

Governor Evers' 2021-2023 Biennial Budget Governor's Health Equity Council

Karen Timberlake, Interim Secretary March 17, 2021



Agenda

- Telling the Story of Health Equity: Discussion of Key Budget Provisions in Governor Evers' Proposed 2021-23 Budget
- Questions and Next Steps

Budget Materials

- DHS Budget Website: <u>https://www.dhs.wisconsin</u> .gov/budget/index.htm
- DHS Budget Fact Sheets: <u>https://www.dhs.wisconsin</u> .gov/budget/resources.htm

People First: Governor Evers' Proposed Budget

Wisconsin faces unprecedented challenges. Governor Evers' proposed 2021-2023 budget puts people first by increasing and improving access to health care, expanding behavioral health services, protecting our neighbors most in need, and ensuring our public health system is robust and responsive. Now is a time for bold action, and instead of retracing our steps to go back to the way things were, we will bounce back a safer, healthier, and more equitable state. Together, we commit to putting people first to meet our challenges moving forward.

Governor Evers' proposed budget puts the people of Wisconsin first.



Many individuals and families cannot afford health insurance in our state. This is a critical need for too many people in Wisconsin, and the situation is especially urgent for Wisconsin's communities of color. We must take action. Governor Evers' budget invests in access to affordable health care and commits to policies and funding designed to break down structural inequities and improve health ourcomes.



To ensure the right supports are available at the right time for all Wisconsin residents, we are building an integrated behavioral health system that provides prevention, intervention, and treatment services to individuals across their life span in their communities. Governor Evers' budget invests in behavioral health and substance use disorder services because these services are essential to overall wellness.



The COVID-19 pandemic has further highlighted the importance of community preparedness and high quality care for Wisconsin residents of all ages. To rebuild together, Governor Evers' budget invests in our public health and long-term care systems, ensuring every Wisconsinite can live their best life.

Improving Health Care Access and Affordability

Medicaid Expansion & Badger Coverage Plan

Expansion

- State GPR Savings \$634 million
- Expands coverage to approximately 90,000
 Wisconsinites, ~50,000 uninsured

Funding for Community Providers

FQHCs and Hospitals

 Community Health Centers and Free and Charitable Clinics -\$8 million

Dental Access

Critical Access Payments for Medicaid Providers- \$35.9 million

Advancing Health Equity

Healthy Women, Healthy Babies

- Women's Health Block Grant Funding
 - Restoration of Funding \$400,000
 - Elimination of restrictions on grant recipients
- Extend post-partum coverage for pregnant women in Medicaid - \$21 million
- Coverage for doula services- \$1 million

Community Health

- Tribal Shared Savings- \$5.5 million
- Community Health Workers \$29.3 million
 - Grant funding \$15 million
 - Medicaid coverage \$14.3 million

Community Health

- Minority Health Grants \$8 million
 - \$3.5 million for organizations that improve Black women's health in Milwaukee, Dane, Rock, and Kenosha Counties.
- Health Equity Grants-\$15 million
- Community Health Benefit \$25.5 million

Protecting Kids

- Childhood lead poisoning prevention
 - Ongoing funding for Lead Safe Homes Program
 - Windows Plus Program \$2 million
 - Birth to 3 Eligibility expansion \$9.9 million
- Eliminate Children's Long-Term Support (CLTS) waitlist

Next Steps/Discussion