



## **2020-21 Mini Grant Program**

### **AYA Youth Collective for the Comprehensive Health Initiative for Homeless Youth**

AYA Youth Collective is the result of a recent merger between two of the largest local organizations serving youth who are unsafe/unstably housed or literally homeless: Grand Rapids HQ and 3:11 Youth Housing. Since opening the Nurses Station at HQ, oral health care has been identified as a major need and these funds will allow AYA to creatively meet these needs, especially in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

AYA will use these funds to purchase oral health supplies and promote interest in and utilization of the partnership between AYA and KCOHC's backbone organization, Health Net of West Michigan, in providing oral health navigation to the youth via a Health Net CHW embedded at AYA.

### **Catherine's Health Center for Restoring and Expanding Access to Dental Care at a Community Health Center**

The funding will support marketing and initial outreach efforts as Catherine's introduces on-site preventive and restorative dental services, patient education, and some emergency services, at a new dental clinic at the corner of 36th Street SE and Eastern Ave SE. Marketing and outreach will allow Catherine's to build upon its 25 year history of providing medical services in the Greater Grand Rapids community by removing significant barriers and increasing access to much needed dental care for at least 2,000 vulnerable, low income, and underserved individuals as a newly-designated Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) grantee.

### **Exalta Health for Community Outreach – Attention to Dental**

Community Outreach-Attention to Dental is an outreach event that will increase knowledge and awareness of the importance of oral health with a focus on youth and adults who have not been to the dentist in over a year. Exalta's patient population is those covered by Medicaid or those who are uninsured, with the majority being non-English speaking, and others who are developmentally disabled, physically challenged, or refugees. The goal is to connect with new and existing patients using multiple media platforms (print, virtual, internet, one-on-one contact) to identify the needs of our community, advocate for improved access to high quality dental services, and to provide those high-quality dental services on location at Exalta Health.

### **Mel Trotter Ministries for Project Got Teeth?**

Project Got Teeth is an educational and awareness campaign aimed at addressing the unique oral health needs of Grand Rapids' homeless population. The funds will purchase television sets for the lobbies of Mel Trotter which will inform Mel Trotter clients about the importance of oral health and the availability of Mel Trotter dental services and oral health supplies.