

RESOLUTION OF THE MID-STATE HEALTH NETWORK BOARD OF DIRECTORS OPPOSING MDHHS DECISIONS TO IMPLEMENT CONFLICT FREE ACCESS AND PLANNING IN MICHIGAN

Community Mental Health Member Authorities

Bay-Arenac
Behavioral Health



CMH of
Clinton.Eaton.Ingham
Counties



CMH for Central
Michigan



Gratiot Integrated
Health Network



Huron Behavioral
Health



The Right Door for
Hope, Recovery &
Wellness (Ionia County)



LifeWays



Montcalm Care
Network



Newaygo County
Mental Health Center



Saginaw County CMH



Shiawassee
Health & Wellness



Tuscola Behavioral
Health Systems

Board Officers

Edward Woods
Chairperson

Irene O'Boyle
Vice-Chairperson

Deb McPeek-McFadden
Secretary

WHEREAS the Mid-State Health Network (MSHN) is a regional entity created in 2014 by the twelve Community Mental Health Services Programs (CMHSPs) listed at left and functions as a Pre-Paid Inpatient Health Plan (PIHP) for twenty-one mid-Michigan counties under a master Medicaid specialty supports and services contract with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS). The MSHN Board of Directors is comprised of two appointees from each of the CMH Participants in the MSHN region, half of which are primary or secondary consumers of public behavioral health services.

WHEREAS in May 2023, the MSHN Board passed a resolution opposing all four models proposed by MDHHS, and the recent decisions announced by MDHHS in March and April 2024 are not substantially different from those models opposed by the MSHN Board at that time.

WHEREAS MDHHS has announced its decision to require CMHSPs to separate service assessment and planning from service delivery, requiring beneficiaries to receive the assessment and planning services from one entity and ongoing direct services from another, separate entity by October 1, 2024.

WHEREAS after careful review and in addition to the conclusions presented in our May 2023 Resolution, the conclusions of the MSHN Board are that the current decision:

- Is in conflict with the statutory responsibilities of CMHSPs under Michigan law;
- Erroneously implies profit driven or undue enrichment motives on the part of governmental entities (CMHSPs and PIHPs) instead of recognizing what is actually a formal transfer of governmental responsibility from the State to the Counties for the delivery of public behavioral health services;
- Ignores the capitation-based financing of the Michigan public behavioral health system, which is constant and does not vary by volume of individuals served negating any conflicts of interest in service planning and service delivery;
- Ignores Michigan's current shared risk (with MDHHS) financing system which already mitigates against conflict and self-interest.
- Is in conflict with the Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) model currently being implemented and expanded in Michigan;
- Ignores, at best, and disregards, at worst, input from persons with lived experience that have consistently stated that the available procedural safeguards are preferable to systemic/structural upheaval inherent in MDHHS announced decisions;

THEREFORE, BE IT UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT, in the strongest possible terms, and for the reasons noted herein, the MSHN Board of Directors **opposes the MDHHS announced structural strategies** for compliance with the federal Conflict Free Access and Planning Rules.

BE IT FURTHER UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT, the Mid-State Health Network Board of Directors requests MDHHS reconsideration of its current decisions and to honor CMS waiver approval of procedural mitigation of conflict, and to pursue CMS approval of strengthened procedural safeguards against conflict of interest in Michigan.

ON BEHALF OF THE MID-STATE HEALTH NETWORK BOARD OF DIRECTORS BY ITS OFFICERS

Ed Woods, Chairperson
(LifeWays)

Irene O'Boyle, Vice Chairperson
(Gratiot Integrated Health Network)

Deb McPeek-McFadden, Secretary
(The Right Door for Hope, Recovery, and Wellness)

Unanimously Adopted May 7, 2024