

Michigan's Section 298 Pilot Evaluation Plan

Conducted by the University of Michigan

Under Section 298 in Public Act 107 of 2017, the Michigan legislature directed the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) to develop and implement up to three pilots and one demonstration model to test the integration of physical and behavioral health services. The Michigan legislature also directed MDHHS to contract with one of the state's research universities to evaluate the pilot(s) and the demonstration model. MDHHS contracted with the Institute for Healthcare Policy and Innovation (IHPI) at the University of Michigan in November 2017 to serve as the project evaluator.

The evaluation will inform future efforts to improve the integration of services on a statewide level by determining the most effective financial and clinical integrated care models. The evaluation aims to compare changes in healthcare utilization, expenditures, and outcomes for Medicaid consumers before and after implementation of the Section 298 pilots and demonstration models. This evaluation will yield information about whether the pilot programs and demonstration project are successful in affecting the structure, processes and outcomes of care. The evaluation will also provide insights regarding whether the pilots and demonstration project can be replicated elsewhere in Michigan.

- Once the pilot sites have been selected,¹ the evaluation team, in partnership with MDHHS, will select **comparison sites**² for the pilot and demonstration sites.
- The evaluation team will conduct **on-line pre-evaluation surveys** with key stakeholders and informants to solicit feedback on which structure, process, and outcome measures are likely to have the greatest impact and relevance and can also be collected through reasonable means during the pilot period.
- The evaluation team will develop **survey questionnaires and a data analysis plan** incorporating this feedback where appropriate. The team will develop different surveys for each of the following populations: individuals with mental illness (MI) and/or substance use disorders (SUD), individuals with intellectual and development disabilities (IDD), and children with serious emotional disturbance (SED).
- The evaluation team will analyze **baseline administrative and claims data** for the pilot, demonstration, and comparison sites and compile the selected measures from these data sources. This data is available in the MDHHS Data Warehouse.
- The evaluation team will conduct **on-line baseline surveys with administrators and providers** at the pilot, demonstration, and comparison sites.
- The evaluation team will conduct **telephone baseline surveys** with consumers at the pilot, demonstration, and comparison sites. These surveys will gather data regarding a wide range of health conditions and services, in addition to satisfaction with services and quality of life.
- The evaluation team will conduct **post-implementation surveys with administrators, providers, and consumers** at the pilot, demonstration, and comparison sites and analyze the survey data.
- The evaluation team will analyze **post-implementation administrative and claims data** for the pilot, demonstration, and comparison sites.
- The evaluation team will provide **preliminary data analysis and findings** in written form and at key stakeholder meetings for feedback.
- The evaluation team will assemble and **disseminate a final report**.

¹ MDHHS has selected Kent County as the demonstration site.

² Participating as a comparison site is voluntary. The participation of comparison sites will be invaluable to the outcomes, analysis, and recommendations contained in the final report. The evaluation team aims to minimize administrative burden by focusing on data that is obtained from short provider and beneficiary surveys, data contained in the data warehouse, and data already collected by the sites.