MILWAUKEE — The Medical College of Wisconsin is working with the Greater Milwaukee Foundation to determine ways the two organizations can partner, and as a result, improve health and strengthen the community.

According to the announcement, the collaboration "would enable MCW and the Foundation to join forces, share expertise, and accelerate investment to better serve the people of Milwaukee."

"Collaborating with like-minded partners helps create solutions for our community's biggest challenges, and we are grateful for the opportunity to partner with the Greater Milwaukee Foundation," said John R. Raymond, Sr., MD, president and chief executive officer of MCW, in a statement. "This collaboration aligns our missions and will spark catalytic changes in the community through addressing social, economic and environmental factors that are key to improving health."

The Foundation and MCW are evaluating a co-location that would house GMF staff and operations as well as select MCW departments and programs. The selected location, according to the announcement, would be developed to be a catalyst and a community hub to benefit the immediate area, as well as further away. The finalist sites are in the greater community of Halyard Park/Haymarket/Hillside, the traditional neighborhoods as defined by the city of Milwaukee.

"Through each era of our history, the Greater Milwaukee Foundation has invested in strengthening our region and addressing the greatest needs of the times," said Ellen M. Gilligan, president and CEO of the Greater Milwaukee Foundation, in a statement. "We are committed to ensuring access to opportunity and a high quality of life for all people, in neighborhoods throughout our community, a goal we can best achieve by working together. This partnership is a perfect example of our enduring investment in place. The missions of the Foundation and the Medical College of Wisconsin complement one another well, and we look forward to applying our respective expertise and knowledge for greater collective impact."

MCW and GMF plan to bring the recommendations to their boards for consideration in early 2019."