



STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

ROBERT GORDON  
DIRECTOR

## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** February 7, 2020

**TO:** Tribal Leaders

**FROM:** JooYeun Chang, Executive Director, Children's Services Agency *JYC*

**SUBJECT:** **Public Notice – Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Expression (SOGIE) Workgroup**

MDHHS is providing you with public notice for consultation on the SOGIE workgroup that will be addressing provision of competent, affirming child welfare services for children and families involved with the child welfare system who identify as having diverse SOGIE.

This is an ongoing workgroup with a current focus on the creation and provision of training on SOGIE diversity and service provision for SOGIE-diverse youth residing in child caring institutions. Future efforts will include guidance to field staff for engaging with SOGIE-diverse families, including birth, foster, adoptive, and kinship families, involved in the child welfare system. Ongoing meetings occur once per month for 90 minutes. Participants may attend meetings in person in Lansing or participate by phone. Participants may be asked to complete tasks, including research and review of proposed materials, between scheduled meetings.

At your convenience please provide contact information for those wishing to participate in the workgroup and any feedback or tribal consultation requests pertaining to any impact these efforts may have for tribal families/communities to Stacey Tadgerson, Native American Affairs at [TadgersonS@michigan.gov](mailto:TadgersonS@michigan.gov). If you have any questions about the workgroup, please contact Courtney Isanhart at [IsanhartC@michigan.gov](mailto:IsanhartC@michigan.gov).