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## **Community Health Options Awards Grants Supporting Eight Non-Profit Community Health Initiatives**

Lewiston, Maine, April 19, 2021 – Lewiston-based Community Health Options (Health Options), the state's only nonprofit, Member-led health insurance organization, has awarded grants to eight Maine nonprofit agencies working in community health.

The eight grant recipients include Bangor Region YMCA, Town of Cranberry Isles Fire & Rescue Auxiliary, Mid-Coast Health Net (dba Knox County Health Clinic), National Alliance of Mental Health (NAMI) Maine, Defend Our Health, Healthy Community Coalition, Healthy Acadia, and New Mainers Public Health Initiative.

“We had a tremendous response to this round of grants, with 33 organizations submitting applications,” said Kevin Lewis, president and CEO of Health Options. “Working with our grant advisory council and learning about these organizations and services provided just a glimpse of the incredible number of significant community health initiatives taking place in our state, ranging from testing and treating contaminants in well water to providing better access to telemedicine and mitigating second-hand smoke exposure.”

Now in its second year of funding, the mission of Health Options' community giving is to support community-based health and wellness in Maine. This grant cycle focused on Maine nonprofit organizations assisting Maine people managing chronic illness to be their best selves – mentally, physically, and emotionally.

“As our name illustrates, Community Health Options was founded with a mission to improve health and wellness in our local communities. We are pleased to continue this important grant-giving and provide support to health programs that are uniquely designed by local groups for local communities,” said Lewis.

### **About Community Health Options**

[Community Health Options](https://www.healthoptions.org) is the only Maine-based, nonprofit, Member-led health plan and self-funded plan administrator providing comprehensive health insurance benefits for individuals, families, and businesses. Health Options partners with more than 1,300 businesses and 48,000 healthcare providers in the state. The organization recently launched [PioneerASO](#), an administration offering for companies looking to self-fund employee healthcare coverage.