



Our Health. Our Community. Our Future.

## December Monthly News & Updates

MKE Elevate would like to express gratitude to the entire community for contributing to the progress toward making Milwaukee a healthier city, grounded in equity and compassion. Throughout the year, significant strides have been taken to raise Milwaukee to new levels of community health. Wishing everyone a safe and restful holiday season! Looking forward to reconnecting with you next year.

Not everything that is faced can be changed. But nothing can be changed until it is faced-James Baldwin

## Holiday Mental Health Support in Milwaukee

MKE Elevate wants to dedicate space in this newsletter to offer support during the holiday season. We recognize that this time might be challenging for some individuals, and we want you to know that we are here for you. Resources are available to assist you, so please take care of both your physical and mental health.

[Ways to find care here](#)

**You're not alone.**  
*Help is available.*

**988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline**  
988 or 988Lifeline.org

**Veterans Crisis Line**  
Dial 988 (press 1)

**FindTreatment.gov**

**SAMHSA's National Helpline**  
1-800-662-HELP (4357)

**Disaster Distress Helpline**  
1-800-985-5990

**FindSupport.gov**



## MKE Elevate's 2023-2028 CHIP Launch Party!



Thank you, everyone, for participating in the official launch party of the 2023-2028 MKE Elevate Community Health Improvement Plan, or CHIP! We were delighted to have over 80 community members in attendance.

Along with community members we had a handful of news coverage of the event!

[Powerpoint slide from the event here](#)  
[MKE Elevate Celebration Video Here](#)

- **Fox 6:** New Milwaukee health plan looks to boost community [here](#)
- **CBS 58:** Milwaukee Launches Plan to Improve Community Health with a Focus on Racism-[Read Here](#)
- **WPR:** Milwaukee Health Department plan targets racism as public health crisis- [Read Here](#)
- **Telemundo:** Milwaukee pone en marcha un plan para mejorar la salud de la comunidad centrado en el racismo- [Read Here](#)

## YEAR IN REVIEW - 2023 HIGHLIGHTS

- Selected **15** steering committee members and **5** action team co-chairs
- Held **18** meetings, including **4** steering committee meetings, **12** action team meetings, and **2** general member meetings
- Engaged **over 300** community members
- Attended **over 10** outreach events
- Secured **61** implementation partners



**November Action Team Q4 Meeting notes!**

Appreciation to all who participated in this year's action team meetings! Partners actively contribute towards a healthier Milwaukee. This is a five-year plan, and we encourage everyone to sustain this momentum not only into the upcoming year but throughout the next four years.



## Save the Date!

Note: All meetings will be held via Zoom

### Winter 2024 Action Team Meeting Schedule



#### **Built Environment**

Thursday, February 15th 10:00am- 11:30am



#### **Maternal & Child Health**

Thursday, February 15th 4:00pm - 5:30pm



#### **Safe & Supportive Communities**

Tuesday, February 27th 10:30am - 12:00pm



CITY OF MILWAUKEE  
HEALTH DEPARTMENT

[milwaukee.gov/elevate](https://milwaukee.gov/elevate)

*Action Team Meetings notes for November 2023.*

#### **Built Environment Action Team**

(Virtual, via Zoom)

Thursday, November 16th 10:00 am to 11:30 am

Q4 notes [here](#)

Q4 Recording [Here](#)

BE co-chair interest form [here](#)

#### **Maternal & Child Health Action Team**

(Virtual, via Zoom)

Thursday, November 16th 4:00 pm to 5:30 pm

Q4 notes [here](#)

Q4 Recording [Here](#)

## Safe and Supportive Communities

(Virtual. via Zoom)

Tuesday, November 28th, 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

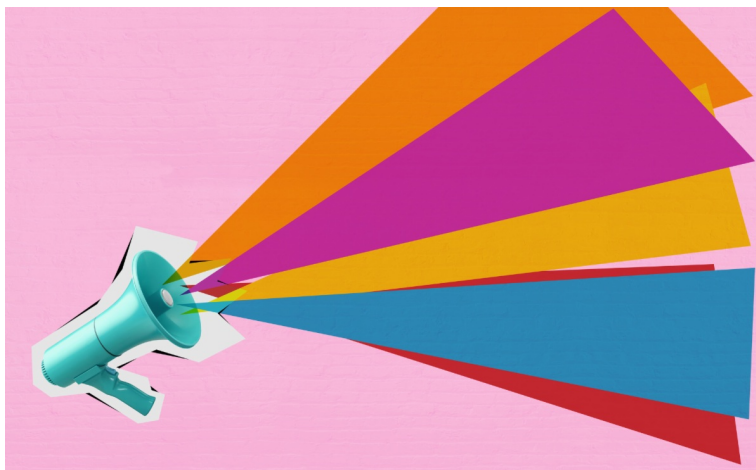
Q4 notes [here](#)

Q4 Recording [Here](#)

## Training and Technical Assistance

Molly Collins from the American Lung Association provided Advocacy 101 training for MKE Elevate action team and steering committee members.

Powerpoint Slides: [HERE](#)  
Watch the recording [HERE](#)



Source: <https://artsmn.org/resources/advocacy-101>

## Implementation Partner Spotlight: American Lung Association



***The American Lung Association is the leading organization working to save lives by improving lung health and preventing lung disease through education, advocacy, and research.*** The work of the American Lung Association is focused on ***four strategic imperatives***: to defeat lung cancer; to champion clean air for all; to improve the quality of life for those with lung disease and their families; and to create a tobacco-free future.

The American Lung Association provides a lot of resources in Milwaukee and one that all can access is our FREE Lung Helpline, where trained nurses can

Speak to you about any lung-health related issues you might be experiencing, from Asthma to Lung Cancer or COPD. Just call 1-800-LUNGUSA (1-800-586-4872) to speak to a professional and get help.

We joined MKE Elevate because much of our work overlaps with the goals and strategies outlined in the plan. For example ***we have been participating in the Built Environment workgroup because transportation sources like cars, buses and trucks are the largest source of smog-forming emissions and climate pollution in the U.S.*** The work to make transit, biking, walking and non-gas-vehicle options available in Milwaukee is critical to securing clean air and healthier communities today and for the long-run. This is especially true in lower-income neighborhoods and communities of color which too often bear disproportionate health burdens due to increased pollution exposures from the freeway and other high traffic areas. This is borne out by data – the American Lung Association’s 2023 State of Air report revealed that Milwaukee County received failing grades for air quality. This is concerning because ***Milwaukee also typically ranks fourth in the nation for asthma prevalence.*** Breathing air pollution can cause asthma attacks, respiratory and cardiovascular harm, including heart attack and stroke, and even early death. At every level of government, transportation decisions are essentially public health decisions, so the American Lung Association works to partner with other groups to impact those policies.

## Implementation Partner Agreement

### MKE Elevate Implementation Partners

Implementation Partners help advance the strategies identified in the 2023-2028 MKE Elevate Plan. Such implementation efforts may include, but are not limited to: program administration; providing content area expertise; sharing resources; advancing advocacy and education efforts; and/or data sharing.

Benefits of being an implementation partner include:

1. Breaking Down Silos
2. Networking Opportunities
3. Strategic Alignment Toward Common Goals
4. Community Health Improvement

Expectations of an implementation partner are:

- Attend at least half the quarterly action team meetings and biannual general meetings
- Commit to being an anti-racist organization (for more information go to <https://aorta.coop/continuum>)
- Provide an annual progress update and share program data as able

Sign on as an implementation partner [here](#)

## Save the Riverwest Co-op Grocery & Cafe!

The Riverwest Co-op needs your help NOW! GoFundMe page: [Fundraiser by Jill Capicchioni : Save the Riverwest Co-op Grocery & Cafe \(gofundme.com\)](#)  
"For over 22 years the Riverwest Co-op has been more than a grocery store

and cafe; it has been your local corner store with a conscience, selling a wide variety of locally sourced and organic food, a community gathering place, and much more! We have been asking for urgent help with saving the Co-op, and now the situation is even more dire.

We are just weeks away from having to close our doors unless we can get additional funding to help us survive. We are counting on you to help keep the Co-op's doors open! Our prospective lender unfortunately has decided not to recommend the Co-op's \$150,000 loan application for approval. At our current rate of financial losses, the Co-op can survive for only one more month before having to close unless we receive a considerable capital influx, reducing our costs dramatically, and reformulating our original revitalization plan."



## News and Reports

MCH: Acension St. Joseph's opens free child care area patients can use during prenatal appointments

**Read More** [Here](#)

BE: Milwaukee receives federal funds to make a multi-million dollar investment into safe streets

**Read More** [here](#)

SSC: From free meals to coat drives, how you can keep the holiday season affordable in Milwaukee

**Read more** [here](#)

## Legislation to follow

**Assembly Bill 394, now 2023 Wisconsin Act 86**

This bill requires the Department of Transportation to establish a driver education grant program under which it may provide grants to a person enrolled or seeking to be enrolled in a driver education course or a provider of such a course. The amount of a grant under this program may not exceed the cost to the person of the course of driver education in which the person is enrolled or seeking to be enrolled or the cost to the provider of providing driver education to persons under 20 years of age enrolled in the provider's course.

**[Find Updates Here](#)**

**Senate Bill 121**

This bill pertains to health insurance coverage for breast screening and examinations. It states that health insurance policies cannot impose a cost-sharing requirement for supplemental breast screening or diagnostic breast examinations. However, this restriction does not apply if it would cause someone to become ineligible for a health savings account under the federal Internal Revenue Code.

**[Find Updates here](#)**

**Senate Bill 365**

This bill affirms an individual's statutory right to access contraceptives and to engage in contraception, while simultaneously recognizing the corresponding right of healthcare providers to offer contraceptives, contraception, and related information.

**[Find Updates Here](#)**

**Senate Bill 110**

This bill mandates that the Department of Health Services in Wisconsin must request approval from the federal Department of Health and Human Services to extend Medical Assistance benefits for eligible women during their postpartum period. Currently, these benefits expire on the last day of the month in which the 60th day after childbirth occurs. However, this bill seeks to extend this coverage until the last day of the month in which the 365th day after childbirth takes place, significantly prolonging the period of eligibility.

**[Find updates here](#)**

**Assembly Bill 176**

This bill allows pharmacists in Wisconsin to prescribe and dispense hormonal contraceptive patches and self-administered oral hormonal contraceptives, with certain restrictions. The Pharmacy Examining Board, in consultation with other healthcare boards and agencies, will create rules governing how pharmacists can prescribe contraceptives. These rules will include using a self-assessment questionnaire based on guidelines from the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.

**[Find Updates here](#)**

**Assembly Bill 394**

This bill mandates the Department of Transportation to institute a driver

education grant program aimed at offering financial assistance to individuals currently enrolled or aspiring to enroll in a driver education course, as well as to providers of such courses. The grant amount allocated under this program is limited to covering either the cost incurred by an individual for the driver education course they are enrolled in or seeking enrollment, or the expenses borne by the provider in delivering driver education to individuals under 20 years of age within their program.

**[Find Updates Here](#)**

Senate Bill 717

This bill directs the Department of Health Services (DHS) to seek federal approval for a separate purchase option within the BadgerCare program, allowing certain individuals with incomes surpassing the eligibility limit to obtain coverage. The outlined criteria include a premium rate akin to the state's average paid to managed care plan contractors and a minimum actuarial value of 87 percent. The legislation also mandates DHS to incorporate an option for small groups of 50 employees or fewer. The department is required to submit a comprehensive report on the federal waiver status, encompassing results from essential actuarial and economic analyses. Upon approval of any necessary waivers or state plan amendments, DHS must implement the program. The bill further instructs DHS to pursue federal waivers and state plan amendments, enabling qualified individuals opting for the BadgerCare option to utilize advanced tax credits and cost-sharing credits, if eligible.

**[Find Updates Here](#)**

Senate Bill 716

This bill pertains to BadgerCare Plus and BadgerCare Plus Core within the state's Medical Assistance program, which serves individuals with limited financial resources. In alignment with the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, it introduces a modification to the family income eligibility level for parents and caretaker relatives under BadgerCare Plus, extending coverage to childless adults currently under BadgerCare Plus Core, and setting the threshold at up to 133 percent of the federal poverty line. The Department of Health Services is tasked with ensuring compliance with federal requirements and seeking amendments to the state Medical Assistance plan, waivers of Medicaid laws, or other necessary federal approvals. The objective is to qualify for the highest available enhanced federal medical assistance percentage specifically designated for childless adults under the BadgerCare Plus program

**[Find Updates Here](#)**

## Upcoming Events

If you or your organizations would like any events shared in this newsletter please email [MKEElevate@milwaukee.gov](mailto:MKEElevate@milwaukee.gov)

N Mother Daniels WAY

HOLY REDEEMER INSTITUTIONAL CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST



# Christmas

ON MOTHER DANIELS WAY

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20<sup>TH</sup> | 5PM

MOTHER KATHYRN DANIELS CONFERENCE CENTER  
3500 W. MOTHER DANIELS WAY MILWAUKEE, WI 53209



TAKE  
CHRISTMAS  
PHOTOS  
WITH FAMILY



## Upcoming Training in January 2024

serving Milwaukee County

### Time:

- 4:00pm - 8:00pm

### Dates:

- January 22-25
- January 29-February 1
- February 5-8

Trainers: Michelle Laga & Shirley Drake

Applications Open: November 13

Applications Close: December 11

More info here:

<https://bit.ly/12224CPST>



# Parent Cafés

FREE

Share Listen Support Nurture Create Discuss Connect Grow Learn Explore Strengthen Cultivate Build

## WHAT MAKES YOUR FAMILY STRONG?

BVCC is now offering Parent Café sessions through its Family Resource Center. Parent Cafés allow parents and caregivers to gather and share their stories, experiences, worries, fears, successes, and wisdom without judgement.



When: Saturday, January 27th  
10:00am - 12:30pm

Where: Grace Presbyterian Church  
2931 S Kinnickinnic Ave. Milwaukee, WI 53207

Topic: "Build Yourself Up, One LEGO at a Time!"

**ALL PARTICIPANTS WILL RECEIVE A \$25 GIFT CARD!**

**SPACE IS LIMITED! TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT,  
PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE HERE OR COMPLETE THE FORM AT:**

[forms.gle/XWWJ9Tw3zHz5x4wK8](https://forms.gle/XWWJ9Tw3zHz5x4wK8)



**CHILDCARE IS AVAILABLE!**

Questions? Please send an email to [frc@bayviewcenter.org](mailto:frc@bayviewcenter.org)

# HOLIDAY OFFERINGS

## AROUND MILWAUKEE COUNTY 2023

### Holiday Community Meal

Tuesday, Dec. 19  
Milwaukee Public Library  
Mitchell Street Branch  
906 W. Historic Mitchell St., will  
host a festive meal with games  
from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Registration required.

### Washington Park Christmas Dinner Giveaway

Monday, Dec. 25  
Free, heat-and-serve meals will be  
available for pick up from 9:30 a.m. to  
10:30 a.m.  
at Rooted & Rising – Washington Park,  
3940 W. Lisbon Ave.

Registration required.

### Northcott Neighborhood House 3rd Annual Tis the Season Event:

Monday, Dec. 25  
Free gifts and home cooked meals  
from Big Daddy's BBQ and Soul Food  
from 8 a.m. to noon at 2460 N. 6th  
St.

No registration is required.

### The 34th Annual Salvation Army Christmas Family Feast

Monday, Dec. 25  
The Salvation Army will  
provide free meals, open to the  
public, while supplies last at  
the Baird Center, 400 W.  
Wisconsin Ave., from 11 a.m. to  
2 p.m.

### Free Zoo Admission

Dec. 26-30

Frosty Free Week at the  
Milwaukee County Zoo. All  
guests receive free daytime  
admission.

### Betty Brinn Children's Museum

Thursday, Dec. 21

Offers free admission for its  
Community Access Day.

For more resources, find a food pantry near you  
by calling 211 or use Feeding America Eastern  
Wisconsin's online food pantry at  
<https://feedingamericawi.org/find-help>



MILWAUKEE COUNTY  
DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH & HUMAN  
SERVICES

# WINTER FAMILY REUNION BOWLING EVENT

Don't miss the opportunity to REGISTER  
your children for all of our 2024 programs!

RSVP BY CLICKING THE LINK IN OUR BIO



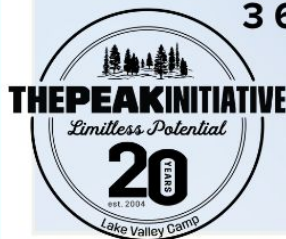
SATURDAY, JANUARY 20

10:30AM - 12:30PM

SOUTH SHORE BOWL

3620 E CARPENTER AVE,

CUDAHY, WI 53110



JOIN  
US

# Community

# Narcan Training

**January 10th at 5:30PM**  
**Cudahy Family Library**



The Milwaukee Health Department serves as the convener for MKE Elevate, coordinating partners, aligning strategies, and facilitating a steering committee and issue-based action teams.

If you are interested in getting involved, email [mkeelevate@milwaukee.gov](mailto:mkeelevate@milwaukee.gov) for more information.

To learn more visit our website or follow us on social media!

