



**Michigan Association of Planning  
Planning for Health Technical Assistance  
Request for Applications  
Issued: November 27, 2017  
Due: December 20, 2017**

The Michigan Association of Planning (MAP), in association with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS), is issuing this Planning for Health Technical Assistance Request for Applications.

### **Purpose**

The purpose of this project is to provide Michigan communities with the land use planning tools and regulatory framework needed to make their communities healthier places by offering training and direct technical assistance. The assistance offered by MAP is intended to familiarize elected and appointed officials, municipal planners and community members with recent research on the importance of incorporating health considerations into local decisions on land use and the built environment, and help them integrate health-centric solutions and best practices into local plans, policies, and regulations. This focus on health in planning and zoning initiatives can result in improvements in both individual and community health, such as increased physical activity, safer streets and neighborhoods, improved housing options, and cleaner water and soil, among others.

### **Program Overview**

MAP will provide training and technical assistance (TA) to 3-4 local units of government located in the “4 X 4 coalition” counties of Berrien, Oakland, Grand Traverse, Wayne, Ogemaw and Kent, and the tribal communities of American Indian Health and Family Services, Hannahville Indian Community, Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians and Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe.

The project will start with ‘Planning for Health’ workshop training for each community, to be offered to local staff and planning commissioners, local elected officials and 4 x 4 coalition members. After the training, MAP staff and/or a sub-consultant will work with the community to audit and evaluate the community’s master plan, capital improvements plan, zoning ordinance and related policies to identify gaps and opportunities for incorporating health considerations. Using the initial evaluation, MAP staff and/or sub-consultant will provide technical assistance to the project team in addressing some or all of the following tasks:

- Identify and articulate the community’s priority health goals
- Develop tangible actions related to land use and the built and natural environment to implement the community’s health goals
- Create an implementation strategy for policy changes, ordinance amendments and coalition building
- Develop indicators to measure progress

## Schedule:

Target Date	Task	Product
Early January 2018	MAP review and selection of applications	Notification letter
Early February 2018	MAP and community team outline scope of work	Memorandum of Understanding
February 2018	MAP and community team hold kick-off meeting and Planning for Health training	Updated schedule
March-April 2018	MAP review of community documents	Findings report on gaps and opportunities
May 2018	Community team identifies priority projects	Work plan
June-August 2018	MAP provides TA for work on priority projects	Draft document(s)
September 2018	Team finalizes priority projects	Final document(s)

## Background:

This project builds upon the Michigan Association of Planning's Phase I Planning for Healthy Active Communities project, which developed and launched a workshop, webinar and website ([www.planningmi.org/health.asp](http://www.planningmi.org/health.asp)) to build awareness among planners and local appointed land use officials about how the built environment and design of our communities play a significant role in shaping our health. The training was developed to illustrate how individual health goals can be achieved through community health initiatives in municipal policy and the master planning process. This training reinforces a "health in all policies" approach for local decision makers interested in integrating a vision of health into their community's master plan.

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services developed the [Michigan Health and Wellness 4 x 4 Plan](#) in 2012 in response to Governor Rick Snyder's vision for creating a healthier Michigan. The 4 x 4 tool recommends the practice of four healthy behaviors: maintain a healthy diet, engage in regular exercise, get an annual physical exam, and avoid all tobacco use. Since 2012, MDHHS has funded 4 x 4 coalition activities throughout the state. The current 4 x 4 grant counties are: Berrien, Oakland, Grand Traverse, Wayne, Ogemaw, Kent and four tribal organizations, including the American Indian Health and Family Services, Hannahville Indian Community, Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians and Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe.

## Eligibility and Selection Criteria:

Michigan municipalities and tribal governments located in counties and tribes with a current MDHHS 4 x 4 coalition (see above) are eligible to apply for this training and technical assistance opportunity. Communities must demonstrate interest and readiness to incorporate health into their plans and policies through one or more of the following:

- Involvement in their 4 x 4 health coalition or organization

- Involvement in statewide initiatives such as [Building Healthy Communities](#), [SafeRoutes2School](#), or [Promoting Active Communities](#).
- Evidence that the planning commission and/or governing body is supportive of incorporating health considerations into its plans, programs and/or policies for land use and the built and natural environment.
- Evidence and history of working with community groups on health issues.

Up to four communities will be selected for this training and technical assistance grant. No cash award will be given. No local match is required, other than the in-kind commitments outlined below.

### Program Expectations:

The community team should be led by a community planner who will serve as the leader and/or facilitator and who is well equipped to engage local planning and zoning officials, elected leaders, and residents, the business community, public health and transportation professionals, and other key stakeholders to make the implementation recommendations meaningful and realistic. As a Plan for Health community, the community team will:

- Include at least one planning commissioner
- Attend Plan for Health training or view the recorded webinar
- Provide MAP staff with requested documentation in digital format
- Participate in individual Interviews and/or focus groups
- Meet with MAP or the sub consultant to review the Findings report
- Create an implementation plan

### How to Apply:

Applications must be submitted via email to Wendy Rampson at [wrampson@planningmi.org](mailto:wrampson@planningmi.org) by **Wednesday, December 20, 2017 at noon.**

Applications shall contain the following sections (in this order) and be emailed in a single .pdf file.

1. General information section that includes:
  - a. Name and address of applicant municipality or tribe
  - b. Primary contact person name, email and phone number
  - c. Proposed community team, including key community staff and other partners
2. Statement that describes the community's interest in health-related issues and how this training and technical assistance opportunity will support efforts to incorporate health in the master plan and related policies.
3. Letter of support from governing body.
4. Letter of support from health coalition or organization.

### Notification:

Applicants will be notified of the decision by January 10, 2017. The project will begin in January 2018.