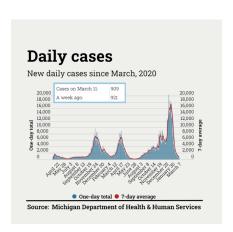
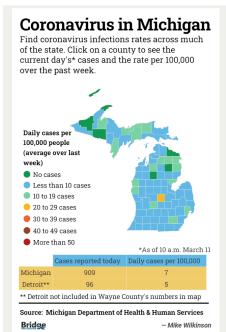


CEO Report March 17, 2022

Hello and good afternoon, it is a Great Day to be a part of the Lakeshore Regional Entity!

1. **Coronavirus Tracker** – As COVID cases dwindle, only 6 out of 83 counties still considered high risk.





2. Michigan Coronavirus Racial Disparities Task Force Report

The report outlines significant progress and policy recommendations in protecting communities of color from the spread of COVID-19.

The first-of-its-kind Michigan Coronavirus Racial Disparities Taskforce released recommendations for collaborative policy, programming and systemic change to protect communities of color from the spread of COVID-19 and create lasting structural change. The report, which provides a progress report on the taskforce's short- and long-term goals, finds that actions taken by the State of Michigan in 2020 and 2021 helped reduce health-based racial disparities in COVID-19 response and deaths.

"Two years later, the successes of the Michigan Coronavirus Racial Disparities Task Force in balancing short-term needs with long- term goals have made it a national model on responding to racial disparities and flattening inequities. But we know there is more work to do – which is why I am proud to join the Task Force in releasing these recommendations to help us chart the way forward. Governor Whitmer and I look forward to continuing to work with the Task Force to protect Michigan communities and save lives." - Lt. Governor Garlin Gilchrist, Chair of the Michigan Coronavirus Racial Disparities Task Force

Recommendations introduced by the Task Force today include:

Strategic testing infrastructure

- Improve racial and ethnic data collection and use to address racial and ethnic disparities.
- Continue to fund neighborhood testing and vaccination sites and mobile health units to provide new and existing health and social services to marginalized communities.
- Require adherence to and monitor compliance of federal requirement to assist with meaningful language access.
- Establish a process and infrastructure to send alerts to key community partners and/or residents regarding COVID-19 infection rates and problem areas

Primary care connections

- Decrease the number of uninsured and underinsured Michiganders.
- Fully leverage Health Information Technology and data to reduce racial health disparities.
- Implement quality criteria to incentivize primary care.
- Maximize the use of school-based clinics for expanded care delivery.
- Educate the public about mental health services.
- Increase inoculation rates across ages through statewide messaging campaigns.

Centering equity workgroup

- Increase culturally competent data collection.
- Support implementation of the Maternal Infant Health & Equity Improvement Plan's (MIHEIP) strategic vision of zero preventable deaths zero health disparities across its six primary priorities.

Additional recommendations

- Reduce COVID-19 exposure risks in environmental justice communities related to air quality.
- Ensure that every home and business in Michigan has access to an affordable, reliable high-speed internet connection that meets their needs.

3. Beacon Contract Update

No updates for Finance or UM

Integrated Healthcare

In February, monthly joint care coordination meetings were held with each of the Medicaid Health Plans that serve this region. During the February meetings, 62 consumers were discussed with their respective MHPs related to their potential or continued benefit from having an interactive care plan within the State's claims database, CC360, and subsequently improving the care they receive and their quality of life, removing barriers, and decreasing unnecessary utilization of crisis services. There were 7 consumers discussed with their MHPs, wherein an interactive care plan was not created, but joint collaboration took place. During February, there were 10 new interactive care plans opened, with agreement by the respective CMHs and Medicaid Health Plans.

Also related to Integrated Healthcare, the LRE Clinical Manager has begun attending the meetings with the MHPs. The Beacon clinical staff that have been performing the integrated healthcare work over the past several years have also met with the Clinical Manager, to provide education and resources around the expectations by MDHHS and the

MHPs. Beacon staff remain available when any questions or concerns arise, as we all work to transition this clinical work back to LRE.

4. Historical Deficit

CEO has been working with legal counsel and finance experts in the behavioral health field to establish next steps to move this process forward. I have reached out to Allen Jansen for clarification regarding recommendations Mr. Jansen made to an LRE Board member. No return email to date.

5. Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Restructuring

A restructuring within MDHHS will ensure that behavioral health services are supported across community-based, residential, and school locations, as well as other settings. The changes will benefit people of all ages, with addressing the needs of children and their families a top priority.

MDHHS also announced the appointment of Farah Hanley as its chief deputy director for health, which has been vacant since last fall. As well as the appointment of Dr. Natasha Bagdasarian to the chief medical executive position on a permanent basis.

In her new position, Ms. Hanley will oversee the new Behavioral and Physical Health and Aging Services (HASA) that is part of the reorganization announced, and the State Hospital Administration. Ms. Hanley, who was MDHHS's acting director in January 2019 during the transition to a new administration, has served as the senior deputy of Financial Operations since 2014. She began her new position Monday, March 7.

Some of the changes include the following:

- Creating the Bureau of Children's Coordinated Health Policy and Supports to improve and build upon the coordination and oversight of children's behavioral health services and policies.
- Shifting the administration of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities Administration to different administrations and divisions within MDHHS to improve coordination of services and leverage expertise that exists among staff in these areas.
- Renaming the MDHHS Health and Aging Services Administration to Behavioral and Physical Health and Aging Services. This administration - which already handles Medicaid and services for aging adults - will oversee community-based services for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities, serious mental illness and substance use disorders. This will build upon the administration's existing efforts to deliver services to adults with mild to moderate mental illness.
- Moving substance use and gambling disorder prevention programs to the Bureau of Health and Wellness under the Division of Chronic Disease within the Public Health Administration.

Creation of the Bureau of Children's Coordinated Health Policy and Supports will improve and build upon coordination and oversight of children's behavioral health services. It is based on the belief that services must be designed specifically for the needs of children, including those transitioning through different health care settings. For example, mobile and intensive crisis services for children and youth should be different than those addressing adult needs. The new children's bureau will emphasize the critical importance of including families in addressing the health needs of children. Efforts will reinforce needed protections for youth so they can access the most appropriate services when they are needed rather than turning to an emergency room or child welfare services.

The bureau will work together with other MDHHS administrations to address children's behavioral health crises and to focus on expanding dedicated partnerships and advocate relationships.

The new structure, effective Monday, March 21, will improve coordination of care and collaboration with stakeholders. It will also improve direct support to children, families and providers transitioning between care settings or who need more intensive clinical review. The department will retain current staff positions under the restructuring.

See presentation for organizational chart of the changes and the dissolution of BHDDA.

6. Managed Care Regulation Updates

- **Medicaid Verification ("MEV"):** LRE has finalized its new MEV process and met with CMHSPs to discuss the process changes. Each CMHSPs responded favorably to the process changes.
- Michigan's Mission-Based Performance Indicators System ("MMBPIS"): For FY21 Q4, LRE met or exceeded the threshold for all MMBPIS indicators for the last six (6) quarters. LRE has also matched or exceeded most of the indicators when compared to the State averages.
- **Performance Improvement Programs ("PIP"):** LRE has submitted its QAPIP topic to MDHHS/HSAG in February 2022. LRE is awaiting information from MDHHS/HSAG regarding the validity of racial disparity data to confirm LRE's submitted QAPIP topic is valid.
- **QAPIP FY21:** LRE is finalizing its FY21 QAPIP Corrective Action Plan Status Update, which is due to MDHHS on 3/31/2022. LRE is on pace to meet the deadlines for all corrective actions.
- **Site Review:** On March 14, 2022, LRE began its first site review utilizing the new process with Ottawa CMH. LRE will also begin its site review of West Michigan CMH in mid-April. LRE sent site review notification to N180 on March 1, 2022 announcing the start of its site review on June 1, 2022.

7. System Redesign Proposals

Michigan Senate Advances SBs 597 & 598 to Final Passage But Has Gone No Further. The Michigan Senate advanced SBs 597 & 598 from General Orders to 3rd reading of bills or final passage, which is a procedural step in the process – and can be done on a voice vote (without counting Ys or Ns).

In order for a bill to advance on 3rd reading/final passage it requires a record roll call vote. Thursday's Senate agenda did not include SBs 597 & 598, which means no further action

will be taken until at least next week Tuesday (which that decision has not been determined). It seems clear that SBs 597 & 598 do not have sufficient support in the Michigan Senate to pass, currently.

CMHA has been working with a solid coalition of stakeholders that range from the Michigan Sheriffs Association, Michigan Association of Counties, Organized Labor groups, Michigan Catholic Conference, and several advocacy groups.

8. Updates from Lansing

- **Economy** The numbers are clear: Michigan's economy is on the rise. The state experienced its best economic recovery in history over the last two years. Michigan is #1 nationwide based on equally weighted measures of employment, personal income, home prices, and stock market performance of publicly traded companies. The state is also in the midst of a manufacturing boom, having added 20,000 auto jobs and counting since Governor Whitmer took office and many other high-skill, in-demand jobs in field ranging from semiconductor chips to software to agriculture. Michigan is a standout for investors with bonds returning better rates than ever, and the state went from a projected \$3 billion deficit at the beginning of the pandemic to a \$7 billion surplus today.
- Cutting Taxes In the Governor's 2022 State of the State Address, Governor Whitmer proposed tax cuts for seniors and working families. She proposed a roll back of the retirement tax which would put an average of \$1,000 back in the pockets of half a million seniors who worked hard and played by the rules. She also proposed tripling the Michigan Earned Income Tax Credit, which would deliver a combined \$3,000 tax refund in the pockets of 730,000 working families. These tax cuts will put thousands of dollars back in the pockets of over 1.2 million households across Michigan, ensuring they are not as heavily impacted by price increases. Recently, the Governor signed a bipartisan tax cut for small businesses, allowing small businesses owners to exempt more of their personal property.
- Lowering the Cost of Prescription Drugs In her 2022 State of the State address, Governor Whitmer spoke about Attorney General Dana Nessel's ongoing investigation into one of the three largest drug companies that manufactures nearly all the insulin in the United States. The Attorney General is seeking to use the Michigan Consumer Protection Act to investigate the role drug companies play in raising prices. Lowering the cost of insulin will save lives and help Michiganders pay the bills, put food on the table, or save for the future. Governor Whitmer will work with anyone to hold drug companies accountable, lower the cost of insulin, and save lives.

The Governor also recently signed a bipartisan bill requiring pharmacy benefit managers to file transparency reports, ensuring Michiganders have access to the information about the backend cost and profit of the medication they are being prescribed. It promotes oversight by requiring Pharmacy Benefit Managers to acquire a license from the State of Michigan.

- Economic Development Governor Whitmer signed bipartisan legislation empowering Michigan's economic development with a fund to give the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, or MEDC, a new set of powerful tools to land some of the huge projects in their pipeline that would lead to billions in investment and tens of thousands of jobs. The legislation led to GM's announcement of a \$7 billion investment in Michigan building electric vehicles and batteries. It also set up a fund for small business relief, building on work the state has done since March 2020 to set up 23 economic relief programs and deliver over \$240 million to small businesses in all 83 Michigan counties.
- **Roads** Since Governor Whitmer took office, the State of Michigan has invested nearly \$4.75 billion to repair, replace, or rehabilitate over 13,000 lane miles of road and over 900 bridges. The Governor's \$3.5 billion Rebuilding Michigan bond plan is moving dirt to fix roads with the right mix and materials, supporting 45,000 jobs, and ensuring workers can get to work and parents can drop their kids off at school safely

9. National News

President Biden announces strategy to address national mental health crisis.

The President recently announced, in his State of the Union speech, a national mental health strategy to strengthen system capacity, connect more Americans to care, and create a continuum of support transforming our health and social services infrastructure to address mental health holistically and equitably.

https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-release/2022/03/01/fact-sheet-president-biden-to-announce-strategy-to-address-our-national-mental-health-crisi-as-part-of-unity-agenda-in-his-first-state-of-the-union

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Upcoming Board Training

Save the date for May 19th from 9-12 pm the work session will be focused on a training for Board Members on governance model and expectations and responsibilities of Board Members of the LRE.

18th Annual 'Walk a Mile in My Shoes' Rally

The 18th Annual 'Walk a Mile in My Shoes' Rally will be held IN PERSON next year on the State Capitol Lawn in Lansing, on September 15, 2022. Each year, this event draws upwards of 2,500 advocates from across Michigan to the Capitol Building to support public behavioral healthcare. This rally aims to highlight the need for increased funding for mental health services, raises awareness of behavioral health needs in health and policy discussions and works to banish behavioral health stigmas. There are more than 300,000 citizens in Michigan who seek

behavioral health services. Mark your calendars and make plans to join us on Thursday, September 15, 2022, as we rally together on the Capitol Lawn for increased mental health funding and the need for behavioral health to be continually included in policy discussions.

To access the most up to date information, check the CMHA website at: https://cmham.org/education-events/walk-a-mile-rally/

Report by Mary Marlatt-Dumas, CEO, Lakeshore Regional Entity

