” rate of 0%. Emphasizing compassionate and comprehensive care, Prairie View collaborates with local providers to ensure a seamless continuum of care, including for the large Spanish-speaking community. This major shift in service delivery has enhanced patient engagement and strengthened community ties, ultimately improving mental health support across the tri-county area.

For more information about Prairie View and its Same Day Access Program, visit prairieview.org or contact Georgie Berning, Director of Patient Engagement, at bernings@pvi.org or 316-284-6338.



1.



Elene Cloete

Senior Director of Research and Advocacy, Outreach International

Elene is an applied anthropologist with more than 15 years of experience in rural community development, working with diverse partners and stakeholders in Asia, Africa and Latin America. As she leads and supports strategic initiatives, global operations, and monitoring, evaluation and learning activities, Elene establishes partnerships locally, internationally, and with government agencies to advance shared goals and a vision of community-led development. Her passion is to empower people with the agency, voice and resources to shape their futures and transform their communities.

2.



Geovannie Gone

Chief Executive Officer, GG Consulting, LLC

Through her health equity consulting firm, Geovannie assists clients in understanding and addressing the root causes of health inequities. With more than 15 years of healthcare experience, Geovannie has a master's degree from the Graduate School at Fort Hays State University. She is a member of the State of Kansas Nursing Board, the Kansas Hispanic Latino Commission, and the Kansas Governor's Council on Wellness. She is also a licensed nutritionist and addictions counselor. Previously, Geovannie served as Executive Director for the Immunize Kansas Coalition and as Chief Administrative Officer for Genesis Family Health, a State of Kansas Federally Qualified Health Center in western Kansas.

3.



Erica Hill, MHCL

Director of Health Equity & Strategic Initiatives, LMH Health

Erica is highly engaged in the broader, strategic work of LMH Health while also overseeing finance for the LMH Health Foundation. She earned a degree in human biology from the University of Kansas and a Master of Health Care Leadership from Friends University. Erica has held numerous board leadership roles, including currently as president of the board for Lawrence-Douglas County Public Health. In recognition of the LMH Health Leadership Academy, a paid student mentorship program that Erica created and still leads, LMH Health received the inaugural Health Equity Innovation Award in 2023.

4.



Chandler J. Lewis, M.Sc.

**Founder and Managing Director, 360 Social Impact Studios
Director of Equity and Inclusion, The Cross Cultural Health Care Program**

As an influential community leader in Seattle, Chandler has guided more than 25 startups and 60 entrepreneurs through 360 Social Impact Studios. He provides direct support to life science and technology startups in the Pacific Northwest as well, with expertise in organizational and product development, clinical and regulatory implementation, and global business development. The Cross Cultural Health Care Program develops effective and efficient training and consulting expertise to advance culturally competent communication and practices across cultures and languages in healthcare.

2023 Health Equity Innovation Award

Recipient: LMH Health



LMH Health received the 2023 Health Equity Innovation Award for exemplifying the commitment to reducing unnecessary variations in care based on personal characteristics such as age, culture, race, ethnicity, disability, religious or spiritual beliefs, gender, and sexual orientation/identity.