

The Number and Percentage of Children Receiving Timely Health and Mental Health Examinations After Entry Into Foster Care Report 1

(FY 2020 Appropriation Act - Public Act 67 of 2019)

April 1, 2020

Sec. 511. The department shall provide reports on a semiannual basis to the senate and house appropriations subcommittees on the department budget, the senate and house standing committees on families and human services, and the senate and house fiscal agencies and policy offices on the number and percentage of children who received timely physical and mental health examinations after entry into foster care. The goal of the program is that at least 85% of children shall have an initial medical and mental health examination within 30 days after entry into foster care.



Section 511 PA 67 of 2019 Report 1

Data for this semiannual report is gathered from August 1, 2019 through January 31, 2020. During this time, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) had a compliance rate of 80 percent for timely completion of the 2,093 simultaneous medical and mental health exams completed within 30 days of the child's placement into foster care.

MDHHS continues to work towards increasing health/mental health exam timeliness in several ways, attempting to reach as many involved parties as possible. The Child Well-Being Sub-Committee, composed of Child Welfare Medical Unit (CWMU), Data Management Unit, Health Liaison Officers (HLOs) and other stakeholders meets monthly with a primary focus of promoting timely health exams for children entering care. In October 2019, CWMU met with Michigan Federation for Children and Families private foster care agency members with current health exams data and discussed known best practices to increase health exam timeliness. CWMU continues to have quarterly statewide HLO meetings to address health exam compliance among other critical foster care health issues.

The medical consultant for the Children's Services Agency (CSA) partnered with the Michigan chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics supported by a grant from the Michigan Health Endowment Fund to bring local/regional MDHHS, health and mental health providers, schools and other partners together in a learning collaborative process to discuss and address challenges to meeting the health and well-being needs of children in foster care. The team held learning collaboratives in every county in the state during FY 2018 and FY 2019.