



MI HEALTH LINK

Linking Medicare and Medicaid for you
Bulletin March 2023



Meet the MI Health Link Team: Gayle Haven

Greetings! I am Gayle Haven, Departmental Specialist, assigned to work for the Director of the Integrated Care Division, Pam Gourwitz. My role encompasses service on a variety of EVV and developmental workgroups, coordinating the monthly Operations Planning Meeting, monitoring the Integrated Care Mailbox and redesign and maintenance of the MI Health Link website.

My education includes an A.A.S. in Office Administration, a B.S. in Business Administration (Ferris State) and a Master's in the Arts of Education (Bellarmine University, Louisville, KY, Kappa Delta Pi). Service as the Project Director for the Money Follows the Person Program provided more than seven years of experience

in grant administration, federal reporting, benchmarking, financial contract amendments, supervision of housing and outreach specialists, coordination of annual training conferences, and facilitation of stakeholder engagement. Work experience was gained as an At-Risk Population Program Coordinator for Public Health Preparedness in KY. This experience helped refine effective outreach and community mobilization activities with an emphasis on reaching under-served populations. Professional achievements include leading KY to meet 100% TFAH FY assessment requirements, development of the KY Functional Needs Collaborative and charter, and development of the Public Health Preparedness Newsletter. As a Partnership Specialist for the US Department of Commerce, I exceeded the Complete Count Committee formation goal by 208% by forming and training 25 committees and formulating improved participation strategies resulting in an 8% increased participation rate in assigned counties. I have worked as a Departmental Analyst for the MI Bureau of Driver Improvement and as a Supervisor for the Bureau of Branch Office Services. As a supervisor of 19 staff, I reduced staffing expenses by 18% and met production/staffing/quality goals quarterly for each year of employment. As a teacher, I led students to achieve the highest PAS Math Scores for the grade. Awards include MSA Formal Recognition for a Streamlined Process, US Department of Commerce Shooting Star Award for surpassing regional, county, and state goals, the US Department of Commerce Complete Count Committee Formation Award and award of a performance bonus.

My family includes three adult children, three grands, and my Cavalier King Charles Spaniel, Dabblers Macrae. My hobbies include anything water related, reading (Greg Iles, Harlan Coben are favorites), crafting, gardening, travel, animals, and riding motorcycles. When not working, I can frequently be found on Lake Huron or on the family farm in Alpena.

A more cohesive team cannot be found outside of MI Health Link. Our team members are truly dynamic, hard-working, and very committed to serving the LTSS community. Watching and participating in program growth will be exciting!

-Gayle

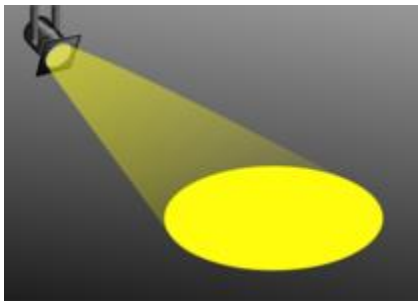
Program and Policy Notes

MI Health Link Program, Contractual, Policy Requirements and Highlights

Federal Covid-19 Public Health Emergency to End

MDHHS Policy Crosswalk

On February 10, 2023 the Department of Health and Human Services (DHS) announced that the federal Covid-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE) will end May 11, 2023. During the PHE many changes were made to the Michigan Medicaid program's eligibility, administration, and policies to ease rules for providers and prevent Medicaid beneficiaries from losing their healthcare coverage. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) is working to finalize relevant policy changes. A PHE unwind policy crosswalk table has been developed that identifies bulletins and L letters that were issued in response to the COVID 19 emergency and crosswalks them to the bulletins or L letters that unwind the corresponding policy post PHE. The table will be updated frequently as new policies and letters are issued. It is located [here](#).



MI Health Link Service Spotlight: Respite Care

Respite care services are provided on a short-term, intermittent basis to relieve the enrollee's family or other primary caregiver(s) from daily stress and care demands during times when they are providing unpaid care. In the MI Health Link (MHL) program respite care services are available to those that qualify as both a supplemental benefit and a waiver service. This means that MHL members that reside in the community and do not meet nursing facility level of care are able to receive respite services, in addition to those beneficiaries enrolled in MHL on the home and community-based services waiver that do meet nursing facility level of care. Respite may be provided in the enrollee's home, the home of another, or in a licensed Adult Foster Care, Home for the Aged facility, or nursing facility. Respite may include the cost of room and board if the service is provided in a licensed Adult Foster Care home, licensed Home for the Aged, or nursing facility. In order to qualify for respite care an individual must require continual supervision or require a substitute caregiver while their primary caregiver needs relief or is otherwise unavailable. Additionally, the individual must have difficulty performing or be unable to perform activities of daily living without assistance. The full respite care service standard specifications may be found in the MHL Minimum Operating Standards [here](#).

Education and Support Opportunities

Communication Techniques for those Living with Dementia

April 5th, 2023 12:00-1:00pm

Michigan Center for Rural Health's April Geriatrics Grand Round will be presented by Linda Keilman, DNP. This continuing education opportunity will assist with improving and learning how to best communicate with those living with dementia. For more information and to register click [here](#).

Taboo Topics: Helping Adult Children Discuss Tough Subjects with Their Parents courtesy of Oasis Senior Advisors

April 11th, 2023

This seminar will be presented by Jennifer Fitzpatrick and will cover strategies on guiding the caregiver to sensitively handle taboo topics. This program will assist professionals in mediating between adult children and seniors, as well as identifying when it is necessary for an adult child to take a more authoritative role while respecting self-determination. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

Michigan Mental Health and Aging 34th Conference

May 16th-17th 2023

The Michigan Health and Aging Project (MHAP) brings the 34th Mental Health and Aging Conference. MHAP has offered education, training, and consultation for clinicians in Michigan's community mental health (CMH) system who provide services for older adults. The project also assists individuals in the aging network and other service systems who work with older adults with mental illness, dementia, and/or developmental disabilities in a wide variety of settings. There is a fee associated with this conference. For details on registration please click [here](#).

Save the Date: 6th Annual Older Adult Mental Health Awareness Day Symposium

Mark your calendars for May 11th to join the 6th Annual Older Adult Mental Health Awareness Day Symposium! This free, all-day, virtual event will feature an engaging plenary, informative sessions, and a diverse array of topics addressing the most pressing mental health needs in older adults.

Who should attend?

Public health practitioners, professionals in the aging network, mental health providers, health care professionals, and anyone interested in ensuring the mental health of older adults. In partnership with the [E4 Center of Excellence for Behavioral Health Disparities in Aging](#), the National Council on Aging will be offering continuing education for several disciplines. The symposium is brought to you by the [National Council on Aging](#), [ACL](#), the [Health Resources and Services Administration](#), and the [Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration](#).

Looking for Continuing Education opportunities? Check these programs and websites for upcoming events in 2023:

[Generations Health Education](#)

[Michigan Center for Rural Health](#)



Beneficiary Health and Welfare

We've all heard the saying, "see something, say something". This is more than a saying; it is requirement if you are a mandated reporter in the State of Michigan. It can be difficult to report abuse, neglect or exploitation of an individual and can feel like you're getting into someone else's business, but it can make a difference in that person's life and prevent further maltreatment. A mandated reporter is a person who is employed, licensed, registered, or certified to provide health care, educational, social welfare, mental health, or other human services. Documentation is critical to reporting exactly what you've heard and/or seen. Immediately report the alleged abuse to Adult Protective Services (APS) and provide **WHAT** you observed, **WHEN** you observed the incident, **WHERE** the incident occurred, **WHO** was present during the incident and any other pertinent information to substantiate the allegation. Abuse, neglect, or exploitation of

a vulnerable adult can be reported 24 hours a day 7 days a week by calling the centralized intake hotline at 855-444-3911.

Mandatory reporters may be concerned with possible consequences of reporting abuse, neglect and exploitation, such as remaining confidential. The Good Faith Clause of the Social Welfare Act 280 of 1939 protects the identity of the person making the report. The clause provides "immunity from civil liability," which protects those who make a referral to APS from being sued. The clause also protects the individual from retaliation, including being fired from his/her job. For more information click [here](#).

There are consequences in the State of Michigan if you are a mandated reporter and know of suspected abuse, and do not report it to the appropriate agency. It is possible if a mandatory reporter fails to report to APS the person may be sued for damages and could also be liable for a civil fine of up to \$500. There are also potential licensing penalties for failure to report the abuse. Learn more [here](#) about mandatory reporting in Michigan.



Resource Link:

The Arc Michigan

March is Developmental Disability Awareness month and in order to celebrate the abilities of people with developmental disabilities in our state we would like to highlight an important program to our state, The Arc Michigan.

The mission statement of The Arc Michigan is "to ensure that people with Developmental Disabilities are valued in order that they and their families can participate fully in and contribute to their community." The Arc is a nationwide organization that was founded in the 1950's by parents that wanted more supports in place to help their children with developmental disabilities. This organization was the first to fund research on intellectual and developmental disabilities. Since its inception The Arc has had countless advocacy and policy achievements to better support the lives of those living with developmental disabilities.

Below is a list of several current endeavors of The ARC:

- Provide leadership
- Support and enhance local Arc efforts
- Support governmental advocacy at the local, state, and national level
- Coordinate state advocacy efforts

- Influence governmental agencies and policymakers in Michigan and at the national level
- Promote autonomy and self-determination
- Promote the value and potential of all people
- Advocate for inclusion of and participation by individuals with disabilities in their communities
- Promote high quality services
- Provide training for parents and professionals

Please click [here](#) to learn more about The Arc's history, current projects, and resources they have available.

Health Equity Focus Group Participation

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) is completing a project to assess how easy it is to access Medicaid home and community-based services and what challenges individuals have experienced in obtaining services. The Medicaid home and community-based services included in this project are:

- Home Health
- Home Care
- MI Health Link
- MI Health Choice
- PACE
- Help Health Link Waiver

Your thoughts and experiences are important. We want to hear from individuals that receive and provide Medicaid home and community-based services, as well as community partners, advocates, family members, and caregivers. If you are interested in joining a discussion and sharing your ideas about home and community-based services complete the interest form [here](#). Eligible participants will receive a \$30 gift card for joining.

Please contact Ogechi Nwaopara with any questions at MDHHS-HASA-HCBSHealthEquity@michigan.gov.



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 can I learn more about Michigan Medicaid's definition of nursing facility level of care?

A: Individuals seeking Medicaid reimbursed long-term services and supports such as MI Health Link waiver services must meet the nursing facility level of care. The criteria that determines nursing facility level of care is outlined in the Michigan Medicaid Nursing Facility Level of Care Determination (NFLOCD). The NFLOCD tool, field definition guidelines, policy and process aids and additional helpful resources are maintained on the [MDHHS NFLOCD website](#). Additionally, the NFLOCD chapter of the [Michigan Medicaid Provider manual](#) is a good resource.

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.



Questions? [Contact Us](#)

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