



MI Health Link

JULY 2024 BULLETIN



Monthly Spotlight:

Disability Pride Month

Disability Pride Month is celebrated every July to honor the history, achievements, experiences, and struggles of the disability community. This began when The Americans with

Disabilities Act (ADA), became law on July 26, 1990, this was a landmark legislation that broke down barriers to inclusion in society.

People with disabilities deserve to live full, self-determined lives, just like everyone else. Yet discrimination persists for the 1 in 4 U.S. adults living with a disability. That's why it is important to share and spotlight inspiring stories in July and beyond that show what's possible with inclusion.

The theme for 2024 is "We Want a Life Like Yours" and this comes from The Arc's National Council of Self-Advocates. The theme reflects the disability community's dreams for life experiences that they are too often denied.

Below is a list of ways and resources to celebrate this month and share awareness:

1. Learn About the Disability Experience:

- Meet People With Disabilities: [Visit our story hub](#) and [read this Good Housekeeping article](#) that shines a light on what people with disabilities want society to know. The more we listen to people with disabilities and share their truths, the more we can drive positive change!
- Learn About Disability Rights in the United States: The treatment of people with disabilities throughout our history is marked by segregation, discrimination, and attacks on their basic human rights. Learn about key moments from [UC Berkley's archive on disability rights](#), as well as [The Arc's history](#). We also encourage you to watch and read media that has been created by and with people with disabilities, such as [Crip Camp](#), [CODA](#), [Demystifying Disability](#), and [Disability Visibility](#).

2. Take Action:

- Reach Out to Your Elected Officials: Educate your elected officials about policies that harm or strengthen the quality of life of people with disabilities. Make sure you bookmark [The Arc's Action Center](#) for timely alerts!
- Donate to The Arc: For nearly 75 years, The Arc has been at the forefront of positive change in disability rights. [Donate to join the grassroots movement](#) that is creating policy, programs, and possibilities for people with disabilities.

3. Teach Your Kids to Acknowledge and Include Disabled People:

- Help foster inclusion for future generations of people with disabilities. Here are age-appropriate tips from [TODAY.com](#), [HuffPost](#), and [Cincinnati Children's](#).

4. Attend a Disability Pride Month Event in Your Area! Lansing will be hosting a Disability Pride Month Celebration on Friday, July 26th. Click [here](#) for more details and information.

The MI Health Link Program is dedicated to improving lives of individuals with disabilities. Our program provides home and community based services to assist individuals with the tools to live as independently as possible. Services include assistive technology, environmental modifications, expanded community living supports, and many others. The MI Health Link team is proud to serve this population and celebrate their many achievements. Click [here](#) to learn more about the MI Health Link program.

Program and Policy Notes

MI Health Link Program, Contractual, Policy Requirements and Highlights

Person Centered Planning

Person-centered planning (PCP) is a process for selecting and organizing the services and supports that an older adult or person with a disability may need to live in the community. Most important, it is a process that is directed by the person who receives the support. It is an expectation that care coordinators utilize the person centered process for all beneficiaries in the MI Health Link program to better serve our members.

PCP helps the person construct and articulate a vision for the future, consider various paths, engage in decision-making and problem solving, monitor progress, and make needed adjustments in a timely manner. It highlights individual responsibility, including taking appropriate risks (for example, whether arranging for back-up staff is needed). Emergency planning is often part of the process.

The PCP approach identifies the person's strengths, goals, medical needs, needs for home- and community-based services, and desired outcomes. The approach also identifies the person's preferences in areas such as recreation, transportation, friendships, therapies and treatments, housing, vocational training and employment, family relationships, and social activities. Unique factors such as culture and

language also are addressed. These elements are included in a written plan for supporting the person, which is developed based on those considerations.

The process may include a representative who was freely chosen by the person, and who may or may not be authorized to make personal or health decisions for the person. The person-centered planning process also should include family members, legal guardians, friends, caregivers, and others the person or his/her representative wishes to include. The role of agency workers, such as options counselors, support brokers, and social workers, in this process is to enable and assist people to identify and access the services they need and to provide support during planning. **PCP should involve the individuals receiving services and supports to the maximum extent possible, even if the person has a legal representative.** Click [here](#) to learn more.



Beneficiary Health and Welfare:

Elder Abuse in Indian Country

It is estimated that the number of American Indian and Alaska Native elders 65 and older will increase from 13 percent in 2013 to 20 percent by 2030. As the population of elders grows, so does abuse and neglect.

Traditionally, American Indian elders have held a place of honor for their wisdom, experience and cultural knowledge. However, according to the National Indian Council on Aging, this is changing in some tribal communities and abuse and neglect is occurring more frequently. A need to increase training about elder abuse, the lack of codes addressing elder abuse issues and lack of policies and procedures for tribal agencies handling elder abuse and neglect issues were areas tribal leaders from across the country have identified as challenges in addressing elder abuse and neglect on reservations. Another challenge is many tribes do not have their own specialized elder protective services to report abuse or neglect to or there are insufficient resources for a response if a report was made.

There are many forms of elder abuse such as physical, emotional, sexual, neglect, and financial. Native American elders may also experience spiritual abuse, which includes being denied access to ceremonies or traditional healing. Spirituality is

deeply rooted within the Native American Culture and denying someone of that right is considered abuse.

It's important when working with Native American individuals to be culturally sensitive when communicating and asking questions related to abuse, neglect or exploitation.

Ways to ask about abuse and neglect include:

- Are you being disrespected? If so, in what ways?
- Has anyone hurt you?
- Are you afraid of anyone?
- Is anyone taking your things without your permission?
- Are you being bothered? If so, in what ways?

Michigan Native American Elder Justice Initiatives Hotline Resource Page. [State & Tribal Hotlines | International Association for Indigenous Aging \(iasquared.org\)](#) This link will provide a list of both tribal and state hotlines dedicated to address abuse, neglect and exploitation within Native communities.

Education and Support Opportunities

Rediscovering Dementia: Unveiling Surprising Truths and Innovations

Tuesdays beginning July 30th through August 27th, 2024 1:00PM

'Rediscovering Dementia,' is a groundbreaking webinar series led by individuals living with dementia who are set to challenge stigma, debunk myths, and pave the way for hope. Participants will gain unique insights and firsthand perspectives on navigating life with dementia, exploring innovative approaches, and reshaping narratives from those who truly understand. Click [here](#) to register and learn more.

Documentation in Behavioral Healthcare

Tuesday August 13th, 2024 12:00PM

This learning opportunity is brought to you by Michigan Center for Rural Health. Participants will report an increase in knowledge of documenting the client's episode of care to create a complete record of care, demonstrate medical necessity, and demonstrate the effectiveness of treatment. Click [here](#) to register and learn more.



Resource Link:

New Know Your Rights Resource for LGBTQI + Older Adults

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office for Civil Rights (HHS OCR) recently created a new resource to help LGBTQI+ older adults and advocates understand and enforce their rights when receiving health and long-term care. The [LGBTQI+ Older Adults – Know Your Rights Resource Guide](#) explains how recently updated regulations implementing the Health Care Rights Law (Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, HIPAA, and grants to HHS-funded programs reinforce important protections and prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex—including sexual orientation, gender identity, sex characteristics, and sex stereotypes—and on the basis of disability, including HIV.

The Guide also explains how to file a complaint with HHS OCR and how LGBTQI+ older adults can get assistance addressing discrimination and other issues with accessing services through the Legal Services for Older Americans Program, Long-term Care Ombudsman, and Protection & Advocacy Agencies (P&As).

As noted in the Guide, the [National Center on Law and Elder Rights \(NCLER\)](#), administered by Justice in Aging, provides resource support for advocates and aging network professionals working with older adults, including the LGBTQI+ community. Check out [NCLER's equity resources](#).



Q & A: Your Questions About MI Health Link

If you have a question about the MHL program we want to hear from you. We will work to get you the information you need.

Q: Where should I reach out for information on previous MI Health Link trainings and future opportunities?

A: For information on quarterly trainings please contact the Waiver Team at MDHHS-MHL-Waiver@michigan.gov. Thank you!

Please send any questions for future bulletins to Integratedcare@michigan.gov.

Topic Submission

If you have suggestions for topics to be addressed in future additions of the MI Health Link Bulletin, please send them to Integratedcare@michigan.gov



Quick Links

[MI Health Link Website](#)

[CMS Financial Alignment Website](#)

[MI Health Link Minimum Operating Standards](#)

[MDHHS Medicaid Provider Manual](#)

Previously Released MHL Bulletins

Previously released MI Health Link Bulletins can be found by visiting the [MI Health Link Website](#).

[Become a foster parent through Michigan Department of Health & Human Services foster care program.](#)



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