

Redbook

LBO Analysis of Executive Budget Proposal

Ohio Commission on Minority Health

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Attachment:

Appropriation Spreadsheet

LBO Redbook

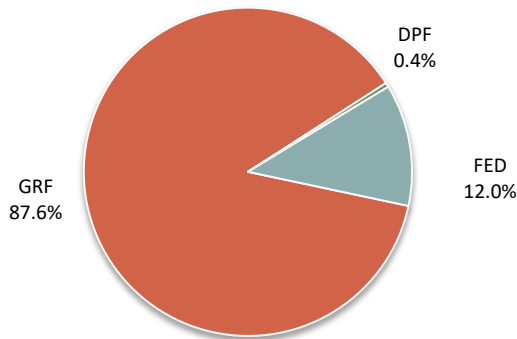
Ohio Commission on Minority Health

Quick look...

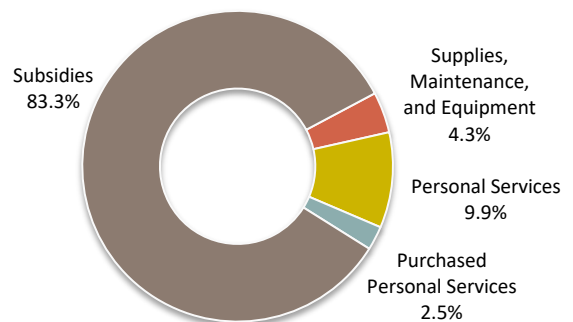
- A board consisting of 11 individuals appointed by the Governor, four members of the General Assembly, and eight directors or designees of state agencies advises the Ohio Commission on Minority Health (OCMH).
- Total proposed budget: \$8.32 million for FY 2026 and \$8.33 million for FY 2027.
 - Sources of the budget: GRF (87.6%), federal (12.0%) and state non-GRF (0.4%).
 - GRF proposed funding remains flat in FY 2026 and increases by 0.2% in FY 2027.
 - Uses of the budget: 83.3% for grants and 16.7% for operations.

Fund Group	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Introduced	FY 2027 Introduced
General Revenue	\$6,426,992	\$7,288,000	\$7,284,577	\$7,299,944
Dedicated Purpose	\$5,907	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000
Federal	\$1,326,950	\$1,163,599	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
Total	\$7,759,849	\$8,486,599	\$8,319,577	\$8,334,944
% change	--	9.4%	-2.0%	0.2%
<i>GRF % change</i>	--	<i>13.4%</i>	<i>0.0%</i>	<i>0.2%</i>

**Chart 1: OCMH Budget by Fund Group
FY 2026-FY 2027 Biennium**



**Chart 2: OCMH Budget by Expense Category
FY 2026-FY 2027 Biennium**



Biennial total: \$16.7 million

Agency overview

In 1986, the Governor’s Task Force on Black and Minority Health was convened to address disparities in health between the minority and majority populations. The Task Force heard public testimony from over 2,000 individuals throughout the state. One of the Task Force’s recommendations was the creation of the Ohio Commission on Minority Health (OCMH). As a result, the Commission was created in 1987. It was the first state-level office in the United States formed exclusively to address the condition of minority health.

OCMH is dedicated to eliminating disparities in minority health through innovative strategies and financial opportunities, public health promotion, legislative action, public policy, and systems change. OCMH’s strategic plan goals are as follows: (1) to increase awareness of health disparities and actions needed to improve health outcomes, (2) to strengthen state leadership and the policy agenda to address health disparities at all levels, (3) to improve health and health care outcomes for racial, ethnic, and underserved populations, (4) to advocate for diversity and cultural and linguistic competency in the health care workforce, (5) to improve health data availability, coordination, utilization, and dissemination of evaluation outcomes, and (6) to increase efficiency, funding diversification, and ensure effective implementation of grant management, oversight, and agency internal operations.

A commission provides guidance for the agency, including its grants administration. The Commission consists of: 11 individuals appointed by the Governor; four members in total, or two members each, are appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate, respectively; and directors, or their designees, of the departments of Health, Job and Family Services, Mental Health and Addiction Services,¹ Developmental Disabilities, Aging, Children and Youth, Medicaid, and Education and Workforce. OCMH currently has five full-time employees.²

Analysis of FY 2026-FY 2027 budget proposal

Summary of executive recommendations

As can be seen in Chart 1 on the previous page, the Commission’s budget is primarily supported by the GRF (87.6%). The Commission’s funding levels for the upcoming biennium are generally continuing at the same levels as FY 2025, with an overall decrease of 2.0% in FY 2026 from FY 2025, and a 0.2% increase from FY 2026 to FY 2027.

As shown in Chart 2 on the previous page, the largest expense category for the Commission, at 83.3%, is subsidies. Subsidies are used to fund grants that OCMH distributes to various entities throughout the state. The next largest expense category, at 9.9%, is personal services, which represents expenses related to staff and grant oversight. The supplies, maintenance, and equipment category represents 4.3% of OCMH’s budget. The remaining approximately 2.5% represents spending for purchased personal services.

¹ The Governor’s budget recommendations propose that the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services be renamed to the Department of Behavioral Health.

² R.C. 3701.78.

OCMH's budget is funded by the following appropriation items. Each of these items is discussed further below.

Operating Expenses (ALI 149321)

FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Introduced	FY 2027 Introduced
GRF ALI 149321, Operating Expenses					
\$629,996	\$787,469	\$792,657	\$839,000	\$844,088	\$855,455
% change	25.0%	0.7%	5.8%	0.6%	1.3%

GRF line item 149321 is used primarily for general operating expenses, including payroll and fringe benefits, maintenance, and equipment. In the upcoming biennium, operating costs are anticipated to increase, largely due to increases in personnel and information technology costs. The recommended appropriations will support these increases.

Demonstration Grants (ALI 149501)

FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Introduced	FY 2027 Introduced
GRF ALI 149501, Demonstration Grants					
\$792,937	\$960,419	\$981,699	\$1,352,000	\$1,352,000	\$1,352,000
% change	21.1%	2.2%	37.7%	0.0%	0.0%

GRF line item 149501 is used to fund grants to community health groups to promote health awareness and disease prevention among minority populations. More specifically, the line item is used to provide demonstration grants, grants to local offices of minority health, the Research Evaluation Enhancement Project, and Minority Health Month grants. OCMH also may, depending on funding availability, fund special initiatives/grants. These funds typically sponsor health-related activities that increase the focus of minority health disparities and/or chronic diseases. Some of these are briefly described below.

Demonstration grants

OCMH provides demonstration grants to community-based health groups for activities relating to promoting health or preventing disease among the minority population, although any Ohio citizen can receive services regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, or age. The focus areas are as follows: cancer, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, infant mortality, substance abuse, and violence. OCMH funds projects that promote behavior change by tapping into the attitudes, values, and beliefs of the target populations. Ultimately, the goal of this program is to institutionalize the projects into the health care delivery system.

During FY 2024, OCMH awarded six demonstration grants of up to \$100,000 each. In FY 2025, four grants were awarded, also amounting to up to \$100,000 each. These demonstration grants were focused in the following areas: cardiovascular disease and

hypertension prevention, diabetes prevention, infant mortality prevention, and violence prevention.

Local offices of minority health

In FY 2008 and FY 2009, local offices of minority health were established in local health departments in Akron, Cleveland, Columbus, Dayton, Toledo, and Youngstown. The local offices have a collaborative arrangement with OCMH. Under this program, each local office must implement an action plan that addresses the following four core issues: (1) monitor health status of minority populations, (2) inform, educate, and empower people, (3) mobilize community partnerships and action, and (4) develop policies and plans to support health efforts.

During FY 2024 and FY 2025, the local offices received up to \$52,500 per fiscal year from GRF line item 149501. OCMH anticipates that this funding level will be maintained in the next biennium.

Minority Health Month

Minority Health Month grants are given to community-based agencies across the state. These agencies participate in a 30-day wellness campaign. Many activities take place during this campaign. Examples of past activities have included health screenings for diabetes, cancer, hypertension, HIV, oral health, and mammography, as well as provider and consumer education on chronic diseases and conditions that impact minority populations. Minority Health Month Program grants are intended to, among other things, promote healthy lifestyles, provide information to allow individuals to practice disease prevention, showcase the resources for and providers of health care and information, highlight the resolution of the disparate health conditions among populations, and gain support for ongoing efforts to improve minority health year round. In FY 2024, OCMH awarded 26 grants at the funding level of \$4,000 per grantee; in FY 2025, OCMH awarded 28 grants at the same level.

Lupus Program (ALI 149502)

FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Introduced	FY 2027 Introduced
GRF ALI 149502, Lupus Program					
\$86,370	\$164,208	\$130,435	\$118,000	\$118,000	\$118,000
% change	90.1%	-20.6%	-9.5%	0.0%	0.0%

GRF line item 149502 supports the Lupus Program. The Lupus Program provides patient education and aims to increase public education and awareness of lupus. The program provides support to individuals with lupus. The Lupus Foundation of America estimates that 1.5 million Americans have a form of lupus. Approximately 90% of lupus sufferers are women. The disease is also more prevalent in minority populations.

The community-based agencies awarded grants under the Lupus Program provide support and resources to individuals with lupus and their caregivers. All grantees must address educational issues for patients and the public. Typically, grantees achieve this by, among other things, sponsoring monthly support group meetings, participating in Lupus Awareness Month,

and by providing a referral list of area facilities and physicians that offer medical treatment for lupus-related medical conditions. In both FY 2024 and FY 2025, five grant projects received funding of \$19,000 per grantee. The proposed appropriations are flat funded at FY 2025 estimated levels in the upcoming biennium.

Infant Mortality Health Grants (ALI 149503)

FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Introduced	FY 2027 Introduced
GRF ALI 149503, Infant Mortality Health Grants					
\$2,239,749	\$3,096,490	\$4,522,201	\$4,979,000	\$4,970,489	\$4,974,489
% change	38.3%	46.0%	10.1%	-0.2%	0.1%

Funds in GRF appropriation item 149503 are primarily distributed to community-based agencies to help support the continuation or establishment of a pathways community hub model that has the primary purpose of reducing infant mortality in communities with the highest rates of infant mortality. The hub model is a community care approach that reduces overall infant mortality, as well as infant mortality in racial and ethnic populations. The program seeks to, among other things, reduce preterm birth. All grantees must work to improve preterm birth rates and achieve goals by increasing early access to prenatal health care, providing timely postpartum visits, improving safe sleep practices, and increasing access to behavioral health services and other community services that impact healthy birth outcomes. The hub model promotes quality care to improve birth outcomes and links payment to performance.

According to OCMH, 12 hubs are currently receiving an average of about \$377,100. OCMH's goal in the upcoming biennium is to maintain service levels to continue care for this population.

Healthier Communities (ALI 149405)

FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Introduced	FY 2027 Introduced
Fund 3J90 ALI 149405, Healthier Communities					
\$100,256	\$749,346	\$1,326,950	\$1,163,599	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
% change	647.4%	77.1%	-12.3%	-14.1%	0.0%

Appropriation item 149405 received federal grant funding via intrastate transfer voucher from the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS)³ and the Ohio Department of Health (ODH). Funds in this line item provided by OhioMHAS are used to provide grants to community-based agencies to expand prevention services by raising awareness of the opioid epidemic in targeted populations. Funds provided by ODH were used to support

³ As mentioned above, the Governor's proposal changes the name of OhioMHAS to the Department of Behavioral Health.

prevention of disease and provision of prevention programming in vulnerable communities; however, these funds have concluded. Funds in this line item are contingent upon the receipt of federal grants.

Minority Health Conference (ALI 149601)

FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Introduced	FY 2027 Introduced
Fund 4C20 ALI 149601, Minority Health Conference					
\$13,112	\$19,112	\$5,907	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000
% change	45.8%	-69.1%	492.5%	0.0%	0.0%

Appropriation item 149601 funds culturally relevant conferences, public awareness activities, health expositions, and capacity building workshops to increase the awareness of the significance of minority health disparities. The Minority Health Conference typically focuses on new bodies of scientific information for culturally competent service delivery. Revenue deposited in the Minority Health Conference Fund (Fund 4C20) consists of registration fees related to conference costs, as well as donations from health and human service organizations, corporate sponsorships, and at times grant funds. OCMH typically partners with universities, local health departments, health care service providers, hospital systems, and businesses to leverage more funds.

**FY 2026 - FY 2027 Appropriations - As Introduced
All Fund Groups - Detail**

Main Operating Appropriations Bill

Detail by Agency			FY 2024	Estimate FY 2025	Introduced FY 2026	Introduced FY 2027	FY 2025 to FY 2026 % Change	FY 2026 to FY 2027 % Change
MIH Ohio Commission on Minority Health								
GRF	149321	Operating Expenses	\$792,657	\$839,000	\$844,088	\$855,455	0.61%	1.35%
GRF	149501	Demonstration Grants	\$981,699	\$1,352,000	\$1,352,000	\$1,352,000	0.00%	0.00%
GRF	149502	Lupus Program	\$130,435	\$118,000	\$118,000	\$118,000	0.00%	0.00%
GRF	149503	Infant Mortality Health Grants	\$4,522,201	\$4,979,000	\$4,970,489	\$4,974,489	-0.17%	0.08%
General Revenue Fund Subtotal			\$6,426,992	\$7,288,000	\$7,284,577	\$7,299,944	-0.05%	0.21%
4C20	149601	Minority Health Conference	\$5,907	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	0.00%	0.00%
Dedicated Purpose Fund Group Subtotal			\$5,907	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	0.00%	0.00%
3J90	149405	Healthier Communities	\$1,326,950	\$1,163,599	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	-14.06%	0.00%
Federal Fund Group Subtotal			\$1,326,950	\$1,163,599	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	-14.06%	0.00%
Ohio Commission on Minority Health Total			\$7,759,849	\$8,486,599	\$8,319,577	\$8,334,944	-1.97%	0.18%
Main Operating Appropriations Bill Total			\$7,759,849	\$8,486,599	\$8,319,577	\$8,334,944	-1.97%	0.18%