



***Mission Statement:** We coordinate, plan and advocate for improved health of Michigan's rural residents and communities.*

***Vision Statement:** The Michigan Center for Rural Health will be universally recognized as the center for expertise for rural health in Michigan through creative and visionary education, service and research.*

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## **Rural Health Equity Plan**

The Michigan Center for Rural Health (MCRH) will provide the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) with a Rural Health Equity Plan to assess their 2022-2024 Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) Strategy through a rural lens. The Rural Health Equity Plan will identify a list of short-term and long-term rural-specific recommendations that align with the current MDHHS SDOH Strategy. These recommendations will identify opportunities for improvement, assess the current rural landscape, and engage with rural residents and stakeholders. MCRH will utilize the data collected to identify opportunities for improvement, expand rural outreach and communication, and identify specific rural community needs within the MDHHS SDOH Strategy.

Developing an advisory group is a key priority for the MCRH and will be integral to guiding the Rural Health Equity workplan. MCRH is committed to collaborating with organizations and individuals working in the SDOH space and connecting to those with lived experience/end users of programs.

Attached is the [MDHHS SDOH Strategy: Michigan's Roadmap to Healthier Communities](#), which focuses on health equity, food security, and housing stability.

If you are interested in being part of the Rural Health Equity Plan Advisory Group, please contact Laura Mispelon, Social Drivers of Health Manager at the Michigan Center for Rural Health, at [laura.mispelon@affiliate.msu.edu](mailto:laura.mispelon@affiliate.msu.edu).