

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES



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The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) is the largest of the executive branch departments. The department is made up of the former Departments of Community Health and Human Services, which were merged in 2015 through an executive order by Governor Rick Snyder to provide better and more coordinated health and human services to support a culture of health, safety, and self-sufficiency.

MDHHS is responsible for health policy, management of the state's health, mental health, and substance abuse care systems; the Medicaid program; the child welfare system; and assisting children, families, and vulnerable adults to be safe, stable, and self-supporting through the distribution of public assistance and service programs in every county state-wide.

Services provided by the department include:

Population Health and Community Services. Population Health and Community Services protects and improves the health of Michigan individuals, families, communities, and populations. The Population Health and Community Services Administration is responsible for many public health programs, including communicable disease surveillance and outbreak investigation; control and prevention of chronic diseases, including cancer, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, and injuries; health statistics compilation and dissemination; HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted disease prevention and care; immunizations; lead abatement; newborn screenings; and vital records collection and maintenance. The administration coordinates this work through contracts with local public health departments that serve all the jurisdictions in Michigan. The administration also oversees contracts with community action agencies that work within their communities to identify and alleviate conditions of poverty and empower low-income individuals to become self-sufficient.

The Bureau of Emergency, Trauma, and Preparedness serves to better protect the health and well-being of Michigan residents through the administration and continuous improvement of emergency medical services, trauma system, and all-hazards preparedness planning and response.

The Bureau of Family, Maternal, and Child Health serves Michigan residents through the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program; Family and Community Health initiatives; and Children's Special Health Care Services Plan programming.

The Bureau of Laboratories manages one of the nation's leading public health laboratories.

Medical Services Administration. The Medical Services Administration's (MSA) primary responsibility is oversight of Michigan's Medicaid program. Medicaid provides medical assistance for low-income residents who meet certain eligibility criteria. The program pays for a broad range of services, such as inpatient and outpatient hospital care, physician visits, drugs, long-term care, durable medical equipment, and behavioral health services. MSA also administers the MICHild program — a comprehensive benefits package for the children of Michigan's eligible working families. The current Medicaid caseload is more than 1.7 million people. More than half of the

Medicaid beneficiaries receiving services are children. The administration also operates the Healthy Michigan Plan, providing health care coverage at a low cost to approximately 600,000 eligible adults. Approximately 80 percent of Michigan's Medicaid population is enrolled or is required to enroll in a managed care organization.

Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities Administration. The public behavioral health and developmental disabilities system in Michigan operates under the authority of the Michigan Mental Health Code. The Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities Administration (BHDDA) provides services to people who have specialty services or supports needs related to mental illness, developmental disability, or substance use disorders and children with serious emotional disturbance.

Under contracts with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, the direct delivery of almost all publicly funded mental health services is undertaken through a system of 46 county-based Community Mental Health Services programs (CMHSPs), operating under contracts with MDHHS directly and regionally. The CMHSPs provide a single point of entry for accessing the full array of behavioral health and developmental disabilities services provided by the public system, including 24-hour emergency services and substance use disorder prevention, treatment, and recovery services.

The Bureau of Community-Based Services (BCBS) administers the state's CMH system.

The Bureau of Hospitals and Administration Operations (BHAO), directly operates five inpatient psychiatric hospitals and centers to supplement the primary inpatient hospital programs that are part of the local CMHSP service network.

The Children and Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder (CAASD) office informs the work of both bureaus within BHDDA, as well as other administrations within MDHHS, and other state and local agencies and stakeholders toward best system of services for children and adults.

Aging and Adult Services Agency. Aging and Adult Services promotes and enhances the dignity and independence of older and vulnerable adults in Michigan. It allocates and monitors state and federal funds for all Older Americans Act services, including nutrition, community services, a legal hotline, emergency prescriptions, heating assistance, senior education, and care management. It handles adult services policy, long-term care policy and the Program for All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly and includes a long-term care ombudsman.

Children's Services Agency. The Children's Services Agency protects the safety and well-being of children with services that include those related to children's protective services, adoption, homeless youth and runaway, foster care, and juvenile justice. The focus is on improving long-standing issues in the state's child welfare system and ensuring permanent homes for vulnerable children. About 13,000 children are in foster care at any given time.

MDHHS staff and contractors deliver a wide range of services for families and children of Michigan. They include protective and preventive services for children who are neglected, abused, or exploited. The agency provides a range of institutional and non-institutional social services for the care, training, and treatment of neglected and delinquent children committed to the department as state wards and temporary court wards. Such services include casework and counseling, adoption, foster care, and the operation of centers for institutional residential care and group homes. In addition, the Children's Services Agency offers consultation on general child welfare issues to private and public agencies throughout the state and offers services through an interstate compact.

Field Operations. Field Operations provides safety-net services and temporary public assistance to families and individuals in all 83 counties state-wide and handles applications for public assistance, including cash assistance through the Family Independence Program; Food Assistance; State Emergency Relief; Disability Determination Service; Michigan Rehabilitation Services to assist people with disabilities train for and find jobs; and the Bureau of Child Support, Refugee Services and Migrant Services. Caseworkers are also assigned to more than 200 schools so that they are more accessible to children and families in need and are better positioned to help customers remove barriers to success.

Financial Operations. Financial Operations is responsible for overall administration of the department's financial activities, such as finance and accounting, budget, purchasing, audit and settlements, and organizational services.

Office of Recipient Rights. The Office of Recipient Rights provides direct rights protection and advocacy services to individuals admitted to state psychiatric hospitals and centers for develop-

mental disabilities and assesses and monitors the quality and effectiveness of the rights protection systems in community mental health service programs and licensed private psychiatric hospitals and units.

Inspector General. The Inspector General Administration works to prevent, detect, investigate and recover fraud, waste, and abuse in state-administered public assistance programs. Areas of oversight include the Health Services Programs (Medicaid, Mental Health, MI Child, Children’s Special Healthcare Services), the Food Assistance Program, the Family Independence Program (cash assistance), Children’s Services, Aging and Adult Services, and more.

Information Technology and Project Management. The Business Integration Center was created to align business and technology to facilitate and support the “River of Opportunity” initiatives along with current systems. This business and technology partnership leverages resources and funding to support a “Citizen Centric” view across all applications, while providing transparency and accountability into all activities.

Legal Affairs Administration. The legal office for MDHHS assists the Department’s staff in carrying out responsibilities in accordance with applicable laws, provides legal research and input, and ensures compliance with the Freedom of Information Act. The office also oversees and coordinates rulemaking in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act, manages compliance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act Privacy Regulations, assists in administrative hearings and assistance determinations as needed, and responds to subpoenas. Working closely with the Department of Attorney General, the legal office coordinates the Department’s administrative hearings, litigation, and requests for legal advice, and online pharmacy complaints.

External Relations and Communications. The Office of External Relations and Communications handles MDHHS internal and external communications, including responding to news media requests, communicating with the department’s 14,000 employees and keeping stakeholders informed.

The Michigan Community Services Commission (MCSC) promotes service as a strategy to address the state’s most pressing issues and empowers volunteers to strengthen communities through programs such as Michigan’s AmeriCorps, Mentor Michigan, Volunteer Michigan, and the Governor’s Service Awards.

Interagency Collaboration office promotes collaboration between state departments and faith- and community-based agencies to improve the quality of life for Michigan residents.

Organizational Planning and Optimization works within MDHHS to inform, engage, and empower department employees and improve program efficiency and operations.

Policy and Legislative. Policy and Legislative oversees health policy innovation, Certificate of Need, workforce and access to care, and policy analysis. It also works with constituents and members of the Michigan Legislature and their offices.

