Tufts Medical Center has made a significant impact in improving the health outcomes of underserved communities through its community grant initiatives. The Asian Health Initiative (AHI), Dorchester Health Initiative (DHI), and COVID-19 Relief and Recovery Grants have provided educational programming on tobacco, a range of behavioral health programming including mental health support for children and families impacted by trauma, and economic support to residents to recover from the pandemic. In FY 2022, over 8,100 people were served by these grants.

**COVID-19 Relief and Recovery Grant**

The challenges of COVID-19 shined a light on long-standing inequities in the community. At the pandemic’s start in spring 2020, we reached out to the community to understand their immediate needs. Our community support focused on alleviating food, economic and housing insecurity, access to PPE, social emotional wellness, and COVID information and testing. We supported 23 organizations, who reached 63,000 community residents. We also supported community organizations with paid summer internships for 31 youth, giving them positive and productive outlets in the face of the pandemic.

As the pandemic continued, Tufts MC followed up this initial support with grants to promote economic recovery and mobility, promoting long-term pathways to economic well-being and prosperity. Tufts MC invested nearly $1 million in 2021–2022 with funds awarded to 22 community-based organizations in Dorchester, Chinatown, the South End and South Boston.

The COVID-19 Relief and Recovery Grants have been an essential lifeline to address the economic impact of the pandemic and support communities in their recovery efforts.

**COVID-19 Relief and Recovery Grant Spotlight**

The Castle Square Tenants Organization (CSTO) launched a Workforce Development program to support residents in the wake of COVID-19 disruptions. The program offered technology education and workforce development skills, as well as support services through collaborating partners. CSTO provided outreach to 226 households, which greatly exceeded its original goal of 150. Additionally, CSTO provided a hybrid, 10-week, Intro to Tech Course for Castle Square adults, which covered computer basics, internet basics, online job search, and more. The program exceeded its goal of 12 graduates, with 16 students successfully graduating from the course.

**Program Reach and Impact**

Together, the major areas of impact were skill development, workforce development (training, employment & ESOL), financial literacy (workshops and counseling), and housing counseling. In FY22:

- **Skill Development:** 2,307 clients served
- **Workforce Development:** 1,305 clients served
- **Financial Literacy:** 1,188 clients served
- **Housing Counseling:** 696 clients served

Collectively, our grantees served more 4,073 clients from diverse backgrounds.

*Note: The number of clients served is greater than 4,073, as multiple clients were served in different areas of impact.*

Of these individuals:

- 47% of clients served were between ages (36–64)
- 75% of clients served were female
- 81% of clients were individuals of color