

# VOICES FOR CHANGE

## Michigan Medicaid Proposed Policy 2223-Telemedicine Has Been Released

Michigan's permanent telemedicine policy will be effective one (1) day after the end of the Federal Public Health Emergency (PHE). The proposed policy #2223-Telemedicine will no longer reimburse for services provided through audio-only, except for codes 99441-99443 and 98966-98968.

The CMHA Behavioral Telehealth Resource Center believes the removal of audio-only service deliver creates a health disparity, leading to reduced health outcomes for affected clients.

**Call to Action:** We are asking the CMHA Behavioral Telehealth Advisory Group, CMHA members and partners to submit *Behavioral Telehealth Voices for Change*— these are specific examples or situations where behavioral telehealth services are best provided or can only be provided by audio-only delivery. Please send your Voices for Change stories and public comments directly to Laura Kilfoyle at [kilfoyle@michigan.gov](mailto:kilfoyle@michigan.gov) by September 20, 2022 and copy Amy Stagg, [astagg@mphi.org](mailto:astagg@mphi.org).

**Why?** CMHA's Behavioral Telehealth Resource Center believes Michigan Medicaid policy change to no longer reimburse services provided through audio-only will cause a lapse or inability to deliver services in situations such as:

- **Geographic regions** where broadband/connectivity issues limit client access.
- **Client technology capacity** to easily access audio & visual connection and/or navigate software.
- **Client preference** and/or comfort level with audio only services based on diagnosis and/or communication style.

## Summary of *Proposed* Michigan Medicaid Telemedicine Policy Post Federal PHE

Permanent telemedicine policy will be effective one (1) day after the end of the Federal Public Health Emergency (PHE)

### ✓ **Highlighted Changes:**

- Added allowable originating sites: home, local health departments, or other established site considered appropriate by provider
- Includes distant site flexibility
- Updated: Telemedicine payments will be at parity with in-person services

### ○ **Sunsetting**

- Audio only ([MSA 20-13](#)) – MI Medicaid will no longer reimburse for services provided through audio-only, except for codes 99441-99443 and 98966-98968.
  - 98966-98968 – patient/guardian-initiated telephone assessment and management services (nonphysician codes)
  - 99441-99443 – patient/guardian-initiated telephone evaluation and management service (physician codes)