

WEEKLY Update

March 12, 2021

COVID-19 Resources: CMHA has developed a curated set of COVID-19-related resources and announcements from a range of reputable state and national sources. That curated set of resources, which will be regularly updated, **is available by [CLICKING HERE](#)**.

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CMH Association and Member Activities

New! Detroit Wayne mental health building crisis center near Boston-Edison neighborhood

Below is a recent article on the development of a crisis center by the Detroit Wayne Integrated Health Network:

After several years of planning, DWIHN plans to open in fall 2022 a two-story psychiatric and substance use crisis center for a cost of between \$10 million to \$15 million, which includes building renovations, furniture and equipment costs, Doeh said.

DWIHN's board, which authorized renovations to begin on the building, still must grant final approval for an expected bank loan to fund the project, he said. The network's annual budget was \$835 million in 2020. Funding comes from state Medicaid and Health Michigan (87 percent), federal grants (2 percent) and other state grants and contracts.

Crain's subscribers can find the [full story here](#).

New! Media picks up on CMHA guest editorial on the need to address psychiatric inpatient access

In follow-up to the discussion, in social, print, and broadcast media, of the difficulty faced, by one Michigan family, in gaining access to inpatient psychiatric care, CMHA issued an editorial on the subject. The editorial, designed to provide the context for the issue and to call for continued action to address the issue, was picked by a number of media outlets. Those outlets included the Morning Sun, the Oakland Press, and Newsbreak.

Below are excerpts from the editorial:

The Gross family were victims of an ever-growing problem in Michigan -- there are not enough psychiatric beds, and where there are beds -- the needs of the potential patient are beyond what hospitals can handle. Health care providers are increasingly struggling to provide adequate inpatient services -- short term, intensive treatments -- for those in psychiatric crisis. Stacking onto these issues, hospitals are also frequently under-resourced, especially during the coronavirus pandemic, and they do not always have psychiatric staff available onsite to help keep people safe.

Hopefully, the attention this unfortunate and tragic ordeal received will shed light on the scope of the problem, to ultimately reduce inpatient denials and for the State to investigate and resolve patterns of inpatient admission difficulties, which should lead to better access for

individuals experiencing acute psychiatric distress. Families should not have to cry out in crisis to get the resources they need.

The full editorial can be found at any of these sites:

- The Morning Sun: https://www.themorningsun.com/opinion/column-ensuring-access-to-psychiatric-help/article_789875fc-6560-5112-8ea2-70e943cd4762.html
- The Oakland Press: https://www.theoaklandpress.com/opinion/column-ensuring-access-to-psychiatric-help/article_4c8ed2cc-7dc5-11eb-ae52-87ae4dfe5df1.html
- Newsbreak: <https://www.newsbreak.com/news/2177122862551/column-ensuring-access-to-psychiatric-help>

Traveling Art Show

Traveling Art Show VI features pieces from Consumer Art Contests across Michigan. Anyone interested in any of the pieces shown may contact Monique at mfrancis@cmham.org. Those NOT sold by October 1, 2021, will be auctioned off at the 2021 Fall Conference in Traverse City, Michigan. Art may be available for viewing locally or on the [CMHA website](#). Check with your local CMH for more information or email Monique at mfrancis@cmham.org.

State & National Developments and Resources

New! MDHHS offers free online infection control courses for direct care workers

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) offers the following free online infection control courses for direct care workers, including Home Help individual and agency caregivers:

- Infection Control for Direct Care Workers: A one-hour, interactive class that gives an overview of infection control, including sources of infection, the chain of infection, standard and universal precautions, and how to use personal protective equipment (PPE).
- Infection Control Refresher for Direct Care Workers: A one-hour class that gives a brief overview of infection control procedures and detailed demonstrations on the proper use of PPE.

The full description of these offerings and the link to them can be [found here](#).

New! Video recording available from recent MDHHS AFC Q&A session on COVID response

As most Weekly Update readers know, MDHHS holds weekly information and Q&A sessions for the state's Adult Foster Care (AFC) homes and Homes for the Aged (HFA) around responses to the COVID pandemic. MDHHS has received approval to share the recorded version of some (and potentially all

from here on out) of these sessions. The recording from today's Q&A session (March 10) can be found at: [AFC HFA Zoom Q&A March 10th 2021](#) with the use of the **Passcode: @.4k^Dac**

New! Bioethics for Breakfast: Mental Health Care Access: Making the Dollars and “Common Sense” Case for Parity

Malkia Newman, Anti-Stigma Team Supervisor at CNS Healthcare, and Dr. Debra A. Pinals of MDHHS and the University of Michigan presented at the Feb. 25 [Bioethics for Breakfast](#) session, offering perspectives and insight on the topic “Mental Health Care Access: Making the Dollars and “Common Sense” Case for Parity.” Bioethics for Breakfast is generously sponsored by Hall, Render, Killian, Heath & Lyman.

A summary of the discussion that occurred in this session can be [found here](#).
The video of the session can be [found here](#).

New! Slides from recent national conference (NACBHDD): Diversifying the Behavioral Health Workforce

The Behavioral Health Workforce Research Center, at the University of Michigan recently provided a workshop at the NACBHDD Legislative and Policy Conference. Because of the breadth and depth of the information provided by the Center, CMHA is providing access, to Weekly Update readers, to the slides used in that presentation. The slides can be [found here](#).

New! The Most Common Ways The COVID-19 Pandemic Has Affected Mental Health

Below are excerpts from a recent news story on the mental health impact of the COVID pandemic. This story is one of the best that CMHA has seen in succinctly and accurately portraying these impacts.

So many of us have been grappling with changes to our mental health over the last year. People who have lived with mental health conditions their whole lives are finding that they're changing in ways they weren't expecting. Others who didn't feel their emotional well-being was at risk are finding themselves seeking therapy, perhaps for the first time. Mental health professionals are scrambling to keep up with the demand for their expertise.

The mental toll of this health crisis cannot be underestimated. It also manifests in different ways. While I may be dealing with trauma, someone else is navigating other hard issues — perhaps even more than one.

The full story can be [found here](#).

New! Congress persons seek investigation into effects of school closures on kids with disabilities

Below are excerpts from a recent news story on the call for an examination of the impact of pandemic-caused school closures on children and adolescents with disabilities.

Nearly a year after schools nationwide shuttered due to the coronavirus pandemic, some members of Congress are calling for an investigation into the impact of the closures on students with disabilities.

The full story can be [found here](#).

State Legislative Update

View February's Legislative Video on CMHA's Website

The Capitol Briefing is a monthly resource available to CMHA members providing a high-level overview of the key items impacting the public mental health system that (or each) month at the State Capitol. Our February Briefing features CMHA Associate Director, Alan Bolter, provides an overview of the Governor's FY22 executive budget as well as a couple of other key updates. *To view the latest video, [CLICK HERE!](#)*

New! Governor Signs FY21 COVID Supplemental with Vetoes

Tuesday, March 9 Governor Gretchen Whitmer signed House Bills 4047 and 4048, which provide supplemental funding for the state's COVID-19 relief and recovery plan. The \$3.55 billion spending measure provides funding for, among other things, vaccine distribution, money for schools, and emergency rental assistance. Notably, HB 4047 includes an extension of the wage increase for direct care workers – \$2.25 per hour for the remainder of the fiscal year – as well as \$17 million for substance use disorder block grant, nearly \$16 million for the mental health block grant and \$1.3 million for congregate and home-delivered meals.

While the majority of the funding initiatives will go into effect, Whitmer did line-item veto some items, including:

- \$150 million in General Fund dollars for the Michigan Unemployment Insurance Agency fund
- \$450 million in business property tax and fee relief
- \$86.7 million in non-public school funding
- \$10 million in parental expenses

In her [signing letter](#), Governor Whitmer cited her frustration with the Legislature, as the package took forty-eight days to arrive at her desk and was not the product of a bipartisan negotiation with her and the State Budget Director. Additionally, Whitmer called for the Legislature to appropriate the remaining \$2 billion in federal funding before the legislative spring break scheduled to begin March 29. State Budget Director Dave Massaron [issued a letter](#) to the House and Senate appropriations chairs calling for a meeting to address the remaining, unspent federal dollars.

While Governor Whitmer signed the two major funding bills, she vetoed House Bill 4049, which was tie-barred to an \$840.7 million funding provision in HB 4048, and would have allowed local health

departments to have the authority to open or close schools and youth sporting events. In her veto letter, Whitmer called the bill “a reckless idea, poorly executed and poorly timed.” While the Governor vetoed HB 4049, she did not veto the funding tied to it that was included in House Bill 4048. It remains unclear whether the legislature’s use of the tie-bar in this way was legal and, according to reports, the Governor’s legal team continues to review.

Also tie-barred to a \$347.3 million funding provision in House Bill 4047 was Senate Bill 1, which would limit the power of the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to extend a public health order past 28 days without legislative approval. Consideration of the bill was delayed due to a procedural constraint but was passed out of the House by a vote of 59 to 50 late this afternoon. The Governor is expected to veto the measure.

The House also unsuccessfully attempted to override the Governor’s vetoes – an action that requires a 2/3 majority vote to prevail.

New! Shirkey Given Power To Take Legal Action If Gov Spends Vetoed Money

This week the Senate empowered Senate Majority Leader Mike Shirkey to initiate legal action if the Whitmer administration spends \$1 billion in the recently signed COVID-19 spending bills that were tie-barred to vetoed legislation. The approval of SR 26 ignited a charge from Democrats that Republicans are more interested in obstructing than helping the Governor solve real problems during the pandemic.

Republicans feel they need to defend the authority of the Legislature to make sure dollars are being spent as directed. The Governor's legal team is looking into the legality of the tie-bars in HB 4047 and 4048 and the Senate is taking this as a sign that she's cooking up an argument to spend money they don't believe she can legally spend.

HB 4048 Public Act 3 of 2021 -- attached \$840.7 million in federal Title I money for schools with high percentages of poor students to Rep. Pamela Hornberger’s, HB 4049, which shifts Michigan Department of Health and Human Services' (DHHS) power to shut down K-12 in-person instruction and youth sporting events to local health officials.

The second act, HB 4047 shackled \$207 million for COVID-19 testing to Sen. Lana Theis’ SB 1, to cap off statewide public health orders at 28 days until and if the Legislature approves an extension.

Whitmer has already vetoed HB 4049 and a veto of SB 1 as expected. Her legal team is looking into whether tie-barring a policy bill to an appropriation is a violation of the subject-title clause of the Constitution, among other things.

The Senate's call for legal action to reduce executive authority over the pandemic is taking place a year after the COVID-19 crisis accumulated into an official pandemic.

Executive Orders Signed

Currently, Governor Gretchen Whitmer has signed over 170 Executive Orders in response to COVID-19.

Below is the most recent list of Executive Orders with the topic and a hyper link accessing the Executive Order below.

For a complete list of Governor Whitmer's Executive Orders click on the link below:

https://www.michigan.gov/whitmer/0,9309,7-387-90499_90705---,00.html

- **Executive Order 2020-181** – Amendment to the Safe Start order, please click [here](#) to access Executive Order 181.

Federal Update

New! Congress Passed 2021 COVID Relief Legislation

Congress just passed the [American Rescue Plan Act of 2021](#), a \$1.9 trillion COVID-19 relief bill aimed at boosting the availability of vaccinations, providing funding for small businesses and schools and giving relief to families through new stimulus checks, extended unemployment benefits and an expanded child tax credit, among other provisions.

The legislation, which President Biden will sign this week, also includes billions in new relief to address rising demand for mental health and addiction services, workforce shortages and pandemic-related layoffs and furloughs.

In other words, we heard you loud and clear that more relief was needed. And we made sure Congress heard you, too.

Here are some highlights from this historic legislation:

- **Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Block Grants:** Provides \$3 billion for the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment block grant and the Community Mental Health Services block grant (\$1.5 billion each).
- **Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHCs):** Provides \$420 million to SAMHSA to fund CCBHC Expansion Grants.
- **Provider Relief Funds:** \$8.5 billion in new money to the Provider Relief Fund for providers in rural areas and those serving rural communities.
- **Other Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder Funding:** Provides more than \$450 million in additional funding for SAMHSA and Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) programming including funding for mental health and addiction services, workforce education and training, suicide prevention and public education campaigns.

Education Opportunities

New! Webinar: Building a Crisis Services System for all Michiganders

Webinar: Building a Crisis Services System for all Michiganders

Date: Wednesday, March 24, 2021

Log on Time: 12:45pm

Training: 1:00pm – 3:00pm

Location: Zoom

No Fee to Attend. No Certificate will be Awarded. Registration Required (registration information below).

Presenters: Krista Hausermann, LMSW, CAADC, Strategic Initiative Specialist, MDHHS Behavioral Health and Developmental Disability Administration and Amy Kanouse, MPH, Behavioral Health Program Specialist, Project Manager, COVID-19 Emergency Grants for SMI/SUD Services, Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities Administration, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

Brief Description:

You are invited to a discussion with BHDDA staff Krista Hausermann and Amy Kanouse. Presenters will provide a brief overview of Michigan Psychiatric Care Improvement Crisis Services projects. Participants will engage in a facilitated discussion on designing a crisis service system for all Michiganders, with a focus on target population, metrics, crisis service continuum, mobile crisis, and crisis stabilization units.

Registration:

If you are interested in attending this training, you can register in Zoom at the link below.

Registration deadline: 5:00pm on Tuesday, March 23, 2021. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. Questions, email awilson@cmham.org

REGISTER HERE: https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/tZYqfu6uqz8tE9AulkBvaFg2_CFEUgzHDhMn

This webinar is co-sponsored by the SAMHSA funded Great Lakes Mental Health Technology Transfer Center (MHTTC) and facilitated by The Community Mental Health Association of Michigan (CMHA). This offering reflects a collaboration between CMHA and MHTTC for the common vision of bettering the behavioral health care workforce in Michigan, regardless of any specific funding source.



VIRTUAL Ethics for Social Work, Substance Use Disorder, Recipient Rights and Psychologist Professionals Trainings – Registration Open

Community Mental Health Association of Michigan is pleased to offer VIRTUAL Ethics for Social Work, Substance Use Disorder, Recipient Rights and Psychologist Professionals Trainings presented by Tom Moore, LMSW, LLP, CCS, Owner and Principal, Two Moons, LLC online through Zoom. There are 6 CE credits available for this training. This training fulfills the Michigan Social Work Licensing Board's requirement for licensure renewal for ethics. This training fulfills the MCBAP approved treatment ethics code education – specific.

Dates:

- March 22, 2021 *(SOLD OUT)*
- April 5, 2021 ([Register Here](#)) *(3 spots left)*
- April 26, 2021 ([Register Here](#)) *(15 spots left)*

Agenda:

Log into Zoom: 8:15am
Education: 8:30am – 11:30am
Lunch Break: 11:30am – 12:00pm
Education: 12:00pm – 3:00pm

Training Fees: \$120 CMHA Members \$143 Non-Members

VIRTUAL Pain Management and Mindfulness Trainings – Registration Open

Community Mental Health Association of Michigan is pleased to offer Pain Management Trainings presented by Tom Moore, LMSW, LLP, CCS, Owner and Principal, Two Moons, LLC online through Zoom.

This course qualifies for 2 CEs and fulfills the Michigan Social Work Licensing Board's requirement for licensure renewal for pain management.

Dates:

- March 30, 2021 *(SOLD OUT)*
- April 6, 2021 ([Register Here](#)) *(38 spots left)*

Agenda:

Log into Zoom: 8:45 am
Education: 9:00am – 11:00am

Training Fees: \$43 CMHA Members \$51 Non-Members

Virtual Motivational Interviewing College Trainings – Registration Open

Registration is open for the FY21 VIRTUAL Motivational Interviewing College trainings which includes Basic, Advanced, Supervisory, and the revamped MI for Leadership & Organizations!

This event is sponsored by the adult mental health block grant and is intended for persons who serve adults only through the mental health and substance abuse provider network in the state of Michigan. It contains content appropriate for CEOs, COOs, clinical directors, supervisors, case managers, support coordinators, therapists, crisis workers, peer support specialists and any other practitioners at the beginning, advanced and supervisory levels of practice.

By registering for these trainings, the participant acknowledges they have read & agree to the updated virtual guidelines and terms & conditions in the brochure to ensure they can fully participate in the virtual education. Registration closes 5 business days prior to each training.

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Training</u>	<u>Registration Link</u>
April 19-20, 2021	M.I. Basic	CLICK HERE
April 22-23, 2021	M.I. Advanced	CLICK HERE
April 29, 2021	M.I. Supervisory	CLICK HERE
July 26-27, 2021	M.I. Basic	CLICK HERE
July 29-30, 2021	M.I. Advanced	CLICK HERE
Aug. 2-3, 2021	M.I. for Leadership & Organizations	CLICK HERE
Aug. 5, 2021	M.I. Supervisory	CLICK HERE

Times:

Training(s) start promptly at 9:00am and adjourn at 4:15pm each day. Zoom Waiting Room opens at 8:30am each morning; attendees must be logged on by 8:45am. (All times in EST)

Training Fees:

\$125 per person for all 2-day trainings / \$70 per person for the 1-day Supervisory training. The fee includes electronic training materials and CEs for each day.

Virtual Co-Occurring Disorders Trainings from Jennifer Harrison – Registration Open

Registration is open for the following co-occurring disorders virtual trainings from presenter Jennifer Harrison.

These events are sponsored by the adult mental health block grant and are intended for persons who serve adults only through the mental health and substance abuse provider network in the state of Michigan. They contain content appropriate for CMHSP clinicians, therapists, peers, supervisors, and nurses.

By registering for these trainings, the participant acknowledges they have read & agree to the updated virtual guidelines and terms & conditions in the brochure to ensure they can fully participate in the virtual education. Registration closes 5 business days prior to each training.

****Note: Due to the limited number of spots in these trainings, each organization is limited to a maximum of 6 registrants.***

Integrated Dual Disorder Treatment 101

Adults with co-occurring mental illness and substance use disorders have far worse outcomes in employment, hospitalization, housing, and criminal justice involvement than their single disordered peers. This co-prevalence has been studied since the 1980s, yet despite this, most service systems were organized to treat individuals with a single disorder, excluding those with co-occurring disorders, or providing sequential or parallel treatments that were incompatible or in conflict with each other. Integrated and team-based services offer superior outcomes to

parallel or sequential treatments, and call providers to develop interventions to assist individuals in moving toward recovery for both illnesses simultaneously. Integrated Dual Disorder Treatment (IDDT) was designed following systematic study of high intensity COD treatment needs and alterations of the Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) model. Within this training attendees will understand the components of IDDT, including fidelity and outcome measurement. Specific attention will be paid to the development of stage-matched assessment, treatment planning, and treatment interventions for adults with co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders using the IDDT model.

Dates: April 15, 2021 | **SOLD OUT**

July 15, 2021 | [CLICK HERE to Register](#)

Times: Training: 8:30am – 4:30pm EST | Zoom log in by 8:15pm

\$30 Registration fee includes electronic training materials and CEs

Our Brave New World: Cannabis, Opioids, and Pain in Behavioral Health Treatment

Treatment planning for adults with complex mental health, substance use, and physical health needs involved understanding of stages of change and system navigation. Collaborating with these individuals on their wellness and recovery planning requires motivational approaches and often interventions that are more effective for early stage readiness. The prevalence of cannabis and opioid use makes these cases even more demanding to navigate. Add to this, the opioid crisis in the U.S. Since 1999, sales of opioids in the U.S. have quadrupled. From 1999-2015, more than 180,000 people died from overdoses related to prescription opioids. It is now the #1 cause of accidental death for people under 50. Michigan is one of 31 states with laws allowing medicinal or recreational marijuana use. Opioids and cannabis have become our new legal drugs.

This training will focus attention on providing stage-matched assessment and treatment surrounding use of legal drugs including cannabis and opioids. Focus on treatment planning and provision for individuals who have opioid or cannabis use, as well as management of co-occurring mental health or pain disorders.

Dates: April 27, 2021 | **SOLD OUT**

August 11, 2021 | [CLICK HERE to register](#)

Times: Training: 8:30am – 4:30pm EST | Zoom log in by 8:15pm

\$30 Registration fee includes electronic training materials and CEs

Recovery-Based Co-Occurring Treatment Planning and Delivery

Until the 21st century, most service systems were organized to treat individuals with a single disorder, excluding those with co-occurring disorders, or providing sequential or parallel treatments that were incompatible or in conflict with each other. Integrated services offer superior outcomes to parallel or sequential treatments, and call providers to develop interventions to assist individuals in moving toward recovery for both illnesses simultaneously. Recovery-oriented care requires changes at a systems and individual practitioner level in areas including assessment, treatment planning, and delivery. Integrated co-occurring providers will learn about the research on integrated care including Evidence-Based Practices (EBP), and ways to develop stage-matched assessment, treatment planning, and treatment interventions for adults with co-occurring mental health and substance use.

Dates: May 5, 2021 | [CLICK HERE to register](#)

August 24, 2021 | [CLICK HERE to register](#)

Times: Training: 8:30am – 4:30pm EST | Zoom log in by 8:15pm
\$30 Registration fee includes electronic training materials and CEs

Stage Matched Treatment for Co-Occurring Needs

Adults with co-occurring mental illness and substance use disorders have far worse outcomes in employment, hospitalization, housing, and criminal justice involvement than their single disordered peers. In addition, treatment engagement is often lower for individuals with COD, particularly when those individuals are in early stage of readiness for one of more presenting problems. This training will focus on the assessment of stage of readiness using validated tools, and the interventions that are best fit for each stage of readiness. In addition, ways to address organizational readiness for COD treatment will be discussed.

Dates: May 11, 2021 | [CLICK HERE to register](#)

August 31, 2021 | [CLICK HERE to register](#)

Times: Training: 8:30am – 4:30pm EST | Zoom log in by 8:15pm
\$30 Registration fee includes electronic training materials and CEs

New! National Council's Annual Conference

CMHA, as a proud and longtime member off the National Council for Behavioral Health, and would like to invite you to join us at NatCon21 live from May 3-5 and on-demand for the remainder of the month. If the COVID-19 pandemic has taught us anything, it's that we can expect the unexpected. With this in mind – and with attendee health and safety a top priority – National Council has decided to bring the NatCon experience to you virtually this year. By bringing NatCon21 to your digital doorstep, it will easier than ever to attend the biggest event in mental health and addictions care! Everything you need will be just a few clicks away.

As a NatCon21 attendee, you will get to:

- *Learn at your own pace* – take advantage of our live and on-demand [sessions](#).
- *Challenge your thinking* – hear from hundreds of [leaders](#) in health care and beyond.
- *Raise your voice* – contribute to timely discussions on topics that matter to you.
- *Invest in yourself* – earn [CEs and CMEs](#) from the comfort of your couch.
- *Maximize your impact* – discover new tools in our virtual [Solutions Pavilion](#).
- *Expand your network* – [connect](#) with 6,000+ health care colleagues online.

Register Today!

- To register, please visit our online registration website, [online here](#).
- This year, due to the pandemic and the virtual nature of the conference, we have discounted registration rates 30% from traditional NatCon pricing. You will not need to enter a code to receive this automatic discount!
- Prior to registering, reference National Council's membership map page, which can be found by selecting your state [online here](#). Your organization name as listed on the MI membership page is how you should search for your organization during the registration process. This will ensure that you will get the membership rate and the 30% discount.

Registering 3 or more attendees? Receive a \$50 discount on your third and subsequent registrations!

This year our group registration site will allow one of your team members to register all your organization's attendees and check out with one combined invoice.

To access the group registration:

- Select the blue "Register a Group" button on the [attendee registration site](#).
- Enter your information as the main contact for the group, and begin to register your attendees
- Once you have registered two individuals at the full conference rate, a \$50 discounted full conference rate will appear for your subsequent attendees. You will need to select the discounted rate as you continue to register your third and additional attendees.

[Learn more](#) about our program. We hope to see you in May!

New! Regional Meeting Series "BLOCK HIV/HCV" at the Lansing Radisson Hotel



This community-based initiative is designed to leverage the insights and experience of local and national HCV, HIV, and policy experts in the setting of small-group, peer-to-peer education. The BLOCK HIV/HCV initiative will provide community-based infectious disease specialists and other HIV treaters with foundational information and practical resources needed to prepare local stakeholders—both clinical and nonclinical—to collaborate in efforts to eliminate HCV within their communities. The purpose of this series of live, regional, multidisciplinary educational interventions is to build connections across local and regional care networks to optimize the identification and treatment of patients with HCV, specifically in the context of HIV/HCV coinfection.

During this course we will discuss how the existing HIV-treatment infrastructures can facilitate treatment of HCV among co-infected patients, identify barriers to HCV elimination relative to local/regional circumstances, share success stories and best-practices from established care models in other geographic and therapeutic areas, build linkage-to-care networks within local/regional systems and begin the establishment of a roadmap specific to regional needs and resources for HCV elimination in HIV/HCV co-infected patients.

*This activity is intended for a multidisciplinary audience including community-based infectious disease specialists and other human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) treaters, gastroenterology/hepatology clinicians, **mental health specialists, substance abuse specialists, correctional health care professionals, public policy/public health officials, hepatitis C virus (HCV) and HIV advocacy groups, payers, and clinical office staff who are engaged in the care of patients with HIV and/or HCV.***

When: Monday, May 03, 2021 | 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Where: Radisson Hotel Lansing at the Capital
111 North Grand Avenue,
Lansing, MI 48933

Register Here: <https://www.exchangecme.com/blocklansing20>

For more information on the BLOCK HIV/HCV initiative, please visit: www.blockhivhcv.com

CMHA and partners offer: Interdisciplinary Partnerships: Community Mental Health & Law Enforcement Collaboration Webinar



In the midst of a global pandemic, the related economic downturn, and a renewed focus on racial justice, mental health, and public safety, the intersection of law enforcement and mental health have come to the fore in public discussion and debate. Our organizations, representing Michigan's law enforcement professionals, prosecuting attorneys, and community mental health (CMH) systems, want to underscore the ideas of continuously examining best practices, as well as taking the opportunity to enhance longstanding partnerships between law enforcement, mental health systems and communities throughout Michigan and to recommend strengthening those partnerships.

When placed on the shoulders of law enforcement, the list of community needs burdens them with an evergrowing list of expectations from the public – expectations beyond the core responsibilities and capacities of any law enforcement professional.

As we look forward to shared strategies that enhance the capacity to respond to a variety of crisis situations, Michigan communities have developed innovative and effective partnerships between local law enforcement agencies and community mental health systems – the public mental health system designed to provide high quality, evidence-based and community-centered mental health services. These partnerships focus the appropriate resources and personnel on the issues at hand in any given crisis call - by applying law enforcement approaches when needed, mental health and human services approaches when needed, and partnering together as needed.

This webinar will explore interdisciplinary partnership and collaboration efforts from three innovative Michigan communities.

When: March 26th, 2021 | 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Webinar Registration Cost: FREE (Registration for this webinar is made available by the Michigan Department of Health & Human Services.)

Registration: Registration URL: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3156763167938164236>

For additional information please contact J. Eric Waddell at jericwaddell@thecardinalgroup2.com

Special Olympics “Strong Minds” Virtual Event

Competition provides a natural opportunity to develop active strategies for maintaining emotional wellness under stress, such as: thinking positive thoughts, releasing stress and connecting with others. During this webinar we will be discussing the Strong Minds program which is a discipline of Special Olympics Healthy Athletes. Strong Minds focuses on developing adaptive coping skills for individuals with intellectual disabilities. We will also be discussing in greater detail what exactly a Strong Minds event teaches Special Olympics participants, how participants and volunteers benefit from the program, and ways attendees can get involved.

When: Thursday, March 18th

Time: 12:00 – 1:00pm

RSVP: <https://forms.gle/xxkvUsCmx7ZdQQKG6>

Questions? Contact Kellie Murphy at kellie.murphy@somi.org

Behavioral Telehealth Resource Center

Telehealth Resource Center

Michigan’s Behavioral Telehealth Resource Center serves to provide current information on telehealth policies, training and engagement opportunities. Please visit the [webpage](#), to see available resources. If you have information to be included on the webpage, please contact astagg@cmham.org.

New! Please Review! Proposed Policy Draft: Asynchronous Telemedicine Services

Please review the [Proposed Policy Draft for Asynchronous Telemedicine Services](#). The purpose of the bulletin is to clarify current Medicaid program coverage of asynchronous telemedicine services, including store and forward technologies, interprofessional telephone/internet/electronic health record consultations and remote patient monitoring services. Please submit comments and state reasons why you support or oppose the change. Comments are due April 15, 2021 to Laura Kilfoyle, kifoyel@michigan.gov.

New! Medicare Law Requires in Person Visit for Telehealth Coverage

The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021, section 123 includes language that requires behavioral health providers to have seen their client in person during the prior six months before a telehealth visit will be covered by Medicare. Further, providers must have in-person visits on a “regular interval” to be determined by the Health and Human Services Department for telehealth visits to be covered by Medicare. This change, signed into law in the last days of December 2020, has raised confusion in the telemental health provider community. As discussed in the blog by Nathaniel Lacktman, a partner at Foley & Lardner who chairs the Telemedicine and Digital Health Industry team “the in-person exam

requirement is at odds with a direction that telehealth policy has moved over the last decade. It disrupts Medicare’s historical approach which is to defer to state laws on professional practice requirements and clinical standards of care.”

Read the full article [HERE](#).

Did you know? [MSA 20-09](#) is a permanent telemedicine policy

This policy was enacted at the start of COVID-19. This policy adds **home** and “other established site considered appropriate by the provider” **as allowable originating sites and will not expire at the end of the Public Health Emergency**. This bulletin addresses the [CMHA Recommendations](#) #6 for Michigan’s emerging Medicaid telemedicine policies.

Audio-only telemedicine behavioral health Medicaid codes are not under current discussion for immediate change. The Federal government has extended the Public Health Emergency (PHE) order through 2021. Additionally, all states will be granted 60 days post PHE to extend services covered under the PHE order. For reference, please see the COVID-19 Encounter Database which note the opened codes during the COVID emergency: [COVID-19 Encounter Code Chart](#) and the BHDDA Database of Telemedicine allowable services post-COVID: [BHDDA Telemedicine Database \(3/2/2021\)](#).

New! Telehealth Legislation Re-Introduced

This week, Sens. Portman (R-OH) and Whitehouse (D-RI) and Reps. McKinley (R-WV), Budd (R-NC), Cicilline (D-RI), and Trone (D-MD) re-introduced the [Telehealth Response for E-prescribing Addiction Therapy Services \(TREATS\) Act](#). The legislation, first introduced last Congress, seeks to support the expansion of telehealth services for substance use care. The TREATS Act would allow for the prescription of medication-assisted treatment (MAT) without a prior in-person visit, and for Medicare to be billed for audio-only telehealth services. The National Council supports these efforts to expand access to needed substance use services.

Psychotherapy Notes Excluded from Federal "Open Notes Rule?"

A new rule that prohibits “information blocking” for electronic health records takes effect April 5, 2021. Psychotherapists who use electronic health records (EHR) will have to comply with this federal rule requiring that health care providers give patients better access to their electronic health information (EHI). Exceptions to the Open Notes Rule include:

- Psychotherapists may exclude notes of any type that may cause harm to the patient or others should the patient have access. However, the rule specifically states that psychological distress does not meet the definition of harm (Torous, 2020).
- Psychotherapists who keep paper records will not be impacted.
- Any notes designated as “psychotherapy notes” are excluded from the Open Notes Rule as long as they are stored separately. However, if the psychotherapy notes reference content that is considered medical record notes, they cannot be blocked.
- Psychotherapists who used an uncertified EHR such as PsyBooks are not required to follow the Open Notes Rule.

The American Psychological Association further describes the application of the Open Notes Rule to psychologists here: [New federal rule affects psychologists with electronic health records](#).

Read the full article [HERE](#).

Behavioral Health Provider Experiences with Telehealth during COVID-19

[The Behavior Health Workforce Research](#) Center at the Institute for Healthcare Policy and Innovation, University of Michigan recently completed key informant interviews and published a brief that highlights key findings and federal policy implications. Read the [IHPI Brief here](#).

Education & Training Resources from Great Lakes MHTTC



Great Lakes (HHS Region 5)

MHTTC

Mental Health Technology Transfer Center Network

Funded by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

CMHA's partnership with SAMHSA funded Great Lakes MHTTC

CMHA is the Michigan partner of the Great Lakes Mental Health Technology Transfer Center (MHTTC). Through this partnership, funded by the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), MHTTC and CMHA provide Michiganders with access to a wide range of evidence-based and promising mental health practices. More information on the work of the Great Lakes MHTTC can be [found here](#).

Catalog of MHTTC resources

The Great Lakes Mental Health Technology Transfer Center (MHTTC) makes available a large catalog of Great Lakes MHTTC products at its [Products and Resources](#) webpage.

This section of the MHTTC website hosts all Great Lakes MHTTC products along with products developed with their partner TTCs within the region and across the country.

MHTTC announces series on National School Mental Health Curriculum

The National School Mental Health Curriculum was the result of a partnership between the Mental Health Technology Transfer Center (MHTTC) Network and the National Center for School Mental Health

(NCSMH) to identify priority training topics, develop training content and gather related resources for inclusion in the training curriculum.

The national Mental Health Technology Transfer Center (MHTTC) Network, one of the groups that provides the backbone support for that curriculum, has developed and is hosting is 8-part training series using the National School Mental Health Curriculum: Guidance and Best Practices for States, Districts, and Schools. Each session will include a pre-session video, live panel session, and post-session regional breakout.

Information on this free series, which starts on February 9 and runs through March 25, can be [found here](#).

MHTTC upcoming webinar series: healing school communities in the context of racial violence: where do we go from here?

About the Learning Series: Healing School Communities in the Context of Racial Violence: Where do we go from here? is a two-part learning series intended for students, families, educators and school mental health professionals who are navigating the ongoing impact of racial violence in all forms on student mental health. More information at: <https://mhttcnetwork.org/centers/global-mhttc/healing-school-communities-context-racial-violence-where-do-we-go-here>

News from Our Preferred Corporate Partners

Abilita: Are you ready for E-911?

By the end of this year, all organizations with greater than 20,000 square feet of workspace and/or multiple buildings or floors must comply. If someone from your organization called 911 now, would their location in the building get sent to the 911 center? Are you in compliance with the new E911 law?

Check out www.abilita.com/michigan-e911 to learn more and find out what you need to do to prepare!

myStrength: new digital behavioral health resources empower consumers to move beyond trauma

Trauma is incredibly common. Approximately 90% of U.S. adults have experienced at least one traumatic event in their lives, which can adversely affect emotional well-being and interfere with relationships, work and overall quality of life. Expanding on our diverse whole-person resources, Livongo for Behavioral Health by myStrength is pleased to announce new, digital tools to help individuals move beyond trauma. [Click here to request a demo](#).

CMH Association's Officers & Staff Contact Info

CMHA Officers Contact Information:

The Officers of the CMH Association of Michigan recently proposed, in their commitment to fostering dialogue among the members of the Association with the Association's leaders, that their contact information be shared with the Association membership. While this dialogue will not take the place of the regular dialogue and decision making that occurs during the meetings of the Association's Board of Directors, Steering Committee, Provider Alliance, Association Committees, Directors Forum, PIHP CEOs meeting, nor any of the great number of Association-sponsored and supported dialogue venues, the Officers want to ensure that the members of the Association can reach them to discuss issues of interest to the Association's members. The contact information for the officers is provided below:

President: Joe Stone; Stonejoe09@gmail.com; (989) 390-2284
First Vice President: Carl Rice Jr; cricejr@outlook.com; (517) 745-2124
Second Vice President: Craig Reiter; gullivercraig@gmail.com; (906) 283-3451
Secretary: Cathy Kellerman; balcat19@live.com; (231) 924-3972
Treasurer: Randy Kamps; randyk@4iam.com; (231) 392-6670
Immediate Past President: Bill Davie; bill49866@gmail.com; (906) 226-4063

CMHA Staff Contact Information:

CMH Association staff can be contacted at (517) 374-6848 and via the direct phone lines and e-mail addresses below:

Treandra Bailey, Policy Analyst; publicpolicy@cmham.org
Alan Bolter, Associate Director, (517) 237-3144; abolter@cmham.org
Audrey Daul, Administrative Assistant, (517) 237-3141; adaul@cmham.org
Dana Ferguson, Senior Accounting Specialist, (517) 237-3147; dferguson@cmham.org
Monique Francis, Executive Secretary/Committee Clerk, (517) 237-3145; mfrancis@cmham.org
Jodi Hammond, Training and Meeting Planner, (517) 237-3148; jhammond@cmham.org
Regina MacDonald, Accounting Assistant, (517) 237-3146; rmacdonald@cmham.org
Bethany Rademacher, Training and Meeting Planner, (517) 237-3149; brademacher@cmham.org
Alexandra Risher, Training and Meeting Planner, (517) 237-3150; arisher@cmham.org
Carly Sanford, Training and Meeting Planner, (517) 237-3151; csanford@cmham.org
Robert Sheehan, CEO, (517) 237-3142 rsheehan@cmham.org
Madi Sholtz, Training and Meeting Planner, (517) 237-3152; msholtz@cmham.org
Amy Stagg, Behavioral Telehealth Coordinator, (517) 324-7310; astagg@cmham.org
Christina Ward, Director of Education & Training, (517) 237-3143; cward@cmham.org
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