



HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF MICHIGAN

Appropriations Requests for Legislatively Directed Spending Items

1. The sponsoring representative's first name:
Joe
2. The sponsoring representative's last name:
Tate
3. The cosponsoring representatives' names. All cosponsors must be listed. If none, please type 'n/a.' A signed letter from the sponsor approving the co-sponsorship and a signed letter from the member wishing to co-sponsor are required. Attach letters at question #9 below.
N/A
4. Name of the entity that the spending item is intended for:
The Wellness Plan Medical Centers
5. Physical address of the entity that the spending item is intended for:
2888 W Grand Blvd, Detroit, MI 48202
6. If there is not a specific recipient, the intended location of the project or activity:
The Wellness Plan Medical Centers
7. Name of the representative and the district number where the legislatively directed spending item is located:
Representative Joe Tate, 9th District
8. Purpose of the legislatively directed spending item. Please include how it provides a public benefit and why it is an appropriate use of taxpayer funding. Please also demonstrate that the item does not violate Article IV, S 30 of the Michigan Constitution.
The Wellness Plan Medical Centers (TWP) is a Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) network that provides access to medical and dental care for medically underserved adults and children in Southeast Michigan. TWP operates three dental clinics and one mobile dental clinic in Michigan's Wayne and Oakland Counties. Our model relies on collaboration between providers and patients to achieve optimal health outcomes, which is the foundation of our designation as a Patient-Centered Medical Home. TWP's dental

department currently provides preventive care, restorative treatment, endodontic treatment, dentures and partials, and simple oral surgery to patients of all ages.

We are currently seeking funding to improve access to dental care for children and patients with physical and cognitive disabilities, who often require sedation and other services that our clinics do not provide. Over the past year, we have referred approximately two hundred pediatric and special needs patients to specialists outside our clinics. Within a ten-mile radius of our Gateway Dental Clinic, there is one office with Pediatric Dentists and five offices with Oral Surgeons. The closest dental clinics that cater to special needs patients are 50 miles from our Gateway Dental clinic. The scarcity of dental clinics in Detroit with pediatric dentists, special needs dentists, and dental sedation creates significant barriers for patients who lack transportation to private dental clinics outside of their communities. Additionally, most insurances do not cover the sedation costs of private dental clinics, so patients who need these services are often required to pay out of pocket. Patients who cannot afford these fees are left without feasible options to complete their dental care.

To address these challenges, we propose that The Wellness Plan Medical Centers improve access to dental sedation and specialists by providing Pediatric Dentistry, dental sedation, Oral Surgery, and Special Needs Dentistry at our Gateway Dental Clinic. The expansion of our scope of services will lead to a reduction in patient referrals and prevent disruption of care in their Patient-Centered Medical Home. Also, as an FQHC, we can offer patients affordable sedation service using a sliding fee scale, based on family size and income, services uncovered by their insurance.

To expand our scope of services, we seek capital funding to build out our Gateway Dental Clinic from five operatories to fifteen to accommodate the dental specialists and a dental anesthesiologist. This funding will also improve the accessibility of our clinic and incorporate structural elements that support the care of pediatric patients and patients with disabilities. The increased clinic space would allow us to partner with hospital health systems near the Gateway Dental Clinic and accommodate their patients that require dental assessments, treatment, and dental clearances prior to surgery. Additionally, we will be able to accept referrals from hospitals for patients requiring dental prosthetic reconstruction after cancer treatment.

We have received a \$225,000 grant from the Delta Dental Foundation to fund the equipment and instruments needed for these expanded dental services and a \$10,000 grant for training in special needs dentistry. With over 40 years of experience, TWP has a proven track record of delivering quality services to our community. Hopefully with your support, this project will continue TWP's legacy of service to residents of Southeast Detroit.

9. **Attach documents here if needed:**
Attachments added to the end of this file.

10. The amount of state funding requested for the legislatively directed spending item.

1467333

11. Has the legislatively directed spending item previously received any of the following types of funding? Check all that apply.

["Private"]

12. Please select one of the following groups that describes the entity requesting the legislatively directed spending item:

Non-profit organization

13. For a non-profit organization, has the organization been operating within Michigan for the preceding 36 months?

Yes

14. For a non-profit organization, has the entity had a physical office within Michigan for the preceding 12 months?

Yes

15. For a non-profit organization, does the organization have a board of directors?

Yes

16. For a non-profit organization, list all the active members on the organization's board of directors and any other officers. If this question is not applicable, please type 'n/a.'

Anita Moncrease, Margaret Betts, Terry Jackson, Anita Jones, Daniell Jones, JoAnn Polk, Adrian Lewis, Ingrid Thompson, Cassandra Willis Abner, Larry Warren, Malika Muhammad, Mahasin Pierce, Stephon Johnson

17. "I certify that neither the sponsoring representative nor the sponsoring representative's staff or immediate family has a direct or indirect pecuniary interest in the legislatively directed spending item."

Yes, this is correct

18. Anticipated start and end dates for the legislatively directed spending item:

Start Date: October 1, 2025 End Date: September 30, 2026

19. "I hereby certify that all information provided in this request is true and accurate."

Yes



Grant Narrative for Expansion Project of The Wellness Plan Dental Department

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