



Michigan Takes Action:

Progress of the MCTEH Action Plan

Published January, 2024

INTRODUCTION & CONTACT INFORMATION

Thank you for your interest in the progress of the Michigan Campaign to End Homelessness (MCTEH) Action Plan! This document can be used as a periodic status report for the Plan. On the following pages, you will see a column titled “Champion”; for more information about any strategy within this document, identify the Champion for that strategy and contact the appropriate contact person listed in the table below.

Champion	Contact Name	Contact Email
CSH (Corporation for Supportive Housing)	Catherine Distelrath	catherine.distelrath@csh.org
ICH (Interagency Council on Homelessness)	Kelly Rose	rosek2@michigan.gov
MCAH (MI Coalition Against Homelessness)	Eric Hufnagel	ehufnagel@mihomeless.org
MDE (MI Dept. of Education)	Michelle Williams	williamsm48@michigan.gov
MDHHS (MI Dept. of Health & Human Services)	Jeanine Yard	yardj@michigan.gov
MDOC (MI Dept. of Corrections)	Mariam Deland	delandm1@michigan.gov
MHPC(MI Homeless Policy Council)	Ashley Halladay-Schmandt	ashley@endhomelessnessmi.org
MSHDA (MI State Housing Development Authority)	Christina Soulard	soulardc@michigan.gov



GOAL 1: INCREASE AMOUNT OF SAFE, ACCESSIBLE, AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING TARGETED TO HOUSEHOLDS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

Strategy	Champion	Completion Goal	Progress
Strategy 1: Produce 500 new Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) units (non-SH) annually targeted to households at or below 30-50% AMI	MSHDA	Report annually	518 units awarded credits in 2023
Strategy 2: Produce 150 new Supportive Housing units annually	MSHDA	Report annually	173 units awarded credits in 2023
Strategy 3: Increase landlords accepting households experiencing homelessness by improving landlord engagement, increasing knowledge of risk mitigation funds & other landlord incentives, and securing source of income protections	MCAH	December 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Bills to prohibit discrimination based on source of income</u> favorably passed Senate in October; awaiting House action • MSHDA working to fine-tune resident advisory board and do more landlord outreach events
Strategy 4: Reduce the use of unnecessarily restrictive tenant screening practices (for public housing and private landlords) to increase housing access for those with criminal histories, prior evictions, or other barriers	MSHDA/ MCAH	December 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MSHDA is assessing tenant selection criteria for PSH and HCV • <u>Fair Chance Access to Housing bill</u> introduced in House in June
Strategy 5: Secure an additional \$20M for Supportive Housing services that are evidence-based, aligned with quality measures, and focused on tenant outcomes	CSH	May 2024	CSH leading advocacy for state appropriation in FY25 budget
Strategy 6: Expand Moving On initiatives to 3 Public Housing Authorities (in addition to MSHDA) to help supportive housing tenants who no longer want or need the intensive services of supportive housing	MSHDA	July 2025	No progress to report
Strategy 7: Identify & fund emerging housing models (eg. shared housing, host homes) that help fill the gap in housing for people experiencing homelessness	MHPC	September 2025	No progress to report



GOAL 2: PREVENT HOMELESSNESS WHENEVER POSSIBLE, TARGETING RESOURCES TO HOUSEHOLDS MOST AT RISK OF BECOMING HOMELESS

Strategy	Champion	Completion Goal	Progress
<p>Strategy 1: Support advocacy to implement more robust tenant supports and protections such as legal aid, mediation services, and rental assistance for people going through eviction cases</p>	MCAH	Report annually	No progress to report
<p>Strategy 2: Develop a reporting mechanism to track shelter diversion & homeless prevention data, including number of households diverted/prevented and percent who ultimately became homeless</p>	MDHHS	September 2023	MDHHS & MSHDA are working to identify specific metrics to build into HMIS and/or other data systems
<p>Strategy 3: Secure \$3M across 8 CoCs for flexible, cash-based diversion & prevention activities targeted to households at highest risk of becoming homeless</p>	MDHHS & MSHDA	May 2024	\$3M (over 2 years) secured through <u>Housing & Community Development Fund (HCDF)</u> ; 6 grantees in 6 CoCs selected to implement
<p>Strategy 4: Implement homelessness diversion within 8 additional CoCs by using the diversion toolkit to provide individualized support to CoCs to integrate diversion into CE and ES intake and assessment processes</p>	MDHHS & MSHDA	May 2024	MDHHS & MSHDA partnering to implement diversion in the 6 CoCs awarded HCDF diversion funds; MDHHS providing TA to the 6 grantees & broader training on diversion to all interested CoCs



GOAL 3: COLLABORATE WITH LOCAL AND STATEWIDE SYSTEMS THAT ARE CRUCIAL TO PREVENTING AND ENDING HOMELESSNESS

Strategy	Champion	Completion Goal	Progress
Strategy 1: Ensure all households experiencing homelessness maintain Medicaid benefits following end of COVID-19 public health emergency	MDHHS	July 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outreach campaign underway to ensure awareness of recertification dates and rules • MDHHS published <u>dashboard</u> to track redetermination; working on homeless specific dashboard (will not be public facing, but MDHHS will be able to generate aggregate reports)
Strategy 2: Strengthen relationships between housing providers, MDHHS, Prepaid Inpatient Health Plans (PIHPs), Community Mental Health (CMH) agencies, Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), Medicaid Health Plans, local hospital systems, and other relevant agencies to improve access to physical & behavioral healthcare services & fully leverage Medicaid for Supportive Housing tenancy support services	MDHHS/ CSH	December 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work underway to expand health-housing partnerships and/or bill Medicaid tenancy support code in Oakland, Clinton/Eaton/Ingham, Wayne, Washtenaw, and Grand Traverse counties • Recuperative care Medicaid benefit to begin in FY24 • Cross-sector workgroup developing toolkit for communities to develop discharge planning protocols for patients experiencing homelessness at hospitals and other inpatient facilities
Strategy 3: Leverage domestic violence (DV) comparable database to strengthen connections between DV agencies and homeless service providers and improve safety planning within the homeless system	MDHHS	December 2023	No progress to report
Strategy 4: Increase eligible school aged youth connected to McKinney-Vento school liaisons & resources by strengthening coordination & developing referral linkages in 2 CoCs between McKinney-Vento school liaisons and HARAs and other homeless service providers	MDE	September 2024	MDE launched survey about coordination between CoCs and McKinney-Vento homeless resources & convened cross-agency group to explore opportunities to utilize data to improve connections between the homeless & education systems



GOAL 3 CONTINUED: COLLABORATE WITH LOCAL AND STATEWIDE SYSTEMS THAT ARE CRUCIAL TO PREVENTING AND ENDING HOMELESSNESS

Strategy	Champion	Completion Goal	Progress
<p>Strategy 5: Increase by 15% the number of eligible households experiencing homelessness enrolled in financial supports (TANF, SNAP, Medicaid, SSI/SSDI, etc.) by increasing the number of homeless service providers who are MI Bridges community partners & SOAR specialists, & fostering partnerships between HARAs & local MDHHS offices</p>	MDHHS	September 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Looking to get feedback from CoCs about experiences with MI Bridges & engaging with local MDHHS offices Looking to expand SOAR through behavioral health homes & tribal centers Compiling results of interviews with shelter staff about client access to BH, physical health, MDHHS offices & benefits
<p>Strategy 6: Increase households connected to employment supports by creating assessment & referral processes in 2 CoCs to workforce & other income services by HARAs, emergency shelters, & housing providers</p>	MSHDA	September 2025	MSHDA planning to begin exploring through 2024 ESG application process
<p>Strategy 7: Collaborate with representatives from the justice system to create equitable discharge planning processes for people exiting the justice system into homelessness</p>	MDOC	December 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Therapeutic Case Management code created for FQHCs & others to bill Medicaid for case management services for people exiting jail/prison MSHDA increased allocation of HCVs to MDOC from 200 to 400 MDOC digging into data on Offender Success program to identify enhancements & working on MDOC/HMIS data match to understand population exiting prison into homelessness
<p>Strategy 8: Collaborate with representatives from the foster care system to create equitable discharge planning processes for youth exiting foster care into homelessness</p>	MDHHS	December 2025	Relationship building happening between Housing & Homeless Services Division and Child Welfare Division at MDHHS



GOAL 4: IMPROVE EQUITY WITHIN THE HOMELESS SYSTEM & REDUCE RACIAL DISPARITIES AMONG HOUSEHOLDS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

Strategy	Champion	Completion Goal	Progress
Strategy 1: Promote broader adoption of approaches that are culturally-specific, person-centered, and trauma-informed by creating ways to evaluate quality of services and providing standards, guidance, and support for homeless service providers	MHPC	Report annually	Some progress made through increased focus in RFPs on person-centered & trauma-informed care; much more work to be done
Strategy 2: Address capacity challenges (eg. staff turnover, equitable wages) among homeless service providers & CoC lead agencies by investing in capacity building among individual agencies in 2-3 CoCs	MHPC	September 2023	Capacity building happening through new funding opps. (eg. MDHHS SH services, MSHDA shelter diversion, etc.)
Strategy 3: Determine new tool(s) to replace the VI-SPDAT that help create equity and address disparities in coordinated entry	MHPC	December 2023	MHPC developed strategy based on <u>recommendations from C4</u> and forming workgroup to plan pilot structure
Strategy 4: Implement recommendations provided by C4 at both state and CoC levels	ICH/ MHPC	December 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CoCs developed action plans <u>Recommendations</u> for state-level work provided by C4; action plan to be developed in early 2024
Strategy 5: Revise at least 5 policies & procedures at state & local levels based on the use of REIA tools & review of quantitative & qualitative data disaggregated by race; incorporate human centered design where applicable Implement recommendations provided by C4 at both state and CoC levels	ICH/ MHPC	July 2024	ICH members prioritized <u>policies and programs</u> to enhance/revise, are digging into data, and starting to engage more broadly around each one



GOAL 5: AUTHENTICALLY ENGAGE PEOPLE WITH LIVED EXPERIENCE OF HOMELESSNESS (PWLE), ESPECIALLY IN THE FORM OF ONGOING PARTNERSHIPS RATHER THAN TIME-LIMITED, ONE-SIDED ENGAGEMENTS

Strategy	Champion	Completion Goal	Progress
<p>Strategy 1: Host opportunities (ie. focus groups/listening sessions/ learning collaboratives) at least twice a year for stakeholders to hear updates on state work, share insights on local work, & work together with state entities on funding & policy</p>	<p>ICH/ MHPC</p>	<p>Report bi-annually</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CoC Leadership meetings re-convened – <u>10/2, 12/4</u> MCTEH staff hosted Action Plan <u>progress report webinar</u>; will host another in 2024
<p>Strategy 2: Incentivize and invest in organizations and CoCs that are hiring people with lived homelessness experience (PWLE) and creating peer-support positions</p>	<p>MDHHS/ MSHDA</p>	<p>September 2023</p>	<p>Increased focus in RFPs (ie. ESP & ESG) on PWLE engagement/compensation/hiring to gather baseline; looking to learn from agencies doing this well already</p>
<p>Strategy 3: Restructure membership of the Michigan Homeless Policy Council (MHPC) to be representative of the population experiencing homelessness in Michigan</p>	<p>MHPC</p>	<p>July 2023</p>	<p>New structure adopted by ICH in December to launch in January 2024</p>
<p>Strategy 4: Ensure adequate funding & payment mechanisms to compensate PWLE for their work at state & local levels</p>	<p>MCAH</p>	<p>July 2023</p>	<p>Compensation plan adopted by MHPC for PWLE serving on MHPC; continuing to explore funding sources that will provide adequate and consistent resources for compensation at state & local levels</p>
<p>Strategy 5: Ensure accessibility for participation from PWLE by accommodating for transportation, technology, and other needs at state & local levels</p>	<p>MCAH</p>	<p>July 2023</p>	<p>See Strategy 4; continuing additional research and planning</p>



GOAL 6: AUTHENTICALLY ENGAGE PEOPLE WITH LIVED EXPERIENCE OF HOMELESSNESS (PWLE), ESPECIALLY IN THE FORM OF ONGOING PARTNERSHIPS RATHER THAN TIME-LIMITED, ONE-SIDED ENGAGEMENTS

Strategy	Champion	Completion Goal	Progress
Strategy 1: Increase transparency by making funding allocations and performance metrics for housing and services within the homeless response system available publicly	ICH/ MHPC	Report annually	<u>Reporting template</u> created; MSHDA & MDHHS working to complete & publish
Strategy 2: Assess funding administered by state-level public funders (ie. MSHDA, MDHHS, MDE, etc.) for equity, comparing to demographic data and per capita homeless data statewide in order to understand and address disparities in funding	ICH/ MHPC	May 2024	No progress to report
Strategy 3: Develop and implement a Statewide Data Strategy & Governance Model focused on improving reporting, enhancing data quality/completeness, and supporting cross-sector data sharing/matching to drive multi-sector system alignment and more innovative solutions to homelessness (focus to extend beyond HMIS and incorporate adjacent systems such as Health, Justice, Child Welfare, etc.)	ICH/ MHPC	December 2024	Data Governance Committee created documents to guide data integration efforts at state & local levels; reviewing feedback from Dr. Dennis Culhane (contracted to support data governance work) and awaiting review from legal staff prior to finalizing/circulating

Definitions	
Champion	The entity(s) responsible for ensuring work moves forward relative to a strategy and that all necessary parties are informed of progress.
Continuum of Care (CoC)	Regional or local planning body that coordinates housing and services funding for households experiencing homelessness.
Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC)	Tax incentive for housing developers to construct, purchase, or renovate affordable housing.
Supportive Housing	Non time-limited affordable housing paired with person-centered supportive services.
Moving On/Up	A program that supports a tenant in Supportive Housing to transition to an alternative long-term subsidy when they need a continued housing subsidy, but are no longer in need of continued supportive services.
Race Equity Impact Assessment (REIA)	A systematic examination of how different racial and ethnic groups will likely be affected by a proposed action or decision.
VI-SPDAT	A pre-screening or triage tool designed to help inform prioritization of resources within CoCs.

