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BCCHPS Introduction



The Bureau of Children's Coordinated Health Policy & Supports (BCCHPS) newsletter provides information on the bureau specific work being conducted within the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS), including updates on key initiatives related to children's behavioral health. Please share with others who may benefit from this information. If you would like to become part of the list for regular dissemination, please complete [this brief form](#).

Check out the [BCCHPS Website](#)

MichiCANS has Launched!

Effective Tuesday, Oct. 1, MDHHS launched the Michigan Child & Adolescent Needs and Strengths (MichiCANS) tool statewide for all Prepaid Inpatient Health Plans (PIHPs), Community Mental Health Services Providers (CMHSPs), Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics and the Children's Services Administration. In addition to the MichiCANS, the Devereux Early Childhood Assessment (DECA) is used at intake and annually to inform treatment planning and service delivery for young children ages one month up to age six.



Consistent use of the MichiCANS throughout these systems allows for a standardized

assessment through which needs and strengths for a child and their family can be identified and used to support access to services and supports.

On Wednesday, Oct. 2, MDHHS issued [L-Letter 24-63](#) to provide supplemental instructions for statewide use of the MichiCANS and temporary continued use of the Child & Adolescent Functional Assessment Scale (CAFAS) and Preschool & Early Childhood Functional Assessment Scale (PECFAS) for the Serious Emotional Disturbance Waiver (SEDW) and 1915(i) populations.

As a reminder, the MichiCANS website, *I am a Service Provider* section, offers a variety of resources, including flyers, FAQs, introduction video and more. Additional questions about the MichiCANS, including statewide implementation, can be sent to MDHHS-MichiCANS@michigan.gov.

MichiCANS Website

Wanted: Feedback from Youth & Families with Lived Experience



BCCHPS is committed to thinking critically and creatively to ensure youth and family voices, expertise, and perspectives are embedded in the work we do. We continue to welcome the thoughts and feedback of providers and those with lived experience. Your stories, recommendations and feedback could help inform:

- State policy or program changes.
- Best practices to engage with children, families, and providers.
- Guidance for and understanding of service eligibility and access.
- How to strengthen partnerships between children, families, and service providers.

Your help may be requested in a variety of ways: participation in surveys, focus groups, art design, personal stories, advisory committees, etc. Providing feedback when requested is always optional. If you are interested in offering your viewpoint, please complete [this brief form](#) and someone from the BCCHPS team will contact you.

MDHHS Behavioral Health Internship Stipend Program

In the previous issue, information was shared about the Behavioral Health Internship Stipend Program, designed to offer stipend payments of up to \$15,000 for student interns enrolled in an accredited behavioral health bachelor's, master's or doctorate program in Michigan.

The initial round of applications closed on August 26, yielding 1,088 completed applications. Of those, 227 students were selected to receive stipends, totaling \$2.9 million.



Behavioral Health Data Dashboard Update



Based on the User Acceptance Testing (UAT) that took place beginning in May, refinement of the Behavioral Health Data Dashboard is currently underway. Continued UAT is critical to ensure users of the dashboard are able to easily navigate and understand the available information. A second round of UAT is scheduled beginning in November and will be

followed by target population testing in 2025, prior to public release.

Michigan Intensive Child & Adolescent Services (MICAS)

The BCCHPS team is working hard to refine and expand services available to youth across the state. A brochure outlining the Medicaid services that youth and their families may be eligible for is available to providers to share at no cost. Copies of this brochure can be ordered through the [Michigan Department of Health & Human Services Clearinghouse](#).



Waiver Renewal Applications & State Plan Amendment Updates



On Monday, July 1, following review and integration of public comments, MDHHS submitted waiver renewal applications for the Habilitation Supports Waiver, Children's Waiver Program and SEDW. MDHHS also submitted an amendment to the 1915(i) Waiver and two other State Plan Amendments (SPAs) for Parent Support Partners and Intensive Care Coordination with Wraparound to the Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS).

Approvals for the State Plan Amendments were provided by CMS in September. CMS granted an extension to allow for continued review and dialogue of the waiver applications. Changes made within the waiver applications will not become effective until notice of final approval by CMS. MDHHS will continue to communicate relevant updates with PIHPs, CMHSPs, providers, and families.

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