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For Immediate Release

The Institute for Population Health receives funding from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation to improve maternal child health coordination and lead Detroit Institute for Equity in Birth Outcomes

DETROIT, Mich. – Disparate birth outcomes, constrained resources, and undersubscribed programs – the one-year old Institute for Population Health (IPH) has received funding to build its public health institute infrastructure and help address barriers to optimal health for mothers and babies in Detroit.

The IPH will use the three-year, \$375,000 grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation to strengthen its leadership capacity and public communications; apply design thinking to maternal and child health coordination; and lead Detroit participation in the City MatCH Institute for Equity in Birth Outcomes.

“This generous investment from the Kellogg Foundation will support the growth of the institute and advance the engagement of nontraditional partners and use of innovative strategies to improve the health of our most vulnerable mothers and babies,” said Loretta V. Davis, IPH President and CEO.

The IPH will convene a special session of its Social Innovation Lab to focus on maternal child health (MCH) coordination. The design team, consisting of MCH and social service leaders, creative thinkers from other sectors, and community members, will consider the feasibility and implementation of an all-inclusive virtual hub of area MCH programs. “The discipline of design thinking has proven to be an asset to IPH. We hope that the design process and proposed web portal will make accessing MCH resources easier for families and serve as an example for other cities and states across the country,” said Davis.

“We are especially honored to lead Detroit’s local Institute for Equity in Birth Outcomes,” said Davis. The City MatCH Institute for Equity in Birth Outcomes is a national initiative designed to strengthen the scientific focus and evidence base for realizing equity in birth outcomes in urban U.S. cities. Detroit is the only city to partner with City MatCH in a specially focused Equity Institute apart from its cohort institutes. The Detroit Equity Institute leadership team includes IPH MCH and Community Innovations staff, representatives from the Regional Infant Mortality Reduction Task Force led by Vice President of Community Health & Equity and Chief Wellness



Officer at Henry Ford Health System Dr. Kimberly Dawn Wisdom, and local public health partners. Planning is underway for the Equity Institute launch and strategic gathering to take place in May.

About the Institute for Population Health

The mission of the Institute for Population Health (IPH) is to advance positive health outcomes in populations and communities. One of only five city-level public health institutes and the only one in the country providing public health services to an entire city, the IPH recently celebrated a successful first year of quality service, efficient resource management, and innovation. IPH core functions include: public health service operations, scientific inquiry, neutral convening, training and education, advancing health equity, and championing innovation. For more information, visit www.ipophealth.org.

About the W.K. Kellogg Foundation

The W.K. Kellogg Foundation (WKKF), founded in 1930 as an independent, private foundation by breakfast cereal pioneer, Will Keith Kellogg, is among the largest philanthropic foundations in the United States. Guided by the belief that all children should have an equal opportunity to thrive, WKKF works with communities to create conditions for vulnerable children so they can realize their full potential in school, work and life.

The Kellogg Foundation is based in Battle Creek, Mich., and works throughout the United States and internationally, as well as with sovereign tribes. Special emphasis is paid to priority places where there are high concentrations of poverty and where children face significant barriers to success. WKKF priority places in the U.S. are in Michigan, Mississippi, New Mexico and New Orleans; and internationally, are in Mexico and Haiti. For more information, visit www.wkkf.org.