



May 2024

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### SDOH Updates

#### Community Information Exchange Micro-Toolkit for Community Based Partners

The MDHHS Policy and Planning Office has launched the first module of the Community Information Exchange Micro-toolkit to support community-based partners in building core capacities to develop and implement community information exchange. The Micro-toolkit will include short, digestible 5-10-min. videos with subject matter experts in the field on core elements of community information exchange, like leveraging resource directory information, overcoming legal barriers to participating in CIE, data privacy and security, and governance, and include connections to curated external resources. The first module covers CIE 101, connecting to state CIE systems and resources, the CIE national landscape, and establishing community partnerships.

You can navigate to the CIE Micro-toolkit on the 2022 Social Determinants of Health Strategy page or [directly here](#). As we develop the CIE Micro-toolkit, the Office of Policy and Planning wants to hear your experience, please share feedback, comments, or concerns [here](#).

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## Community Information Exchange Advisory Committee holds third meeting, invites CIE professionals to CIE Professional Learning Community

The Health Information Technology Commission (HITC) Community Information Exchange Advisory Committee held its third convening to being implementing the recommendations of the 2023 [CIE Task Force](#). At its April convening, advisory committee members discussed designing community engagement strategies for engaging on-the-ground partners in CIE. The committee seeks to co-create an approach to community information exchange that is iterative, inclusive, and empowering to the implementors of CIE. The advisory committee also

heard updates from its social care data governance and business case for community-based organizations workgroups.

The CIE Advisory Committee will launch the Michigan Professional Learning Community (PLC) to create a collaborative space for professionals working on CIE initiatives by fostering knowledge sharing and peer-to-peer learning. The group will focus on learning opportunities, including the CIE Task Force findings and recommendations, project presentations from across the state, and best practices for CIE. The first meeting is May 16, 2-3 p.m.. The PLC will meet monthly through 2024. You can register for the May session and all future sessions [here](#).

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## Good Housing = Good Health Update

Throughout the second quarter of the [Good Housing = Good Health program](#), January 1 – March 31, 2024, local health partners across diverse regions have made significant strides in delivering housing stabilization and social determinant of health support, demonstrating their steadfast commitment to community well-being. Notable progress has been achieved through conducting robust community engagement, extensive relationship building, and providing screenings and referrals, resulting in an increase in housing stability for eligible families. An essential contributor to this success has been the pivotal role played by Community Health Workers (CHWs), who have served as housing navigators, offering invaluable assistance to individuals and households in accessing housing and SDOH resources. Their presence has significantly bolstered the program's efficacy by providing education, referrals, and resource navigation, thereby enriching the housing support network available to vulnerable

populations.

Local health partners have continued their engagement in Community Information Exchange (CIE) initiatives, showcasing significant advancements through strategic partnerships with entities like [211](#), [United Way](#), and [Michigan Social Health Interventions to Eliminate Disparities \(MSHIELD\)](#). These collaborative efforts have yielded substantial outcomes, culminating in the development of innovative platforms that enhance data and resource accessibility for both the community and service providers. Key achievements include the implementation of standardized screening tools, seamless integration of referral processes, and the establishment of community resource portals, all of which have been met with positive reception and have contributed to heightened resource utilization.

Also, MDHHS Policy and Planning Office, in collaboration with state partners, hosted four housing resource webinars to provide local health partners with the tools and knowledge needed to effectively address housing stability and connect families to resources. The webinar topics included utility and energy assistance, housing and homelessness services, lead abatement, and MI Bridges Navigation. These sessions facilitated an exchange of resources, information, and best practices, increasing awareness of available resources to bridge gaps and strengthen the housing network

The Good Housing = Good Health program convened the second quarterly status meeting on April 23, 2024, where local health partners engaged in comprehensive discussions, reaffirming their collective commitment to enhancing community health outcomes through collaborative efforts and innovative approaches. Guest presenters at the meeting provided valuable resources on CIE and smoke-free housing, further enriching the dialogue and expanding the resources available to local health partners. As local health partners navigate the intricate landscape of housing needs and capitalize on emerging opportunities, their dedication to promoting good housing = good health remains paramount. Through collaborative partnerships, innovative initiatives, and commitment to addressing housing instability, local health partners are poised to foster healthier and more resilient communities, ensuring equitable access to vital support systems necessary for thriving.

Members of the MDHHS SDOH Strategy Team, Darien Pipkin and Antoinae Lewis, presented the Good Housing = Good Health project at the Building Michigan Communities Conference on May 15, 2024 (pictured below).



### Corktown LGBTQ+ Health and Social Services Disparities Program

On April 5, 2024 [Corktown Health](#) convened with MDHHS staff to kick-off the Corktown LGBTQ+ Health and Social Services Disparities program. The overarching goal of the program is to counteract the disparities in health and social services experienced by the LGBTQ+ community. The expected expanded services provided within the program includes behavioral health, oral health, social, housing, insurance guidance, name change assistance, advocacy, transportation, utility assistance, technology and security upgrades, infrastructure enhancement, and legal aid.

The next status meeting is schedule for May 21, 2024.

## Community Health Worker Feedback Forum

The Community Health Worker Community Feedback Forum (CHW-CFF) meets quarterly and brings together community members, as well as state and local community partners, to inform policy and program recommendations to support the CHW workforce in Michigan. CHW-CFF advises the State of Michigan and its established CHW

Advisory Council on the development of policies and programs to support and sustain the CHW workforce, including recommendations regarding CHW recruitment, training, retention, capacities, and roles, among other critical considerations.



The fourth CHW-CFF took place on May 14, 2024, and covered updates on the various CHW Initiatives within MDHHS Office of Policy and Planning and engaged in discussion around Innovative CHW programs in Action across the state, and potential solutions to CHW sustainability barriers.

The CHW-CFF is open to CHWs and CHW allies across the state. If you are interested in participating in future forums, [click here to register](#).

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## Community Health Workers Advisory Council

To support implementation of recommendations from the CHW Subcommittee, the MDHHS Policy and Planning Office recently seated the Community Health Workers Advisory Council (CHW-AC).

The most recent CHW-AC meeting was held on April 22, 2024, during which council members discussed two potential strategies to advancing a statewide CHW certification in Michigan. During the meeting the council members engaged in a SWOT (Strength, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) analysis of statewide CHW certification options and will continue to gather information to inform recommendations on certification.

The 20-member Council will meet again on May 28, 2024, from 3:00 – 4:00 pm.

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## SDOH Hubs Update

On May 1, 2024, MDHHS launched Cohort 3 of the [Social Determinants of Health \(SDOH\) Pilot Program](#), completing the launching phase of the program, and fully establishing 14 hub sites around the state of Michigan. On May 14<sup>th</sup>, all the hub sites came together to introduce themselves to each other, in our Bi-Monthly Learning Community Meeting, to discuss barriers, opportunities, and lessons learned as they work to connect with local partners and identify areas

of opportunity to implement community information exchange (CIE), Health in All Policies (HiAP), and community health worker (CHW) initiatives.

With all three cohort sites launched, we are working with our SDOH Hub partners to help connect their efforts with initiatives occurring throughout the state, with the hope of incorporating them within the hubs. We are also looking forward to our next SDOH Advisory Council meeting on June 27 where we plan to further discuss technical assistance strategies to help support the Hubs as they go through their pilot year.

To learn more about the SDOH Hubs, please visit [www.Michigan.gov/SDOH](http://www.Michigan.gov/SDOH)

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## Produce Prescription Pilot Program Update

The Produce Prescription Pilot Program (P4) continues to take shape for the 2024 growing season. P4 Project FY24-25 tribal partners include: [Bay Mills Indian Community](#), [Hannahville Indian Community](#), [Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi](#), and [Pokagon Band of Potawatomi](#). These four tribes will convene on July 31, 2024 for the first of six quarterly status meetings, during which P4 Partners will discuss their P4 programming efforts to spark inspiration and foster greater collaboration. [Grand Traverse Band of the Ottawa and Chippewa Indians](#) is wrapping up their P4 Bridge Funding FY24 project and programming, with a final status meeting scheduled for later in May; GTB is preparing to establish a bison herd on tribal lands by May 31, 2024 to ensure all tribal members have easy access to the traditional food source.



The P4 Project has three objectives: (1) Reduce food insecurity, (2) Improve overall dietary health by increasing fruits, vegetables, and traditional food consumption, and (3) Improve health outcomes for Tribal communities in Michigan. Rooted firmly in the principle of cultural competence, the P4 project aims to tackle nutrition-related health disparities in Michigan Tribal communities while promoting food security and food sovereignty. This 2-year grant project meets quarterly; the first status meeting of the P4 Project FY24-25 will be in late July 2024.

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## SDOH Partner Updates



## MI Medicaid CHW Registry

To join the MI Medicaid CHW Registry, individuals must follow the step by step instructions found here: [Step-by-Step Instructions for Completing an Application to the MI Medicaid CHW Registry](#). As of April 24, 2024, there are nine MDHHS – Approved CHW Training Programs: MiCHWA, Everyday Life Consulting, Indian Health Services, Practice Transformation Institute Community Health Worker (CHW) Program, Meridian Health Plan of Michigan Member Connections Learning Journey, CROWD at SUHI, Institute for Public Health Innovation, Pathways Community Care HUB Institute, and Nation Outside. More information on the MI Medicaid CHW Registry and reimbursement policy can be found here: [Michigan Medicaid CHW Services](#). More information on MiCHWA’s training opportunities for CHWs can be found here: [MiCHWA Medicaid CHW Trainings](#).



## Highlights from the MDHHS ONP Nurse Dissemination Showcase

The MDHHS Office of Nursing Programs (ONP) hosted the Nurse Dissemination Showcase on April 23, 2024, to highlight virtual resources created through ONP grant funding that enhance students' ability to engage in culturally competent clinical nursing practice, further education in social determinants of health and health equity, as well as assess and remediate identified skill gaps. Several distinct and dynamic resources were discussed, including materials addressing health literacy and caring for patients who are deaf or hard of hearing, military veterans, and underserved populations in community settings (i.e., unhoused, homebound, differently abled, adolescent mental health, older adult, Muslim, transgender, infant) to advance cultural humility, empathy, and implicit bias awareness among nursing students and community staff/volunteers. This free event included presentations and breakout sessions discussing the development of materials and utilization of simulation and 360-degree video resources in education. Nursing CEs were available for in-person attendees.

For more information about the ONP and to view resources, visit [Office of Nursing Programs \(michigan.gov\)](https://www.michigan.gov/office-of-nursing-programs).

To subscribe to the ONP monthly newsletter, visit [Michigan Dept of Health & Human Services \(govdelivery.com\)](https://www.michigan.gov/govdelivery).”

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