



# WEEKLY Update

May 21, 2021

**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 New! and Member Activities

**New!** North County Community Mental Health Authority and partners featured in press

Below is a recent announcement from the CEO of the North Country Community Mental Health Authority:



North Country Community Mental Health Authority (NCCMH) provides comprehensive services and supports that allow people to live independent, self-directed lives integrated within their community. I invite you to take three minutes to watch this 9 & 10 News story on North Country Critters, a business run by three community partners of NCCMH. It's a wonderful behind-the-scenes testimony about the value of our public mental health system!

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

### **New! Seeking applicants for NACBHDD President and Chief Executive Officer**

The National Association of County Behavioral Health and Developmental Disability Directors (NACBHDD) is seeking candidates for the association's President/Chief Executive Officer position. CMHA and, through CMHA, its members organization organizations are NACBHDD members. Below are excerpts from the job posting

Organization: National Association of County Behavioral Health and Developmental Disability Directors

The National Association of County Behavioral Health and Developmental Disability Directors (NACBHDD) is the only national voice for county and local behavioral health and developmental disability authorities in Washington, DC. Through education, policy analysis, and advocacy, NACBHDD brings the unique perspective of our members to Congress and the Executive Branch and promotes national policies that recognize and support the critical role counties play in caring for people affected by mental illness, addiction, and developmental disabilities.

NACBHDD is also an active partner in efforts to improve access to, funding for, and quality of behavioral health services, especially those that serve the most vulnerable in our communities. Key issues include but are not limited to: protecting Medicaid coverage, ending the stigma of mental illness, better treatment for veterans, achieving parity in insurance coverage for behavioral health care, affordable housing and vocational training for those with mental illness or developmental disabilities.

POSITION SUMMARY: The President and Chief Executive Officer is responsible for ensuring that NACBHDD serves the needs and interests of the membership pursuant to the organization's bylaws and as directed by the Executive Committee, which is the primary policy-setting body of the organization.

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

### **New! CMHA staff discusses impact of pandemic on mental health**

CMHA staff were interviewed, by WXYZ in Detroit, on the impact of the COVID 19 pandemic on mental health. That interview, which also included a discussion on the impact of COVID 19 on schools. The recording of the interview can be [found here](#).

### **12th Annual Anti-Stigma Event Day!**

**Wednesday, July 28, 2021**

Virtual Training - 9:00am to 4:00pm



Come and learn what other CMHSPS are doing and share your own ideas. There is no fee for registration. *Online registration is required for attendance.* This year we will have a full roster of speakers and presenters.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR ANTI-STIGMA EVENT DAY](#)

### Traveling Art Show

Traveling Art Show VI features pieces from Consumer Art Contests across Michigan. Anyone interested in any of the pieces shown may contact Monique at [mfrancis@cmham.org](mailto:mfrancis@cmham.org). Those NOT sold by October 1, 2021, will be auctioned off at the 2021 Fall Conference in Traverse City, Michigan. Art may be available for viewing locally or on the [CMHA website](#). Check with your local CMH for more information or email Monique at [mfrancis@cmham.org](mailto:mfrancis@cmham.org).

## State & National Developments and Resources

### **New!** Video recording available from May 12 MDHHS webinar: Important Updates on AFCs and HFAs COVID-19 Emergency Response

MDHHS has recently released the recording from the May 12 presentation, by MDHHS, around the Important Updates on AFCs and HFAs COVID-19 Emergency Response. That video can be [found here](#).

Access passcode: OTsQWF+n

### **New!** News coverage on the intersection of mental health and the public and private systems

1. Michigan Senate leader's plans to overhaul mental health system worries advocates (Detroit News) [found here](#).
2. Big Proposed Changes to the Mental Health System in Michigan - Is It Necessary, or a Cash Grab for Insurance Companies (Craig Fahle show on Deadline Detroit) [found here](#).
3. Mental health services wane as insurers appear to skirt parity rules during pandemic (Detroit News and Kaiser Health News) [found here](#).
4. Systemic underfunding of public system (Mining Gazette) [found here](#).

### **New!** CHCS: Assessing the Impact of Complex Care Models: Opportunities to Fill in the Gaps

The Center for Health Care Studies (CHCS) recently announced a brief on complex care management.

Excerpts from that announcement are provided below. High-quality complex care models are responsive to the needs and desires of patients and families, while also prioritizing provider and staff well-being. Quality measures that capture both patient perspectives on the care they receive, as well as staff assessments on the care they provide, can help us better understand the impact of complex care models.

Through the Advancing Integrated Models (AIM) initiative, made possible by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, eight pilot sites are implementing approaches that seek to improve integrated, person-centered care models for adults and children with complex health and social needs. This brief describes a process used to identify a set of patient- and staff-reported measures for the AIM pilot sites. These measures, detailed in the brief, can supplement traditional utilization, outcomes, and cost measures and support complex care programs interested in expanding their capacity to evaluate care delivery innovations.

The brief can be [found here](#).

## State Legislative Update

### **New!** View May's Legislative Video on CMHA's Website

The Capitol Briefing is a monthly resource available to CMHA members providing a high-level overview of the key items impacting the public mental health system at the State Capitol.

Our May Briefing features CMHA Associate Director, Alan Bolter, provides an update regarding the FY22 budget process, highlighting action in both the House and Senate.

To view the latest video, [CLICK HERE!](#)

### **New!** May Revenue Estimating Conference

On Friday, state economic leaders gathered for the May Consensus Revenue Estimating Conference (CREC). The CREC takes place in January and May every year to discuss independent economic and revenue forecasts that inform decisions made around the state budget.

Again, a rosier-than-expected picture emerged during the CREC as Michigan continues to receive a significant amount of one-time revenue from federal stimulus, and high levels of consumer spending. As far as net revenue growth, the May estimates saw a dramatic change from what was forecasted in January. For example, for GF/GP net revenues the projections now show a 4.3 percent increase compared to the 4.9 percent net revenue decrease predicted in January for FY 21.

For the current fiscal year, economists are forecasting revenue collections for both the General Fund (GF-GP) and School Aid Fund (SAF) to be a combined \$26.31 billion (\$11.3 billion GF/GP and \$15 billion

SAF) with growth up a combined 6.2 percent or \$1.5 billion. Cumulatively, the new projection amounts to \$2 billion above what was forecasted in January 2021.

Essentially, the revenue growth that was predicted during the last CREC for 2022 is shifting to 2021. For FY 22 a little different story emerges as economists are now forecasting a lower growth rate than what is projected in January 2021.

For the upcoming fiscal year, which will begin on October 1, combined revenue collections for both GF/GP and SAF are now forecast to be \$26.8 billion (\$11.6 billion GF/GP and \$15 billion SAF) with smaller growth gains of 1.3 percent or \$495 million. Cumulatively, the new projection amounts to \$1.48 billion above what was projected in January 2021.

Barring any significant GF/GP expenditures in between now and the end of the fiscal year, the beginning balance for FY 22 is estimated to be \$2.8 billion (GF/GP).

Some of the other major themes of this CREC included:

- Strength of recovery has taken most observers by surprise – not the “Great Recession” that was predicted
- Major growth in revenues across the board – much higher than expected at the January CREC
- Michigan labor market has improved but not returned to pre-pandemic levels – jobless rate and unemployment claims remain elevated compared to pre-COVID labor market
- Expect the recovery to proceed unevenly across industries
  - mining, construction, manufacturing, etc. suffered a significant drop initially but are recovering quickly, and we expect pre-pandemic employment level by the middle of 2022
  - Higher education services industries had the smallest drop and we expect a steady recovery to pre-pandemic level at the start of 2023
  - Lower education services industries are most concerning as employment fell more than 30 percent in second quarter and it’s not expected they will receive a full recovery
- Inflation remains a concern, and we can expect it to be higher, but historically speaking, the inflation rates we are expecting are not unusual. With that said, inflation has generally been difficult to predict
- Supply chain disruptions are expected to be transient
- Personal income helped support income losses and there will be a more normal growth path into 2022 and 2023 despite government supports waning – no obvious unbalances in the economy
- The relationship between employment and spending was very different than in previous recessions in that spending was much higher than employment – this has helped shore up the economy
- Michigan’s employment is expected to expand by less than 0.1 percent over the 2018-2028 period
- The Labor force is projected to be relatively flat through 2028 due to persons coming into the market

- While Michigan will see growth in wage and employment, we won't be fully back to 2019 levels by 2023 in terms of jobs
- Record highs for net income tax revenues
- Medicaid will see an additional 9 months of increased FMAP, which amounts to \$631 million in GF savings. Overall caseload growth in Medicaid is now expected to be lower than originally estimated during the thick of the pandemic
- No pay-ins to the rainy day fund are expected in FY 21 and FY 22 with some pay-ins predicted in FY 23. No pay-outs expected
- Risks around the return to normal and shift back to service sectors, which could cause sales tax revenue to fall lower than expected
- Overall, the pandemic has made economic forecasting challenging - some of the fundamentals that drive the numbers haven't behaved the way they normally do
- Policy expectations underpinning the forecasts
  - Assuming current Federal and State law
  - Estimates take into account impacts of the American Rescue Plan Act
  - Another round of federal stimulus in the fall (half of the size of ARPA)
  - Mostly no tax raises before 2023
  - Likely to see tax credit extensions

These forecasts provide the foundation for finalizing the Fiscal Year 2022 budget. The state budget continues to be in a much better position than most would have forecasted at the outset of the pandemic and Michigan will experience much larger-than-expected structural surpluses in FY 22 and FY 23.

The May CREC comes on the heels of an announcement earlier this week that the Governor and Michigan Legislative Leaders have reached an agreement to work together on the budget and the Michigan COVID-19 recovery, as restrictions are relaxed and we move out of the pandemic. Target meetings and further negotiations on the budget are expected in the coming weeks with a goal of sending a final budget to the Governor's desk by the July 1<sup>st</sup> statutory deadline.

## Federal Update

### **New!** Excellence in Recovery Housing Act Introduced

Last month, Representatives Trone (D-MD), Chu (D-CA), Levin (D-CA) and McKinley (R-WV) introduced the Excellence in Recovery Housing Act (H.R. 2376), which aims to help states improve and expand access to recovery housing. Recovery housing refers to safe, healthy, alcohol and drug-free living environments that support individuals in recovery from addiction. The bill would create a set of guidelines and a grant program for states to implement those best practices. Read the [bill text](#) and a [summary](#).

## New! Peer Support Legislation Reintroduced

Last month, Representatives Chu (D-CA) and Smith (R-NE) reintroduced the [Promoting Effective and Empowering Recovery Services \(PEERS\) in Medicare Act of 2021](#) (H.R. 2767). This legislation would expand access to mental health care by clarifying that peer support specialist services can be reimbursed through Medicare. The legislation was first introduced last Congress.

## Education Opportunities

Registration Open: CMHA VIRTUAL Annual Summer Conference: June 14-17, 2021



**CMHA Virtual Annual Summer Conference**  
**"Be the Change...Shaping our Future Together"**

**June 14 - 17, 2021**  
**Virtual Education Daily from 9:00am – 12:30pm EST**

**[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER!](#)**

**Volume discounts will only be offered until 5:00pm on FRIDAY, MAY 28, 2021.**

**Group Agency Volume Discounts:** We are offering discounted tiers for sending multiple paying-attendees from the same agency ("recording only" attendees do not qualify towards group discount). Volume discount is applied to those registered on the SAME ORDER. To take advantage of the deepest discount, please determine everyone from your agency who will be participating in the conference and register them at the same time.

Volume Discount Rates – Ends May 28, 2021!					
	1-4 attendees	5-9 attendees	10-19 attendees	20 or more	Recording Only (no CEs)
Member	\$210 per attendee	\$190 per attendee	\$170 per attendee	\$150 per attendee	\$50 per attendee
Non-Member	\$252 per attendee	\$228 per attendee	\$204 per attendee	\$180 per attendee	\$70 per attendee

**LIVE Conference Fees:** Live Conference: You are NOT required to attend the entire conference. You receive credit for each session you log in, view live at the scheduled time and participate fully (90% of advertised time). Viewing the sessions live is the only way to receive CE Credits. You also have access to session recordings for 60 days after the conference (no CEs).



**After Friday, May 28, 2021:     Member: \$210 per attendee**  
**Non-Member: \$252 per attendee**

**Recording Only (No CEs) Conference Fees:** Recording Only–No Continuing Education Credits: For those who do NOT need CEs, take advantage of the significantly reduced fee. The recordings will be available AFTER the conference and you will have 60 days to view the recordings. You can view as many sessions as you like.

**Member: \$50 per attendee**  
**Non-Member: \$70 per attendee**

### **New! Sponsorship Opportunities for CMHA VIRTUAL Annual Summer Conference**

The Community Mental Health Association of Michigan is pleased to announce **sponsorship opportunities** for the 2021 Annual Summer conference taking place each morning June 14-17, 2021. As a conference sponsor, you will gain visibility throughout the day to promote your company’s brand, products, and services directly to the 500 CMHA conference attendees. The virtual platform has a dedicated Sponsors Hall, which will allow participants to enter and view sponsor’s logos with a direct link to their website. Only a limited number of each sponsorship opportunities are available. For more information email Monique Francis at [mfrancis@cmham.org](mailto:mfrancis@cmham.org).

**DEADLINE: Wednesday, June 2, 2021**

*Conference Attendance is NOT included. You must register separately to attend the conference.*

**[CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP FOR CONFERENCE SPONSORSHIP!](#)**

### **Save the Date: 22nd Annual Substance Use and Co-Occurring Disorder Virtual Conference**

#### **22nd Annual Substance Use and Co-Occurring Disorder Virtual Conference**

*Health Equity: Transforming to Meet the Challenge*

**Conference Date:** September 13-16, 2021

**Conference Location:** Virtual

*Questions? Contact Alexandra Risher at [arisher@cmham.org](mailto:arisher@cmham.org).*

### **Virtual Motivational Interviewing College Trainings – Registration Open**

Registration is open for the FY21 VIRTUAL Motivational Interviewing College trainings which includes Basic, Advanced, Supervisory, and the revamped MI for Leadership & Organizations!

This event is sponsored by the adult mental health block grant and is intended for persons who serve adults only through the mental health and substance abuse provider network in the state of Michigan. It contains content appropriate for CEOs, COOs, clinical directors, supervisors, case managers, support coordinators, therapists, crisis workers, peer support specialists and any other practitioners at the beginning, advanced and supervisory levels of practice.



*By registering for these trainings, the participant acknowledges they have read & agree to the updated virtual guidelines and terms & conditions in the brochure to ensure they can fully participate in the virtual education. Registration closes 5 business days prior to each training.*

**Be sure to check out the newly updated M.I. for Leadership & Organizations training lead by Randall Estes!**

Motivational Interviewing for Leadership and Organizations is designed for individuals and groups interested in implementing, teaching, training others in the practical application of Motivational Interviewing. Individuals attending should have a good basic understanding of MI and a strong desire to practice and teach MI. The training will cover basic and advanced MI skills interwoven with teaching methods practice. Participants will observe and demonstrate skills intended to teach MI spirit, style and skill. This training will be taught from Miller, W. R. and Rollnick, S. (2013), "Motivational Interviewing, Helping People Change" (3rd edition), Marshall and Nielsen (2020) Motivational Interviewing for Leaders in the Helping Profession" and Rosengren, D. (2018) "Building Motivational Interviewing Skills: A Practitioner Workbook (Applications of Motivational Interviewing) 2nd Edition."

*See below for dates and link to the event page where you can view the brochure.*

<b><u>Dates</u></b>	<b><u>Training</u></b>	<b><u>Registration Link</u></b>
July 26-27, 2021	M.I. Basic	<a href="#">CLICK HERE</a>
July 29-30, 2021	M.I. Advanced	<a href="#">CLICK HERE</a>
Aug. 2-3, 2021	M.I. for Leadership & Organizations	<a href="#">CLICK HERE</a>
Aug. 5, 2021	M.I. for Supervisors	<a href="#">CLICK HERE</a>

**Times:** Training(s) start promptly at 9:00am and adjourn at 4:15pm each day. Zoom Waiting Room opens at 8:30am each morning; attendees must be logged on by 8:45am. (All times in EST)

**Training Fees:** \$125 per person for all 2-day trainings / \$70 per person for the 1-day Supervisory training. The fee includes electronic training materials and CE's for each day.

**Virtual Co-Occurring Disorders Trainings from Jennifer Harrison – Registration Open**

Registration is open for the following co-occurring disorders virtual trainings from presenter Jennifer Harrison.

These events are sponsored by the adult mental health block grant and are intended for persons who serve adults only through the mental health and substance abuse provider network in the state of Michigan. They contain content appropriate for CMHSP clinicians, therapists, peers, supervisors, and nurses.

*By registering for these trainings, the participant acknowledges they have read & agree to the updated virtual guidelines and terms & conditions in the brochure to ensure they can fully participate in the virtual education. Registration closes 5 business days prior to each training.*

**\*Note: Due to the limited number of spots in these trainings, each organization is limited to a maximum of 6 registrants.**

### **Integrated Dual Disorder Treatment 101**

Adults with co-occurring mental illness and substance use disorders have far worse outcomes in employment, hospitalization, housing, and criminal justice involvement than their single disordered peers. This co-prevalence has been studied since the 1980s, yet despite this, most service systems were organized to treat individuals with a single disorder, excluding those with co-occurring disorders, or providing sequential or parallel treatments that were incompatible or in conflict with each other. Integrated and team-based services offer superior outcomes to parallel or sequential treatments, and call providers to develop interventions to assist individuals in moving toward recovery for both illnesses simultaneously. Integrated Dual Disorder Treatment (IDDT) was designed following systematic study of high intensity COD treatment needs and alterations of the Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) model. Within this training attendees will understand the components of IDDT, including fidelity and outcome measurement. Specific attention will be paid to the development of stage-matched assessment, treatment planning, and treatment interventions for adults with co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders using the IDDT model.

**Date:** July 15, 2021 | [CLICK HERE to Register](#)

**Times:** Training: 8:30am – 4:30pm EST | Zoom log in by 8:15pm

**\$30 Registration fee** includes electronic training materials and CEs

### **Our Brave New World: Cannabis, Opioids, and Pain in Behavioral Health Treatment**

Treatment planning for adults with complex mental health, substance use, and physical health needs involved understanding of stages of change and system navigation. Collaborating with these individuals on their wellness and recovery planning requires motivational approaches and often interventions that are more effective for early stage readiness. The prevalence of cannabis and opioid use makes these cases even more demanding to navigate. Add to this, the opioid crisis in the U.S. Since 1999, sales of opioids in the U.S. have quadrupled. From 1999-2015, more than 180,000 people died from overdoses related to prescription opioids. It is now the #1 cause of accidental death for people under 50. Michigan is one of 31 states with laws allowing medicinal or recreational marijuana use. Opioids and cannabis have become our new legal drugs.

This training will focus attention on providing stage-matched assessment and treatment surrounding use of legal drugs including cannabis and opioids. Focus on treatment planning and provision for individuals who have opioid or cannabis use, as well as management of co-occurring mental health or pain disorders.

**Date:** August 11, 2021 | [CLICK HERE to register](#)

**Times:** Training: 8:30am – 4:30pm EST | Zoom log in by 8:15pm

**\$30 Registration fee** includes electronic training materials and CEs

### **Recovery-Based Co-Occurring Treatment Planning and Delivery**

Until the 21st century, most service systems were organized to treat individuals with a single disorder, excluding those with co-occurring disorders, or providing sequential or parallel treatments that were incompatible or in conflict with each other. Integrated services offer superior outcomes to parallel or sequential treatments, and call providers to develop

interventions to assist individuals in moving toward recovery for both illnesses simultaneously. Recovery-oriented care requires changes at a systems and individual practitioner level in areas including assessment, treatment planning, and delivery. Integrated co-occurring providers will learn about the research on integrated care including Evidence-Based Practices (EBP), and ways to develop stage-matched assessment, treatment planning, and treatment interventions for adults with co-occurring mental health and substance use.

**Date:** August 24, 2021 | [CLICK HERE to register](#)

**Times:** Training: 8:30am – 4:30pm EST | Zoom log in by 8:15pm

**\$30 Registration fee** includes electronic training materials and CEs

### **Stage Matched Treatment for Co-Occurring Needs**

Adults with co-occurring mental illness and substance use disorders have far worse outcomes in employment, hospitalization, housing, and criminal justice involvement than their single disordered peers. In addition, treatment engagement is often lower for individuals with COD, particularly when those individuals are in early stage of readiness for one of more presenting problems. This training will focus on the assessment of stage of readiness using validated tools, and the interventions that are best fit for each stage of readiness. In addition, ways to address organizational readiness for COD treatment will be discussed.

**Date:** August 31, 2021 | [CLICK HERE to register](#)

**Times:** Training: 8:30am – 4:30pm EST | Zoom log in by 8:15pm

**\$30 Registration fee** includes electronic training materials and CEs

### **New! Diversion Council announces next in Interdisciplinary Partnership Series**

The MDHHS Mental Health Diversion Council, in partnership with MCOLES, MSA, CMHA, MACP and PAAM, is proud to announce the 2nd webinar in our Interdisciplinary Partnership Series on:

*Tuesday, June 1st, 2021 - 10:00 am to 12:00 pm*

Moderated by Chief Robert Stevenson (MACP), panelists from Calhoun, Muskegon and Washtenaw will discuss strategies that they have implemented to improve partnership and collaboration between first responders and mental health professionals.

Register now by [clicking here](#).

Additional training opportunities can be found here: [Managing Mental Health Crisis](#).

### **New! Classroom WISE: Coming this JUNE!!!**

A FREE mental health literacy course, video and resource library, and website designed for teachers and school staff. Check out more information and a sneak peek by [clicking here](#).

### **Recorded Parent Webinars**

[Parenting Tips for ADHD: How to Unleash Your Child's Superpowers](#)

[More than Sad: Suicide Prevention for Parents](#)

## Recorded Learning Series

Staying Connected with Students and Youth During COVID-19:

[Part 1: Why Social Connection is Important for Mental Health](#)

[Part 2: Maintaining Meaningful Teacher-Student Connections in the time of COVID-19](#)

[Part 3: Tips for Keeping the "Social" in Social Emotional Learning](#)

[Part 4: Cultivating Belonging in the Era of COVID-19](#)

The Impact of Mental Health on Students & Youth:

[Part 1: Assessing Mental Health in Young People](#)

[Part 2: Virtual Signs of Serious Mental Health Problems](#)

[Part 3: Youth, Social Distancing, and Anxiety in the time of COVID-19](#)

[Part 4: How to have Meaningful Conversations with Youth about Mental Health](#)

## Behavioral Telehealth Resource Center

### Telehealth Resource Center

Michigan's Behavioral Telehealth Resource Center serves to provide current information on telehealth policies, training and engagement opportunities. Please visit the [webpage](#), to see available resources. If you have information to be included on the webpage, please contact [astagg@cmham.org](mailto:astagg@cmham.org).

### Monthly Telehealth Regional Tracker

Check out FAIR Health's Monthly Telehealth Regional [Monthly Telehealth Regional Tracker](#) and [Midwest infographic](#). This tool shows that in the Midwest, the volume of claims fell ~15% from January to February 2021. Another change noted was the disappearance of COVID-19 from the top five telehealth diagnoses. Mental health conditions continued to be the number one telehealth diagnosis nationally and in every region. Within that category, there was one change of note in February 2021: Post-traumatic stress disorder, previously absent from the list of top five mental health diagnoses nationally and in every region, became the fifth most common mental health diagnosis in the Midwest, displacing bipolar disorder.

## Education & Training Resources from Great Lakes MHTTC



Great Lakes (HHS Region 5)

MHTTC

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

## CMHA's partnership with SAMHSA funded Great Lakes MHTTC

CMHA is the Michigan partner of the Great Lakes Mental Health Technology Transfer Center (MHTTC). Through this partnership, funded by the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), MHTTC and CMHA provide Michiganders with access to a wide range of evidence-based and promising mental health practices. More information on the work of the Great Lakes MHTTC can be [found here](#).

The Great Lakes MHTTC products and educational offerings can be found 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.

### **New! The MHTTC Cultural Responsiveness Working Group (CRWG)**

The MHTTC Cultural Responsiveness Working Group (CRWG) aims to disseminate culturally appropriate information and provide technical assistance for the mental health field to improve access to culturally responsive mental health services. A six-part series of 90-minute listening sessions will explore this topic in more detail. [Read more about the series here](#).

**Thursdays, May 20–August 5, 1:00pm CT**

May 20 | Session 1: Setting the Stage

[\*\*Register now!\*\*](#)

### **New! May is Mental Health Awareness Month**

This year, we continue to see the impact of COVID-19 on mental health and well-being. The *Kaiser Family Foundation* reports that during the pandemic, 4 in 10 adults report increased anxiety and depression. [Rates of anxiety, depression, and thoughts of suicide have also increased significantly among young people](#).

As SAMHSA reports in the brief, [Double Jeopardy Double Jeopardy: COVID-19 and Behavioral Health Disparities for Black and Latino Communities in the U.S.](#), communities of color are also experiencing higher rates of anxiety or depressive disorders, compounded by limited access to culturally appropriate services.

The Great Lakes ATTC, MHTTC, and PTTC offer a variety of trainings this month to support your vital work with vulnerable populations in the COVID-19 environment. Please scroll down to our events calendars. We hope you will join us for upcoming trainings.

## News from Our Preferred Corporate Partners

### **Abilita: You WILL Profit from a Technology Audit**

There isn't any doubt that 2020 will be deemed "the year of the pandemic". It doesn't matter what line of business you are engaged in, or what your position in the organization is (was), your technology and telecom picture has changed. And, it may never be quite the same again.

Organizations' technology teams have been overwhelmed with the urgency of the crisis and have had to deploy new collaboration and connectivity solutions without a lot of thought for the long term. 2021 will be the year of preparing for the new reality in telecom and technology which may include:

- more Work From Home challenges
- more video, less telephony
- more flexibility in services and connectivity

Let's call 2021 the "**Year of the Technology Audit**". Look at where you were, where you are, and where and how to move ahead.

For some ideas on how to do this and what you might want to consider, [read this article titled "2021 - The Year of the Audit"](#). To get started now, contact us for a zero-risk review of your technology systems and services.

### **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.](#)

## 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 Board of Directors, 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](mailto:Stonejoe09@gmail.com); (989) 390-2284  
First Vice President: Carl Rice Jr; [cricejr@outlook.com](mailto:cricejr@outlook.com); (517) 745-2124  
Second Vice President: Craig Reiter; [gullivercraig@gmail.com](mailto:gullivercraig@gmail.com); (906) 283-3451  
Secretary: Cathy Kellerman; [balcat19@live.com](mailto:balcat19@live.com); (231) 924-3972  
Treasurer: Randy Kamps; [randyk@4iam.com](mailto:randyk@4iam.com); (231) 392-6670  
Immediate Past President: Bill Davie; [bill49866@gmail.com](mailto:bill49866@gmail.com); (906) 226-4063

### **CMHA Staff Contact Information:**

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

Alan Bolter, Associate Director, (517) 237-3144; [abolter@cmham.org](mailto:abolter@cmham.org)  
Audrey Daul, Administrative Assistant, (517) 237-3141; [adaul@cmham.org](mailto:adaul@cmham.org)  
Dana Ferguson, Senior Accounting Specialist, (517) 237-3147; [dferguson@cmham.org](mailto:dferguson@cmham.org)  
Monique Francis, Executive Secretary/Committee Clerk, (517) 237-3145; [mfrancis@cmham.org](mailto:mfrancis@cmham.org)  
Jodi Hammond, Training and Meeting Planner, (517) 237-3148; [jhammond@cmham.org](mailto:jhammond@cmham.org)  
Regina MacDonald, Accounting Assistant, (517) 237-3146; [rmacdonald@cmham.org](mailto:rmacdonald@cmham.org)  
Bethany Rademacher, Training and Meeting Planner, (517) 237-3149; [brademacher@cmham.org](mailto:brademacher@cmham.org)  
Alexandra Risher, Training and Meeting Planner, (517) 237-3150; [arisher@cmham.org](mailto:arisher@cmham.org)  
Carly Sanford, Training and Meeting Planner, (517) 237-3151; [csanford@cmham.org](mailto:csanford@cmham.org)  
Robert Sheehan, CEO, (517) 237-3142 [rsheehan@cmham.org](mailto:rsheehan@cmham.org)  
Madi Sholtz, Training and Meeting Planner, (517) 237-3152; [msholtz@cmham.org](mailto:msholtz@cmham.org)  
Amy Stagg, Behavioral Telehealth Coordinator, (517) 324-7310; [astagg@cmham.org](mailto:astagg@cmham.org)  
Christina Ward, Director of Education & Training, (517) 237-3143; [cward@cmham.org](mailto:cward@cmham.org)  
Anne Wilson, Training and Meeting Planner, (517) 237-3153; [awilson@cmham.org](mailto:awilson@cmham.org)