



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
LANSING

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

MAURA D. CORRIGAN
DIRECTOR

February 7, 2012

The Honorable Bruce Caswell, Chair
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on DHS
Michigan State Senate
Lansing, Michigan 48933

The Honorable David Agema, Chair
House Appropriations Subcommittee on DHS
Michigan House of Representatives
Lansing, Michigan 48933

Dear Senator Caswell and Representative Agema:

The enclosed report is provided pursuant to PA 63 of 2011, Sec. 580, of the Department of Human Services (DHS) Fiscal Year 2012 Appropriations Act. This section requires that DHS submit a report outlining efforts between the Department of Human Services (DHS) and the Department of Community Health (DCH) to identify mental health programs and activities where the services provided by each department overlap or are uncoordinated with the goal of providing adequate and stable mental health services which address the need of the individual child without duplicative, confusing or needlessly complex services. The attached summary outlines the efforts DHS is currently taking in this regard.

If you have any questions, please contact Suzanne Stiles Burke, Director of the Bureau of Child Welfare, at (517)241-8606.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susan Kangas".

Susan Kangas
Chief Financial Officer

Enclosure

cc: Senate and House Appropriations Subcommittees
Senate and House Fiscal Agencies
Senate and House Policy Offices
State Budget Director

Boilerplate Section 580

February 6, 2012

The Department of Human Services (DHS) and the Department of Community Health (DCH) shall collaborate to identify mental health programs and activities where services overlap or are uncoordinated. The goal is to provide adequate and stable mental health services which address the need of the individual child without duplicative, confusing, or needlessly complex services.

- **Waiver for Children with Serious Emotional Disturbances:** Implemented in 2008, DHS partnered with DCH to provide waiver services to children in foster care with a serious emotional disturbance (SED). This waiver provides services including respite, child therapeutic foster care, community living support, community transition, family home care training, family support and training, therapeutic activities, therapeutic overnight camping and wraparound for individuals and families. DHS provides the match to draw down Medicaid to serve foster children who meet eligibility requirements residing in the following counties: Wayne, Macomb, Kent, Genesee, Saginaw, Oakland, Ingham, Kalamazoo, Eaton, Clinton, Washtenaw and Muskegon. The following counties have been approved to implement the SED Waiver in FY12: St. Clair, Berrien, Jackson, Calhoun, Bay, Van Buren, Livingston, Newaygo, Hillsdale, Midland and Gratiot.

The partnership established through the waiver program has led to the utilization of a Community Mental Health access person located at the county DHS office to serve as a mental health consultant for DHS staff and assist with the identification and referral process for children in DHS foster care in need of mental health services. DCH uses block grant funds to maintain this position.

- **SED GF Benefit:** An Interagency Agreement is in effect between DHS and DCH to serve children who have mental health needs but who do not meet the eligibility criteria for the SED Waiver (eligible for treatment in a state psychiatric hospital). Through a program called SED GF Benefit, funds are being provided to assist in increasing access to intensive, community-based mental health services. DCH is working with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to amend the managed care, mental health specialty services and support waivers to serve a larger population of foster youth with mental health needs. The amendment is anticipated to be effective the last quarter of FY 2012.
- **Behavioral Health/Early Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Treatment Workgroups:** A partnership has been developed between DHS, DCH and other stakeholders to coordinate screening, assessment and treatment for foster children. Specific mental

health assessment tools are being identified and Medicaid policy is being reviewed to ensure providers are completing mental health screening at intervals required by foster care policy.

DCH applied for a grant from the Flinn Foundation and was awarded a two-year grant to implement Screening Kids in Primary Care Plus (SKIPP). The pilot is being implemented in Wayne County and will provide standardized developmental, social-emotional and mental health screening, assessment, referral and follow-up for foster children being seen by their medical provider.

- **Data Regarding Psychotropic Medication:** DHS entered into an Interagency Agreement with DCH to access Medicaid pharmacy claims for foster children on a quarterly basis. The data will be used to report on:
 - ❖ The number of foster children prescribed psychotropic medication during a quarter.
 - ❖ The number of children entering foster care with a claim for a psychotropic medication in the year prior to entering foster care.
 - ❖ The demographics of children on psychotropic medication: age, county, living arrangement.
 - ❖ The actual prescribers of the psychotropic medication.

The data will also be used to develop an oversight plan for foster children prescribed psychotropic medications.