

The seal of the State of Michigan is centered in the background. It features an eagle with wings spread, perched atop a shield. The shield depicts a Native American figure holding a bow and arrow, with a rising sun in the background. The shield is flanked by two deer. Above the eagle is a banner with the Latin motto "E PLURIBUS UNUM". Below the shield is another banner with the Latin motto "SI QUÆRIS PENINSULAM AMENAM".

Improving Quality of Life by Supporting Independence and Self-Determination

STATE OF MICHIGAN
MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS COMMISSION
2014 ANNUAL REPORT

REINVENTING  MICHIGAN



STATE OF MICHIGAN
MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS COMMISSION
LANSING

January 2015

Members of the Legislature,

Last January we provided Governor Snyder with a report which outlines the first steps in a long-term road map of actionable recommendations that will improve the lives of and outcomes for individuals and families living with mental illnesses, developmental disabilities and substance use disorders in our state. The Commission has made great progress in implementing the recommendations and today we are providing you with a report that highlights our accomplishments over the past year.

While much has been done, there is still more to do and we want to ensure that all recommendations from the 2013 report become a reality. With the close of the last legislative term, more than half of the legislative members of the Commission are no longer serving. The formality of the Commission has come to an end, however, the work must continue. For that reason, we have respectfully asked the People Group to take on the responsibility of overseeing the implementation process. Under the leadership of both Director Haveman and Director Lyon, the Department of Community Health has been a key partner in the success of the Commission. As chair of the People Group, and in partnership with other key departments, we are confident Director Lyon will continue to successfully implement the outstanding recommendations.

We have appreciated the opportunity to work together to improve Michigan’s mental health and wellness system. Each of us will remain focused on creating an environment that fosters independence, promotes self-determination and ultimately improves the quality of life for those Michiganders affected by mental illnesses, developmental disabilities and substance use disorders. Our hope is that you, too, will keep the work of the Mental Health and Wellness Commission in mind as you pursue legislative changes and appropriate funding.

Should you have any questions or if we can be of any assistance to you in the future, please feel free to contact us.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to this critical issue.


Brian Calley
Lt. Governor


Nick Lyon
Director DCH


Bruce Caswell
Former State Senator


Rebekah Warren
State Senator


Matt Lori
Former State Representative


Phil Cavanagh
Former State Representative

Commission Background

In February 2013, Governor Snyder issued Executive Order 2013-06, creating the Mental Health and Wellness Commission. Comprised of six members, the Commission was charged with the responsibility to:

“...address any gaps in the delivery of mental health services and propose new service models to strengthen the entire delivery spectrum of mental health services throughout the state of Michigan.”

The Commission reviewed and evaluated previous reports from past mental health commissions, created subcommittees focusing on specific issue areas as outlined in Executive Order 2013-6, and sought input from constituents by holding several public hearings across the state. On January 21, 2014, the Commission released its final report which outlines the first steps in a long-term road map of actionable recommendations that will improve outcomes for Michigan citizens. The report provides nearly 60 recommendations that were unanimously agreed upon by the members that will help improve Michigan’s overall mental health system.

Members of the Commission have been focused on implementing the recommendations over the past year and have made great progress. Included in this annual report are recommendations that have been completed and others that are currently in progress of implementation.

With the transition of the legislature, it seems appropriate that the responsibility of further implementing the outstanding recommendations of the Commission be transferred to the *People Group*, with Director Lyon serving as chair. The Commission is confident that under Director Lyon’s leadership, the remaining recommendations will become a reality.

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS COMMISSION 2014 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

✓ **Substance Use Credentialing**

The report outlines how critical “*Assessment, Treatment and Care Coordination*” are to wellness, recovery, and management of chronic illnesses. Governor Snyder recently signed a Commission recommendation into law (House Bill 5332) that requires all state departments to use the same substance use credentialing standards in processes, forms and contracts. This legislation eliminates red-tape and improves the coordination of care for the delivery of substance use disorder services across state departments.

House Bill 5332: <http://legislature.mi.gov/documents/2013-2014/billenrolled/House/pdf/2014-HNB-5332.pdf>

✓ **Care-Coordination**

Highlighted in the section “*Physical and Behavioral Healthcare*,” the report conveys how critical it is for the state to improve consistency and comprehensiveness of services. Through the passage of House Bill 5136, the efforts of the Michigan Health Information Network have been endorsed to support care-coordination across the boundaries of physical and behavioral health settings. House Bill 5136 was signed into law on May 22nd and the implementation process has already begun.

House Bill 5136: <http://legislature.mi.gov/documents/2013-2014/publicact/pdf/2014-PA-0129.pdf>

✓ **Deaf and Hard of Hearing**

The Department of Community Health submitted the required report to the legislature required by the Fiscal Year 2014 appropriations bill. The department, along with the People Group, is working to identify recommendations for implementation. The Department of Civil Rights will continue to lead the state on issues affecting persons who are deaf or hard of hearing.

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdch/499_03_01_14_454707_7.pdf

✓ **“R-Word”**

The legislature took swift action on our proposal to eradicate the phrase “mental retardation” from state statute. This recommendation is listed within the “*Recipient Rights and Perceptions*” chapter of the report.

“Retarded” is an offensive, antiquated term that is hurtful and dehumanizing to our fellow Michiganders who have developmental or intellectual disabilities. The state of Michigan has taken a leadership role by replacing this term in its statutes. With overwhelming support of the legislature, “respect” became the new “R-Word” when the 15 bill package was signed into law on March 28th.

“R-Word” Bill Signing Press Release: http://michigan.gov/snyder/0,4668,7-277-57577_57657-324981--,00.html

✓ **Pure Michigan Marketing Strategy**

Highlighted in the “*Recipient Rights and Perceptions*” section of the report, the Commission recommended collaboration with the Michigan Economic Development Corporation to develop a Pure Michigan marketing strategy and highlight opportunities for families living with disabilities. A workgroup was convened with stakeholders to share ideas and develop a strategy that would maximize everyone’s opportunity to enjoy the beauty of Michigan. Formal recommendations were compiled and provided to the Michigan Economic Development Corporation in November of 2014 for their inclusion over the next year.

✓ **Special Education Funding Flexibility**

In the executive recommendation for the 2014-2015 fiscal year, Governor Snyder recommended language in the At-Risk categorical section of the school aid budget to allow districts to use their at-risk funds for purposes of mental health. This recommendation was also listed as a priority for the Commission. The legislature approved the executive recommendation and the bill was signed into law as Public Act 196 of 2014.

Public Act 196 of 2014: <http://legislature.mi.gov/documents/2013-2014/publicact/pdf/2014-PA-0196.pdf>

✓ **Autism Council**

Education is a vital part of ensuring an overall successful mental health system. Coordination with local partners helps children have access to the proper supports and services they need which is why in the *Education* section, the Commission recommended the Autism Council to ensure that public school “educational services and supports” were a priority in the next phase of implementation of the Autism Spectrum Disorder State Plan. On October 27th, 2014 the Autism Council approved official correspondence to the Commission conveying support for the Commission’s recommendation and commitment to making education a priority.

✓ **Employment Directive**

The Commission report urged adoption of a statewide employment policy that honors the choices and goals of an individual and would include a variety of appropriate options to achieve those goals. It was recommended that the State of Michigan be a leader in adopting the employment practices within state government and provide a welcoming environment to those with disabilities by encouraging their employment in state government through a competitive integrated setting. Governor Snyder signed Executive Directive 2014-1 that will help bridge the gap to ensure every employee is treated with dignity and respect at all times.

Executive Directive 2014-1:

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/snyder/ED_2014-1_472471_7.pdf

✓ **Interagency Council on Homelessness**

The importance of safe and stable shelter is a vital part of a successful community and state. That is why the Commission recommended the elevation of the Interagency Council on Homelessness in the *“Housing”* chapter of the report. The elevation of the Interagency Council on Homelessness to a formal commission provides Michigan a central statewide homeless planning and policy development resource and requires collaboration between the departments that are responsible for housing and service provisions. The Interagency Council on Homelessness was elevated with the signing of Executive Order 2015-2.

Executive Order 2015-2: http://michigan.gov/documents/snyder/EO_2015-2_479496_7.pdf

✓ **Veteran Trust Fund**

Michigan made a commitment to its veterans in 1946 by creating the Michigan Veterans Trust Fund, which provides temporary assistance to eligible Michigan wartime veterans and their families experiencing economic hardships. In the *Veterans* portion of the report, the Commission recommended that the Michigan Veterans Trust Fund explicitly enumerate mental health care as an allowable expense. This recommendation was accomplished during the September 9th meeting of the Michigan Veteran’s Trust Fund Board.

✓ **No Wrong Door Policy for Veterans**

With Michigan being home to nearly 700,000 veterans, it is critically important to ensure they receive the quality and timely care they deserve. The Commission recommended the implementation of a “no wrong door” policy for veterans seeking mental health services. In partnership with the Michigan Veteran’s Trust Fund and in collaboration with the local Community Mental Health Service Programs and Veteran Agencies, pilot programs are being implemented in Battle Creek and Ann Arbor to assist veterans gain proper access to mental health care.

Veterans Trust Fund approves partnership on “no wrong door” pilots:
http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dmva/September_9_2014_minutes_471966_7.pdf

✓ **Juvenile Justice Diversion Council**

The same Executive Order that extended the life and scope of the Commission also expanded the scope of the Mental Health Diversion Council by including juvenile justice issues, as outlined in the “*Safety*” portion of the report. The newly expanded Council has released action plan outlining the goals and objectives specific to the juvenile population.

Juvenile Justice Action Plan:
http://michigan.gov/documents/mentalhealth/JuvenileDiversionStrategiesActionPlan9-3-14_468427_7.pdf

✓ **Scope of the Commission**

The Commission has worked to identify and address many gaps in the current mental health system, but there was still more work to be done. The report recommended extending the life of the Mental Health and Wellness Commission beyond June 2014 in order to review additional topics and to oversee the implementation of recommendations.

Executive Order 2014-7: http://michigan.gov/documents/snyder/EO_2014-7_451095_7.pdf

✓ **Transportation**

With Executive Order 2014-7, Governor Snyder expanded the scope of the Commission to review transportation challenges and barriers encountered by individuals with disabilities. The Commission met with several departments to learn and understand the various transportation services provided by the state. Understanding that other groups were being convened to discuss the same topic, the Commission issued official correspondence to members of the Transportation Services Consolidation Cross Agency Workgroup with specific core values to be considered as recommendations were developed. Those core values include:

1. Advancing the availability, affordability and reliability of public transportation options for persons living with a mental illness, developmental disability or substance use disorder throughout the state, recognizing the differing needs in rural, suburban and urban area.
 2. Breaking down the barriers to accessing available transportation options in any given region, including cross-jurisdictional travel.
 3. Improving the processes and procedures of current state-run transportation programs in order to better suit the needs of persons living with a mental illness, developmental disability or substance use disorder.
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✓ **Appropriations**

The legislature completed and passed the 2014-2015 state budget in June of 2014. It included \$14.3 million to start implementation of recommendations listed within the Commission’s report. This is an important milestone and demonstrates a strong level of commitment by House and Senate members to support the goal of improving the quality of life of citizens affected by mental illnesses, developmental disabilities and substance use disorders.

The recommendations that will be receiving funding as a result of the 2014-2015 budget include:

Fiscal Year 2014 Appropriation of \$14.3 Million	In Thousands
Recommendation: Review technology guidelines and reimbursement barriers to promote telemedicine services.	\$600.00
Recommendation: Direct the Department of Community Health to work with appropriate agencies and providers to implement statewide screening criteria for youth that assess possible emotional disturbances.	\$1,300.00
Recommendation: Require CMH to employ standard functional assessment tools for youth and adults.	\$750.00
Recommendation: Encourage the development of a bundled payment model for outcome-based funding compensation.	\$300.00
Recommendation: Implement Health Home model to integrate physical and behavioral health care.	\$500.00
Recommendation: Endorse the Michigan Health Information Network (MiHIN) - require safety net providers to develop Health Information Technology.	\$750.00
Recommendation: New priority population - Amend MH Code to classify children placed into long term residential foster care as priority population for mental health services, even if mild.	\$245.00
Recommendation: Pilot initiatives that address issues such as children aging out of the public system and other case management efforts for high risk children.	\$1,000.00
Recommendation: Appropriate resources for a common case management structure across CMH, DHS, and Juvenile Justice for high risk juveniles.	\$500.00
Recommendation: Implement stigma reduction campaigns - partner advocacy organizations across the state and CMHs.	\$500.00

Recommendation: Expand Child and Adolescent Health Centers in Medically Underserved Areas.	\$1,000.00
Recommendation: Direct the MDE and DCH to create and implement recommendations for best practices in mental health services for students.	\$250.00
Recommendation: Encourage schools to support programs such as Project UNIFY.	\$500.00
Recommendation: Review definitions and criteria for eligibility to participate in Community Ventures.	\$100.00
Recommendation: Increase the number of Project Search sites across Michigan.	\$500.00
Recommendation: Expand the number of sites incorporating the Pathways to Potential model and include access to employment and training services.	\$1,000.00
Recommendation: Direct Department of Community Health and MSHDA to develop projects and initiatives to provide 500 new housing units over the next three years.	\$1,250.00
Recommendation: Authorize intermediate care beds for both juveniles and adults on a regional basis.	\$1,000.00
Recommendation: Ensure licensing rules "keep pace" with community based treatment for children and adults who have complex needs/challenging behaviors.	\$25.00
Recommendation: Revise the adult foster care policies and rules to focus them toward greater capability to provide secure residential treatment.	\$25.00
Recommendation: Provide incentives for adult foster care homes to keep siblings together - keep beds open.	\$200.00
Recommendation: Direct county veteran counselors and other service providers to incorporate mental health care referral services in daily operations.	\$250.00
Recommendation: Implement and install the use of Smart 911 across the state.	\$812.50
Recommendation: Establish a Juvenile Justice Diversion Council	\$75.00
Recommendation: Data Collection and Evaluation	\$887.50