

January 2024



## Launch of Phase III of MDHHS Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) Strategy

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Policy and Planning Office is excited to announce the release of Phase III of the statewide SDOH Strategy: The Innovation Phase.

Phase III of the SDOH Strategy represents a pivotal juncture where the achievements of Phase I and Phase II converge into a cohesive framework. Building on the success of the initial phase, which prioritized critical areas such as food security, housing stability, and health equity, Phase III signifies a progression in our commitment to holistic well-being.

The success of Phase II, featuring structural interventions like community information exchange (CIE), the integration of community health workers (CHWs), and strategic partnerships for health equity, forms a robust foundation upon which Phase III builds. This latest phase synthesizes

insights gained from earlier efforts, incorporating feedback from diverse partners, and employs a collaborative, community-driven approach to address emerging challenges.

### Phase III Priorities:

1. Launch innovative **SDOH Hubs** to foster collaboration and innovation and support community-driven initiatives.
2. Align efforts across sectors utilizing a **Health in All Policies (HiAP) approach** to integrate and articulate health considerations into policymaking.
3. Build on health equity partnerships to **close the gap** in disparate health outcomes and advance health equity.

The Innovation Phase sets the stage for meaningful progress and collaboration, with a focus on pioneering solutions to address the evolving needs and aspirations of Michigan's diverse communities. [Click here to read the full Phase III of the SDOH Strategy.](#)



Governor Whitmer has proclaimed January 2024 as **Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) Month** in Michigan. Throughout the month of January, efforts have been shared from organizations across Michigan that are working on improving health by addressing SDOH. Information and activities that support awareness and promote collective action around SDOH have also been shared on all MDHHS social media platforms ([Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [LinkedIn](#)).

Please join us in observing SDOH Month during the last half of January by sharing efforts that address SDOH in your community on social media using the hashtag: #MISDOHMonth2024

### Community Health Worker (CHW) Efforts Update

The Community Health Worker (CHW) Subcommittee, in partnership with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Policy and Planning Office, released its final report detailing 24 recommendations that create a supportive environment for the CHW workforce to thrive and make a significant impact on improving health equity and enhancing community well-being. As these recommendations are implemented, MDHHS recognizes the need for agility and adaptability in the face of ever-evolving community needs. This will allow space for continued

### Important Dates

- **January 23- 26** The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Social Determinants of Health Summit will be held January 23- 26, 2024. The live virtual session will take place January 23-25 with a half day in-person

discussions with partners across sectors to ensure implementation of these recommendations is impactful and sustainable.

[Click here to read the final report.](#)

To support implementation of these recommendations, the MDHHS Policy and Planning team is convening a CHW Advisory Council to promote, support, and advance the role of CHWs by advising on the development of policies impacting the CHW workforce. This council will serve as a platform for collaboration, information exchange, and advocacy. The council is currently being seated and will convene for its inaugural meeting on February 26, 2024.

reception on January 26. Registration has closed.

- **January 30:**  
Webinar: Filling a Program Gap – SDOH Local Programs to Address Water and Plumbing Repair [Click here to Register.](#)

### **CHW Community Feedback Forum**

The CHW-CFF brings together community members – including CHWs – as well as state and local community partners to provide input on policy and program recommendations to support CHW efforts in Michigan. The next CHW-CFF meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 13 from 10:00-11:30am. If you would like to attend, please register below:

[CHW Community Feedback Forum Meeting #3 Registration](#)

If you are interested in receiving additional opportunities to participate in the CHW-CFF, please fill out the interest form below:

[MDHHS CHW Community Feedback Forum Interest Form](#)

Please feel free to forward these links to CHWs and anyone who may be interested in providing input on CHW efforts.

### **Michigan Medicaid CHW Policy**

Effective on January 1, 2024, Michigan Medicaid will begin reimbursing for Community Health Worker (CHW) services provided to Medicaid beneficiaries. CHW providers seeking reimbursement for their professional services to Medicaid beneficiaries are required to be approved on the MI Medicaid CHW Registry and actively enrolled in CHAMPS as a Medicaid provider. View the full policy: [MMP 23-74](#).

MDHHS has created a [CHW Beginner Guide](#) which contains links to resources to walk providers through the processes of obtaining a National Provider Identifier (NPI), applying to be on the MI Medicaid CHW Registry, and enrolling into CHAMPS. Additional CHW resources can be found on the [Medicaid Professional Provider Alerts webpage](#)

MDHHS is in the process of creating a CHW provider-specific website to house CHW information, which will be shared at a later

### **Virtual Fair Housing Hearings**

The Michigan Civil Rights Commission is seeking public testimony about experiences with discrimination in housing. If you have experienced discrimination in buying, renting, home loans, or credit rating processes, this is YOUR chance to be heard! The Commission will use this testimony to create a list of recommendations for securing fair housing in Michigan.

[The virtual fair](#) will take place February 7, 2024 from 4-6 PM.

[Click here to register.](#)

### **Michigan Department of Transportation Survey**

The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is asking for input in keeping Michigan's streets safe and accessible. The Complete Streets policy aims to make streets accessible to all people - regardless of their level of mobility. MDOT is seeking feedback from people

date. Sign up for the CHW [Listserv](#) topic to receive notifications and to stay up to date.

For questions related to CHW policy or the MI Medicaid CHW Registry process contact [msapolicy@michigan.gov](mailto:msapolicy@michigan.gov).

Providers with CHAMPS or Provider Enrollment Application questions should contact Provider Support at 1-800-292-2550 or by email at [ProviderSupport@Michigan.gov](mailto:ProviderSupport@Michigan.gov)

with mobility, visual, hearing, written, or other impairments in particular. To participate in the initiative, [click here and fill out a short survey](#).



## SDOH Month Program

### Spotlight:

#### MATCH Asthma Program

The [MATCH Asthma Program](#) is dedicated to supporting families facing asthma and related challenges in various ways. Their mission revolves around easing the burden of asthma while prioritizing fair health opportunities for all.

Through the program, families can receive vacuums and air cleaners to improve indoor air quality, reducing the risk of asthma triggers. They also assist with food resources and offer guidance on healthy eating habits. The program collaborates with landlords to create homes that are more asthma-friendly, thereby minimizing allergen exposure.

Recognizing the impact of smoking on asthma, the program provides resources and assistance to help individuals quit smoking. They also address mental health by tackling stress factors that can worsen asthma symptoms. Additionally, they guide individuals through the healthcare system to ensure better asthma management.

MATCH operates as a Home-Based asthma service, striving for sustainable services through partnerships with managed care organizations or healthcare payers. While currently funded by grants until September 30th, 2024, they are actively working to

maintain their services beyond that timeframe. To learn more, [visit the MATCH Asthma Website](#).

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



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