



MI Health Link

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***MAY 2024 BULLETIN***

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**Monthly Spotlight:**

***May is Mental Health  
Awareness Month***

Mental Health Awareness month is observed in the month of May to raise awareness and reduce stigma about mental health issues around the world. In the United States, 1 in 5 adults experience mental illness each year. Mental

health conditions include mental disorders and psychosocial disabilities that are not always easily recognized.

In 2023, the State of Michigan launched a Mental Health in the Workplace hub to share resources and strategies to help employees and employers across the state address mental health in the workplace. There is also a statewide implementation of the national "988," an easy to remember three-digit suicide and crisis hotline as part of the [Michigan Crisis and Access Line \(MiCAL\)](#). The State of Michigan prioritizes mental health and safety by investing in resources and facilities to help people recognize and respond to mental health challenges.

Governor Gretchen Whitmer proclaims [May as Mental Health Awareness Month](#). Governor Whitmer expanded on her many efforts to support mental health awareness and stated in her [proclamation](#) "mental health allows us to maintain relationships, take care of ourselves and our families, take care of our physical bodies, and respond and adapt to daily life changes."

For more Mental Health Awareness Month resources, visit the following:

- [About Mental Health \(cdc.gov\)](#)
- [Mental Health and Substance Use State Fact Sheets: Michigan | KFF](#)
- [MichiganStateFactsSheet.pdf \(nami.org\)](#)
- [Behavioral Health Services in Michigan | CDC](#)
- [LEO - Mental Health in the Workplace \(michigan.gov\)](#)



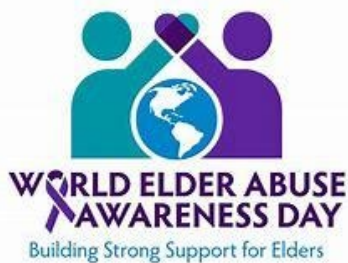
## MI Health Link Team News:

### ***Welcome the Waiver Monitoring & Federal Reporting Section Manager***

There have been some exciting changes to the MI Health Link team in recent weeks with the addition of a newly formed Integrated Programs Waiver Monitoring and Federal Reporting Section in the Integrated Care Division within the Bureau of Aging, Community Living, and Supports. This new section is being managed by Karen Everhart in the role of Waiver

Monitoring and Federal Reporting Section Manager. Karen and her team will lead federal reporting and waiver management activities on behalf of MI Health Link.

Many know Karen from her previous work on the team as the MI Health Link and DSNP Policy Specialist where she has played a pivotal part in the program's development. Karen has nearly seven years of experience and knowledge from her time as the policy waiver specialist to bring to her new role. She has extensive prior healthcare industry supervisory experience and holds both a bachelor's degree in social work and a master's degree in healthcare administration. Please welcome Karen to her new role!



## Beneficiary Health and Welfare:

### *World Elder Abuse Awareness Day*

**World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD)** was launched on June 15, 2006 by the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse and the World Health Organization at the United Nations. The purpose of

WEAAD is to provide an opportunity for communities around the world to promote a better understanding of abuse and neglect of older people by raising awareness of the cultural, social, economic and demographic processes affecting elder abuse and neglect. In addition, WEAAD is in support of the United Nations International Plan of Action acknowledging the significance of elder abuse as a public health and human rights issue. In a society that values the just treatment of all people, WEAAD reminds us that elder abuse has implications for all of us, and so it's important to find the right solutions to it. WEAAD is a call-to-action for society's individuals, organizations, and communities to educate each other on how to identify, address and prevent abuse so we can all do our part to support everyone as we age.

Over the last year, approximately 1 in 6 people aged 60 and older have experienced some form of abuse. It's time to reduce and/or eliminate these alarming statistics and create change to protect older adults in our communities. It is a human right to be treated with dignity and respect regardless of age, race, ethnicity, gender and religion. Elder abuse impacts everyone, not just the older adult. It is up to all of us to address the growing issue of elder abuse.

Click [here](#) to learn how you can take action on this World Elder Abuse Awareness Day.

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## Education and Support Opportunities

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### World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) Webinar:

[\*Decision-making in Later Life: Navigating Risk and Optimizing Safety\*](#)

**Tuesday June 11th, 2024 1:00PM**

Risk-taking is a fundamental function of decision-making. We all have the right to take risks and make choices that give our lives meaning. However, our ability to participate in activities that carry risk often comes under scrutiny, particularly if we experience physical, cognitive, mental health, or functional decline in later life. Diminished decisional capacity can be a risk factor for abuse. This webinar will address how older adults and elder justice professionals navigate the assessment, management, mitigation, and acceptance of risk that may expose older adults to abuse or harm. Click [here](#) to register and learn more.

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### Treatment Planning in Behavioral Healthcare

**Tuesday June 11th, 2024 12:00PM**

This learning opportunity is brought by Michigan Center for Rural Health. Participants of this session will report an increase in knowledge on writing an individualized, evidence-based treatment plan that guides the client's treatment, using the assessment in the creation of the treatment plan, monitoring progress throughout treatment, and how the treatment plan relates to the discharge planning process. Click [here](#) to register and learn more.

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### Why Weight on Nutrition?

**Thursday June 13th, 2024 12:00PM**

This learning opportunity is brought by Michigan Center for Rural Health. Participants of this session will be able to state increased knowledge of practical strategies to

promote weight-inclusive care to enhance and support health and wellbeing. Click [here](#) to register and learn more.

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## Resource Link:

### *Michigan Activity Pass*

As we get closer to summer and the beautiful weather that comes with it, we sometimes think of all the summer plans. Some may be to explore the country and world, but many of us will be exploring our great state of Michigan. We all know the amazing things that are here in Michigan, did you know that there are free or discounted activities around Michigan just by having a library card or EBT card? There is a vast array of museums, outdoor recreation, and experiences included in these lists a short drive away from every part of Michigan.



If you or someone you know has a local library card, you can click [here](#) to explore the long list of museums, outdoor recreation, and experiences all over the state of Michigan.

If you or someone you know has an EBT card, you can visit [here](#) to explore the museums offering reduced or free admission around the country. There are a variety of options regarding the type of museum, including children's museums, art museums, cultural museums, garden spaces, and zoos – even Greenfield Village in Dearborn!

Enjoy the upcoming summer months and take the time to learn a little bit more about the state of Michigan and it's many offerings.

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## 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: I've heard that MI Health Link (MHL) Providers will need to begin utilizing Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) for personal care services in September 2024. Where can I learn more about that project?**

**A: Yes, MHL providers will need to begin utilizing EVV for personal care services including state plan personal care, Expanded Community Living Supports (ECLS) and respite services effective 9/3/2024. For more information please visit the [MDHHS EVV website](#).**

Please send any questions for future bulletins to [Integratedcare@michigan.gov](mailto:Integratedcare@michigan.gov).

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## 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](mailto:Integratedcare@michigan.gov)



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## 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](#).

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



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