



Bureau of HIV
and STI Programs

Updates for Our Partners

December 2023

Michigan PrEP Campaign Launching in 2024

Michigan is launching a grassroots marketing campaign to prevent the spread of HIV and empower Michiganders to learn more about pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP). This initiative, titled "MIPrEP. MIChoice." shines a spotlight on real stories from real people across Michigan who are using PrEP to prevent the spread of HIV.

PrEP is a medication that, when taken as prescribed, prevents a person from getting HIV. Taking PrEP can reduce your chances of getting HIV by up to 99 percent for sexual encounters and 74 percent for injection drug use. PrEP can be taken as a daily pill or a bimonthly injection. While we continue to see increases in PrEP utilization here in Michigan, we recognize that there is still unmet need in our communities, especially communities of color. Michigan currently ranks 41st in the nation in terms of PrEP Coverage for those with indications based on CDC estimates.

The campaign highlights nine remarkable individuals from diverse backgrounds with their own reasons on why they use PrEP. Each personal story represents another step towards ending the stigma around HIV and celebrates the diversity, resilience, and empowerment of Michiganders.

The multi-media campaign will feature digital, social media, audio streaming, magazine ads, and posters and palm cards will be placed in bars, restaurants, beauty salons and nail salons throughout Michigan. The campaign will launch in mid-January. In February, posters and palm cards will be available in SHOARS for partners to order.

To learn more about PrEP and the "MIPrEP. MIChoice." campaign, visit Michigan.gov/MIPrEP.

Medicaid to Begin Covering Community Health Worker Services

To help promote preventive care and address health disparities, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) has expanded Medicaid coverage for Michigan beneficiaries to include community health worker (CHW)

services. The new benefit goes into effect **January 1, 2024**.

The new CHW services coverage is complementary to existing Medicaid strategies that already incorporate CHWs, including targeted case management, health homes models and Medicaid Health Plan contract requirements.

For more information, about CHW coverage or other Medicaid policies, visit **2023 Medicaid Policy Bulletins (michigan.gov)**. If you are interested in learning more about this important initiative, **[click here to read the full Press Release](#)**.

New Primer for Providers on Michigan's HIV Laws

Since 1986, the Michigan Legislature has passed a number of statutes regarding human immunodeficiency virus (HIV/AIDS), hepatitis, and other infectious agents. These statutes relate to testing, informed consent, contact notification, and confidentiality, and impose duties on health care professionals providing testing, treatment, and care to people who are, or may be, living with HIV.

BHSP has created a new document, **[Michigan HIV Laws: How They Affect Physicians, Local Health Departments, Community Based Organizations, and Other Health Care Entities and Providers](#)**, that describes the content and nuances of these laws, along with specific citations referencing Michigan's Public Health Code.

Mpox Update from CDC

The CDC **[recently issued a Health Advisory](#)** about recent increased transmission of mpox in the Democratic Republic of Congo. At this time, no formal monitoring is being initiated for returning US travelers, but travel history for suspected mpox cases should be ascertained and clinical specimens from cases can be forwarded to the MDHHS Bureau of Laboratories for further analysis.

MDHHS reminds clinicians that it is important to let patients know that if they think there is any risk of mpox exposure now or in the future, it's better to get the mpox vaccine than mpox itself. Although mpox cases are down in Michigan and the United States, health experts warn that local outbreaks could happen again at any time. Encourage patients that might be at a higher risk of mpox exposure to protect themselves and their communities now and in the future by getting vaccinated. Both providers and patients can find more information about mpox and the free JYNNEOS vaccine, including a vaccine locator tool to find and schedule an appointment with a provider, at **www.michigan.gov/mpox**.

You are receiving this message as a valued partner of Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Bureau of HIV and STI Programs.

If you have questions or believe you received this message in error, please reach out to **MDHHS-SHOARS-Support@Michigan.gov**.

If this e-mail was forwarded to you and you would like to receive updates from MDHHS directly, please sign up [here](#).



Michigan.gov/HIVSTI

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