



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Upper Great Lakes Family Health Center Awarded a Prescription for Health Programming Grant

HANCOCK, Mich., Feb. 21, 2017 – The Upper Great Lakes Family Health Center (UGL) in Houghton received a \$10,880 grant from the Portage Health Foundation (PHF) to offer Prescription for Health programming for patients of Dr. Michelle Seguin during the summer of 2017.

UGL applied for funding under PHF’s food initiative RFP late last year. The grant funding was a result of proceeds raised at PHF’s Stop the Roar of Hunger Spring Gala. Under this RFP, PHF sought applications focused on programs that addressed food insecurities, hunger, or undernutrition in Baraga, Houghton, Keweenaw, and Ontonagon counties.

With this grant, UGL will collaborate with the Downtown Houghton Farmer’s Market to begin offering Prescription for Health. Dr. Michelle Seguin, a family physician with UGL, said, “With the help of the Portage Health Foundation and Upper Great Lakes Family Health Center, I am thrilled to bring the ‘Prescription for Health’ program to our community. This voucher-based food program will increase access to fresh fruits and vegetables while also providing nutritional education to enrolled patients. The vouchers will be used to purchase local produce at the Downtown Houghton Farmer’s Market during the 2017 market season.” UGL will screen patients of Dr. Seguin for program eligibility.

PHF’s objectives with the food initiative are to (1) create greater awareness throughout the community to the role food plays in overall population health and (2) to develop and execute the first steps to help provide nutritious food to people who may be food insecure. UGL’s Prescription for Health program meets these objectives by “improving access to healthy food, providing educational outreach to community members, and supporting our local food system,” said Dr. Seguin. “It is a win-win-win scenario.”

About Upper Great Lakes Family Health Center

Upper Great Lakes Family Health Center, established in 2009, is a private not-for-profit health center that operates nine service delivery locations serving Houghton, Iron, Marquette, Menominee, and Ontonagon counties. Services include primary care, oral health care, and behavioral health services, substance abuse counseling, enabling services, specialty care/services, education, and comprehensive outreach.

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About the Portage Health Foundation

The Portage Health Foundation is a 501(c)3 charitable organization that receives and contributes charitable donations, which support the health needs of the community through enhanced philanthropy and community collaboration throughout Baraga, Houghton, Keweenaw, and Ontonagon counties.

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