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Isthmus Project: Nets WEDC grant to boost innovation at UW Health

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MADISON, Wis. – The Isthmus Project recently received additional funding to support its innovation mission at UW Health and beyond.

The Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) awarded a $75,000 grant to help facilitate innovative ideas and solutions directly related to patient and health system challenges, and to enable those ideas to advance by providing resources in product development, legal and accounting services, according to the award announcement.

“This reflects the growing impression that UW Health has a strong desire to seize upon the enormous innovation potential within its own walls, that can be scaled up and shared to improve the health of our patients, the state and beyond,” said Thomas “Rock” Mackie, Isthmus Project director.

WEDC, created by the state in 2011, provides resources, operational support and financial assistance to companies, partners and communities in the state.

“The Isthmus Project offers a much-needed roadmap and critical support structure for moving the innovations created by the world-class talent at UW Health to market,” said Aaron Hagar, vice president of entrepreneurship and innovation for WEDC.

The Isthmus Project provides a place for UW Health physicians, pharmacists, residents, nurses, staff or others to seek support for their ideas and projects that aim to achieve better health outcomes or to solve problems facing UW Health patients, providers and the health system.

“We are delighted to be partnering with the Law and Entrepreneurship Clinic and

WiSolve to provide legal and business market analysis for our project teams," Mackie said.

The grant was part of WEDC's Entrepreneurship Support Program. The program, in its third year, awarded a total of $500,000 this year to nine organizations in the state including the Isthmus Project.

To learn more about the grant and the other recipients, please visit the WEDC website.

To learn more about the Isthmus Project or if you have an innovative idea at UW Health, please visit the Isthmus Project's website.