

# Orcas Island Mobile Integrated Health (MIH) Program

## 2026 Program Overview & Funding Request

### Background

Orcas Island faces unique health challenges due to its geographic isolation, limited local medical resources, and reliance on costly and complex off-island emergency transports. Many of these emergency flights could be prevented through timely, community-based care coordination and follow-up. The Mobile Integrated Health (MIH) program addresses these gaps by delivering proactive, in-home care that keeps residents healthier and reduces emergency dependence.

### Proposed Solution

The MIH program, a partnership between Orcas Island Fire & Rescue (OIFR) and the Orcas Island Health Care District (OIHCD), will integrate emergency response, primary care, and social services. A Registered Nurse (RN) and trained EMTs will provide home-based assessments, preventive care, chronic disease monitoring, post-discharge follow-up, and referrals to social supports.

### Year 1 Goals (2026)

**Phase 1:** Start-up (March 26'-March 27') – Develop policies, referral pathways, data systems, and key performance metrics.

**Phase 2:** Pilot Launch (May–Dec '26) – Deliver in-home medical and social support; reduce avoidable EMS transports; improve chronic disease and behavioral health management.

### Anticipated Benefits

- Reduced emergency transports and hospitalizations.
- Improved care coordination across on- and off-island providers.
- Expanded access for homebound and vulnerable residents.
- Strengthened partnerships among OIFR, OIHCD, and local health and social service organizations.

### Program Funding Summary

Component	Amount	Notes
<i>Total Year 1 program cost</i>	<i>\$111,000</i>	<i>Complete funding package</i>
OIFR cash support	\$25,000	Already committed
OIHCD cash support	\$70,000	First Year Commitment
<b>Total Year 1 unmet need</b>	<b>\$16,000</b>	<b>Funding Gap</b>

\$16k represents the minimum needed to launch the Orcas MIH program pilot. Through various fundraising efforts we hope to exceed \$16k in order to increase the capacity of the Program Lead RN in Year 1. Your contribution will help Orcas Island build a sustainable, locally grounded health model—improving outcomes, reducing costs, and caring for our most vulnerable neighbors.