



WEEKLY Update

June 5, 2020

COVID-19 Resources: CMHA has developed a curated set of COVID-19-related resources and announcements from a range of reputable state and national sources. That curated set of resources, which will be regularly updated, **is available by [CLICKING HERE](#)**.

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CMH Association and Member Activities

New! Centra Wellness receives 7th straight 3-year CARF accreditation

Centra Wellness Network recently announced that it received a three year accreditation from CARF - Centra’s seventh straight 3-year full accreditation. Below are excerpts from CARF’s letter to Centra Wellness. Congratulations to Centra Wellness Network.

The organization has developed a committee structure that supports a relatively lean administrative structure, while ensuring that information is obtained, analyzed, used, and



shared throughout. The executive and leadership personnel make particularly good use of data and input that are collected from a variety of sources and stakeholders.

The organization has developed powerful, positive relationships with community partners and other stakeholders that consistently support the organization's ability to provide services that enhance the lives of the persons served and the well-being of the community. The collaboration with these stakeholders is exceptional, as is the organization's responsiveness to identified needs and creative solutions applied. The work of the organization is guided by a dynamic and creative executive, who communicates clear dedication to the provision of high-quality services and supports that are particularly responsive to the needs of the communities served.

CMHA opens first phase of Telehealth Resource Center with the resource-rich webpage

With the aim of helping to make telehealth approaches, wisely and prudently applied, a central component in Michigan's behavioral healthcare infrastructure and a part of the clinical toolbox of the state's behavioral health workforce, the **Community Mental Health Association of Michigan (CMHA)** has formed the Telehealth Resource Center for Michigan Mental Health Practitioners.

The first concrete component of the Center is the [Telehealth Resource Center webpage](#) on the CMHA website. This webpage contains a curated list of some of the best telehealth resources from across the country. We will keep Weekly Update readers informed as other components of the Center come to fruition.

CMHA issues white paper "A Tradition of Excellence and Innovation: Measuring the Performance of Michigan's Public Mental Health System"

Over the last several decades, policy makers and elected officials have debated and implemented a range of plans for redesigning Michigan's public mental health system. Unfortunately, some these system redesign proposals have been based on a lack of accurate information on the performance of that system. To provide an accurate picture of the performance of Michigan's public mental health system, the Center for Healthcare Integration and Innovation (CHI2) recently issued a white paper that examines the performance of Michigan's public mental health system against a number of state-established and national standards. This white paper can be found [here](#).

This paper underscores the very high levels of performance that Michigan's public mental health system, in partnership with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS), has demonstrated, over decades, on a number of dimensions of healthcare quality and innovation.

New! CMHA guest editorial applauds Michigan's behavioral health workforce

Below are excerpts from a recent guest editorial from the Community Mental Health Association of Michigan (CMHA) underscoring the vital and heroic work done by Michigan's behavioral health workforce.

While many of us are at home amid the COVID-19 pandemic, front-line workers are out in the field supporting Michigan's most vulnerable residents.

We have seen the signs in the windows of homes and videos thanking health care workers. What doesn't come to mind for many, though, is a critical and often overlooked group of frontline healthcare workers, the 100,000 mental health care professionals in the Michigan's public mental health system — those serving persons with mental illnesses, emotional disturbances, intellectual and developmental disabilities, and/or substance use disorders.

Michiganders can be proud of the commitment of these professionals to continuing to serve during this pandemic. The state's public community mental health organizations (CMHs), the public Medicaid behavioral health plans (known as PIHPs in Michigan), and the private provider organizations in the CMH and PIHP networks have remained steadfast in their commitment to service while also swiftly implementing new approaches to serving the over 300,000 Michiganders who rely upon this system every year.

The full editorial can be found [here](#)

State & National Developments and Resources

New! MDHHS issues L letter to broaden access to SUD treatment

MDHHS recently issued L 20-17 - Increasing Assessment and Treatment for Medicaid Recipients with Substance Use Disorder (SUD), the summary of which is provided below.

Increasing Assessment and Treatment for Medicaid Recipients with Substance Use Disorder (SUD) The purpose of this letter is to encourage providers to use Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) and Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) services for beneficiaries with indications of a substance use disorder (SUD). SBIRT and MAT are covered by the Michigan Medicaid program. These services can be initiated in any community-based care setting, including the hospital emergency department (ED). Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT)

The full letter can be found [here](#).

New! Newsweek: the mental health toll from the Coronavirus could rival that of the disease itself

Below are excerpts from a recent news story on the mental health impact of the Coronavirus.

Tom Insel has watched the nation grapple with plenty of psychologically challenging situations over his long career in the field of mental health. The psychiatrist became director of the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) in the months following 9-11, when Americans were traumatized over the twin tower bombings. He watched residents of Louisiana and Mississippi dig out from the waterlogged rubble of Hurricane Katrina. He's seen mass shootings in Tucson, Fort Hood and Newtown.

But nothing in Insel's experience has tested the nation's psychological resilience like COVID-19, which has millions of Americans living in fear of contracting a deadly new disease, hunkering down in involuntary confinement, contemplating rising unemployment and the prospect of a worldwide economic collapse, cut off and worried about loved ones, besieged by a parade of bad news and tormented by boredom, fear and loneliness.

The full story can be found [here](#).

New! Health Affairs Blog | Inequities Amplified by COVID-19: Opportunities for Medicaid to Address Health Disparities

Below are excerpts from a recent Health Affairs blog post by staff from within the Center for Health Care Strategies.

COVID-19 has laid bare and will likely exacerbate the glaring inequity faced by communities of color due to a “constellation” of factors. Communities of color have an increased risk of COVID-19 morbidity and mortality because of a higher prevalence of chronic health conditions (e.g., hypertension and diabetes) compared to whites. These COVID-19-related health disparities, driven by economic and social issues (e.g., living conditions and employment), are compounded by the physical and psychological effects of a legacy of discrimination and racism for these individuals.

The full blog can be found [here](#).

New! Supporting Family Caregivers in the Time of COVID-19: State Strategies

Below are excerpts from a recent Center for Health Care Strategies.

Headlines and data from across the nation confirm the sad reality: older adults and people with chronic conditions or disabilities face disproportionately adverse outcomes if they contract COVID-19. Family caregivers are the lynchpin of care for these individuals and provide critical daily supports for them. Across the U.S., there are roughly 18 million people currently caring for an older adult. Even in the pre-pandemic environment, family caregivers faced a myriad of potential stressors. COVID-19 has made their critical, but typically unpaid job even more challenging by adding uncertainty and stress, removing limiting access to care, and complicating service delivery.

The full blog can be found [here](#).

New! Arc Michigan announces 2020 Disability Policy Webinar Series

The Arc Michigan is offering a series of discussions on a range of disability-related policies. You can learn more about and register for this series [here](#).

State Legislative Update

New! House Appropriations Committee Approves \$1.25 billion in COVID Stimulus Dollars

On Wednesday, the House Appropriations Committee approved a \$1.25 billion COVID-19 supplemental, the funds come out of the \$3 billion+ federal stimulus package the state of the Michigan received to address the pandemic. SB 690, included a \$3 dollar/hour increase (total – not \$2 + \$3) for direct care workers retroactive back to April 1 until Sept. 30. The language in bill also would include all costs incurred by the employer, including payroll taxes, due to the \$3.00 per hour increase.

The Michigan's Unemployment Insurance Fund would see an \$500 million increase. It also gives the Unemployment Insurance Agency (UIA) \$25 million to hire the temporary staff to dig itself out of the hundreds of thousands of claims it received from those who lost their jobs in the coronavirus response. The \$500 million for the Unemployment Insurance Stabilization Fund is activated after the balance in the fund drops below \$235 million.

None of the money is being used to address a roughly \$3 billion hole in the state budget due to the strings attached to it. Instead, \$200 million is being spent on grants for businesses hurt through COVID-19, among other things.

According to the House Fiscal Agency, the bills also set aside:

- \$125 million to child care providers who reduced their rates so struggling families could still afford the service.
- \$50 million or more for personal protection equipment, COVID-19 testing and testing equipment.
- \$15 million for schools who offer summer school to make up for lost class time in the spring.
- \$10 million for the Michigan Association of Intermediate School Administrators to buy computers or tablets so students can learn at home
- \$5.1 million to pay for a \$100 per diem increase for hospitals accepting Medicaid recipients who need inpatient psychiatric services
- \$5 million for domestic violence and sexual assault services
- \$2.5 million the Michigan Restaurant and Lodging Association foundation can use for \$500-per-person grants to in-need hospitality workers.

SB 690 is now on the House floor, negotiations with the Governor's administration and the Legislature are now underway regarding the final details of the bill.

New! Executive Orders Signed

Currently, Governor Gretchen Whitmer has signed over 60 Executive Orders in response to COVID-19. Below is the most recent list of Executive Orders with the topic and a hyper link accessing the Executive Order below.

For a complete list of Governor Whitmer's Executive Orders click on the link below:

https://www.michigan.gov/whitmer/0,9309,7-387-90499_90705---,00.html

- **Executive Order 2020-106** – Establishing deadline to redeem property for nonpayment of delinquent property taxes, please click [here](#) to access Executive Order 106.
- **Executive Order 2020-107** – Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity Michigan Workforce Development Board, please click [here](#) to access Executive Order 107.
- **Executive Order 2020-108** – Temporary restrictions on entry into health care facilities, residential care facilities, congregate care facilities, and juvenile justice facilities, please click [here](#) to access Executive Order 108.
- **Executive Order 2020-109** – Temporary safety measures for food-selling establishments and pharmacies and temporary relief from requirements applicable to the renewal of licenses for the food-service industry, please click [here](#) to access Executive Order 109.
- **Executive Order 2020-110** – Temporary restrictions on certain events, gatherings, and businesses, please click [here](#) to access Executive Order 110.
- **Executive Order 2020-111** – Protecting the Food Supply and Migrant and Seasonal Agricultural Workers from the effects of COVID-19, please click [here](#) to access Executive Order 111.
- **Executive Order 2020-112** – Rescission of certain executive orders, please click [here](#) to access Executive Order 112.
- **Executive Order 2020-113** – Enhanced authorization of remote means for carrying out state administrative procedures, please click [here](#) to access Executive Order 113.

Federal Update

Hill Day 2020 is Going Digital – Join us on June 23!

The COVID-19 pandemic has changed *how* we work, but we must not let it interrupt *our* work. Mental health and addictions organizations need our continued support now more than ever.

That is why this year we are proud to partner with 25 national advocacy organizations to bring you [Hill Day at Home!](#) We're still rallying. We're still moving ahead together. And we're still bringing our field's most important issues to Congress.

And as we go virtual this year, we need YOU, our friends in the field, to be right there with us as always.

How can you make a difference?

On Tuesday, June 23, you'll be able to log on to our online event portal for the 2020 Virtual Policy Institute. A link to the portal will be sent to registrants ahead of the event.

This four-hour learning event will include keynote speakers, the latest legislative updates, immersive breakout sessions and all the great content you've come to expect from Hill Day.

Hill Day at Home will culminate on **Wednesday, June 24**, with a series of digital advocacy events and outreach opportunities to urge lawmakers to invest in lifesaving funding for mental health and addiction programs.

Click on the link below to register:

https://www.mylibralounge.com/sites/hillday2020/attendee/en/welcome/?lib_SGU=519BCCD4-05CF-4955-9CB4-2B8AF7E29CB0&lib_CST=8538522F-74F0-4E96-802D-7A4B45DAAD80

ACTION ALERT - Support \$38.5 Billion for Behavioral Health Providers in Fighting COVID-19

Congress continues to deliberate continued aid towards the COVID-19 pandemic, talks have been underway regarding a stimulus 4 aid package. Through the National Council and their members, we are requesting **an emergency appropriation of \$38.5 billion** for providers of mental health and addiction treatment services to be included in the next stimulus package considered by Congress. This is one of the largest and most important appropriations requests of our time.

As COVID-19 has spread fear and anxiety across our nation, we have repeatedly asked you, our members, what you needed and how we could help. **We have heard you. You made your needs overwhelmingly clear: you need PPE, you need equipment, and most importantly you need financial resources to keep your doors open and the lights on.** You need this emergency funding to continue doing the lifesaving work you do in your community every day, serving individuals with mental illness and addiction.

Will you take two minutes today to urge your Member of Congress to NOT leave mental health and addictions behind? If possible included examples of what you are facing, closing programs, layoffs, impact of social distancing on services etc...

Click the link below to log in and send your message:

<https://www.votervoice.net/CMHAM/Campaigns/73480/Respond>



Education Opportunities

What's Cancelled and What's Taking Place?????

With the rapidly changing situation, events and meetings are being cancelled, postponed, being held virtually or rescheduled. Please refer to www.cmham.org to see if your event /meetings taking place. The site is being updated several times a day.

CMHAM Annual Spring/Summer Conference Postponed



The 2020 Annual Spring/Summer Conference originally scheduled for June 9 & 10, 2020 at the Grand Traverse Resort, Traverse City has been postponed.

We are exploring future dates and virtual conference options.

Stay tuned for more details in Weekly Update!

New! Registration Open - VIRTUAL Ethics for Social Work & Substance Use Disorder Professionals Trainings

Community Mental Health Association of Michigan is pleased to offer Ethics for Social Work & Substance Use Disorder Professionals Trainings presented by Tom Moore, LMSW, LLP, CCS, Owner and Principal, Two Moons, LLC online through Zoom.

This training fulfills the Michigan Social Work Licensing Board's requirement for licensure renewal for ethics.

This training fulfills the MCBAP approved treatment ethics code education – specific.

Dates:

- July 13, 2020
- August 17, 2020
- October 5, 2020
- November 2, 2020

Agenda:

Education: 8:30am – 11:30am
Lunch Break: 11:30am – 1:00pm
Education: 1:00pm – 4:00pm

Training Fees:

\$103 CMHA Members

\$126 Non-Members

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) FOR THE JULY 13, 2020 TRAINING

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) FOR THE AUGUST 17, 2020 TRAINING

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) FOR THE OCTOBER 5, 2020 TRAINING
[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) FOR THE NOVEMBER 2, 2020 TRAINING

New! Registration Open - VIRTUAL Pain Management and Mindfulness Trainings

Community Mental Health Association of Michigan is pleased to offer Pain Management Trainings presented by Tom Moore, LMSW, LLP, CCS, Owner and Principal, Two Moons, LLC online through Zoom.

This course qualifies for 2 CE's and fulfills the Michigan Social Work Licensing Board's requirement for licensure renewal for pain management.

Dates:

- July 20, 2020
- August 3, 2020

Agenda:

Education: 9:00am – 11:00am

Training Fees:

\$39 CMHA Members

\$47 Non-Members

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) FOR THE JULY 20, 2020 TRAINING
[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#) FOR THE AUGUST 3, 2020 TRAINING

NEW DATE: Wraparound Conference

New Dates: Monday, September 28, 2020 – Wednesday, September 30, 2020

Location: Great Wolf Lodge: 3575 N. US 31 South, Traverse City, MI 49684

Registration will be available in July on the [CMHA website](#).

NEW DATE: Self-Determination Conference

This conference will broaden and deepen your understanding of the crucial elements of Self-Direction and the importance of Self-Determination in Behavioral Health. It will provide training and technical assistance on the topics of Effective Person-Centered Planning, Independent Facilitation, Supported Decision-Making, Fiscal Intermediaries, How to Structure Self-Directed Service Arrangements, Budget Development, and more. Dynamic presenters and speakers will reenergize your commitment to the principles and practice of Self-Determination!

Date & Time:

Friday, September 11, 2020
8am – 5pm
Lansing, MI 48933

Location:

Lansing Center
333 E. Michigan Ave.

Who Should Attend?:

This conference contains content tracks appropriate for all individuals who receive services, family members, case managers, supports coordinators, clinicians, CMH administrative and clinical staff, providers, HCBS and waiver coordinators, fiscal intermediaries and independent facilitators.

Registration available soon, check [CMHA website](#) for more information and updates.

LOCUS Specialty Trainings

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services and Community Mental Health Association of Michigan present: LOCUS Specialty Trainings – Virtual Information to come soon!

- July 21, 2020 (Rescheduled from April 21) – Virtual

Prerequisite: Basic Understanding of the LOCUS

Each course qualifies for 2.5 Social Work Contact Hours and 2.5 Related MCBAP Contact Hours

Enhancing Your LOCUS Skills: 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Audience: LOCUS Users, Trainers, Supervisors

Description: This workshop is designed for those individuals who want to fine-tune and enhance their understanding and use of the LOCUS. Ideal for users of the LOCUS, LOCUS trainers, and organizational supervisors.

Fee: \$0

Quality & Outcome Measurement with the LOCUS: 1:00 PM – 3:30 PM

Audience: Supervisors, Quality Specialists and Managers, Utilization Management, Organizational Leadership

Description: Statewide LOCUS implementation is not without its challenges. This workshop is designed to help organizational leadership define and implement outcome measures associated with the LOCUS. We will explore how use of data capture and analysis supports systemic change to achieve positive outcomes for the individuals served.

Fee: \$0

Education & Training Resources from Great Lakes MHTTC



MHTTC

Mental Health Technology Transfer Center Network
Funded by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

Weekly Update readers may remember that the Community Mental Health Association of Michigan (CMHA) is the Michigan partner of the SAMHSA-funded **Great Lakes Mental Health Technology Transfer Center (Great Lakes MHTTC)**. The Great Lakes MHTTC, in partnership with CMHA, provides education and training on a range of evidence based and promising mental health prevention and treatment practices. This section of the Weekly Update will regularly feature education, training, and technical assistance offerings from the Great Lakes MHTTC and its partner MHTTCs from across the country.

Catalog of MHTTC resources to be highlighted via new weekly series in CMHA Weekly Update

This month, the Great Lakes Mental Health Technology Transfer Center (MHTTC) makes available a large catalog of Great Lakes MHTTC products at its [Products and Resources](#) webpage. This section of the MHTTC website hosts all Great Lakes MHTTC products along with products developed with their partner TTCs within the region and across the country.

News from Our Preferred Corporate Partners

Message from Abilita to audit telecom costs

The impact of COVID-19 has already caused a significant economic impact in Michigan and may force difficult decisions to balance budgets. We believe now is a good time to audit your telecommunications costs for cost reduction. CMHA has endorsed Abilita since 2009 to monitor and implement savings with [satisfied](#) results according to a survey of their clients. Contact us or Abilita directly for additional information at abilita.com/cmha

myStrength: new digital behavioral health resources empower consumers to move beyond trauma

Trauma is incredibly common. Approximately 90% of U.S. adults have experienced at least one traumatic event in their lives, which can adversely affect emotional well-being and interfere with

relationships, work and overall quality of life. Expanding on our diverse whole-person resources, Livongo for Behavioral Health by myStrength is pleased to announce new, digital tools to help individuals move beyond trauma. [Click here to request a demo.](#)

Relias: The Do's and Don'ts of Telehealth

As more organizations adopt telehealth to ensure access to and continuity of care due to the novel coronavirus, some clinicians may be hesitant about how to best implement this service with their clients.

Read our latest blog, The Dos and Don'ts of Telehealth, to get advice from innovaTel Telepsychiatry experts, Liberty Eberly, D.O., Chief Medical Officer and Co-founder, and Lauren Lashbrook, Director of Strategic Partnerships, on creating the best telehealth experience.

[Read the Blog](#)

Also check out our telehealth resource page to get unlimited access to our free telehealth course series, webinars, blogs, and more.

CMH Association's Officers & Staff Contact Info

CMHA Officers Contact Information:

The Officers of the CMH Association of Michigan recently proposed, in their commitment to fostering dialogue among the members of the Association with the Association's leaders, that their contact information be shared with the Association membership. While this dialogue will not take the place of the regular dialogue and decision making that occurs during the meetings of the Association's Executive Board, Steering Committee, Provider Alliance, Association Committees, Directors Forum, PIHP CEOs meeting, nor any of the great number of Association-sponsored and supported dialogue venues, the Officers want to ensure that the members of the Association can reach them to discuss issues of interest to the Association's members. The contact information for the officers is provided below:

President: Joe Stone Stonejoe09@gmail.com; (989) 390-2284
First Vice President: Carl Rice Jr; cricejr@outlook.com; (517) 745-2124
Second Vice President: Craig Reiter; gullivercraig@gmail.com; (906) 283-3451
Secretary: Cathy Kellerman; balcat3@live.com; (231) 924-3972
Treasurer: Randy Kamps; randyk@4iam.com; (231)392-6670
Immediate Past President: Bill Davie; bill49866@gmail.com; (906) 226-4063

CMHA Staff Contact Information:

CMH Association staff can be contacted at (517) 374-6848 and via the e-mail addresses below:

Alan Bolter, Associate Director, abolter@cmham.org

Christina Ward, Director of Education and Training, cward@cmham.org

Monique Francis, Executive Secretary/Committee Clerk, mfrancis@cmham.org

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