

# Consumer Advisory Committee Agenda

**DATE** February 11, 2026

**LOCATION** MHC West Staff Conference 3

**ZOOM MEETING** <https://healthwest.zoom.us/j/92354472971> Meeting ID: 923 5447 2971

**COMMITTEE MEMBER PARTICIPANTS:** Cindy Devries, Cowboy Thomas Hardy, Angie Kartes, Tamara Madison, Demario Phillips, David Scholtens, Craig Franklin, Shawnee Tate, Chris Ware, Elizabeth Londo

**HEALTHWEST STAFF:** Kelly Betts, Gary Ridley, Jennifer Hoeker, Amber Pickard

**Additional Guest:**

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Time	Initiative	Lead	Action Required/Notes:
1:00 pm	<b>REFLECTION: "Be the change you wish to see in the world". - Mahatma Gandhi</b>		
1:00 pm	Review of prior meeting minutes	Cowboy/Demario	Motion: Approved:
1:05 pm	Review of Meeting agenda	Cowboy/Demario	Motion: Approved:
1:07 pm	<p>New Business:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Consumer Advisory Committee - Policy Change (<b>Attachment 1</b>) (<b>Attachment 2 – Full board packet</b>)</li> <li>b. Annual paperwork due at April Meeting (<b>Attachment 8</b>)</li> <li>c. Customer Service updates (Kelly)</li> <li>d. Voices In Action Day (April 15, 2026) (<b>Attachment 3</b>)</li> <li>e. Save the Date: Walk a Mile – September 23, 2026 (<b>Attachment 4</b>)</li> </ul> <p>Old Business:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Nominations were discussed at the December meeting. - All positions will remain the same for this year.</li> </ul>	Cowboy/Demario	<p>New Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <b>Action: approve changes</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Motion:</b> <b>Approved:</b> <b>Kelly to send request to change to Helen Dobb</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b. Information:</li> <li>c. Information:</li> <li>d. Information:</li> <li>e. Information:</li> </ul> <p>Old Business:</p>
1:30 pm	<p>Committee Updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Performance Improvement Committee</li> <li>b. Trauma Informed Committee</li> <li>c. Special Projects committee</li> <li>d. Nominations committee</li> </ul>	Dave N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. (David) - Updates:</li> <li>b. (Angie) - Updates</li> <li>c.. - No updates</li> <li>d. No Updates:</li> </ul>

Time		Initiative	Lead	Action Required/Notes:
1:45 pm		Communications/Advocacy Update: PIHP RFP Rebid Cancellation ( <b>Attachment 5</b> )	Gary/ Jennifer	
2:00 pm		No Special Guests		
2:40 pm		Regional Advisory Committee: Packet attached for December Meeting ( <b>Attachment 6</b> ) a. Contact Mari at 1-800-897-3301 to join	Angie Tamara Demario Shawnee	
2:40 pm		State Advisory Committee: CMHA <b>Attachment 7</b> Anyone can join. Next meeting April 15, 2026 1:00 -2:30 pm Join Zoom Meeting <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89146609326?pwd=8m8F4Y3WYohGSpBOMFNdaLV4HGJvSp.1">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89146609326?pwd=8m8F4Y3WYohGSpBOMFNdaLV4HGJvSp.1</a> Meeting ID: 891 4660 9326 Passcode: 088598	Information	
2:45 pm		Public Participation	Open forum for Guests	
2:50 pm		Good News / Discussion / Round Table a. Agenda suggestions for future meetings b. Guest Suggestions for future meetings	Cowboy/De mario	a. b.
3:00 pm		<b>ADJOURN – Next meeting –April 8, 2026 1-3pm</b>	Cowboy/ Demario	Adjourn:

# Consumer Advisory Committee Agenda

**DATE** December 9, 2025

**LOCATION** MHC West Staff Conference 3

**ZOOM MEETING** <https://healthwest.zoom.us/j/92354472971> **Meeting ID: 923 5447 2971**

**COMMITTEE MEMBER PARTICIPANTS:**

**Virtual:** Cindy Devries, , Angie Kartes, Demario Phillips, David Scholtens, Craig Franklin, Shawnee Tate, , Elizabeth Londo

**In person:** Cowboy Thomas Hardy, Chris Ware

**Absent:** Tamara Madison

**HEALTHWEST STAFF:** Kelly Betts, Gary Ridley, Jennifer Hoeker, Hannah D (ICS supervisor)

**Additional Guest:** Joe Cornella

Time		Initiative	Lead	Action Required/Notes:
1:00 pm	<b>REFLECTION: "Be the change you wish to see in the world". - Mahatma Gandhi</b>			
1:00 pm		Review of prior meeting minutes	Cowboy/De mario	Motion: Demario Approved: Cindy
1:05 pm		Review of Meeting agenda	Cowboy/De mario	Motion: Demario Approved: Craig Cowboy motioned to add a policy change discussion: Item D on new buisness.
1:07 pm		New Business: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Nominations- Takes over for April Meeting               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <b>Chair – Open Position</b></li> <li>b. Co-Chair- can hold this position one more year.</li> <li>c. Secretary- Can hold this position for one more year.</li> <li>d. Sargent at Arms- can hold this position for one year.</li> </ul> </li> <li>b. Request to vote</li> <li>c. Customer Service updates (Kelly)               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. CCBHC</li> <li>b. presentation</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Cowboy/De mario	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. No need to nominate for positions. All positions have agreed to remain in their position for one more year.</li> <li>b. No need to vote – all parties are remaining in position</li> <li>c. Customer service updates - Kelly provided a powerpoint on customer service, including Reginal Satisfaction Survey data, Grievances, Appeals, Limited English Proficiency data and notices to individuals. Kelly also spoke briefly of the updates the customer service team is doing due to the new CCBHC mandates as of 10/1/2025.</li> <li>d. Policy change discussion.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Motion to increase the members CAP to 15</li> <li>b. Motion to allow for members to remain more than 3 years if not at the CAP. Currently 7 members will need to be removed as of Jan 2026 as the 7 have been members since Jan 2023.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
1:30 pm		Committee Updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Performance Improvement Committee</li> <li>b. Trauma Informed Committee</li> <li>c. Special Projects committee</li> </ul>	Dave N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. (David) - Updates: No updates Provided</li> <li>b. (Angie) - Updates No Updates provided</li> <li>c.. - No updates</li> <li>d. Meeting 12/9 at 12:30pm – Updates</li> </ul>

Time		Initiative	Lead	Action Required/Notes:
		d. Nominations committee		
1:45 pm		Communications/Advocacy Update:	Gary/ Jennifer	<p>Discussion on Clinically AI – staff to document notes. Will roll out soon.</p> <p>Discussion on adding consumer photos in the Electronic Medical Record. Clients can opt out if they chose. Releases will be signed.</p> <p>CCBHC – Discussion on changes happening.</p> <p>RFP Rebid – discussion on court hearing that is happening at this time. Discussion on some concerns if this RFB does proceed.</p> <p>Discussion on the importance of advocating and reaching out to lawmakers. Reminded to do the action alerts when they come your way. Reminders to write letters, call your legislators, participate in Walk a Mile, etc.</p>
2:00 pm		a. Jennifer Hoeker – Feedback for Healthwest way committee b. Hannah D – Crisis Line	Suzanne & Mickey	<p>a. Feedback on Healthwest Way - Healthwest way – Jen shared the new initiative to improve overall customer service across the entire agency. Asked for feedback from committee. (minimal feedback provided)</p> <p>b. Information on Crisis Line - Hannah came in to discuss the Crisis Line and the work that is being done. Many questions and great discussion.</p>
2:40 pm		Regional Advisory Committee: a. Contact Mari at 1-800-897-3301 to join	Angie Tamara Demario Shawnee	No Updates
2:40 pm		State Advisory Committee: CMHA Anyone can join. Next meeting January 14, 2026 1:00 -2:30 pm Join Zoom Meeting <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82308263726?pwd=5YAZ5fLxQfG0PkEC1GfznurkpncNPT.1">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82308263726?pwd=5YAZ5fLxQfG0PkEC1GfznurkpncNPT.1</a> Meeting ID: 823 0826 3726 Passcode: 152513	Information	Reminder that anyone can attend
2:45 pm		Public Participation	Open forum for Guests	No participation
2:50 pm		Good News / Discussion / Round Table a. Agenda suggestions for future meetings b. Guest Suggestions for future meetings	Cowboy/De mario	<p>a. No discussion of future suggestions at meetings</p> <p>b. David shared that he went to court and now has full custody of his son!</p> <p>Cowboy is starting his internship at Healthwest in January 2025</p>



Time		Initiative	Lead	Action Required/Notes:
3:00 pm	<b>ADJOURN</b> – Next meeting – February 11, 2026 1-3pm		Cowboy/ Demario	Adjourn: Adjourned at 3pm



<b>Policy/Procedure Title:</b> Consumer Advisory Committee	<b>Policy and Procedure #:</b> 01-007	<b><u>Review Dates</u></b>	
<b>Category:</b> Community Relations  <b>Subject:</b> Consumer Advisory Committee	<b>Prepared by:</b> Name: Kelly Betts Title: Customer Service Specialist  <b>Approved by:</b> DocuSigned by:  Rich Francisco, Executive Director	08/13/2025	
	<b>Effective Date:</b> 08/19/2016	<b>Last Revised Date:</b> 01/17/2024	

## I. POLICY

The HealthWest Board of Directors will appoint a **nine (9) to twelve (12) member** Consumer Advisory Committee (CAC). The CAC will serve as a means of fostering consumer and citizen advocate participation in the planning, implementation and evaluation of the public mental health developmental disability and substance abuse system of care in Muskegon County.

## II. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide direction to the individuals appointed by the HealthWest Board of Directors to serve as members of the Consumer Advisory Committee (CAC). The policy shall explain the purpose of the group, how members are appointed, how the group is organized, governed, and describe sub-committee organization, if needed.

The purpose of the CAC is to provide citizen input to the HealthWest Board. The CAC shall function as an autonomous body having neither the power to set policy nor to assume any administrative responsibilities. The CAC shall be a resource to the HealthWest Board through coordination of information. It shall also serve as a means of fostering citizen and consumer participation in the planning and disseminating of information and citizen concerns to the HealthWest Board. The CAC shall advocate for state and local funding and support the highest standards of mental health service delivery. The HealthWest Board shall provide basic administrative support which may include such administrative, logistical, and support services as the Board can provide.

## III. APPLICATION

This policy shall apply to the members of the CAC, the HealthWest Board of Directors as the appointing authority, and the Executive Director.

## IV. PROCEDURE

### A. Standards

The Consumer Advisory Committee shall consist of **nine (9) to twelve (12) members** defined as follows:

1. Inaugural Persons shall be appointed to the CAC by the HealthWest Board. Subsequent CAC Members shall be recommended by the CAC and appointed by the HealthWest Board.
2. A person who resides or is employed within Muskegon County.
3. A person who shall have the interest, time, and energy to promote the development and/or improvement of mental health, developmental disability, and substance abuse services in Muskegon County.
4. The CAC shall make every effort to ensure that its membership represents the populations served by HealthWest in equal proportions. The membership structure should be as follows:
  - a. A minimum of 5 members who are primary or secondary consumers of mental health services as well as;
  - b. Members who are service providers in agencies other than HealthWest;
  - c. Members who represent the community to be recruited from, but not limited to, the clergy, business, teachers, and non-agency union representation.
5. CAC members will receive a stipend consistent with that paid to the Board of Directors members for each meeting attended, not to exceed one stipend per day.

B. Functions

The functions of the Consumer Advisory Committee shall include:

1. Study community mental health, developmental disability, and substance abuse needs.
2. Review services which are currently available.
3. Review and make recommendations relative to the accessibility and availability of existing services.
4. Provide input to the Board relative to service priorities and allocation of resources.
5. Make recommendations for the development of additional programs and services which meet the unmet needs of the County.
6. Appoint a liaison to the Board to facilitate communication between the Board and the CAC.
7. Provide a forum for community caregivers, mental health advocates, consumers, and other concerned community members to have input into agency planning.

8. Serve to review findings in aggregate (trends) of network audits and the HealthWest quality measures.

C. Elections

1. Elections shall be held by voice vote with at least fifteen (15) days prior notice to each member eligible to vote.
2. A Nominations Committee consisting of at least two (2) members shall be appointed each year by the Chairperson at the February meeting, considering there is a quorum.
3. Consent to serve must be obtained from the nominees and said nominees must be present at the time of elections. Before the call of the vote, additional nominations may be made from the floor, and voting shall not be limited to the nominees.
4. A plurality vote of the members entitled to vote, and voting shall constitute an election. The persons who receive the highest number of votes shall be declared elected. In case of a tie, another vote may be cast.
5. Terms of office shall commence at the completion of the agenda of the annual meeting in April, at which time the results of the election will be announced. The new Chairperson will assume the chair and convene the regular monthly meeting and complete the agenda of that meeting.

D. Officers

The Officers of the Consumer Advisory Committee shall be: (A) Chairperson, (B) Vice Chairperson, and (C) Secretary.

1. Candidates for office shall be selected from members of the CAC.
2. Officers of the CAC shall be elected at the annual meeting held in April of each year.

E. Terms

1. Terms for CAC Members will be one (1) to three (3) years duration with one-third ( $\frac{1}{3}$ ) of the membership having their terms expire each year. The CAC will make every effort to maintain these proportions at all times.
2. Term of office for the Officers shall be one (1) year.
  - a) If elected officer is terminated or chooses to leave, the nominations committee will take action and forward the results to the HealthWest Board for action.
3. Elected Officers may succeed themselves but shall not exceed two (2) consecutive one-year terms.
4. Three (3) unexcused absences in a calendar year will result in termination of membership from the CAC.

5. Members with terms expiring in that year will have their term expire at the conclusion of the April meeting.
6. Vacant Officer positions may be filled by the CAC for the duration of the term. Candidates shall be selected from CAC members.
7. Vacant Member position recommendations shall be made by the CAC to the HealthWest Board of Directors, who ~~may~~ in turn appoint individuals to serve.
8. The Nominations Committee appointed by the Chairman of the CAC shall present the credentials of persons proposed to fill upcoming terms at the March meeting of the CAC. The CAC shall take action on these nominations and forward the results to the HealthWest Board for action. If appointed by the Board, new members will take their place with the CAC at its April meeting.
9. No person serving on the CAC shall be a full-time employee of HealthWest or any of its contract agencies.
10. All persons considered for membership shall be apprised of and subsequently upon appointment sign a Confidentiality Agreement. Information that may from time-to-time be shared with the CAC is confidential and is protected by law (P.A. 258 and/or Federal Statute 42 CFR, Part 2) as well as Community Mental Health Authority policy.
11. Proposed policy changes will be submitted to the full CAC membership in writing at least two (2) weeks prior to the meeting at which time they will be considered.

F. Organization of Meetings

1. Regular meetings shall be held at HealthWest bi-monthly unless the Chairperson designates a change.
2. The voting body at any meeting shall consist of the members who are in attendance. No member shall be permitted to cast more than one (1) vote in any election or any matter coming before the CAC.
3. One (1) officer and one-third ( $\frac{1}{3}$ ) of the members must be present to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting.
4. The order of business at the regular meetings shall include:
  - a. Call to Order
  - b. Roll Call
  - c. Minutes of Last Meeting
  - d. Board Liaison Report
  - e. Reports of Ad Hoc Committees
  - f. New Business
  - g. Verification of Public Notice
  - h. Public Participation
  - i. Director's Report
  - j. Reports of Standing Committees
  - k. Old Business
  - l. Adjournment

5. Special meetings may be called by the Chairperson or upon the written request of a quorum of members of the CAC.
6. All meetings are open to public attendance and participation.
7. All meetings shall be conducted in accordance with "Roberts Rules of Order Revised".

G. Standing and Ad Hoc Committees

1. Sub-Committees of the CAC shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Chairperson and shall have terms which expire at the same time as the term of the Chairperson.
2. Sub-Committees shall meet as directed by the Chairperson or at such frequency as to discharge their responsibilities.
3. Sub-Committees shall report progress to their activities and/or recommendations for action to the CAC on a regular basis as may, from time-to-time, be established by the Chairperson.
4. The majority of a Sub-Committee shall constitute a quorum of that Committee.
5. Standing Sub-Committees shall be those with responsibilities which are ongoing and relate to the mission of the CAC.
6. Ad Hoc Sub-Committees shall be those Committees which have specific and/or time-limited tasks assigned by the Chairperson.
7. The standing Sub-Committees of the CAC may include but not be limited to the following:
  - a. Children's Services Sub-Committee
  - b. Family Support Sub-Committee
8. The Ad Hoc Sub-Committees of the CAC may include but are not limited to the following:
  - a. Nominations
  - b. By-Laws
  - c. Special Project
9. An Ad Hoc By-Laws Committee may be appointed by the Chairperson of the CAC for the review and presentation of recommended changes to the full Committee.

V. REFERENCES

The Michigan Mental Health Code R330.2802 (7) provides that the governing body of the program shall ensure that the concerns of the consumers and interested parties are considered in the program's decision-making progress.

Authors Initials KB/hb

**HEALTHWEST**  
**FULL BOARD MINUTES**

**December 19, 2025**

**8:00 a.m.**

**376 E. Apple Ave.  
Muskegon, MI 49442**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the Full Board was called to order by Chair Thomas at 8:00 a.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Members Present: Janet Thomas, Cheryl Natte, Janice Hilleary, Jeff Fortenbacher, John Weerstra, Remington Sprague, M.D., Thomas Hardy, Chris McGuigan

Members Absent: Charles Nash, Kim Cyr, Mary Vazquez, Tamara Madison

Others Present: Rich Francisco, Holly Brink, Gina Maniaci, Brandy Carlson, Christy LaDronks, Carly Hysell, Melina Barrett, Jackie Farrar, Kelly Betts, Helen Dobb, Linda Anthony, Gina Kim, Casey Olson, Linda Wagner, Mickey Wallace, Gary Ridley, Pam Kimble

Guests Present: Joe Comella, Matt Farrar, Sara Hough, Stephanie VanDerKooi

**MINUTES**

HWB 41-B - It was moved by Mr. Hardy, seconded by Dr. Sprague, to approve the minutes of the November 21, 2025 Full Board meeting as written.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Program Personnel Committee**

HWB 18-P - It was moved by Mr. Hardy, seconded by Mr. Weerstra, to approve the minutes of the October 10, 2025 meeting as written

**MOTION CARRIED**

HWB 19-P - It was moved by Mr. Hardy, seconded by Ms. Hilleary, to approve the policy and procedural changes for Policy 04-001 described above and attached, effective December 22, 2025.

**MOTION CARRIED**



HWB 20-P - It was moved by Mr. Hardy, seconded by Ms. Hilleary, to approve the policy and procedural changes for Policy 04-003 described above and attached, effective December 22, 2025.

**MOTION CARRIED**

HWB 21-P - It was moved by Mr. Hardy, seconded by Ms. Hilleary, to approve the policy and procedural changes for Policy 04-004 described above and attached, effective December 22, 2025.

**MOTION CARRIED**

HWB 22-P - It was moved by Mr. Hardy, seconded by Ms. Hilleary, to approve the policy and procedural changes for Policy 04-006 described above and attached, effective December 22, 2025.

**MOTION CARRIED**

HWB 23-P - It was moved by Mr. Hardy, seconded by Ms. Hilleary, to approve the policy and procedural changes for Policy 04-007 described above and attached, effective December 22, 2025.

**MOTION CARRIED**

HWB 24-P - It was moved by Mr. Hardy, seconded by Ms. Hilleary, to approve the policy and procedural changes for Policy 04-009 described above and attached, effective December 22, 2025.

**MOTION CARRIED**

HWB 25-P - It was moved by Mr. Hardy, seconded by Ms. Hilleary, to approve the policy and procedural changes for Policy 04-010 described above and attached, effective December 22, 2025.

**MOTION CARRIED**

HWB 26-P - It was moved by Mr. Hardy, seconded by Ms. Hilleary, to approve the policy and procedural changes for Policy 04-013 described above and attached, effective December 22, 2025.

**MOTION CARRIED**

HWB 27-P - It was moved by Mr. Hardy, seconded by Ms. Hilleary, to approve the policy and procedural changes for Policy 04-015 described above and attached, effective December 22, 2025.

**MOTION CARRIED**

HWB 28-P - It was moved by Mr. Hardy, seconded by Ms. Hilleary, to approve the policy and procedural changes for Policy 04-016 described above and attached, effective December 22, 2025.

**MOTION CARRIED**

HWB 29-P - It was moved by Mr. Hardy, seconded by Ms. Hilleary, to approve the policy and procedural changes for Policy 04-017 described above and attached, effective December 22, 2025.

**MOTION CARRIED**

HWB 30-P - It was moved by Mr. Hardy, seconded by Ms. Hilleary, to approve the policy and procedural changes for Policy 04-018 described above and attached, effective December 22, 2025.

**MOTION CARRIED**

HWB 31-P - It was moved by Mr. Hardy, seconded by Ms. Hilleary, to approve the policy and procedural changes for Policy 04-020 described above and attached, effective December 22, 2025.

**MOTION CARRIED**

HWB 32-P - It was moved by Mr. Hardy, seconded by Ms. Hilleary, to approve the policy and procedural changes for Policy 04-022 described above and attached, effective December 22, 2025.

**MOTION CARRIED**

HWB 33-P - It was moved by Mr. Hardy, seconded by Ms. Hilleary, to approve the HealthWest Policy for Financial Management, effective December 22, 2025.

**MOTION CARRIED**

### **Recipient Rights Committee**

HWB 34-R - It was moved by Ms. Natte, seconded by Ms. Hilleary, to approve the minutes of the October 10, 2025 meeting as written.

**MOTION CARRIED**

HWB 35-R - It was moved by Ms. Thomas, seconded by Ms. Hilleary to approve the Recipient Rights Reports for October 2025 / November 2025

**MOTION CARRIED**

HWB 36-R - It was moved by Ms. Thomas, seconded by Ms. Hilleary to authorize the approval as outlined in the motion above appointing Casey Olson as the Recipient Rights Officer, effective November 17, 2025.

**MOTION CARRIED**

### **Finance Committee**

HWB 37-F - It was moved by Mr. Hardy, seconded by Dr. Sprague, to approve the minutes of the November 14, 2025, meeting as written.

**MOTION CARRIED**

HWB 38-F - It was moved by Dr. Sprague, seconded by Mr. Hardy, to approve expenditures for the month of October 2025, in the total amount of \$3,501,069.29.

**MOTION CARRIED**

HWB 39-F - It was moved by Mr. Hardy, seconded by Dr. Sprague, to authorize the HealthWest Executive Director to sign a contract with Imara LLC effective January 1, 2026, through September 30, 2027, to provide specialized residential services to eligible HealthWest consumers. The funding is within the HealthWest AFC Specialized Residential Budget of \$24,900,000.00.

**MOTION CARRIED**

HWB 40-F - It was moved by Mr. Hardy, seconded by Dr. Sprague, to authorize the HealthWest Executive Director to sign a contract with Giddings AFC Homes, LLC effective January 1, 2026, through September 30, 2027, to provide specialized residential services to eligible HealthWest consumers. The funding is within the HealthWest AFC Specialized Residential Budget of \$24,900,000.00.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

HWB 42-B – It was moved by Ms. Thomas, seconded by Mr. Fortenbacher, to authorize the HealthWest Consumer Advisory Committee to increase the member capacity from 9 -11 members to 15 members and changing the policy language allowing current members to remain on the committee longer than current term 1-3 years if the capacity is not currently met to prevent vacancy.

**MOTION MADE ON THE FLOOR / MOTION CARRIED**

**OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business.

**NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

**COMMUNICATION**

Mr. Hardy provided an update on the Consumer Advisory Council. Brandy Carlson provided positive feedback and employee kudos.

**DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS**

Mr. Francisco, Executive Director, presented his Formal Director's report.

**PIHP Procurement:**

- At the time of writing this update (12/18/2025), HW along with all the CMHSPs and PIHPs are waiting on Judge Yates to make a ruling on the case against MDHHS and DTMB regarding PIHP procurement. The hearing

was held on December 8<sup>th</sup> in Lansing for the first day and for the second and third day the hearing was in Grand Rapids. Like the update I provided to HW Finance committee, Judge Yates shared some concern about elements of the PIHP RFP that could strip CMHSPs of their ability to perform their statutory function to provide services according to the Mental Health Code. Judge Yates asked questions surrounding the braided funding and did receive good examples of how CMHSPs deliver services to individuals. There was also discussion surrounding civil admissions to Inpatient and hospital settings and how that is managed by CMHSPs, and how that could be impacted if the RFP were to go forward.

#### **CCBHC direct payment:**

- HW staff is currently developing a service agreement with LRE to continue to provide CCBHC appeals function for HW. Allegan and Ottawa are also interested in doing the same because the LRE is geared and already doing this function. I did mention this to the board last month that we would pursue this.
- LRE is also updating our DUA (Data Use Agreement) to include language that would permit the LRE to process CCBHC data as well for submission to MDHHS. MDHHS has agreed to let the current stand that LRE continue to be the pipeline for the CCBHC data before it goes to the state. There will be a workgroup forming in January/February to address CCBHC data concerns but to keep data flowing, the current data pipeline will remain.

#### **LRE Level Updates:**

- At the LRE board meeting, Mary Dumas provided a recap of the proceedings from the hearing with Judge Yates and the CMHSPs and PIHPs who filed a lawsuit against MDHHS. The hearing was from 12/8 - 12/10. Everyone is still waiting for Judge Yates ruling and opinion to decide the case. Judge Yates expressed wanting to provide an opinion this week.
- LRE also presented aggregate data for all CMHSPs on Grievance and Appeals data.
- The LRE also presented information related to two legislative updates from the Oversight Policy board related to an effort to prohibit Marijuana billboard advertising (HB 5134 and 5135). The other is legislation surrounding licensing of tobacco sales including e-Cigarettes and nicotine pouches. This will require retailers to obtain state issued license to sell these products (SB 462, 464-465)

#### **CMH Level Updates:**

- Last month, I gave an update that we were evaluating consolidating staff at NIMS. After deliberation and internal discussion, HW has decided not to move Terrace Plaza staff over to NIMS building and consolidate. This move will significantly increase our rent by about 83k annually. HW will evaluate this in the coming year or two again. The factors involved in the decision fell on the unpredictable nature of our funding and because of all the potential changes at MDHHS and budget concerns, HW decided to hold off on moving.

- HW found out that there is a licensing opportunity to get a twelve bed to expand our CRU (Crisis Residential Unit) without putting in a hood suppression system. Prior to moving to our current CRU our goal was to expand to twelve beds and at the time we were told that we needed a hood suppression system. We were told by the fire Marshall and notified by the architect that that only applies to 14 Bed. There is a mid-level license we can get for a twelve bed for which our current space is already appropriate. This is good news and HW does not need to spend 70k - 80k on a hood suppression system.
- HW also completed an ACT MiFAST fidelity review and the clinical teams involved are currently reviewing the reports. Any findings or recommendations will be addressed as opportunities for improvement. HW regularly conduct MiFAST reviews, but they are not a formal audit. They are an opportunity to review certain programs and evidenced based practices so we can improve current practices.

### **AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

There was no audience participation.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting adjourned at 8:55 a.m.

Respectfully,

Janet Thomas  
Board Chair

/hb

**PRELIMINARY MINUTES**  
**To be approved at the Full Board Meeting on**  
**January 23, 2026**



**TO:** HealthWest Board Members

**FROM:** Janet Thomas, Board Chair, via Rich Francisco, Executive Director

**SUBJECT:** Full Board Meeting  
December 19, 2025  
376 E. Apple Ave., Muskegon, MI 49442  
<https://healthwest.zoom.us/j/92330401570?pwd=TFNHMW hnQmF5NV AybWRQVG54Tk1GZz09>  
One tap mobile: (309)205-3325, 92330401570# Passcode: 428623

### **REVISED AGENDA**

- |    |   |             |
|----|---|-------------|
| 1) | Call to Order   | Action      |
| 2) | Approval of Agenda  | Action      |
| 3) | Approval of Minutes   |             |
|    | A) Approval of the Full Board Minutes of November 21, 2025<br>(Attachment #1 – pg. 1-4)       | Action      |
| 4) | Public Comment (on an agenda item)  |             |
| 5) | Committee Reports   |             |
|    | A) Program Personnel Committee<br>(Attachment #2 – pg. 5-10)                                  | Action      |
|    | B) Recipient Rights Committee<br>(Attachment #3 – pg. 11-13)                                  | Action      |
|    | C) Finance Committee<br>(Attachment #4 – pg. 14-17)   | Action      |
| 6) | Items for Consideration   |             |
| 7) | Old Business  |             |
| 8) | New Business  |             |
| 9) | Communication   |             |
|    | A) Corporate Compliance Update: Helen Dobb<br>(Attachment #5 pg. 18-33)                       | Information |
|    | B) Corporate Compliance Presentation: Helen Dobb<br>(Attachment #6 pg. 34-43)                 | Information |
|    | C) Quality Assessment & Performance Improvement Plan: Pam Kimble<br>(Attachment #7 pg. 44-69) | Information |
|    | D) Consumer Advisory Committee Update: Thomas Hardy<br>(Attachment #8 pg. 70)                 | Information |
|    | E) Employee Kudos<br>(Attachment #9 pg. 71)   | Information |
|    | F) January Meeting Notice<br>(Attachment #10 – pg. 72)  | Information |
|    | G) Director's Report  | Information |

(Attachment #11 – pg. 73-74)

10) Public Comment

11) Adjournment

Action

**HEALTHWEST**  
**FULL BOARD MINUTES**

**November 21, 2025**

**8:00 a.m.**

**376 E. Apple Ave.  
Muskegon, MI 49442**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the Full Board was called to order by Chair Thomas at 8:00 a.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Members Present: Charles Nash, Chris McGuigan, Janet Thomas, Jeff Fortenbacher, John Weerstra, Kim Cyr, Remington Sprague, M.D., Tamara Madison, Thomas Hardy

Members Absent: Cheryl Natte, Janice Hilleary, Mary Vazquez

Others Present: Rich Francisco, Holly Brink, Gina Maniaci, Brandy Carlson, Carly Hysell, Gordon Peterman, Amber Berndt, Melina Barrett, Jackie Farrar, Kelly Betts, Helen Dobb, Linda Anthony, Gina Kim, Casey Olson, Linda Wagner, Pam Kimble, Anissa Goodno, Tasha Kuklewski, Chris Yeager, Kim Davis, Calvin Davis, Mickey Wallace, Danielle Bush

Guests Present: Alan Bolter, Angela Gasiewski, Stephanie VanderKooi

**MINUTES**

HWB 15-B - It was moved by Mr. Hardy, seconded by Mr. Fortenbacher, to approve the minutes of the October 24, 2025 Full Board meeting as written.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Finance Committee**

HWB 12-F - It was moved by Mr. Hardy, seconded by Dr. Sprague, to approve the minutes of the October 17, 2025, meeting as written

**MOTION CARRIED**

HWB 13-F - It was moved by Mr. Hardy, seconded by Dr. Sprague, to approve expenditures for the month of September 2025, in the total amount of \$13,080,286.91.

**MOTION CARRIED**

HWB 14-F -It was moved by Mr. Hardy, seconded by Dr. Sprague, to authorize the HealthWest Executive Director to sign a contract with Norton Shores Care Operation, LLC dba Harbor Homes, from December 1, 2025, through September 30, 2027, to provide specialized residential services to eligible HealthWest consumers. The funding is within the HealthWest AFC Specialized Residential Budget of \$24,900.00.

**MOTION CARRIED**



## **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

HWB 16-B – It was moved by Mr. Hardy, seconded by Commissioner McGuigan, to approve the above proposed 2026 Meeting Schedule of the HealthWest Board of Directors for the 2026 calendar year.

**MOTION CARRIED**

HWB 17-B – It was moved by Mr. Hardy, seconded by Dr. Sprague, to authorize the HealthWest Board of Directors to approve the FY25 contracted Vendors/Providers listed under the five funding sources. The total FY2025 budget for the five funding services is \$51,562,423.00.

**MOTION CARRIED**

## **OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

## **COMMUNICATION**

Alan Bolter, CMHA Associate Director, provided an update from the Community Mental Health Association of Michigan.

Ms. Carlson, Chief Financial Officer, provided an update for “Enterprise Year in Review.”

## **DIRECTOR’S COMMENTS**

Mr. Francisco, Executive Director, presented his Formal Director’s report.

### **MDHHS Updates:**

- PIHP Procurement: No further update since I shared information regarding the procurement at the HW Finance committee on 11/14/2025. Our region is eagerly awaiting what will happen on December 8<sup>th</sup> with decisions from Judge Yates who will be presiding over the case. The most recent change that I have heard is that the second set of lawsuits filed by a group of CMHSPs will be treated separately and that decisions from the first may impact this second set of lawsuits depending on the Judge’s opinion/order. The December 8<sup>th</sup> hearing will take place at the Hall of Justice in Lansing.
- CCBHC direct payment:
  - HW staff continues to work with MDHHS and the LRE to transition the administrative portions of the CCBHC direct payment. MDHHS did hold a meeting to further clarify the next steps for various data submission issues due to the data files associated with CCBHC being complex, and difficult to separate out what is CCBHC from non-CCBHC. There was a survey for the CCBHCs to vote on how they feel the files should go to MDHHS for the time being due to the complexity. Around 87% of the field decided that they would prefer keeping the PIHP data pipeline for now, as the method for submission to MDHHS for this fiscal year. This is good since there would be no additional admin burden for HW. MDHHS also plans to resume a group next year, sometime in February, to continue discussion on data submission, especially as it relates to our BHTEDS files. My understanding

is that they are considering going back to a non-episodic file type, like the QI-File (flat file) submitted prior to BH TEDS over 10 years ago.

- HW is working with the LRE to have an agreement in place to continue to contract with them for the State Fair Hearing portion of CCBHC work since they already do this. The contract team is currently working on a draft agreement.
- Internally our Customer Services and Communications Team are working to flush our process for the CCBHC Appeals Process, which we have taken on from the LRE after the CCBHC transition at the beginning of this year.

### LRE Level Updates:

- The LRE had their board meeting on 11/19/2025 and the following items were discussed:
  - FY22 Cost Settlement – the region is still waiting on counsel to resolve the issue. The LRE is waiting for the Court's decision on the motion, but there has been a delay.
  - Insurance provider tax (IPA) – The LRE has received 2 payments towards the Insurance provider tax. As you may recall, MDHHS ordered DTMB to use FY23 tax rates for our 2025 bill, which was higher, approximately \$915,000. MDHHS issued a notice on 9/17/2025 stating that PIHPs will receive a rate adjustment to cover the cost of the IPA. LRE will not know the full amount until the last payment is complete, but from the first 2 quarter payments it should be close to LRE expectations.
  - LRE presented some CCBHC data at the request of one of the board members on the individuals served in the region that were CCBHC only, to give a sense of the impact to LRE funding. HW is double checking our numbers internally and seeing how this data aligns.

	Counts				Percentages		
	CCBHC Only	Mixed	Specialty Only	Total	CCBHC Only	Mixed	Specialty Only
CMHSP	1714	767	542	3023	56.7%	25.4%	17.9%
ALGN	3072	2396	1672	7140	43.0%	33.6%	23.4%
MKG	5089	5081	5493	15663	32.5%	32.4%	35.1%
N180	535	1477	1866	3878	13.8%	38.1%	48.1%
WMCH	2151	768	296	3215	66.9%	23.9%	9.2%
Region	12561	10489	9869	32919	38.2%	31.9%	30.0%

- Vice Chair J. Thomas ran the meeting with the chair on leave and there was a robust discussion from board members surrounding the LRE projection numbers and accuracy – citing huge swings in a very short of time. Two of the CMHSP directors spoke up, one citing a \$20M swing in revenue projections and the other lesser, but still a significant swing. There was good discussion on looking at ways to advocate for more funding due to the ongoing deficit experience of the region.

### CMH Level Updates:

- Some good news on the CMH front – I did receive the Individual Placement and Support (IPS) Fidelity Review final report from Evan Slayton our IPS Supervisor. The auditors completed the review in November. Overall, HW did very well improving our score from the last Fidelity Review in 2023. The total score improved by 4 points from 105 to 109, placing us in the (Good Fidelity) category. This is an improvement in several areas of the program standards categorized under staffing, organization and services. Shout out to Evan and his IPS team! Great Work!
- HW is continuing to keep an eye on the BBB (HR1) now that the government shutdown is done. HW is interested to see what happens with the Healthcare negotiations as it relates to Medicaid funding. This will ultimately have an impact on State Medicaid budgets. My understanding is that the ACA Enhanced subsidies were not extended in the funding bill and still set to expire on December 31, 2025, which would cause increased premiums for millions of enrollees in the ACA program and could double or triple in 2026.

It is also my understanding that there will be a mid-December vote promised, but whether it will pass is still uncertain and not guaranteed.

- The Improving Outcomes Conference generally attended by our IT, Quality, Provider Network, and Compliance staff is happening in the first week of December, and I wanted to give a shoutout to our Provider Network Team and their supervisor, Jackie Farrar, who will be presenting at the conference. The presentation narrative is as follows:

*This session will offer an inside look at HealthWest's contracting process - from pre-contracting assessments to fully executed agreements. Attendees will learn how the Pre-Contracting Assessment Tool is used to evaluate prospective providers for readiness and compliance before contracts are issued. The presentation will also include how contract management software is used to generate, store, and track contracts throughout their lifecycle to improve accuracy and efficiency. Together, these tools form the foundation of a streamlined contracting workflow that promotes consistency, accountability, and strong provider partnerships.*

- HW is also considering consolidating staff even more and evaluating if we can leverage and possibly move into the remaining vacant space at NIMS building. We are looking at potentially moving Terrace Plaza staff to NIMS. Our contract at Terrace Plaza expires next year on January 31, 2026, and it would be a good opportunity to see if we can consolidate and save on rent.

### **AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

Ms. Carlson thanked Gordon Peterman, Payroll Supervisor, for his 25 years of employment as he will be retiring.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting adjourned at 8:48 a.m.

Respectfully,

Janet Thomas  
Board Chair

/hb

**PRELIMINARY MINUTES**  
**To be approved at the Full Board Meeting on**  
**December 19, 2025**

## HEALTHWEST

### PROGRAM AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT TO THE BOARD

**via Cheryl Natte, Committee Chair**

1. The Program Personnel Committee met on December 5, 2025.
- \* 2. It was recommended, and I move, to approve the minutes of the October 10, 2025, meeting as written.
- \* 3. It was recommended, and I move, to approve the policy and procedural changes for Policy 04-003 described above and attached, effective December 22, 2025.
- \* 4. It was recommended, and I move, to approve the policy and procedural changes for Policy 04-004 described above and attached, effective December 22, 2025.
- \* 5. It was recommended, and I move, to approve the policy and procedural changes for Policy 04-006 described above and attached, effective December 22, 2025.
- \* 6. It was recommended, and I move, to approve the policy and procedural changes for Policy 04-007 described above and attached, effective December 22, 2025.
- \* 7. It was recommended, and I move, to approve the policy and procedural changes for Policy 04-009 described above and attached, effective December 22, 2025.
- \* 8. It was recommended, and I move, to approve the policy and procedural changes for Policy 04-010 described above and attached, effective December 22, 2025.
- \* 9. It was recommended, and I move, to approve the policy and procedural changes for Policy 04-013 described above and attached, effective December 22, 2025.
- \* 10. It was recommended, and I move, to approve the policy and procedural changes for Policy 04-015 described above and attached, effective December 22, 2025.
- \* 11. It was recommended, and I move, to approve the policy and procedural changes for Policy 04-016 described above and attached, effective December 22, 2025.
- \* 12. It was recommended, and I move, to approve the policy and procedural changes for Policy 04-017 described above and attached, effective December 22, 2025.
- \* 13. It was recommended, and I move, to approve the policy and procedural changes for Policy 04-018 described above and attached, effective December 22, 2025.
- \* 14. It was recommended, and I move, to approve the policy and procedural changes for Policy 04-020 described above and attached, effective December 22, 2025.
- \* 15. It was recommended, and I move, to approve the policy and procedural changes for Policy 04-022 described above and attached, effective December 22, 2025.
- \* 16. It was recommended, and I move, to approve the policy the HealthWest Policy for Financial Management, effective December 22, 2025.

/hb

**HEALTHWEST**  
**PROGRAM/PERSONNEL MEETING MINUTES**

**December 5, 2025**  
**8:00 a.m.**

**376 E. Apple Ave.**  
**Muskegon, MI 49442**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Program/Personnel Committee was called to order by Chair Natte at 8:01 a.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Members Present: Cheryl Natte, Janet Thomas, Janice Hilleary, John Weerstra, Mary Vazquez, Tamara Madison, Thomas Hardy

Staff Present: Rich Francisco, Holly Brink, Gina Maniaci, Brandy Carlson, Christy LaDronka, Kristi Chittenden, Linda Wagner, Melina Barrett, Tasha Kuklewski, Kim Davis, Jennifer Hoeker, Casey Olson, Helen Dobb, Ann Gatt

Guests Present: Sara Hough

**MINUTES**

It was moved by Mr. Hardy, seconded by Mr. Weerstra, to approve the minutes of the October 10, 2025 meeting as written.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT (ON AN AGENDA ITEM)**

There was no public comment.

**ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

It was moved by Mr. Hardy, seconded by Ms. Hilleary, to approve the policy and procedural changes for Policy 04-001 described above and attached, effective December 22, 2025.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

It was moved by Mr. Hardy, seconded by Ms. Hilleary, to approve the policy and procedural changes for Policy 04-003 described above and attached, effective December 22, 2025.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

It was moved by Mr. Hardy, seconded by Ms. Hilleary, to approve the policy and procedural changes for Policy 04-004 described above and attached, effective December 22, 2025.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

It was moved by Mr. Hardy, seconded by Ms. Hilleary, to approve the policy and procedural changes for Policy 04-006 described above and attached, effective December 22, 2025.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

It was moved by Mr. Hardy, seconded by Ms. Hilleary, to approve the policy and procedural changes for Policy 04-007 described above and attached, effective December 22, 2025.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

It was moved by Mr. Hardy, seconded by Ms. Hilleary, to approve the policy and procedural changes for Policy 04-009 described above and attached, effective December 22, 2025.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

It was moved by Mr. Hardy, seconded by Ms. Hilleary, to approve the policy and procedural changes for Policy 04-010 described above and attached, effective December 22, 2025.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

It was moved by Mr. Hardy, seconded by Ms. Hilleary, to approve the policy and procedural changes for Policy 04-013 described above and attached, effective December 22, 2025.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

It was moved by Mr. Hardy, seconded by Ms. Hilleary, to approve the policy and procedural changes for Policy 04-015 described above and attached, effective December 22, 2025.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

It was moved by Mr. Hardy, seconded by Ms. Hilleary, to approve the policy and procedural changes for Policy 04-016 described above and attached, effective December 22, 2025.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

It was moved by Mr. Hardy, seconded by Ms. Hilleary, to approve the policy and procedural changes for Policy 04-017 described above and attached, effective December 22, 2025.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

It was moved by Mr. Hardy, seconded by Ms. Hilleary, to approve the policy and procedural changes for Policy 04-018 described above and attached, effective December 22, 2025.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

It was moved by Mr. Hardy, seconded by Ms. Hilleary, to approve the policy and procedural changes for Policy 04-020 described above and attached, effective December 22, 2025.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

It was moved by Mr. Hardy, seconded by Ms. Hilleary, to approve the policy and procedural changes for Policy 04-022 described above and attached, effective December 22, 2025.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

It was moved by Mr. Hardy, seconded by Ms. Hilleary, to approve the HealthWest Policy for Financial Management, effective December 22, 2025.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

### **OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

### **COMMUNICATION**

Ms. Chittenden, Chief Information Officer, provided an update on Project Management.

Ms. LaDronka, Chief Clinical Officer, provided an update on programs.

### **DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS**

Rich Francisco, Executive Director, provided his Director's Report:

- **Attended QIC on Dec. 03, 2025– Quality Improvement Council with MDHHS, some updates below.**

Belinda Hawks at the State Level oversees this Council and updates are provided in various areas of Behavioral Health state programs.

- Biggest update surrounding MDHHS external review is that HSAG will not be coming back in FY2026 to review CAPs (Corrective Action Plans) from the various PIHPs. MDHHS will handle the CAP resolutions directly with PIHPs/CMHSPs.
  - Mental Health Framework (MHF) updates from Audra Parsons regarding training on assessments for MHF. Medicaid Health Plans will now also be doing the LOCUS (Level of Care Utilization System) training and MichiCANS so that they can assess for eligibility. The MHF essentially gives back the Medicaid Health Plans the ability to serve the mild-to-moderate population again.
  - There was also an update for the National Core Indicator data survey (NCI) which HealthWest participates in for MI-DD and IDD population and that data for the last survey (2024-25) is being processed by HRSI (Human Services Research Institute). They are also already working on the survey that is coming 2025-26. The most recent complete data available from the survey is 2023-2024.
  - Lastly, MDHHS along with TBD solutions presented the dashboard for youth services. This was a requirement as part of the KB lawsuit vs. MDHHS. MDHHS now must publish data related to youth services. The dashboard is called MICAS and presents information on services kids and children are receiving from MDHHS. It includes data on Respite, Parent Support Partner, Youth Peer Services, Intensive Crisis Stabilization Services, Home-Based, and Intensive Care Coordination with Wrap Around.
- **HealthWest Customer Services Training:**  
HW continues to implement and reinforce the "HealthWest Way" training and

framework for great customer services. In the last couple of weeks, HW leadership team conducted a meeting (a Braintrust) exploring how we can continue to implement the training, discuss barriers, discuss the changes we are seeing in staff through the lens of our customer services value statement and code of conduct as it pertains to customer service.

- **CSU Update:**

I provided an update last time on CSU and since that time on 12/3/2025, we have met with MDHHS to discuss the status of CSU roll outs at different parts of the state. There are 10 pilot participants in the group. HW is a member and continuing to seek out technical assistance with MDHHS. MDHHS staff acknowledge the barriers to starting a CSU at this time for a variety of reasons: funding, Code chart not updated to define how the service is going to be reimbursed, administrative rules are not finalized legislatively has not been approved, MDHH is still working on a lot of barriers at this point. Only 2 CMHSPs have provisional certification based on a draft version of the administrative rules. CEI is potentially next to getting a provisional license. All the other CMHSPs and counties are hesitant to start CSUs when funding is not resolved.

- **Urgent Care: Service Updates**

Brandy Carlson has provided an initial analysis of the Urgent Care services since we opened. Here are some numbers she published: For 9 weeks of data – open Thursday and Friday, 4 hours per day.

- HW has provided 268 units and 68,572 minutes costing \$118,163 in revenue and \$67,166 in expenses
- 65% of clients have CCBHC primary
- 19% have insurance primary
- 12% with Medicaid or HMP primary
- 4% with Self-Pay

- **Leadership Training:** The leadership team is committed and will continue to provide leadership training, not only for our leadership team, but also for our managers and supervisors. The second cohort from leadership team completed their High-Performance Leadership training and the next Cohort should be starting in January with another group of staff.

- **KATA Update:**

We have expanded KATA training to County staff and the various departments in the County. This afternoon, there will be another KATA training session mostly for County staff. For most county staff, they would like to see how this framework can help them with process improvement and continuous improvement.

### **AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

There was no audience participation.



**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting adjourned at 8:48 a.m.

Respectfully,

Cheryl Natte  
Program/Personnel Committee Chair

CN/hb

***PRELIMINARY MINUTES***

***To be approved at the Program/Personnel Committee Meeting on February 13, 2026.***

**HEALTHWEST**  
**RECIPIENT RIGHTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**REPORT TO THE BOARD**

**via Thomas Hardy, Committee Chair**

1. The Recipient Rights Advisory Committee met on December 5, 2025
- \* 2. It was recommended, and I move, to approve the minutes of the October 10, 2025 meeting as written.
- \* 3. It was recommended, and I move, to approve the Recipient Rights Reports for October 2025 / November 2025.
- \* 4. It was recommended, and I move, to approve the HealthWest appointment of Casey Olson as the Recipient Rights Officer, effective November 17, 2025.

/hb

## HEALTHWEST

### RECIPIENT RIGHTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Friday, December 5, 2025  
8:00 a.m.  
376 E. Apple Ave., Muskegon, MI 49442

#### CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Recipient Rights Advisory Committee was called to order by Chair Hardy at 8:20 a.m.

#### ROLL CALL

Members Present: Cheryl Natte, Janet Thomas, Janice Hilleary, Mary Vazquez, Tamara Madison, Thomas Hardy

Members Absent: John Weerstra

Staff Present: Rich Francisco, Holly Brink, Gina Maniaci, Brandy Carlson, Christy LaDronka, Kristi Chittenden, Linda Wagner, Tasha Kuklewski, Kim Davis, Jennifer Hoeker, Casey Olson, Helen Dobb

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Ms. Natte, seconded by Ms. Hilleary, to approve the minutes of the October 10, 2025 meeting as written.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

#### ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

##### ***A. Motion to Accept Recipient Rights Reports for October 2025 / November 2025***

It was moved by Ms. Thomas, seconded by Ms. Hilleary to approve the Recipient Rights Reports for October 2025 / November 2025.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

For the months of October 2025 / November 2025, there were 97 HealthWest and 52 provider employees trained:

Rights Updates HealthWest	81
Rights Updates Provider	0
New Employee Training HealthWest/Contracted	15
New Employee Training Provider	52
SUD Orientation HealthWest	1

For the months of October 2025 / November 2025 there were 720 incident reports and 32 rights allegations.

Statistical data showing type and code was provided in the enclosed report.

There were a total of 8 deaths reported in October 2025 / November 2025.

**B. Motion to Accept Appointment of Recipient Rights Officer**

It was moved by Ms. Thomas, seconded by Ms. Hilleary to authorize the approval as outlined in the motion above appointing Casey Olson as the Recipient Rights Officer, effective November 17, 2025.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business.

**NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Recipient Rights Officer, Casey Olson, presented the 2024 – 2025 Annual State Report.

Recipient Rights Advisor, Tasha Kuklewski, provided training on Policy 04-015 Communication by Mail, Telephone and Visits – Residential Facilities; Policy 04-016 Personal Property and Funds; Policy 04-017 Freedom of Movement; and Policy 04-018 Recipient Labor-Residential Facilities and Other Locations.

**DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS**

There was no Director's Comments.

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION / PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no audience participation.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:04 a.m.

Respectfully,

Thomas Hardy  
HealthWest Rights Advisory Committee Chair

TH/hb

**PRELIMINARY MINUTES**  
***To be approved at the Rights Advisory Committee Meeting February 13, 2026.***

**HEALTHWEST**

**FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT TO THE BOARD**

**via Jeff Fortenbacher, Committee Chair**

1. The Finance Committee met on December 12, 2025.
- \*2. It was recommended, and I move to approve the minutes of the November 14, 2025, meeting as written.
- \*3. It was recommended, and I move to approve to approve expenditures for the month of October 2025, in the total amount of \$3,501,069.29.
- \*4. It was recommended, and I move to approve the HealthWest Executive Director to sign a contract with Imara LLC effective January 1, 2026, through September 30, 2027, to provide specialized residential services to eligible HealthWest consumers. The funding is within the HealthWest AFC Specialized Residential Budget of \$24,900,000.00.
- \*5. It was recommended, and I move to approve the HealthWest Executive Director to sign a contract with Giddings AFC Homes, LLC effective January 1, 2026, through September 30, 2027, to provide specialized residential services to eligible HealthWest consumers. The funding is within the HealthWest AFC Specialized Residential Budget of \$24,900,000.00.

/hb

## HEALTHWEST

### FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

**December 12, 2025**

**8:00 a.m.**

### CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Finance Committee was called to order by Committee Chair Fortenbacher at 8:01 a.m.

### ROLL CALL

Committee Members Present: Jeff Fortenbacher, Janet Thomas, Thomas Hardy, Remington Sprague, M.D.,

Committee Members Absent: Charles Nash, John M. Weerstra

Also Present: Rich Francisco, Holly Brink, Gina Manaici, Brandy Carlson, Kristi Chittenden, Gary Ridley, Jackie Farrar, Linda Anthony, Carly Hysell, Casey Olson, Anissa Goodno, Melina Barrett, Kim Davis

Guests Present: Angie Gasiewski, Joe Comella

### ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

A. Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Mr. Hardy, seconded by Dr. Sprague, to approve the minutes of the November 14, 2025, meeting as written.

**MOTION CARRIED**

B. Approval of Expenditures for October 2025

It was moved by Dr. Sprague, seconded by Mr. Hardy, to approve expenditures for the month of October 2025, in the total amount of \$3,501,069.29.

**MOTION CARRIED**

C. Monthly Report from the Chief Financial Officer

Ms. Carlson, Chief Financial Officer, presented the October report, noting an overall cash balance of \$8,484,058.87 as of October 31, 2025.

D. Finance Update Memorandum

Ms. Carlson, Chief Financial Officer, presented the Finance Update Memorandum for the Board review.

**E. Approval to Contract with Imara LLC**

It was moved by Mr. Hardy, seconded by Dr. Sprague, to authorize the HealthWest Executive Director to sign a contract with Imara LLC effective January 1, 2026, through September 30, 2027, to provide specialized residential services to eligible HealthWest consumers. The funding is within the HealthWest AFC Specialized Residential Budget of \$24,900,000.00.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**F. Approval to Contract with Giddings AFC Homes, LLC**

It was moved by Mr. Hardy, seconded by Dr. Sprague, to authorize the HealthWest Executive Director to sign a contract with Giddings AFC Homes, LLC effective January 1, 2026, through September 30, 2027, to provide specialized residential services to eligible HealthWest consumers. The funding is within the HealthWest AFC Specialized Residential Budget of \$24,900,000.00.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business.

**NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

There was no communication.

**DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS**

**Rich Francisco, Executive Director provided an update:**

- **PIHP Procurement** – Judge Yates presided over the lawsuit between the PIHP/CMHSPS vs. DTMB/MDHHS once again on December 8, 2025. This was a 3-day hearing with the Court of Claims, that involved hearing from a variety of witnesses. The first day was held at the Hall of Justice in Lansing and then moved to Grand Rapids for the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> day. After the 3<sup>rd</sup> day, the judge did not issue an opinion from the bench. He expressed that he has lots to consider regarding some concerns in the RFP and its compliance with the Mental Health Code. He did a thorough job of asking both sides during closing arguments. He asked to understand the nature of delegation of functions and managed care functions. He also inquired about contractual authority and what this entails as far as braided funding. He also inquired about substance use disorder services and who can provide this service. He also asked about involuntary hospitalization and inpatient hospitalization as well as the possible impacts as it relates to the RFP and current processes. He is expecting to make a ruling as early as next week.
- **CCBHC Supplemental Cost Report Changes Overview-** Technical Assistance TA - HW staff participated in a state meeting to review MDHHS and Milliman reporting of CCBHC Supplemental Cost reporting and the use of the template provided. The biggest changes impacting the template now are how to report cost due to the LRE no longer receiving the funds and HW is receiving them directly (CCBHC Payment transition away from PIHP).

- **HW Crisis Residential State Workgroup** - HW received an invitation to participate in a Crisis Residential Workgroup to support the Mental Health Framework Rate Development Project. The goal of the group is to gather additional information and details on crisis residential services for adults and children, as well as provide input in the development of comparison rates. The first meeting will be December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025, from 9:30- 11am. There will be additional meetings in January. Christy LaDronka and I will be participating in the state workgroup. The invitation came from Alexandra Kruger, Division Director of Intensive Specialty Services at MDHHS.
- Just FYI to Finance Committee that we are looking to review our space at Hinman, Terrace Plaza. Our contract will be expiring at the end of January 2026, and we are evaluating whether HW will continue to use that space. We have an opportunity to consolidate more staff at the NIMS building and are reviewing this as well.

### **AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

There was no audience participation.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 8:17 a.m.

Respectfully,

Jeff Fortenbacher  
Committee Chair

/hb

**PRELIMINARY MINUTES  
To be approved at the Finance Meeting on  
January 9, 2026**





# CORPORATE COMPLIANCE PLAN FY26

*For questions, concerns, or to report a potential Corporate Compliance violation, please call HealthWest's confidential Corporate Compliance hotline at (231) 724-6575 or email the confidential Corporate Compliance inbox at [corporate.compliance@healthwest.net](mailto:corporate.compliance@healthwest.net). HealthWest and provider employees may also directly contact Linda Anthony, HealthWest's Corporate Compliance Officer, at (231) 670-7831 or and Helen Dobb, HealthWest's Compliance Manager, at (616)566-6946.*

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## **I. Introduction**

HealthWest serves residents of Muskegon County who have intellectual and developmental disabilities, mental illness and/or substance use disorders.

HealthWest is part of the Lakeshore Regional Entity (LRE), the Prepaid Inpatient Health Plan (PIHP), which manages Medicaid and other funding for services. As such, HealthWest is responsible to its Board as well as to the LRE for service and funding allocation, and for Corporate Compliance activities. Additionally, the transition from Managed Care to Fee for Service (FFS) for the CCBHC demonstration, there are certain responsibilities which will now fall to the CCBHCs, and managed care functions which will be undertaken by the MDHHS. There is no longer the expectation that the PIHPs undertake managed care functions for beneficiaries only receiving CCBHC services through a CCBHC which impact reporting for program integrity as it relates to Fraud, Waste, and Abuse.

All HealthWest activities are guided by its Mission and Vision:

- **Mission:** *To be a leader in integrated health care, inspiring hope and wellness in partnership with individuals, families, and the community.*
- **Vision:** *Building a healthier, more informed, and inclusive community through innovation and collaboration.*
- **Values:**
  - Diversity: We value differences and recognize our unique experiences and perspectives make us stronger and more effective.
  - Development: We believe that all persons have the ability to continually grow and learn.
  - Excellence: We work to be the very best in our field and embrace innovation, creativity, and continual improvement.
  - Integrity: We hold ourselves accountable and operate with fairness and honesty.

## **II. Overview**

HealthWest is committed to conducting itself as a good institutional citizen by promoting an organizational culture that encourages a commitment to compliance with the law. As an organization, we are committed to preventing fraud, abuse and waste while furthering our mission and providing care that is high quality, effective, and satisfying to the persons served.

This commitment involves every aspect of our business, including every work-related activity of our employees, contractors, and individuals with responsibility pertaining to the ordering, provision, marketing, documentation, billing, or services reimbursable by federal health care programs. The commitment further extends to the preparation of claims, reports or other requests for reimbursement for such items or services with the statutes, regulations, and written directives of Medicare, Medicaid, and all other Federal Health Care Programs (as defined in 42 U.S.C. § 13201-7b (f), hereinafter collectively referred to as the “Federal Health Care Programs.”

HealthWest is committed to ensuring that it complies with the requirements of all Federal and State programs from which it receives funding above and beyond “Federal Health Care Programs.” HealthWest is also committed to compliance with the Michigan False Claims Act (PA 109, Public Acts 111-117 of 2006) as well as the Federal False Claims Act (31 USCS 3729-3734, 1994).

The Corporate Compliance Plan identifies and describes standards of conduct and internal control systems that can reduce the likelihood of violations of law. The Corporate Compliance Program is the manifestation and realization of the Plan and is comprised of all actions and activities undertaken by the organization to promote compliance at all levels. The Corporate Compliance Program is designed, through training, monitoring, auditing, and promotion of a culture of compliance, to prevent violations of any law, whether criminal or non-criminal, for which HealthWest is, or would be, liable. It represents HealthWest’s approach to assuring that state regulatory and contractual obligations related to corporate compliance with the PIHP are fulfilled.

### **III. Compliance Plan Key Elements**

HealthWest’s Corporate Compliance Plan is comprised of the following principal elements as outlined in the Federal Sentencing Guidelines:

- The development and distribution of written standards of conduct, as well as written policies and procedures, that promote the agency’s commitment to compliance and that address specific areas of potential fraud;
- The designation of a Corporate Compliance Officer and other appropriate bodies, (e.g., a Corporate Compliance Committee), charged with the responsibility and authority of operating and monitoring the compliance program;
- The development and implementation of regular, effective education and training programs for all affected employees;
- The development of effective lines of communication between the Compliance Team and all employees, including a hotline to receive complaints and the adoption of procedures to protect the anonymity of complainants and to protect callers from retaliation;
- The use of audits or other risk evaluation techniques to monitor compliance and assist in the reduction of identified problem areas within delivered services claims processing and managed care functions;
- The development of disciplinary mechanisms to consistently enforce standards and the development of policies addressing dealings with sanctioned and other specified individuals; and
- The development of policies to respond to detected offenses, to initiate corrective action to prevent similar offenses, and to report to governmental authorities when appropriate.

HealthWest’s Corporate Compliance Program is committed to the following:

- Minimizing organizational risk and improving compliance with the service provision, documentation, and billing requirements of Medicaid;
- Maintaining adequate internal controls throughout the agency and provider network;
- Encouraging the highest level of ethical and legal behavior from all employees and providers;

- Ensuring the requirements of all applicable laws and regulations are reflected in agency policies and procedures, and that new and changed regulations are fully incorporated when established;
- Educating Board members, employees, contracted and sub-contracted providers, and other stakeholders regarding their responsibilities and obligations to comply with applicable local, state, and federal laws; and
- Providing oversight and monitoring functions.

#### IV. **Regulatory Considerations**

Four key laws and statutes impact the regulatory compliance of HealthWest and its providers:

- **The Affordable Care Act (2010).** This Act requires the agency to have a written and operable Corporate Compliance Program capable of preventing, identifying, reporting, and ameliorating fraud, waste, and abuse. All programs of HealthWest, contracted and sub-contracted provider organizations and practitioners, Board members and others involved in rendering covered services fall under the purview and scope of this Corporate Compliance Program.
- **The Federal False Claims Act.** This Act applies when a company or person knowingly presents (or causes to be presented) to the Federal government (or any entity on its behalf) a false or fraudulent claim for payment; knowingly uses (or causes to be used) a false record or statement to get a claim paid; conspires with others to get a false or fraudulent claim paid; or knowingly uses (or causes to be used) a false record or statement to conceal, avoid, or decrease an obligation to pay or transmit money or property to the Federal government (or its designated entity).
- **The Michigan False Claims Act.** This Act prohibits fraud in the obtaining of benefits or payments in conjunction with the Michigan Medical Assistance program; to prohibit kickbacks or bribes in connection with the program to prohibit conspiracies in obtaining benefits or payments; and to authorize the Michigan Attorney General to investigate alleged violations of this Act.
- **The Anti-Kickback Statute.** This Act prohibits the offer, solicitation, payment or receipt of remuneration, in cash or in kind, in return for or to induce a referral for any service paid for or supported by the Federal government or for any good or service paid for in connection with consumer service delivery.

Numerous Federal and State regulations affect the HealthWest Corporate Compliance Program. Some of these laws not referenced above include, but are not limited to:

- The Balanced Budget Act of 1997
- The Deficit Reduction Act of 2005
- Social Security Act of 1964
- Privacy and Security requirements of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act (HITECH)
- 42 CFR Part 2 Confidentiality of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Patient Records
- Code of Federal Regulations
- Letters to State Medicaid Directors

- Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB)Guide to Encounter Data Systems
- Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act (HITECH) Act
- Home and Community Based Services Final Rule
- Medicaid State Plan
- Michigan Medicaid Provider Manual
- Michigan Whistleblowers Act, Act 469 of 1980
- Michigan Mental Health Code and Administrative Rules
- Medical Services Administration (MSA) Policy Bulletins
- Office of Inspector General Annual Work Plan
- Office of Management and Budget (OMG) Circulars
- Requirements as identified by the Office of Inspector General
- State Operations Manual
- Stark Law
- Provisions from Public Act 368 of 1978 – revised – Article 6 Substance Abuse
- State of Michigan MDHHS/PIHP contract provisions
- Michigan State Licensing requirements
- Michigan Medical Records Act
- Civil Monetary Penalty Law of 1981
- American with Disabilities Act of 1990
- Waiver Applications

## **V. Application of the Corporate Compliance Plan**

HealthWest is a Community Mental Health Services Program consistent with the Michigan Mental Health Code. It is also a member of the Lakeshore Regional Entity and performs delegated managed care functions as specified in its contract with the LRE. The intent of HealthWest is that the scope of all compliance policies and procedures promote and support integrity, transparency, accuracy, objectivity, and trust. This plan applies to all HealthWest operational activities and administrative actions and includes those activities that come within federal and state regulations relating to health care providers.

HealthWest is a Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) and must adhere to all administrative responsibilities for payment responsibility, oversight and support, and program integrity for all CCBHC services.

This Compliance Plan applies to all Board members and employees, and to all contracted providers and sub-contractors receiving payment from HealthWest. HealthWest employees are subject to the requirements of this plan as a condition of employment.

The HealthWest Corporate Compliance Plan, standards, and policies included or referenced herein are not exhaustive or all inclusive. All HealthWest personnel and providers are required to comply with all applicable laws, rules and regulations including those that are not specifically addressed in the Corporate Compliance Plan.

## **VI. Definitions & Terms**

- **Compliance Investigation:** A compliance investigation begins when a complaint is made alleging a compliance concern, questionable practice, or irregularities that indicate harm or risk to people in service, staff, the community, or the agency. The compliance

manager will begin gathering information from various sources to determine if there is sufficient evidence to validate or confirm the complaint.

- **Abuse:** Provider practices that are inconsistent with sound fiscal, business, or clinical practices, and result in an unnecessary cost to the Medicaid program, or in reimbursement for services that are not medically necessary or that fail to meet professionally recognized standards of care. It also includes beneficiary practices that result in unnecessary costs to the Medicaid program. (42 CFR § 455.2)
- **Fraud:** (Federal False Claims Act): Intentional deception or misrepresentation made by a person with the knowledge that the deception could result in some unauthorized benefit to himself or some other person. It includes any act that constitutes fraud under applicable Federal or State law including the Federal False Claims Act and the Michigan False Claims Act. (42 CFR § 455.2)
- **Fraud:** (per Michigan statute and case law interpreting same): Under Michigan law, a finding of Medicaid fraud can be based upon evidence that a person "should have been aware that the nature of his or her conduct constituted a false claim for Medicaid benefits, akin to constructive knowledge." Errors or mistakes do not constitute "knowing" conduct necessary to establish Medicaid fraud, unless the person's "course of conduct indicates a systematic or persistent tendency to cause inaccuracies to be present."
- **Waste:** Provider practices that result in unnecessary costs, such as overutilization of services. Generally, not considered caused by criminally negligent actions but rather by the misuse of resources.
- **Contracted Providers:** Physicians, hospitals, health care professionals, or any other providers of items or services who have a contractual relationship with a health care provider
- **Subcontracted Providers:** Providers that contract directly with a contract agency of HealthWest to provide covered mental health and substance abuse services.

## VII. Compliance Functions

### A. Compliance Education and Training

- *Initial Compliance Orientation* – Training is completed and documented for all new employees and Board members during orientation. The Compliance Manager, in cooperation with Human Resources, is responsible for developing the training and ensuring it occurs. This training will address the substantive legal standards and the processes identified in the Corporate Compliance Plan.

Each employee will receive a Corporate Compliance Plan and acknowledgement form at orientation and will have one week to read the plan and acknowledge acceptance of its principles. Completed and signed Corporate Compliance Acknowledgement Forms are retained in the employee's personnel file. If an employee does not complete an Acknowledgement Form in good faith within one week, the Corporate Compliance Manager will notify the supervisor to take appropriate disciplinary action.

All agents, contract providers and subcontract providers that receive payment under HealthWest are expected to follow the policies, procedures, and plans that serve as guiding agents for operations.

- *Focused Training* - In addition to the initial training for all employees and Board members, specific training will be developed for targeted positions and functions. The

Corporate Compliance Officer and Corporate Compliance Manager, in coordination with the Corporate Compliance Committee, will identify those positions requiring additional targeted training due to the tasks for which they are responsible. Focused training courses will be logged annually for patterns and data collection across the agency, department heads are responsible for submitting attendance logs to the training department and providing any information to staff who are unable to be present.

- *Communicating Updates* – Changes to the Corporate Compliance Plan will be communicated to all employees of HealthWest and its providers, and revised versions of the Plan will be distributed for their review. Each employee shall be required to complete and sign an Acknowledgement Form in the training record management system.
- *Ongoing Training* – Ongoing training (including periodic refreshers) will be completed as mandated by MDHHS, CMS, and/or other regulatory laws or entities. The Corporate Compliance Manager is responsible for coordinating with the HealthWest Training Department to ensure the agency's training curriculum upholds such requirements and is completed by all employees as assigned. Additionally, the Corporate Compliance Team and the Corporate Compliance Committee will routinely review available data to identify emerging trends and training needs for HealthWest and provider employees relating to compliance issues. Data sources include, but are not limited to: compliance questions and concerns reported to the Corporate Compliance Officer, results of Ongoing Monitoring and Auditing, site review findings, and reports regarding performance and service delivery.

## **B. Responsibilities of the Corporate Compliance Team**

- Promote a culture of integrity and compliance across all HealthWest operations
- Monitor changes in federal and state health care laws and regulations applicable to HealthWest operations.
- Develop and implement policy, procedures and practices designed to ensure compliance with the requirements of the Plan and with Federal and State program requirements.
- Review the Corporate Compliance Plan annually, revise the Plan as needed, and communicate changes to employees as defined above.
- Establish curricula, teaching methodologies and competency measures for no less than annual compliance training (including Deficit Reduction Act training) for agency and provider workforce members and governing bodies.
- Ensure adequate staff training on service reporting and chart documentation standards.
- Review all reports of actual or suspected corporate compliance violations received by HealthWest from any source and determine whether and how to respond.
- Conduct (or direct) and document all corporate compliance investigations and maintain detailed investigative files.
- Inform the CEO (or the governing body of HealthWest) of all Corrective Action Plans or violations that require communication to the Lakeshore Regional Entity or the Office of Inspector General for further investigation in which it has been terminated that an individual or entity has committed a violation.
- Ensure that non-compliant Medicaid encounters are not submitted to MDHHS/LRE (or, if previously reported, are rescinded) and that the Medicaid program is made financially whole through pursuit of restitution.



- Coordinate with LRE and agency Quality Assurance, Utilization Management Recipient Rights program, Finance Department, Provider Network, and Clinical Departments..
- Maintain a working knowledge of legislative and technological developments as they pertain to compliance, including in particular the implementation of local, regional and national intra-operable electronic medical records, encounter coding and other HIPAA standardized transactions.
- Establish baseline criteria for and, not less than annually, objectively measure the success of the Corporate Compliance Program in detecting and deterring compliance violations.
- Annually, a Corporate Compliance report will be submitted to the CEO and the Board detailing information related to the fiscal year just end and containing the following:
  - A summary of historical trends in the frequency, nature and severity of substantiated compliance violations;
  - A statement of significant modifications or additions to the Corporate Compliance Plan, Program and operating procedures and the reason therefore;
  - A summary of findings and observations from ongoing monitoring and auditing;
  - An objective assessment of the effectiveness of the compliance program;
  - Any other information deemed relevant by the Affiliation's Compliance Officer to improving the effectiveness of the compliance program.

### **C. Role of the Corporate Compliance Committee**

The Corporate Compliance Committee reviews, reports, and makes recommendations to the Corporate Compliance Team regarding compliance activities. This includes data regarding compliance generated through audits, monitoring, and individual reporting. Based on these reports, the Corporate Compliance Officer will make recommendations to the CEO regarding the efficiency of the Corporate Compliance Plan and Program.

The Corporate Compliance Committee will be chaired by the Corporate Compliance Officer and may include these individuals and/or their designees:

- Compliance Manager
- Executive Director;
- Chief Clinical Officer;
- Chief Information Officer;
- Chief Financial Officer;
- Medical Director;
- Director of Quality Assurance;
- Provider Relations Manager;
- Accreditation and Performance Improvement Manager;
- Director of Finance;
- Recipient Rights Officer;
- Privacy Officer;
- Facilities and Physical Assets;
- Legal Counsel, as needed

Specific responsibilities of the Corporate Compliance Committee include:

- Coordinating with legal counsel and the Corporate Compliance Officer to ensure access to and familiarity with the latest HHS OIG compliance guidelines and current enforcement priorities;
- Regularly reviewing the Corporate Compliance Plan and Program to ensure they adequately address legal requirements and address identified risk areas;
- Assisting the Corporate Compliance Officer with developing standards of conduct and policies and procedures to promote compliance with the Corporate Compliance Plan;
- Analyzing the effectiveness of compliance education and training programs;
- Assisting the Corporate Compliance Team in identifying potential risk areas, advising and assisting the Corporate Compliance Officer with compliance initiatives, identifying areas of potential violations, and recommending periodic monitoring/audit programs;
- Quarterly review of the Risk Management plan to assess and discuss ongoing risk areas while providing an annual update adding potential risk areas reported through the Corporate Compliance committee.
- Assisting in the development of policies, training materials, or other improvement activities or initiatives to address the remediation of identified corporate compliance problems identified through investigations or ongoing monitoring;
- Receiving, interpreting, and acting upon reports and recommendations from the Corporate Compliance Officer;
- Evaluating the overall performance of the Corporate Compliance Program and making recommendations accordingly; and
- Providing a forum for the discussion of ethical issues related to entity business functions.

## **VIII. Reporting of and Response to Violations**

### **A. Reporting**

If an employee becomes aware of any wrongdoing under the standards set forth in the Corporate Compliance Plan, whether committed by that employee or someone else, he or she must report the wrongdoing to the Corporate Compliance Team.

Any information related to a Corporate Compliance complaint will become part of a record that is protected through Client/Attorney privilege, as the Corporate Compliance Program may include investigations of conduct that may raise legal concerns, peer review and risk management, or occur in anticipation of potential litigation.

Any HealthWest employee or off-site contracted provider may contact the Corporate Compliance Team through one of the methods described below:

#### **Telephone**

Any staff member or contracted provider may call (231) 724-6575 to report a suspected compliance violation or pose compliance-related questions. This phone number is for confidential voicemails only. The Corporate Compliance Team can also be reached directly using contact information available on the cover sheet of the Corporate Compliance Plan. These calls can be made anonymously, but the caller must provide enough information that an investigation can be successfully completed. If the Corporate Compliance Team cannot conduct a successful investigation because of lack of information, the case may be closed.

HealthWest employees and Provider staff may also complete a [Corporate Compliance Report form](#) and submit it via internal mail to the Corporate Compliance Officer. Staff are encouraged to disclose their identity, but may choose to remain anonymous. If the employee chooses to remain anonymous, they must provide enough information so that an investigation can be successfully completed or the case will be closed.

### **Voice Mail**

A confidential voicemail inbox can be reached by calling (231) 724-6575. The Corporate Compliance Team shall document reports made by voicemail.

### **Electronic Mail**

A confidential email inbox is available at [corporate.compliance@healthwest.net](mailto:corporate.compliance@healthwest.net). Reports submitted by email shall be retained in the same manner as reports received via other methods.

### **Mail Delivery**

Suspected compliance violations or questions can be mailed to:

HealthWest  
Attn: Corporate Compliance Department  
376 E. Apple Ave.  
Muskegon MI 49442

### **In Person**

Suspected corporate compliance violations or questions can be made in person to HealthWest's Corporate Compliance Team at the above address.

The Corporate Compliance Officer will make every effort to keep reports as confidential as possible through the designation of "Attorney/Client Privilege" on the documents.

If a report is filed in regard to the Corporate Compliance Team, it should be directed to the Executive Director. The Executive Director and the Board of Directors shall consult legal counsel as appropriate. The Executive Director will conduct an investigation of the Corporate Compliance Team and make recommendations to the Board of Directors or Executive Leadership. If a report is filed in regard to the Corporate Compliance Officer and the Executive Director, the report should be forwarded to the Corporate Compliance Officer of the County. The County Corporate Compliance Officer shall consult with legal counsel and the Board of Directors. Legal counsel and the Chairman of the Board of Directors shall jointly conduct the investigation.

### **Whistleblower Protections for HealthWest and Contracted Providers**

**Employees who make good faith reports of violations of federal or state law are protected by state and federal whistleblower statutes, as more fully described below:**

Under the *Federal False Claims Act* and the *Michigan Medicaid False Claims Act*, employees who report violations in good faith are entitled to protection from disciplinary actions taken by their employer.

The *Federal False Claims Act*, 31 USC §§3729 through 3731, provides for administrative remedies, encourages enactment of parallel State laws pertaining to civil and criminal penalties for false claims and statements, and provides “whistle-blower” protection for those making good faith reports of statutory violations.

Under the *Michigan Medicaid False Claims Act*, an employer shall not discharge, demote, suspend, threaten, harass, or otherwise discriminate against an employee in the terms and conditions of employment because the employee initiates, assists in, or participates in a proceeding or court action under this act or because the employee cooperates with or assists in an investigation under this act. This prohibition does not apply to an employment action against an employee who the court finds: (i) brought a frivolous claim, as defined in section 2591 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL §600.2591; or, (ii) planned, initiated, or participated in the conduct upon which the action is brought; or, (iii) is convicted of criminal conduct arising from a violation of that act.

An employer who takes action against an employee in violation of the *Michigan Medicaid False Claims Act* is liable to the employee for all of the following:

- Reinstatement to the employee’s position without loss of seniority;
- Two times the amount of lost back pay;
- Interest on the back pay;
- Compensation for any special damages; and,
- Any other relief necessary to make the employee whole.

Under the *Federal False Claims Act*, any employee who is discharged, demoted, suspended, threatened, harassed, or in any other manner discriminated against in the terms and conditions of employment by his or her employer because of lawful acts done by the employee on behalf of the employee or others in furtherance of an action under this section, including investigation for, initiation of, testimony for, or assistance in an action filed or to be filed under this section, shall be entitled to all relief necessary to make the employee whole. Such relief shall include reinstatement with the same seniority status such employee would have had but for the discrimination, two times the amount of back pay, interest on the back pay, and compensation for any special damages sustained as a result of the discrimination, including litigation costs and reasonable attorneys’ fees. An employee may bring an action in the appropriate district court of the United States for the relief provided in this subsection.

## **B. Response**

Upon receipt of a report of wrongdoing, The Corporate Compliance Officer will determine whether the alleged activity was:

- A violation of the Corporate Compliance Plan,
- A violation of the Code of Ethics,
- A violation of Federal or State law, or
- Places HealthWest at risk of economic injury or injury to reputation.

The Corporate Compliance Officer will conduct a thorough investigation into the allegations. A prompt response to detected offenses is required; the Lakeshore Regional Entity defines prompt responses to mean action must be taken within 15 days of the allegation. If the investigation

cannot be completed in a timely manner due to the complexity of the subject, a status report will be placed in the file. An ongoing status report will be available at any time during an investigation.

If the alleged wrongdoing is found not to be a compliance issue, the concern will be forwarded to the appropriate agency program for review.

If the Corporate Compliance Officer, Executive Director, and legal counsel conclude that reporting to governmental authorities is or may be appropriate, they shall inform the HealthWest Board of Directors. The Executive Director, in consultation with the HealthWest Board of Directors and legal counsel shall then be responsible for determining how a report shall be made to the appropriate governmental authorities on behalf of HealthWest.

For all managed care functions for program integrity and in order to minimize regional risk and harm, HealthWest will report suspected compliance issues promptly to the LRE Chief Compliance Officer when one or more of the following criteria are met:

- During an inquiry by the agency Corporate Compliance Officer there is determined to be (reasonable person standard) Medicaid fraud, abuse, or waste as defined by federal statute, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), HHS Office of Inspector General (OIG), MDHSS and applicable Michigan statute or regulation; or
- Prior to any self-disclosure to any federal, state or Medicaid authority; or
- When a HealthWest knows or (reasonable person standard) suspects that an action or failure to take action in the organization or its contractors would result in the improper application or improper retention of Medicaid funds.

For all Fee for Service (FFS) activity for the CCBHC demonstration, PIHPs will not be involved in reporting for oversight and support; however, coordination of care between a CCBHC and PIHP might need to occur to necessitate care coordination.

- For beneficiaries receiving only services from a CCBHC, the PIHPs will have no OIG related responsibilities for those beneficiaries and their services. For beneficiaries receiving services through both a CCBHC and a PIHP, OIG responsibilities will follow the service.
- If a provider identifies a suspicion of fraud (with an overpayment over \$5k) where the service was billed to/paid by the PIHP, the PIHP is responsible for presenting the case to OIG/Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU) (per their contract).
- If the service is provided by the CCBHC, then the CCBHC is responsible for reporting these instances per what is outlined in their agreement.

The Corporate Compliance Officer shall make modifications to the Program as needed to help prevent violations similar to any detected throughout the reporting system.

The Corporate Compliance Officer will report at least annually to the HealthWest Board of Directors regarding allegations of wrongdoing, the results of subsequent investigations and

related disciplinary and/or remedial actions taken, and any corrective actions taken to prevent future wrongdoings.

#### **IX. Availability of Corporate Compliance Policies, Guidelines and Standards**

HealthWest is committed to the highest standards of ethics and compliance and expects all employees and contractors to follow these standards.

- All policies related to compliance are found on the agency employee website, and all staff are expected to be familiar with and follow them.
- Revised versions of the Corporate Compliance Plan will be distributed as needed. Each employee shall be required to sign and return an Acknowledgement Statement to verify receipt of the Plan and an understanding of changes therein.

#### **X. Enforcement of Corporate Compliance Policies and Standards**

Employees with a history of poor business practice and employees who have exhibited fraudulent practices will be placed under the disciplinary process. This process will be consistent with all Muskegon County policies.

Contractual agencies, if involved in fraudulent behavior, may have their contracts immediately terminated, unless a suitable corrective action is taken to address the behavior by the leadership of the contract agency.

Violators of the Agency's Corporate Compliance Plan and Code of Ethics/Code of Conduct can be subject to disciplinary action.

#### **XI. Ongoing Monitoring and Auditing**

Ongoing monitoring and auditing are crucial to the success of the Corporate Compliance Plan. In order to evaluate the effectiveness of the Plan, HealthWest will employ a variety of monitoring and auditing techniques, including but not limited to, the following:

- Contract Monitoring: Findings from audits will result in the submission of a corrective action plan. Fraudulent activities may result in termination of a contract.
- Chart Reviews: Findings will be shared with the program supervisor who in turn can share the findings with the employee. Documentation is a required competency for clinical staff. Recurrent inadequacies will be grounds for discipline.
- Billing Audits: Billing audits will be done on a monthly basis. Any billing errors will be corrected, or if this is not possible, the amount billed to the Medicaid program will be reverted to another funding source.
- Medication Audits: Records will be reviewed to assure proper documentation of medication services, side effects, and lab tests. System reviews are done by a licensed pharmacist.
- Supervisory Review of Charts: Supervisors will review a sample of their staff's records and address deficiencies with the individuals.

- **Licensing and Credentialing:** Human Resources staff will review all clinical staff licenses and credentials on an as needed basis and will submit that information to the Corporate Compliance Team.
- **Privileging:** The Network Management Department and Chief Clinical Officer will coordinate a review of all Licensed Independent Practitioners and present information to the Board of Directors pursuant to contract renewal requirements.
- **Certifications and Accreditation:** HealthWest will maintain necessary compliance with all Lakeshore Regional Entity and Michigan Department of Health and Human Services contractual and regulatory requirements and will maintain its licensing status.
- **Data Integrity:** Ongoing monitoring of Power BI Reports utilized to mitigate risk across departments.
- **Risk Management Plan:** The Risk management plan includes areas that pose possible risk to people in service, staff, or the community and is managed by the Corporate Compliance committee and is reviewed quarterly by department heads.

Errors in compliance discovered or observed during ongoing monitoring and auditing activities may be rooted in a number of causes. Frequently, the source is deficiencies in the systemic processes used by staff. Consistent with HealthWest's commitment to the principles of quality and performance improvement, the Corporate Compliance Officer will, as appropriate, coordinate system improvement efforts through these groups.

When compliance errors or lapses are determined to be rooted in individual behavior, the quality improvement process will likely not be appropriate. Such errors may be the result of insufficient information and training, individual carelessness, or willful acts. Each of these causes requires a different response. It is essential that the Corporate Compliance Officer conduct sufficient investigation to determine the source and cause of errors prior to determining the response.

## **XII. Records Confidentiality and Privacy**

HealthWest will retain records in accordance with all applicable laws. However, many records related to the Corporate Compliance Program, including consumer records, are required by law to be confidentially maintained. Any employee faced with a request by someone outside HealthWest to obtain such records must contact the Privacy Officer and/or Corporate Compliance Officer, or Executive Director before releasing any records. In most situations, HealthWest will require a subpoena or other court order authorizing and requiring the release of records.

HealthWest is committed to protecting the privacy of its consumers and shall strictly govern the disclosure of any information to anyone other than those authorized in the current published Privacy Notice. Any Board member, staff member, contracted or subcontracted provider who engages in unauthorized disclosure of consumer information is subject to disciplinary action which may result in removal from the Board, termination of employment, or termination of the contract.

To ensure that all consumer information remains confidential, HealthWest personnel and all contracted and subcontracted providers are required to comply with all confidentiality policies and procedures in effect, specifically to include the HIPAA privacy regulations outlined below:

- Privacy Notice - A Notice of Privacy Practices will be given to each consumer at intake and will be further available upon request.
- Consent - Prior to treatment HealthWest will obtain a signed consumer consent for permission to treat, bill for and carry out health care operations described in the Privacy Notice.
- Authorization - If consumer's Protected Health Information is disclosed to an individual or entity outside of HealthWest, a signed authorization will be obtained from the consumer consistent with the HIPAA Privacy Rule, MI Mental Health Code, and 42 CFR Part 2 requirements.
- Business Associate Agreement – HealthWest will obtain assurances from all Business Associates that Protected Health Information shared with them will be protected and appropriately safeguarded, consistent with all applicable State and Federal laws and requirements.
- HealthWest shall investigate any reports of suspected violations and respond to findings of the investigations in compliance with the HIPAA Privacy and Security regulations.
- HealthWest will perform any necessary risk analyses or assessments to ensure compliance.

All HealthWest Board members, employees, contracted and subcontracted providers must conduct themselves so as to maintain the confidentiality of consumers' information, in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations, including but not limited to the Michigan Mental Health Code and the Privacy and Security Regulations issued pursuant to HIPAA and updated HITECH revisions, and 42 CFR Part 2 as it relates to substance abuse records. All will refrain from disclosing any personal or confidential information concerning members unless authorized by laws relating to confidentiality of records and protected health information.

If specific questions arise regarding the obligation to maintain the confidentiality of information or the appropriateness of releasing information, HealthWest Board members and staff should seek guidance from the Corporate Compliance Team and/or Privacy Officer, or anonymously through the agency Corporate Compliance hotline at (231) 724-6575.



# Corporate Compliance

# FY25 Compliance

## Training Initiatives

- 447 HealthWest staff and Designated Contractual Organizations (DCO) staff trained in person for Corporate Compliance
- 30 focused training opportunities for internal staff and providers

**Formal Training:** Shifted to in-person sessions supplemented by KnowB4 modules. Held twice per month through FY25, with attendance ranging from 8 to 30 participants per session. Almost 450 staff and DCO partners trained in person.

**Team-Based Training:** Targeted sessions for specific teams to address unique compliance needs while meeting the annual Corporate Compliance requirement.

**Focused Training:** Introduced to address emerging compliance risks and inform the Risk Management Plan. Topics included Individual Plan of Service documentation, Home and Community Based Services rules, International Dysphagia Diet Standardization Initiative (IDDSI) protocols, claims, incident reporting, and data collection.

# FY25 Compliance

## Provider Network Site Visits

- 48 provider site visits which does not include provider virtual meetings, provider team meetings, or board meetings

Common issues included:

- Non-compliance with HCBS rules
- Incomplete incident reporting
- Feeding protocol violations
- Medication management concerns
- Staff turnover and training gaps

# FY25 Compliance

## 79 investigations in FY25

### Key Issues Investigated:

- Billing irregularities
- HIPAA/privacy violations
- Medication mismanagement
- Staff misconduct
- Provider complaints
- Rights violations
- DEA and external agency inquiries

# FY25 Compliance

## Policy and Procedure Updates

- 8 policy changes involving Corporate Compliance Investigations
  - Risk Management Plan
  - Person-Centered Planning Policy
  - Bed Bug Policy
  - Change in Provider Request Process
  - Supplemental Employment Guidelines
  - Consent for fingerprints, photos, and audio
  - Direct Care Staff Resignation/Retirement
  - Peer Chart Review Policy

# Compliance Trends

- Increased focus on **IDDSI feeding protocols**, **HCBS rule adherence**, and **data collection**.
- Emphasis on **training and retraining** across provider networks.
- Use of **process mapping** and **policy revisions** to address systemic issues.
- Collaboration with external entities (e.g., DEA, LRE, APS) for complex cases.



# Corrective Action Plans

Samaritas

ACAC

Holland Hospital

Rebound

Ivy Rehab



# Risk Management

- Risk Management Plan and Policy was developed in FY 25
  - Reviewed Quarterly with agency leaders
    - Implemented new prevention techniques
    - Highlight priority areas
    - Remove resolved issues





# Increased Compliance Visability

1. Compliance Week highlighting the overall importance of compliance
2. Implemented KnowB4 trainings to all staff upon hire and quarterly
3. In-person training for all staff
4. The addition of the *Compliance Corner* in the HealthWest newsletter.



# Thank you

Helen Dobb

Compliance Manager

Helen.dobb@healthwest.net

616-566-6946



# HealthWest

Muskegon's Behavioral Wellness Connection

Quality Assessment & Performance Improvement Plan  
(QAPIP) FY2025

6-Month Update 12/19/25

## Purpose

To guide the agency-wide quality improvement activities of HealthWest and support the integration of a continuous quality improvement philosophy into the organization's everyday work.





## Goal Updates

Target improvements at all levels, including management, administration, and programs. Dimensions of care such as access, effectiveness, efficiency, and satisfaction will be addressed.

Involve people served and those who care for them in assessing and improving satisfaction with outcomes and services.

Develop performance indicators to ensure that services are effective, safe, respectful, and appropriate.

Track key performance indicators, comparing performance to statewide and/or nationwide data when available.

Ensure that service providers fulfill their contractual or employment obligations per applicable regulatory and accreditation standards.

Ensure that service providers are competent and capable of providing services through a system of competency evaluation and credentialing.

Ensure that HealthWest provides effective, equitable, understandable, and respectful quality care and services responsive to diverse cultural health beliefs and practices, preferred languages, health literacy, and other communication needs.

Ensure that performance indicators and improvement activities impact all populations served by the agency, including but not limited to populations such as persons served over a long period, older adults, children, non-English speakers, and those with developmental disabilities.

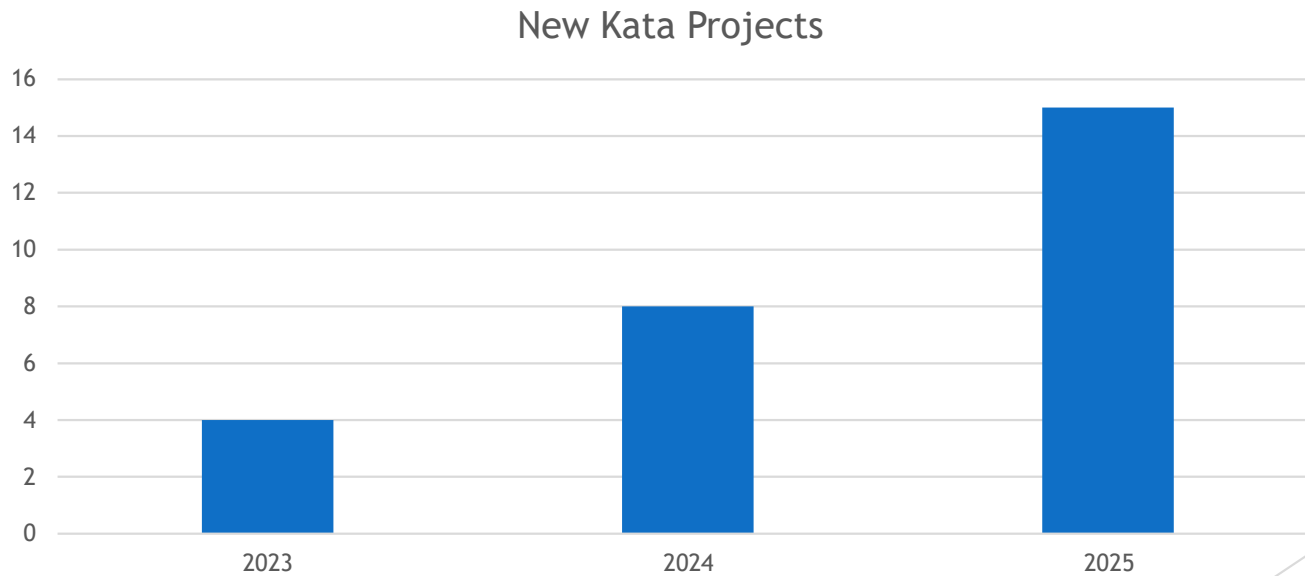
Goal 1: Target improvements at all levels, including management, administration, and programs. Dimensions of care such as access, effectiveness, efficiency, and satisfaction will be addressed.

## ► Kata Projects in FY25/26 to date

- 17 Kata projects are active
- 19 New Kata projects since the beginning of FY25, an increase of 11 Kata projects since last report
- 7 Kata projects have ended
  - 6 Met the challenge statement
  - 1 made progress toward the challenge statement

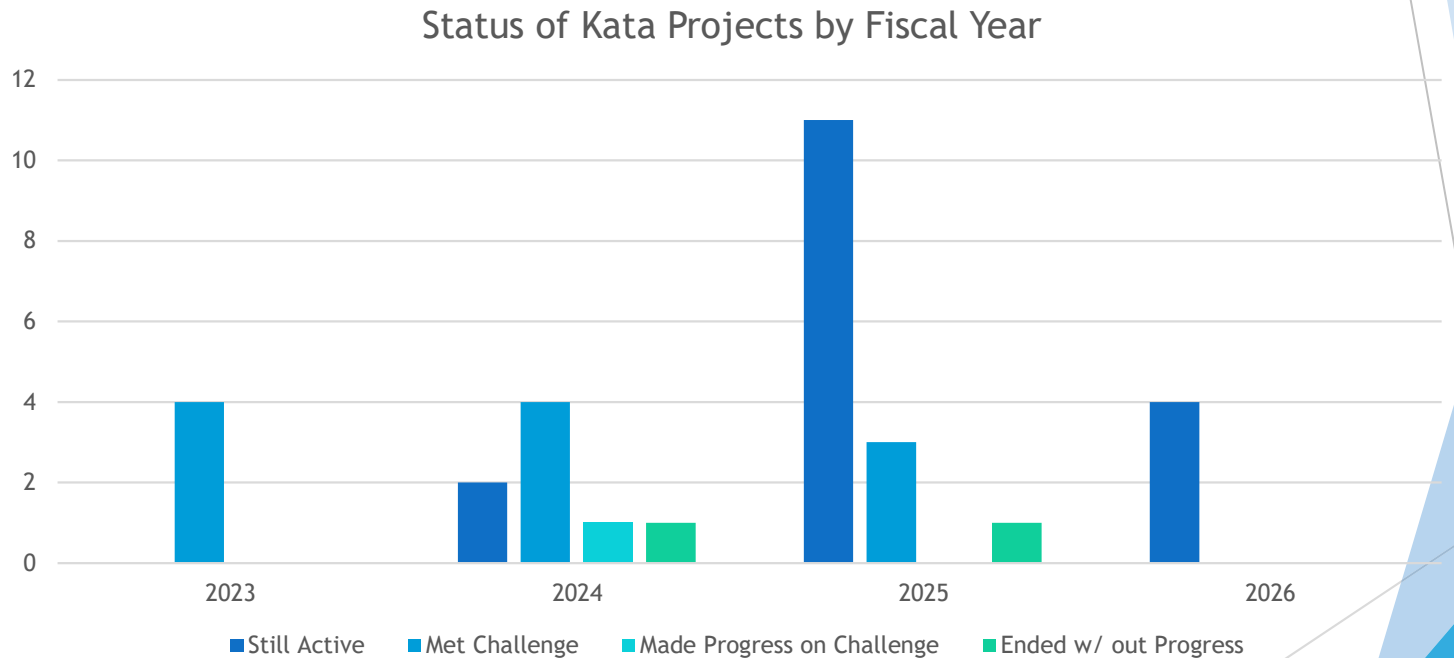


# Kata Project Growth Over Time





# Status of Kata Projects by Fiscal Year



# Kata Stats to Date

- ▶ Average Days to Kata project completion: 248.33
- ▶ Total number of HealthWest staff trained: 381
- ▶ Total number of County staff: 23



# Data Analytics

## ► Data Requests (includes all types of new and change requests, including dashboards)

- 211 data requests completed in FY24
- 218 data requests completed in FY25, 7 directly related to Kata projects
- 43 data requests completed in FY26, 3 directly related to Kata projects
  - On pace to complete 240

## ► CCBHC Dashboards - (Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic)

- 8 CCBHC Quality Bonus Payments Metrics Internal Dashboards implemented for 2025
- 1 CCBHC-IA Grant NOMs (National Outcome Measures) Goal Monitoring dashboard
- 1 CCBHC-IA Grant CCBHC-IA Enrollment And Reassessment Goals dashboard
- 1 CCBHC Daily Visits dashboard to monitor visit goals and PPS (Prospective Payment System) payments

# Data Analytics

## ► Continuous Improvement

- Updates to Dashboard portal
  - Added a new menu system to improve user experience and efficiency in posting dashboards
  - Linked to Supervisor Data Review Schedule (PDF) to assist supervisors in using and reviewing data
  - Added New Dashboards page that automatically shows new dashboards in the last month to inform all users
- 2 Predictive Analytics proof of concept projects completed with GVSU Professional Science Masters student interns
- Dashboard for Usage Metrics created and monitored
- Provided 12 team trainings on data and dashboards
- Provided 4 Data Drop-ins open to any staff
- Had attendance at 7 data-related conferences or events
- Presented at Spring Improving Outcomes Conference on Data Request workflow
- Exploring Modern Data Warehouse platforms Fabric and Snowflake

## Goal 2: Involve people served and those who care for them in assessing and improving satisfaction with outcomes and services.

### ▶ Consumer Advisory Committee:

- ▶ The CAC works to address concerns from a consumer standpoint and reports to the Board of Directors.
- ▶ CAC member David Scholtens continues to participate on the Quality Improvement Committee where he presents concerns identified and CAC recommendations for continuous quality improvement.

### ▶ Program/Service Specific Surveys:

- ▶ Technology Survey - August 2025
- ▶ Groups Survey - October 2025
- ▶ Trauma Informed Care Survey - Currently in progress

# Technology Survey

- ▶ The Technology Satisfaction Survey was conducted in August and completed by 180 consumers.
- ▶ The results show that most respondents are actively using HealthWest's available technology (including the Patient Portal, telehealth services, iPads, translation devices, and signature pads) and generally find these tools easy to use. Consumers reported reliable access to devices and internet, with relatively few technical difficulties.
- ▶ For the Patient Portal specifically, respondents rated navigation, clarity of information, post-care support, and PHI protection positively, though some users noted a need for clearer instructions or additional support.
- ▶ Telehealth use remains strong, with 81 percent of respondents indicating they would choose telehealth again in the future.

# Groups Surveys: Consumers

- ▶ Those who have participated in groups, sent in October. 9 respondents currently
  - ▶ Overall groups were rated positively, with 71% indicating they felt the group was helpful to their overall health or mental health. 14% were neutral and 14% did not find it helpful. 83% would recommend the groups they attended to others.
- ▶ Those who have not attended groups. 55 respondents currently
  - ▶ Of those surveyed 56% reported that they had been offered an opportunity to attend a group or class at HealthWest.
  - ▶ The most common reasons for not attending a group or class were preferring one-to-one services, lack of interest in the topic, and believing it would not be helpful. Other reasons included concerns about the group setting, scheduling conflicts, and transportation issues.
  - ▶ Overall, the results suggest that while just over half of consumers are being offered groups, very few are attending, likely due to a combination of personal preferences and lack of clarity about group purpose. Expanding awareness, improving explanations of group benefits, and addressing access barriers may increase interest and participation in the future.

# Groups Survey: Staff

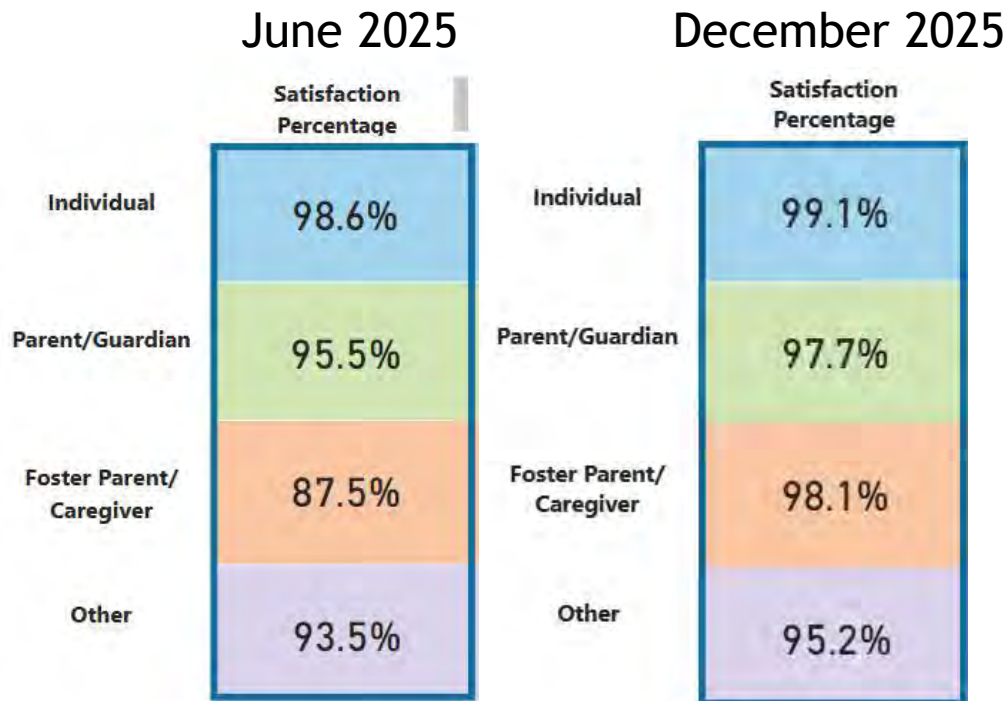
- ▶ 55 respondents currently
- ▶ HealthWest staff are generally aware of skills groups and broadly supportive of using them, but inconsistent understanding of what is offered, concerns that what is offered does not fit their consumers' needs, and practical barriers such as consumer scheduling or transportation reduce referral rates.
- ▶ Summary:
  - ▶ The results of all three surveys will be used to help give us a clear direction for improving how talk about and offer groups and classes. They highlight the need to strengthen staff understanding, make information clearer for consumers, reduce the barriers that keep people from attending, and take a closer look at the types of groups we're offering.
  - ▶ By using this feedback to guide our next steps, we can increase participation, better support consumers, and help staff feel more confident and consistent in the referral process.



# HealthWest Data Customer Satisfaction Surveys - FY 2024

- ▶ Mental Health Statistical Improvement Program (MHSIP) Average of 86% Satisfaction - 417 surveys completed
- ▶ Youth Services Survey for Families (YSS-F) Average of 77% Satisfaction - 46 surveys completed
- ▶ Note that over 3,500 surveys were sent out, with a total of 463 returned.
  - ▶ Surveys were also available through QR code on the website, posters in buildings, and with paper copies in the lobby of each building.

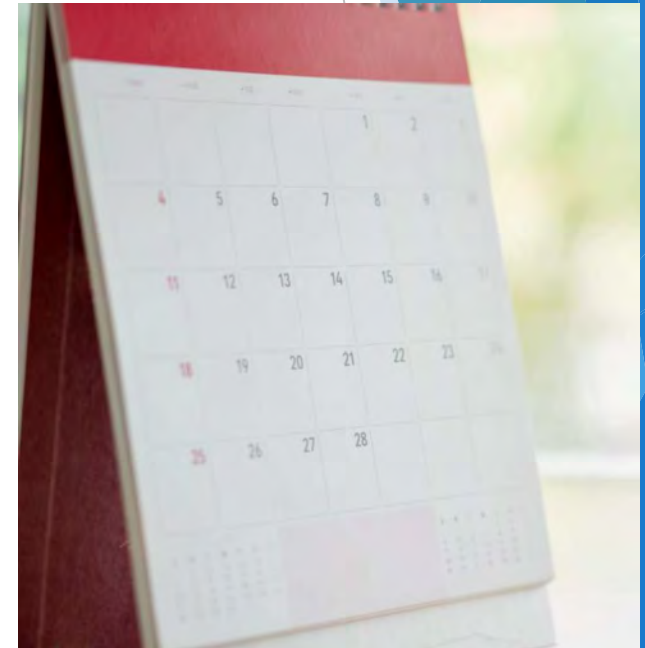
# Periodic Review Satisfaction Data



- ▶ The periodic review allows individuals and those that care for them to individually indicate satisfaction with services.
- ▶ Current data is from 2405 reviews in which the satisfaction with services question was asked.
- ▶ Data can be filtered by individual, primary program, staff, and supervisor

## Goal 3: Develop performance indicators to ensure that services are effective, safe, respectful, and appropriate.

- ▶ Leadership Team and CARF Committee Members were trained in Performance Measurement and Outcomes Management.
  - ▶ Performance: The functioning of the organization and its programs, as well as the results achieved by persons served.
  - ▶ Measurement: Data Collection, Data Analysis, Key Performance Indicators (values that describe an organizations performance)
- ▶ Leaders were asked to create KPIs for their departments:
  - ▶ Business Functions: Financials, Staff Attrition Rates, % staff receiving timely training, etc.
  - ▶ Service Delivery: Goals met by individuals, % Individuals who maintain employment after discharge, Number of Falls



## Goal 4: Track key performance indicators, comparing performance to statewide and/or nationwide data when available.

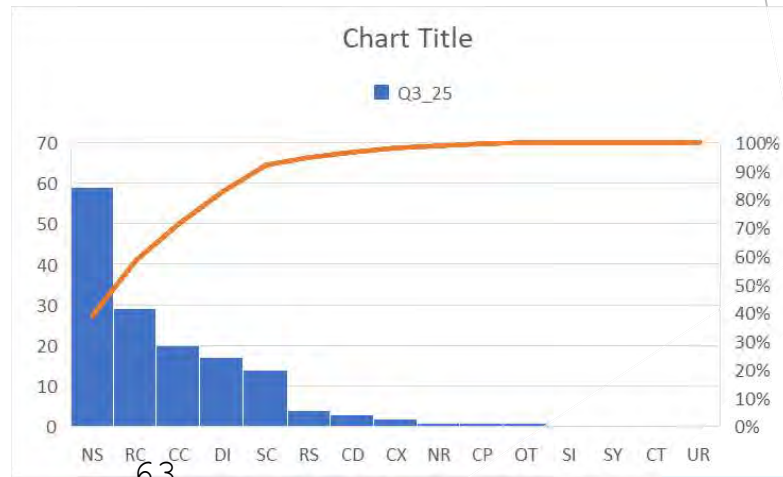
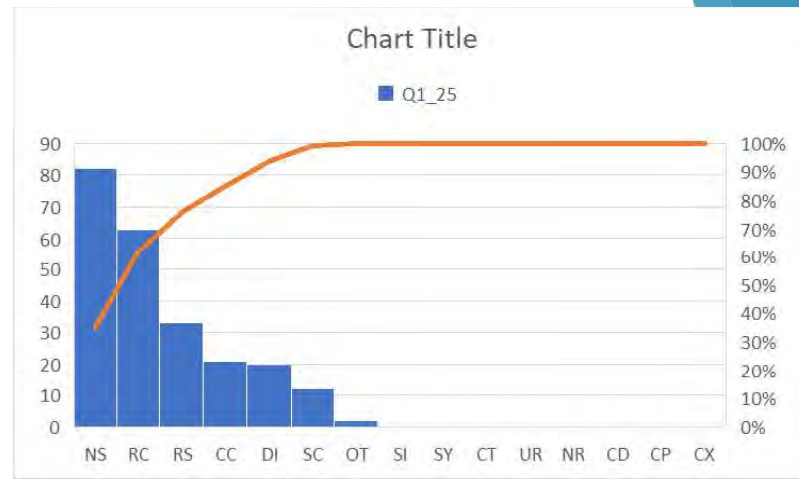
			24Q1	25Q1	25Q2	25 Q3	25 Q4
#1	% of Pre-Admission Screening Dispositions 3 hrs or less - Child	95%	98.7%	98.6%	91.9%	98.0%	96.61%
	% of Pre-Admission Screening Dispositions 3 hrs or less - Adult	95%	97.6%	95.7%	97.4%	98.5%	98.51%
#2a	Biopsychosocial within 14 days --MIC	62%	57.4%	60.7%	69.1%	73.5%	77.69%
	Biopsychosocial within 14 days --MIA	62%	48.1%	59.8%	66.2%	70.7%	72.24%
	Biopsychosocial within 14 days --DDC	62%	41.9%	69.6%	74.5%	83.7%	81.63%
	Biopsychosocial within 14 days --DDA	62%	72.7%	62.9%	75.0%	79.2%	90.91%
	Biopsychosocial within 14 days -- Total	62%	51.7%	61.0%	68.0%	72.8%	75.65%
#3	Ongoing Services within 14 days -- MIC	72.9%	57.7%	69.2%	61.6%	71.5%	77.78%
	Ongoing Services within 14 days -- MIA	72.9%	59.6%	62.6%	69.6%	67.7%	72.10%
	Ongoing Services within 14 days -- DDC	72.9%	44.4%	73.3%	79.5%	95.7%	87.23%
	Ongoing Services within 14 days -- DDA	72.9%	18.2%	68.8%	77.8%	88.5%	76.19%
	Ongoing Services within 14 days -- Total	72.9%	56.8%	65.9%	68.7%	72.3%	75.50%
#4a	Seen within 7 Days of Inpatient Discharge --Children	95%	95.5%	100.0%	100....	100....	100.00%
	Seen within 7 Days of Inpatient Discharge --Adults	95%	92.8%	95.9%	98.8%	98.9%	98.94%
#4b	Seen within 7 Days of Detox Discharge	95%	100.0%	100.0%	100....	100....	100.00%
#10	Inpatient Recidivism Rate --Children	< 15%	20.0%	22.6%	9.5%	9.1%	11.11%
	Inpatient Recidivism Rate --Adult	< 15%	12.7%	15.2%	10.8%	10.0%	8.23%

# Exception Codes

Code	Category
SI	Staffing Issue
SY	Systems Issue
DI	Documentation Issue
NS	Client No Show
CC	Client Canceled
CT	Client Canceled - Transportation
SC	Staff Canceled
UR	Unable to reach client to schedule appointment within timeframe
NR	Unable to reach client at all
RC	Rescheduled by client
RS	Rescheduled by staff
CD	Client choice of date
CP	Client choice of therapist or provider
CX	Client choice not to use CMHSP services
OT	Other

## Access and Comprehensive Assessment Team Improvement Efforts to improve Indicator 2

- ▶ Began introduction and reminder calls.
- ▶ Implemented a process to reassign appointments to another available staff within the CAT team when a staff calls in.
- ▶ Supervisor has added appointment slots in his schedule to assist when there are staff call ins.
- ▶ Work with consumers to change the time in the same day if there is some reason that time no longer works for either the staff or the consumer. Changing the date of the assessment is last resort.
- ▶ Use of a dashboard to indicate when a consumer is coming close to the 14-day window so they can work together to get them in when there may be no-shows or cancels by client.



## Goal 5: Ensure that service providers fulfill their contractual or employment obligations per applicable regulatory and accreditation standards.

### Monthly Provider Audits:

- ▶ Provider Feedback:
  - ▶ Provider's like in-person better than virtual
  - ▶ Feedback and findings were appreciated and valued. It helped them prepare for full audits by LRE.
- ▶ Top Findings:
  - ▶ Trainings - including IPOS in-service
  - ▶ HCBS Compliance, particularly with outings
  - ▶ Staff Files - background checks, annual evaluations, job descriptions
- ▶ Improvements to Process:
  - ▶ Updated the audit form used, added HCBS components and created a scoring system to track progress from year to year.



# Pre-Contracting Assessments

- ▶ The Pre-Contracting Assessment (PCA) was developed to ensure that all prospective providers meet HealthWest's quality, safety, and operational standards, including all applicable Medicaid and MHDDS requirements before entering the network.
- ▶ Purpose: To evaluate a provider's readiness, capacity, and suitability to deliver services aligned with the IPOS, Medicaid rules, HealthWest expectations.
- ▶ The PCA helps identify strengths, potential risks, and areas needing clarification early in the process, ensuring that providers who can consistently and effectively support consumers move forward in contracting.
- ▶ To date there have been:
  - ▶ 16 submitted
  - ▶ 4 providers moved forward
  - ▶ 6 providers waitlisted/denied
  - ▶ 6 currently being reviewed





**Goal 6: Ensure that HealthWest provides effective, equitable, understandable, and respectful quality care and services responsive to diverse cultural health beliefs and practices, preferred languages, health literacy, and other communication needs.**

# Customer Services - Limited English Proficiency (LEP)

- ▶ AMN HealthCare Translation Requests:
  - ▶ 99 Translation requests in FY25, compared to 54 in FY24
  - ▶ Requested languages for translation were Spanish, Oromo, Polish, and Haitian Creole
- ▶ AMN HealthCare Interpretation Services - Video:
  - ▶ 152 video calls in FY25, compared to 99 in FY24
  - ▶ Requested languages for video calls were Spanish, Haitian Creole, American Sign Language, Dari, Polish, and Certified Deaf Interpreter (CDI)
- ▶ AMN HealthCare Interpretation Services - Audio:
  - ▶ 66 audio calls in FY25, compared to 39 in FY24
  - ▶ Requested languages for audio calls were Spanish, Haitian Creole, Croatian, and Albanian
- ▶ In-Person Interpretation Services
  - ▶ Voices for Health: 52 in FY25, compared to 27 in FY24
  - ▶ Deaf and Hard of Hearing and Barb Johnson Interpretation Services: 14 in FY25, compared to 36 in FY24

- ▶ Kata projects are focused on improvement across all departments, serving all populations. Challenge areas currently addressed include:

**Goal 7: Ensure that performance indicators and improvement activities impact all populations served by the agency, including but not limited to populations such as persons served over a long period, older adults, children, non-English speakers, and those with developmental disabilities.**

- ▶ Quality Measures
- ▶ Increased Face to Face time w/ those we serve
- ▶ Improve documentation/timely billing
- ▶ Staff Retention
- ▶ Structured Supervision
- ▶ Direct Service Fidelity
- ▶ Reduce Administrative Burden
- ▶ Improve Training Completion
- ▶ Improve Self-Directed Services
- ▶ Improve workflow around position changes/labor distribution
- ▶ Improve oversight of housing needs and area resources

Thank you!

Questions?





## Consumer Advisory Committee Update:

Weather was bad the day of the meeting, most of the members chose to attend virtually.

All positions have decided to extend their term one more year. The committee decided that if Cowboy wanted to remain in the Chair position, on the meetings he is unable to attend the Co-Chair can run the meeting.

The members made a motion to update the policy. The changes include

- increasing the member cap to 15. The current policy is 9-11 members.
- changing the language to allow for members to remain on the committee if the cap has not been reached.
  - The reason – In January 2026, the committee would lose 7 of the 10 members due to the current policy. States the members could serve 1-3 years.
  - Discussion on recruiting new members
- The changes will be discussed further at the February meeting. Per policy, the members need two weeks' notice on policy changes. If changes are agreed upon, the committee will follow the steps to have the policy changes made and approved by Health west.

Kelly spoke about CCBHC (Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics) changes as of 10/1/2025. Discussed the opportunity for individuals to take their grievance to a 2<sup>nd</sup> level through MDHHS (Michigan Department of Health and Human Services). Previously the grievances would stop with the resolution from the CMH.

Kelly reviewed information from Fiscal Year 2025 (FY 2025). Provided a presentation including data for Grievances, appeals, Notice of Adverse Benefit Determinations (NABD) and Limited English Proficiency (LEP) which is the data of the interpretation and translation data.

Gary shared information on

- Clinically AI and the upcoming rollout for staff.
- Adding consumer photos in the electronic medical record (EMR)
- CCBHC discussion and changes.
- RPF Rebid – current court hearing

Jennifer asked for input on HealthWest Way and shared the Rising Star stories.

Hannah (Supervisor for the Intensive Crisis Services) was a guest. Hannah spoke about the warm line and the services that the warm line provides.

Encouraged members to participate in the State Advisory Committee through CMHA. Next meeting is January 14 from 1-2:30 via zoom.



## **HealthWest Employee Recognition / Feedback from Consumers:**

### **Customer Service Call 11/05/2025**

*Customer service team received a call from an individual who wanted to share the great job that is being done by the Warm line staff.*

- They always answer the phone; there is something about always knowing your call will be answered.*
- Laura is always pleasant, knows how to relate. Laura shows good insight and this individual appreciates her good work.*

*Keep up the great job Laura Leary and the warm line staff.*

### **Customer Service Call 11/06/2025**

*Customer service received a call today. This caller said that Carley Eggleton was very nice and kind. Keep up the great work Carley! KUDOS*

### **Customer Service Call 12/12/2025**

*Customer service took a call today from an individual who utilized the Urgent Care today.*

*This individual was looking to get help with a suboxone program. This individual shared that they were at home and comfortable with every staff they delt with today. Shared that every person was upbeat, happy and helpful. They shared that they were very impressed and felt it was well run. Shared that they will recommend this program.*



December 19, 2025

## MEETING NOTICE JANUARY 2026

The HealthWest Board will meet in the following sessions during the month of January 2026. Please remember we must have a quorum in person for these meetings. If you participate remotely, your vote will not count. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Finance Committee

Friday, January 9, 2026

Full Board Meeting

Friday, January 23, 2026

The administrative office will contact you via email to remind you of these meetings.

The complete schedule of committee and board meetings for 2026 can be found online at <https://healthwest.net/about-us/healthwest-board-agendas-minutes/2023-board-of-directors-schedule/>

\hb

cc: HealthWest Board Members

### Main Office

376 E. Apple Ave. | Muskegon, MI 49442 | P (231) 724-1111 | F (231) 724-3659  
[HealthWest.net](https://healthwest.net)



## MEMORANDUM

Date: 12/19/2025

To: HealthWest Board of Directors

CC: Mark Eisenbarth, Muskegon County Administrator  
Matt Farrar, Muskegon County Deputy Administrator  
Angie Gasiewski, Muskegon County Finance Director

From: Rich Francisco, Executive Director

Subject: **Director's Update**

### **PIHP Procurement:**

- At the time of writing this update (12/18/2025), HW along with all the CMHSPs and PIHPs are waiting on Judge Yates to make a ruling on the case against MDHHS and DTMB regarding PIHP procurement. The hearing was held on December 8<sup>th</sup> in Lansing for the first day and for the second and third day the hearing was in Grand Rapids. Like the update I provided to HW Finance committee, Judge Yates shared some concern about elements of the PIHP RFP that could strip CMHSPs of their ability to perform their statutory function to provide services according to the Mental Health Code. Judge Yates asked questions surrounding the braided funding and did receive good examples of how CMHSPs deliver services to individuals. There was also discussion surrounding civil admissions to Inpatient and hospital settings and how that is managed by CMHSPs, and how that could be impacted if the RFP were to go forward.

### **CCBHC direct payment:**

- HW staff is currently developing a service agreement with LRE to continue to provide CCBHC appeals function for HW. Allegan and Ottawa are also interested in doing the same because the LRE is geared and already doing this function. I did mention this to the board last month that we would pursue this.
- LRE is also updating our DUA (Data Use Agreement) to include language that would permit the LRE to process CCBHC data as well for submission to MDHHS. MDHHS has agreed to let the current stand that LRE continue to be the pipeline for the CCBHC data before it goes to the state. There will be a workgroup forming in January/February to address CCBHC data concerns but to keep data flowing, the current data pipeline will remain.

### **LRE Level Updates:**

- At the LRE board meeting, Mary Dumas provided a recap of the proceedings from the hearing with Judge Yates and the CMHSPs and PIHPs who filed a lawsuit against



MDHHS. The hearing was from 12/8 - 12/10. Everyone is still waiting for Judge Yates ruling and opinion to decide the case. Judge Yates expressed wanting to provide an opinion this week.

- LRE also presented aggregate data for all CMHSPs on Grievance and Appeals data.
- The LRE also presented information related to two legislative updates from the Oversight Policy board related to an effort to prohibit Marijuana billboard advertising (HB 5134 and 5135). The other is legislation surrounding licensing of tobacco sales including e-Cigarettes and nicotine pouches. This will require retailers to obtain state issued license to sell these products (SB 462, 464-465)

#### **CMH Level Updates:**

- Last month, I gave an update that we were evaluating consolidating staff at NIMS. After deliberation and internal discussion, HW has decided not to move Terrace Plaza staff over to NIMS building and consolidate. This move will significantly increase our rent by about 83k annually. HW will evaluate this in the coming year or two again. The factors involved in the decision fell on the unpredictable nature of our funding and because of all the potential changes at MDHHS and budget concerns, HW decided to hold off on moving.
- HW found out that there is a licensing opportunity to get a twelve bed to expand our CRU (Crisis Residential Unit) without putting in a hood suppression system. Prior to moving to our current CRU our goal was to expand to twelve beds and at the time we were told that we needed a hood suppression system. We were told by the fire Marshall and notified by the architect that that only applies to 14 Bed. There is a mid-level license we can get for a twelve bed for which our current space is already appropriate. This is good news and HW does not need to spend 70k - 80k on a hood suppression system.
- HW also completed an ACT MiFAST fidelity review and the clinical teams involved are currently reviewing the reports. Any findings or recommendations will be addressed as opportunities for improvement. HW regularly conduct MiFAST reviews, but they are not a formal audit. They are an opportunity to review certain programs and evidenced based practices so we can improve current practices.

### IDD Self-Advocacy Event in Lansing – It's Time Again!

It's that time of year again for the **IDD Self-Advocacy Day** in Lansing—an empowering opportunity for individuals to advocate for themselves and speak directly with a senator in small group or one-on-one meetings. What an incredible experience for everyone involved!



We'll start our day at HealthWest and travel together to Lansing. The event will begin at Heritage Hall with light refreshments, and lunch will be provided later in the day.

This event includes quite a bit of movement between locations—the Capitol, Heritage Hall, the House of Representatives (Anderson House), and the Senate Building (Binsfeld Building). The day's activities include scheduled meetings with legislators, a guided tour of the Capitol, and the chance to observe both House and Senate sessions. We may even witness a bill being passed during one of the legislative sessions!

### Event Details

- ? **Registration Deadline:** March 27, 2026 at 5:00 p.m.
- ? **What:** The Michigan Developmental Disabilities Council (MiDDC) and the Self-Advocates of Michigan (SAM) present Voices in Action: Self-Advocacy Day.
- ? **Who:** Individuals receiving IDD Services
- ? **When:** Wednesday, April 15, 2026 | 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- ? **Where:** Heritage Hall – Capitol Visitor's Center; 323 W. Ottawa St., Lansing, MI 48933
- ? **Why:** Voices in Action is YOUR chance to meet other self-advocates, connect with elected officials, and make your voice heard. This day is all about advocating for the issues that matter most to YOU. Whether you're experienced in self-advocacy or brand new, this event is a great opportunity to learn, connect, and grow your advocacy network.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LBMMZBH>



## WALK A MILE RALLY

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The next Walk A Mile Rally will be held on September 23, 2026 – Mark Your Calendar!!

The Walk a Mile in My Shoes Rally, held last year on September 17, 2025, was a huge success! The Rally saw approximately 2,000 participants and advocates join together to let the legislators of Michigan know that all citizens receiving behavioral health services in Michigan have a voice – they vote – and they want to be heard!

Each year, we draw more than 1,500 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. Join us this year on Wednesday, September 23, 2026, 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.

The 2026 Walk A Mile Information Packet will be available here later in the year after it is finalized!

<https://cmham.org/education-events/walk-a-mile-rally/>

### Why We Rally...

To enhance public awareness, because legislators need to know that Mental Health Matters.

To put an end to the stigma related to mental illness & developmental disabilities, because Michigan does not have parity (equality) between mental health & physical health care coverage.

To promote mental health and wellness, because we can make a difference!

# **CANCELLATION OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**

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**Notice of Intent to Award Number: 260000000197**

**for**

**Request for Proposal (RFP): 250000002670**

**Cancellation Date: January 29, 2026**

The Department of Technology, Management, and Budget, Central Procurement Services has cancelled RFP 250000002670.

Per the RFP Proposal Instructions, Section 11 (b), Reservations, the State has elected to discontinue the RFP process, and no Award will be issued.

If you have any questions, please contact the Solicitation Manager at the contact information below.

Marissa Gove

[Govem1@michigan.gov](mailto:Govem1@michigan.gov)

517-449-8952

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**CONSUMER ADVISORY PANEL MEETING AGENDA**

Thursday, December 11, 2025 – 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM

Virtual Teams Meeting or Call In

1. Welcome and Introductions.
  - i. Review of December 11, 2025, Agenda (*Attachment 1*)
  - ii. Review of September 11, 2024, Meeting Minutes (*Attachment 2*)
2. Member Stories – Limit 5 minutes
  - i. Member Experiences
3. Community Advisory Panel –
  - i. LRE Newsletters
    - CAP
    - [LRE Newsletter](#) (click link)
  - ii. Wasing – New Drug Trend (Informational) – (*Attachment 3*)
  - iii. LRE/MiRecovery Prenatal Videos (Informational)
    - <https://youtu.be/ioV24iA0psY>  
(this is a short trailer)
    - [https://youtu.be/sYXArvAQ\\_ro](https://youtu.be/sYXArvAQ_ro)
4. PIHP Updates
  - i. PIHP System Competitive Procurement (Bid-Out) Update
  - ii. QAPIP Update (*Attachment 4*)
    - [Quality Assessment and Performance Improvement Program \(QAPIP\)](#)
  - iii. Customer Services Year in Review (*Attachment 5*)
  - iv. Gambling Use Disorder FY25 Report (*Attachment 6*)
  - v. HSAG Corrective Action Plan Update
  - vi. LRE Annual Report Update
  - vii. PIHP Use of Artificial Intelligence (CoPilot) Update
    - [Policy 3.7 – Artificial Intelligence](#)
    - [Procedure 3.7a – Approval of Artificial Intelligence Tools](#)
5. State Updates –
  - i. Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHC) Update
  - ii. Legislative Update (*Attachment 7*)
    - Oversight Policy Board (December 10, 2025) - Marijuana Billboards Prevention (*Attachment 8*)
    - [Tobacco Legislation Action Alert](#)

6. LRE Board Meeting

December 17, 2025 – LRE Board Meeting

GVSU Muskegon Innovation Hub, 200 Viridian Dr, Muskegon, MI 49440

Call-in information will be posted on the LRE website

7. Upcoming CAP Meetings (2nd Thursday of every third month [Quarterly] -  
1:00 pm to 3:00 pm)

**2025** – December 11

**2026** – March 12, June 11, September 10, December 10

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

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**CONSUMER ADVISORY PANEL MEETING NOTES**

Thursday, September 11, 2025 – 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM

Virtual Teams Meeting or Call In

**Present:** Robert C., Angie K., James S., Tamara M., Cindy B., Jennifer E., Lynette B., Sharon P., Sharon H.

**Absent:** Shawnee T., John M.

**CMH:** Cathy Potter (OnPoint), Chelsea Eisenlohr (Ottawa CMH), Lori Schummer (WM), Kelly Betts (HW), Sam Potter (N180)

**LRE:** Mari Hesselink, Stephanie VanDerKooi, Michelle Anguiano

**Guest:** Alan Bolter, CMHAM, Demario P.

1. Welcome and Introductions.

- i. Review of the September 11, 2025, Agenda (*Attachment 1*)
- ii. Review of June 12, 2025, Meeting Minutes (*Attachment 2*)

September 11, 2025, meeting agenda and June 12, 2025, meeting minutes are accepted as presented.

2. PIHP System Competitive Procurement (*Attachment 3*) – Alan Bolter, CMHAM

- CMHAM represents CMHSPs and providers that make up the mental healthcare network. Mr. Bolter reviews the PowerPoint that is included in the packet.

Q: why is the advantage to MDHHS?

A: They have not been clear.

Q: RFP – Request for Proposal

Q: What can CAP members do to help?

A: Members can go to CMHAM website [Action Alert](#)

- Key decision makers websites:

- [VanWoerkom](#)
- [Nesbitt](#)
- [Brinks](#)
- [Glanville](#)
- [VanderWall](#)

- If there are any additional questions on the RFP, send them to Mari ([marih@lsre.org](mailto:marih@lsre.org)) and she will forward them on to Mr. Bolter.

3. Member Stories – Limit 5 minutes
  - i. Member Experiences
    - No stories offered.
4. Community Advisory Panel –
  - i. New CAP Member Application (*Attachment 4*)

**Motion:** To recommend to the LRE Board to approve Demario P. as a Community Advisory Panel Member.  
Moved: Sharon H.          Support: Sharon P.  
MOTION CARRIED
  - ii. CAP Newsletter (*Attachment 5*)
    - If there are any suggestions send to Mari, [marih@lsre.org](mailto:marih@lsre.org)
  - iii. Summer Events:

There will be LRE staff that will be attending the Walk-a-Mile. Debbie Stabenow will be attending and speaking at the rally.

    - CMHAM (*Attachment 6*) – Click link below
      - [Walk A Mile – September 17, 2025, Lansing](#)
5. State Updates –
  - i. Legislative Update (*Attachment 7*)
    - Document is included in the packet.
6. LRE Board Meeting

September 24, 2025 – LRE Board Meeting  
GVSU Muskegon Innovation Hub, 200 Viridian Dr, Muskegon, MI 49440  
Call-in information will be posted on the LRE website
7. Upcoming CAP Meetings (2nd Thursday of every third month [Quarterly] - 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm)

2025 – December 11  
2026 – March 12, June 11, September 10, December 10

### **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**





## The ToxIC NOSE (Novel Opioid and Stimulant Exposure)

Report #19 from ToxIC's Rapid Response Program for Emerging Drugs of Abuse

Samantha Gaetani, MD & Kim Aldy, DO, MS, MBA

9/25/2025

### “Waspings”: Insecticide Alternative to Methamphetamine

#### Introduction

“Waspings” or “Wasp Dope” refers to the use of pyrethroid based insecticides (e.g., wasp spray) to achieve a short-lived stimulant effect reported similar to that of amphetamines.<sup>1,2</sup> To make “wasp dope”, insecticide is sprayed onto a metal screen then electrified with a battery to form a crystalline residue.<sup>1,2</sup> The crystalline substance is collected from the metal screen and snorted, smoked, or injected.<sup>1-3</sup> Alternatively, the insecticide can be sprayed onto tobacco, marijuana, or synthetic cannabinoids (“spice” or “K2”) before use.<sup>1,2</sup> Reports also describe “wasp dope” being used as an adulterant mixed with illicit substances such as fentanyl, cocaine, and methamphetamine.<sup>1,2</sup>

#### The ToxIC Novel Opioid and Stimulant Exposure (NOSE) Reports

Through the ongoing support of the Opioid Response Network (ORN) since 2020, the American College of Medical Toxicology (ACMT) Toxicology Investigators Consortium (ToxIC) has implemented an enhanced sentinel detector field within the ToxIC Core Registry to identify novel and emerging opioid and stimulant exposures. Once an emerging trend or risk is identified, ToxIC releases a quarterly report.

The goal of this project is to disseminate this novel information to the medical toxicology community as well as the ORN as part of a Rapid Response program.

For more information on the ToxIC Core Registry and data collection, please visit: [www.toxicregistry.org](http://www.toxicregistry.org)

Clinical effects described in case reports and by media outlets include hallucinations, agitation, erratic behavior, and violent outbursts after use.<sup>1-3</sup> Injection of “wasp dope” has been associated with severe complications including multisystem organ failure and death.<sup>2,3</sup>

## **Case Series/Case Reports**

Data on “wasp dope” are limited, consisting primarily of small epidemiologic surveys and case reports.

In rural Kentucky, a survey of 278 individuals found that 42 (15%) reported “wasp dope” use within the past six months.<sup>1</sup> Use was strongly associated with methamphetamine use, with individuals often turning to insecticides when unable to afford methamphetamine.<sup>1</sup> Among people who used “wasp dope,” men were more prevalent than women. Additionally, people who injected methamphetamine were more likely to inject “wasp dope.”<sup>1</sup> Clinical effects and outcomes were not detailed in this study.

In addition to survey data, a number of case reports highlight severe consequences following the injection of “wasp dope.”

- A 56-year-old man with chronic methamphetamine use reported daily intravenous “wasp dope” use after running out of methamphetamine. He presented to a hospital with agitation and confusion, ultimately found to be in fulminant hepatic failure due to hepatitis A and B. While the contribution of “wasp dope” to his altered mental status was unclear, he described experiencing a “high” comparable to methamphetamine.<sup>2</sup>
- A 29-year-old woman presented to a hospital with shortness of breath, lethargy, and confusion after injecting crystallized wasp spray. She developed multisystem organ failure involving the lungs, kidneys, liver, and heart, requiring ICU admission. Despite supportive care, she ultimately died on hospital day nine.<sup>3</sup>

## Discussion

There is limited data specifically on “wasp dope” or “wasping,” but the toxic effects of its main active ingredients, pyrethroid insecticides, help explain many of the outcomes reported.

Pyrethroids are synthetic derivatives of pyrethrins that are derived from chrysanthemum flowers and, when used as intended, generally have low toxicity in humans aside from hypersensitivity reactions and mild skin irritation.<sup>4</sup> However, when ingested, inhaled, or injected, they can produce significant toxic effects.<sup>4</sup>

Mechanistically, pyrethroids act as sodium channel activators with greater activity at neuronal sodium channels than at cardiac sodium channels.<sup>4</sup> They also modulate GABAergic and glutamatergic pathways, giving them proconvulsant properties.<sup>4</sup> In addition, both Type I and Type II pyrethroids increase adrenaline and noradrenaline release, producing sympathomimetic effects.<sup>4</sup> Clinically, toxic doses of Type I pyrethroids are associated with reflex hyperexcitability and fine tremors, while Type II pyrethroids can cause salivation, choreoathetosis, hyperexcitability, and seizures.<sup>4</sup>

This combination of sodium channel excitation, sympathomimetic stimulation, and altered GABA and glutamate signaling can result in a stimulant-like “high” similar to methamphetamine.<sup>1-4</sup> However, it also carries substantial risks including delirium, seizures, sympathomimetic toxidrome, multisystem organ failure, and death without prompt supportive care.<sup>4</sup> When used alongside or adulterated with methamphetamine, the additive sympathomimetic burden further increases the risk for life threatening complications.<sup>1-4</sup>

## Conclusion

In summary, “wasping” is being used as an alternative drug for methamphetamine and as an adulterant in illicit drugs. A major concern is the toxic effects of the pyrethroids found in these wasp spray insecticide products. Recognizing this pattern of use and asking about “wasp dope” during a drug use history is important for identifying affected patients and providing appropriate counseling and treatment.

## References

1. Young AM, Livingston M, Vickers-Smith R, Cooper HLF. Emergence of wasp dope in rural Appalachian Kentucky. *Addiction*. 2021;116(7):1901-1907. PMID: 33063438
2. Darnell JL, Fleisch SB. Methamphetamine and wasp spray: A unique way to get a stinging high. *Psychosomatics*. 2019;60(5):535-536. PMID: 30717980.
3. Gussow L. Toxicology Rounds - The latest high: Wasp spray dope. *Emergency Medicine News*. 2022;44(1):10.
4. Ray DE, Forshaw PJ. Pyrethroid insecticides: Poisoning syndromes, synergies, and therapy. *J Toxicol Clin Toxicol*. 2000;38(2):95-101. PMID: 10778904.

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## Author Information

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Department of Medical Toxicology  
Banner – University Medical Center Phoenix

Kim Aldy, DO, MS, MBA  
Department of Emergency Medicine, Division of Medical Toxicology  
Baylor University School of Medicine, Dallas, TX

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## About the *Opioid Response Network (ORN)*:

**Help is here!** The *Opioid Response Network (ORN)* is your resource for no-cost education, training and consultation to enhance efforts addressing opioid and stimulant use disorders.

*ORN* has consultants in every state and territory to deploy across prevention, treatment, recovery and harm reduction.

**Share your needs via the “Submit a Request” form at [www.OpioidResponseNetwork.org](http://www.OpioidResponseNetwork.org).** Within one business day, your regional point person will be in touch to learn more.



Funding for this initiative was made possible (in part) by grant no. 1H79TI088037 from SAMHSA. The views expressed in written conference materials or publications and by speakers and moderators do not necessarily reflect the official policies of the Department of Health and Human Services; nor does mention of trade names, commercial practices, or organizations imply endorsement by the U.S. Government.

[orn@aaap.org](mailto:orn@aaap.org) 401-270-5900

[www.OpioidResponseNetwork.org](http://www.OpioidResponseNetwork.org)



## FY26 QAPIP Review

Stephanie VanDerKooi - Chief Operating Officer  
November 18, 2025

# Quality Assessment Performance Improvement Programs

## What is the QAPIP?

- State required system for monitoring and improving quality.
- Ensures services are safe, effective, and person- centered.
- Uses data and stakeholder input to guide improvements.
- Creates a consistent, regional approach to quality.

<sup>1</sup> [eCFR 42 CFR 438.330](#)

<sup>2</sup> FY24 PIHP Contract, Section K, pp 55-56; FY25 PIHP Contract, Section L, pp. 58-59

<sup>3</sup> [MDHHS QAPIP Policy, December 2022](#)



# QAPIP Components



The state requires specific areas of monitoring within the QAPIP, while also allowing the region to identify additional performance improvement priorities.

## LRE Board of Directors QAPIP Responsibilities

- Formally Approve the QAPIP
- Receive “Routinely Written” QAPIP Reports
- Review the Annual Effectiveness Report (Feb.)
- Submit the QAPIP & Annual Effectiveness Review for Prior FY to MDHHS by Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>



## Updated Structure for QAPIP Oversight

Reorganized internal structures for coordinated and efficient oversight:

- Quality and operations consolidated under COO, improving coordination across departments
- Dedicated quality review team of 8 staff to conduct audits (CMH, provider, and facility)
- Expanded data support with 8 staff dedicated to analytics to strengthen QAPIP monitoring
- The new structure streamlines oversight, reduces fragmentation, and supports consistent regional quality management.

# Q&A



# Customer Services

## FY25 Annual Review



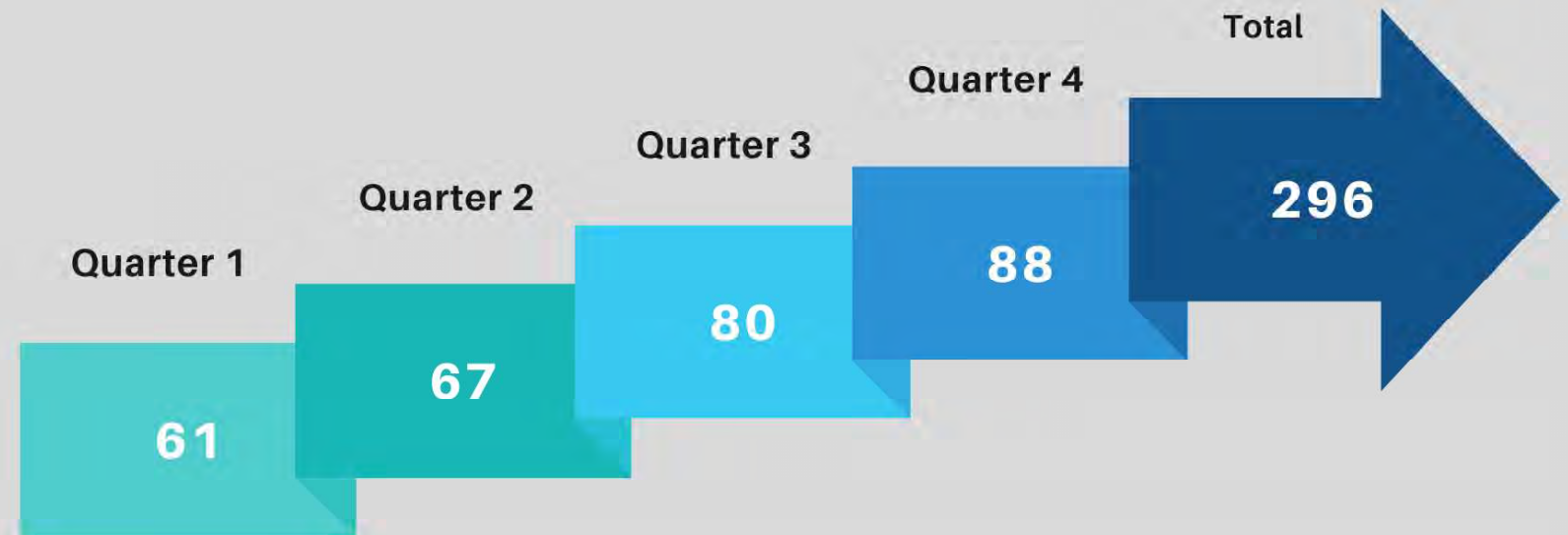
# Agenda

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1. Grievance Data
2. Appeals and State Fair Hearing Data
3. Customer Service Phone Calls
4. Customer Satisfaction Survey
5. Goals for 2026

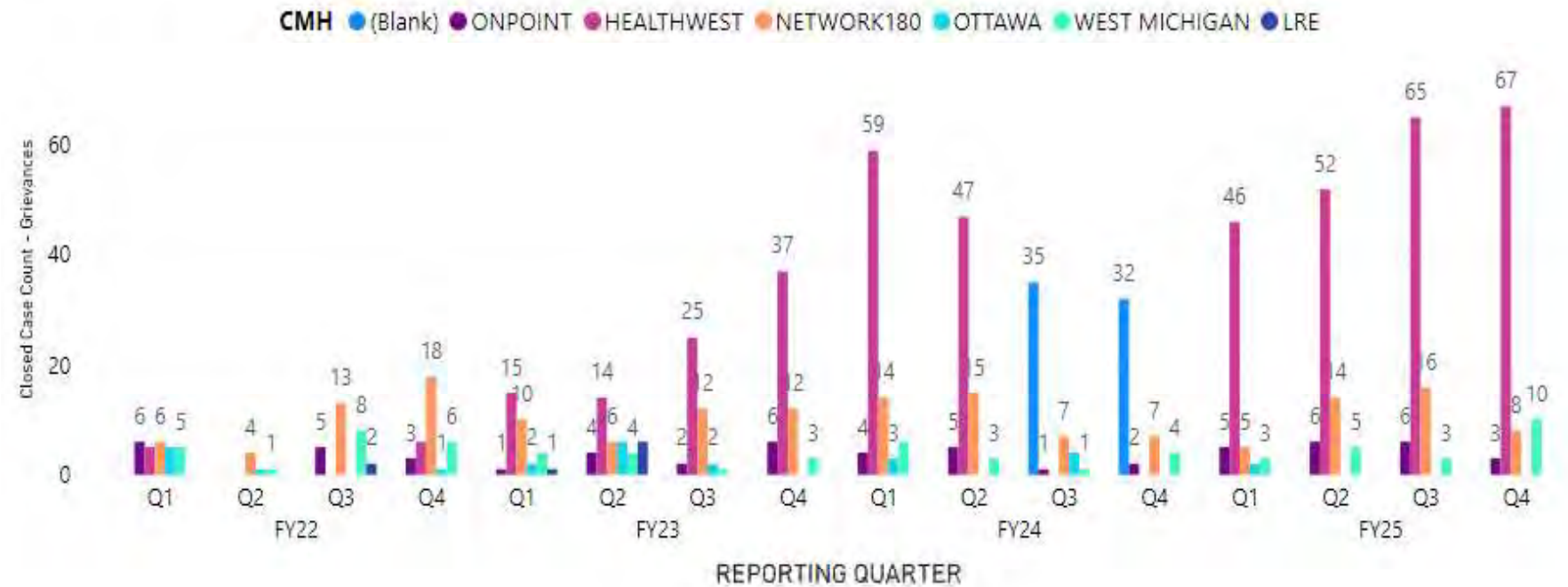


# Grievances: 10/1/24-10/1/25

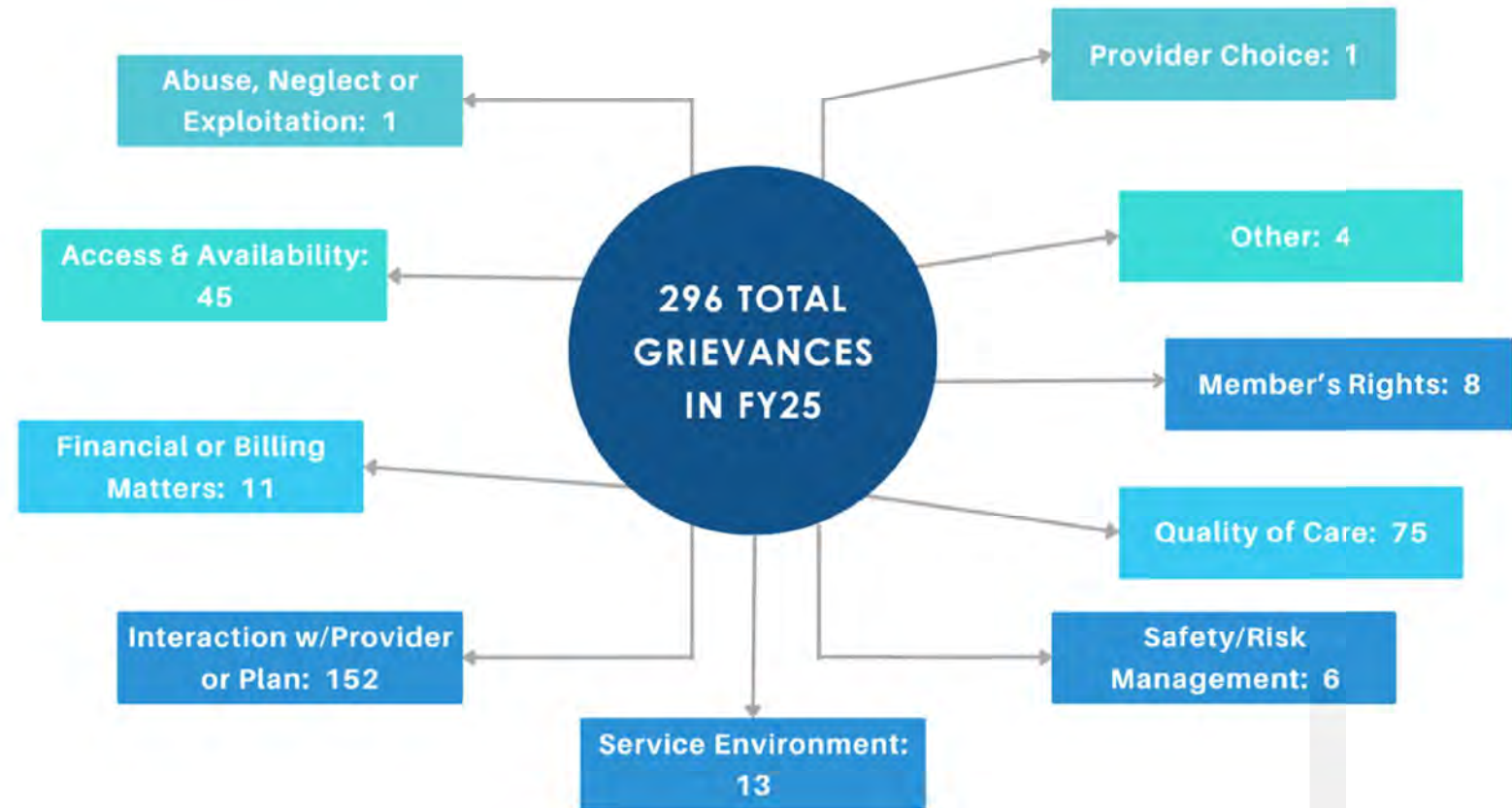


# Grievances by CMHSP

## Grievances



# Grievances by Category





# Appeals by CMHSP

OnPoint: 7

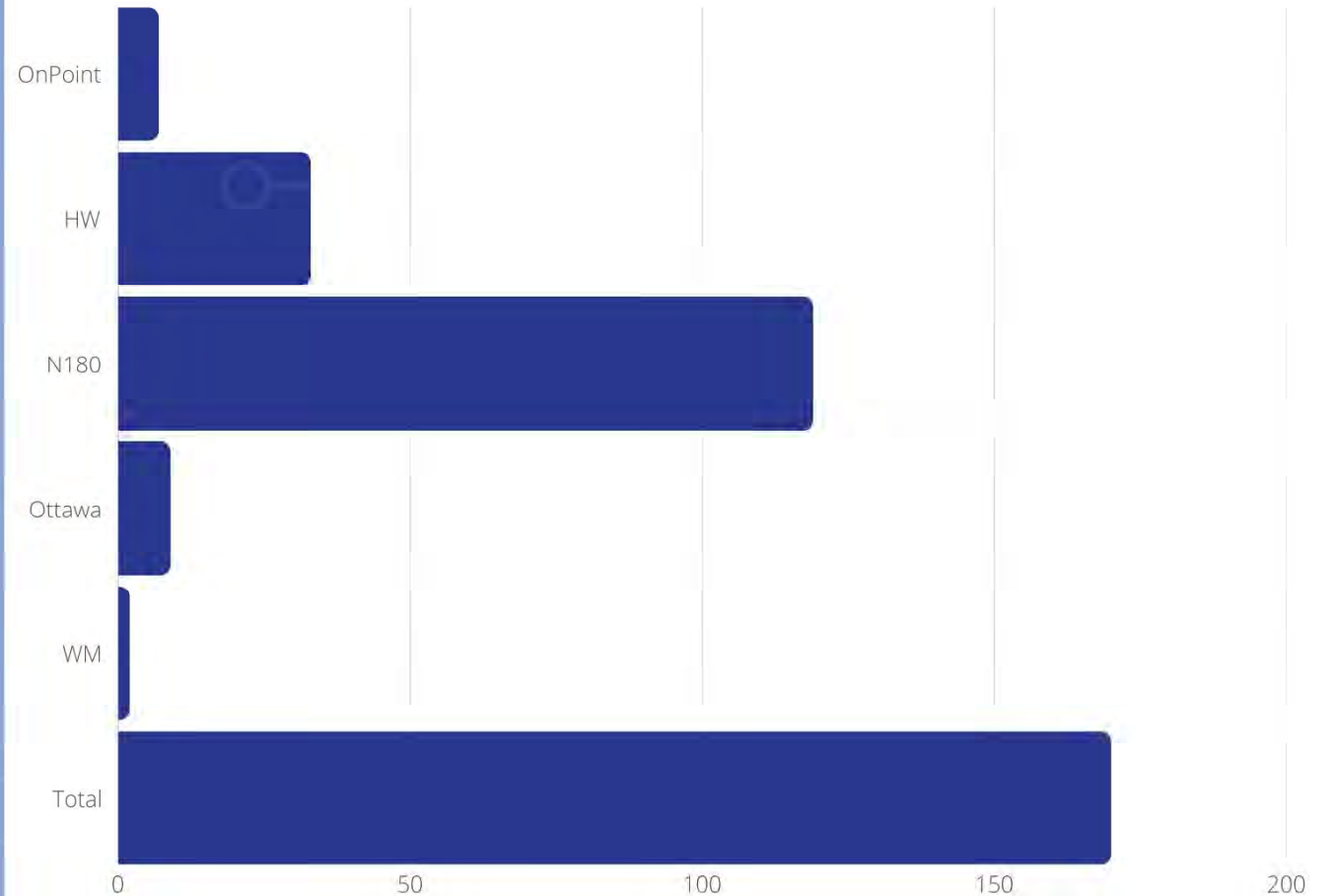
HW: 33

N180: 119

Ottawa: 9

WM: 2

Total: 170



# Appeals by Decision

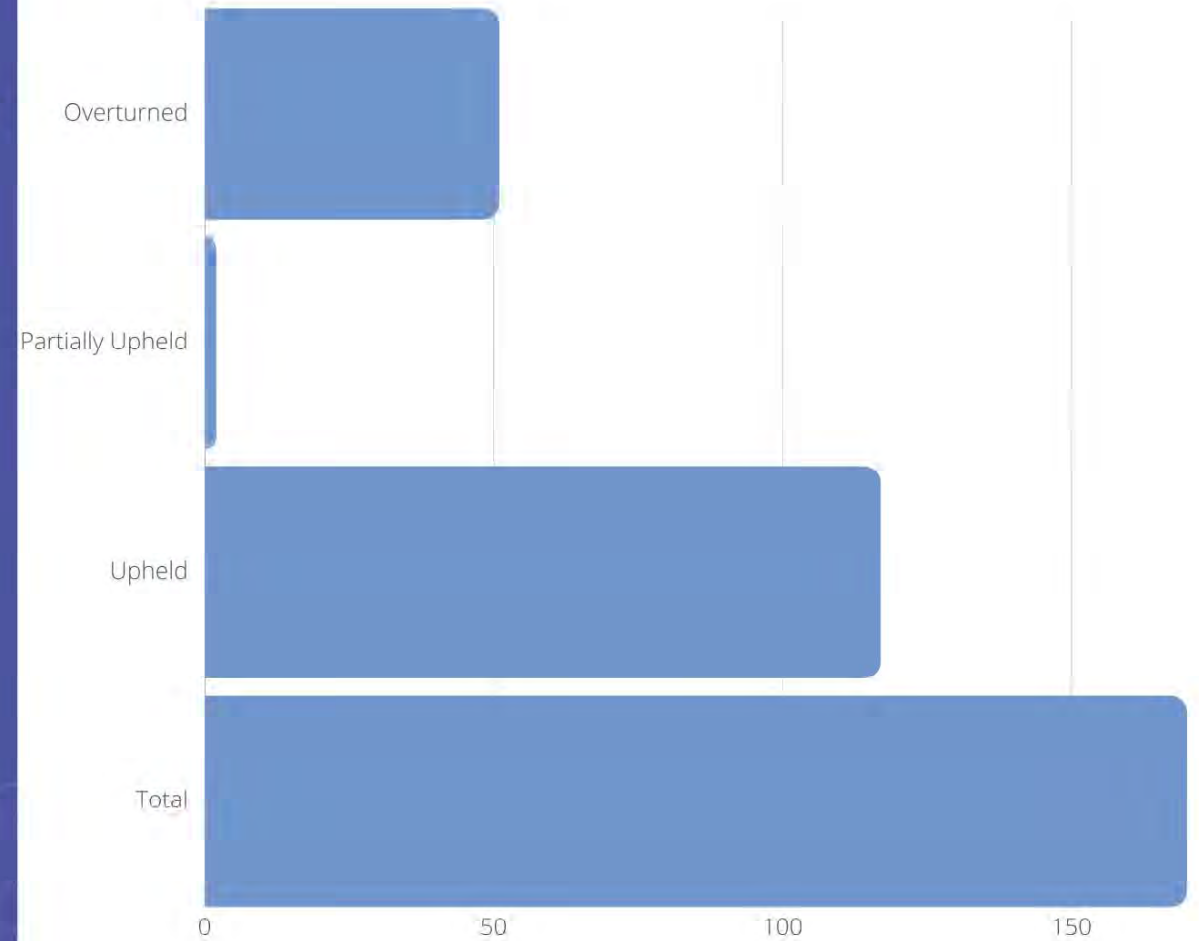


Overtured: 51

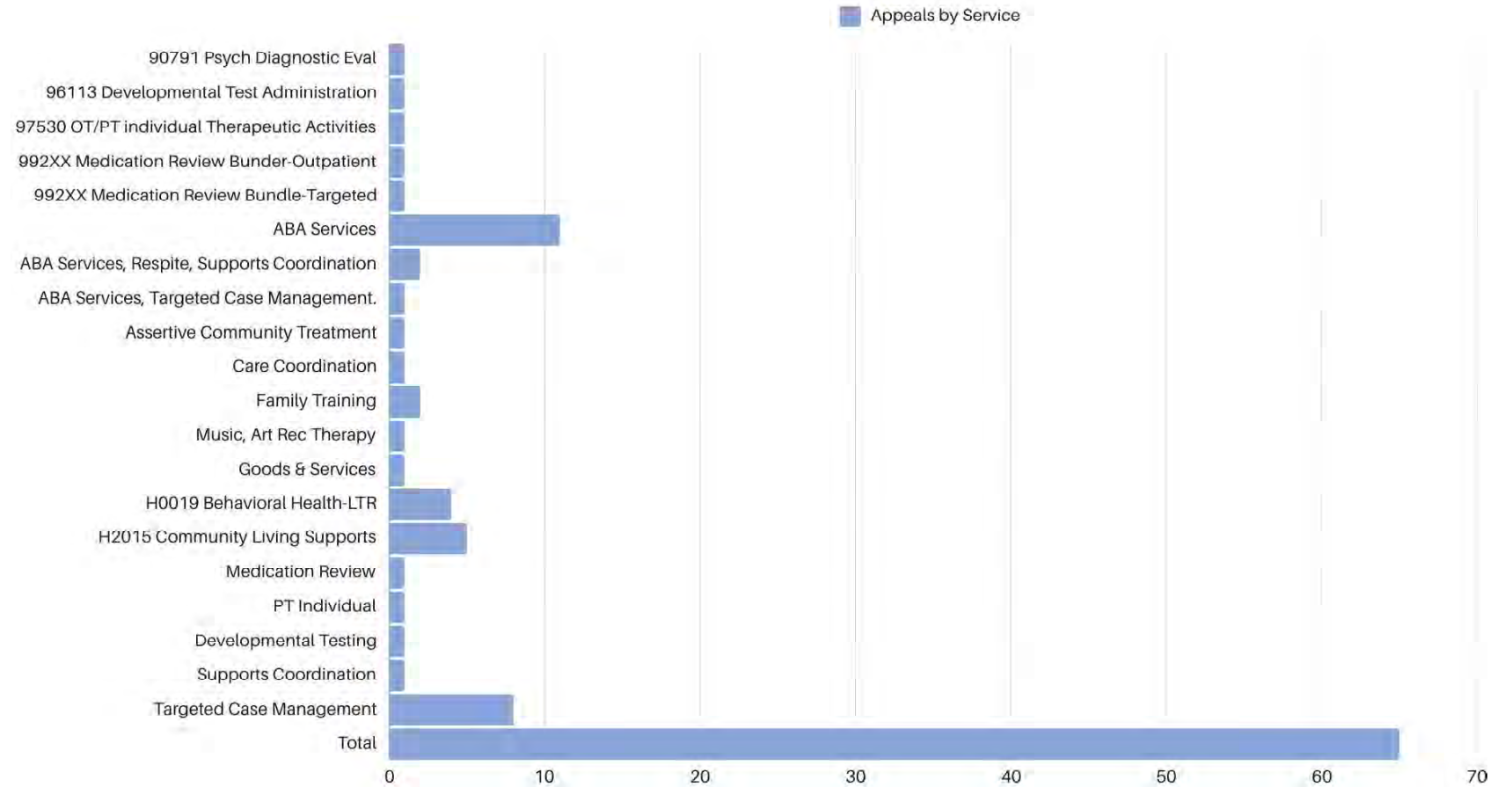
Partially Upheld: 1

Upheld: 117

Total: 170



# Appeals by Service





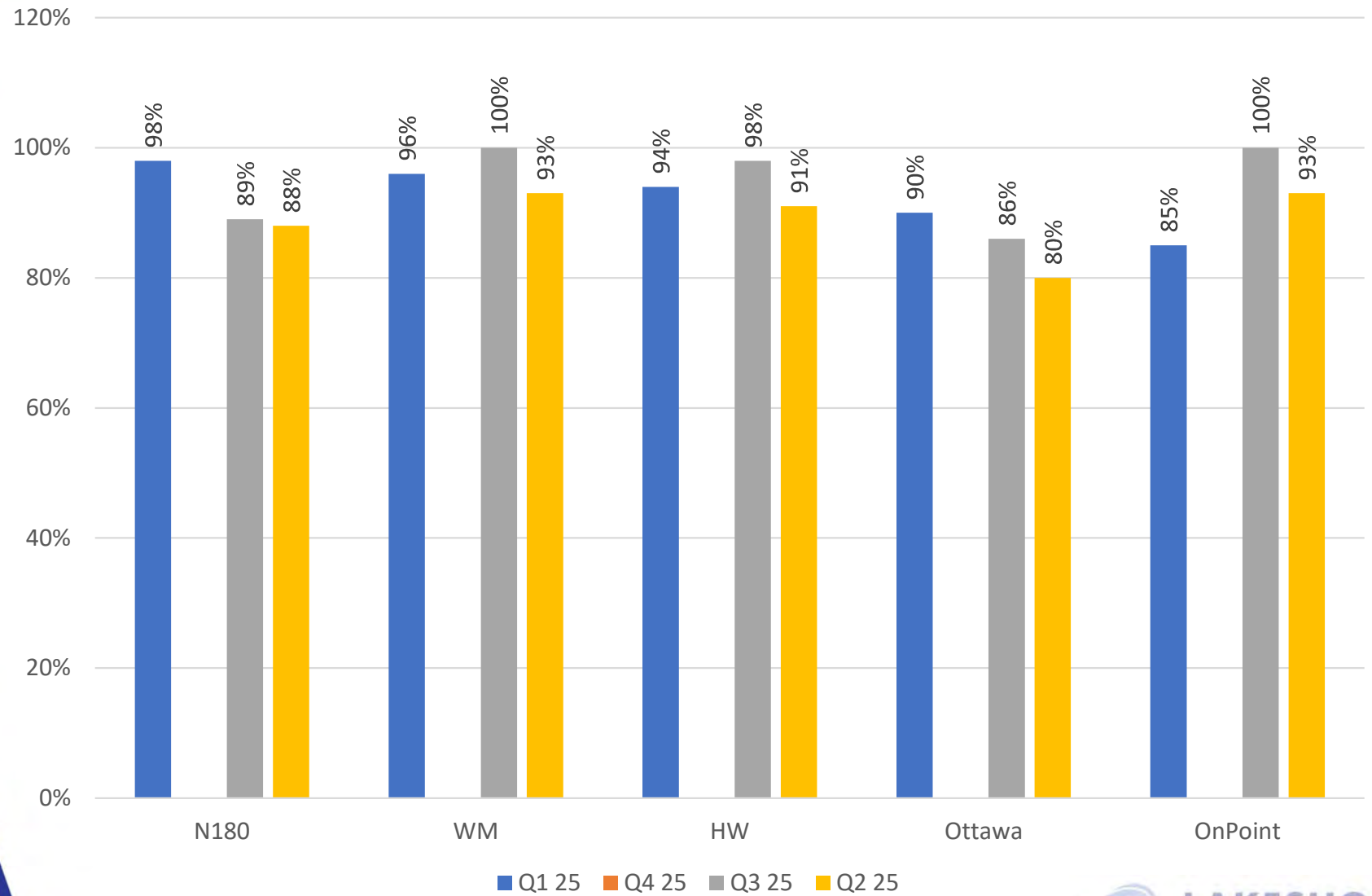


# Grievance Audits

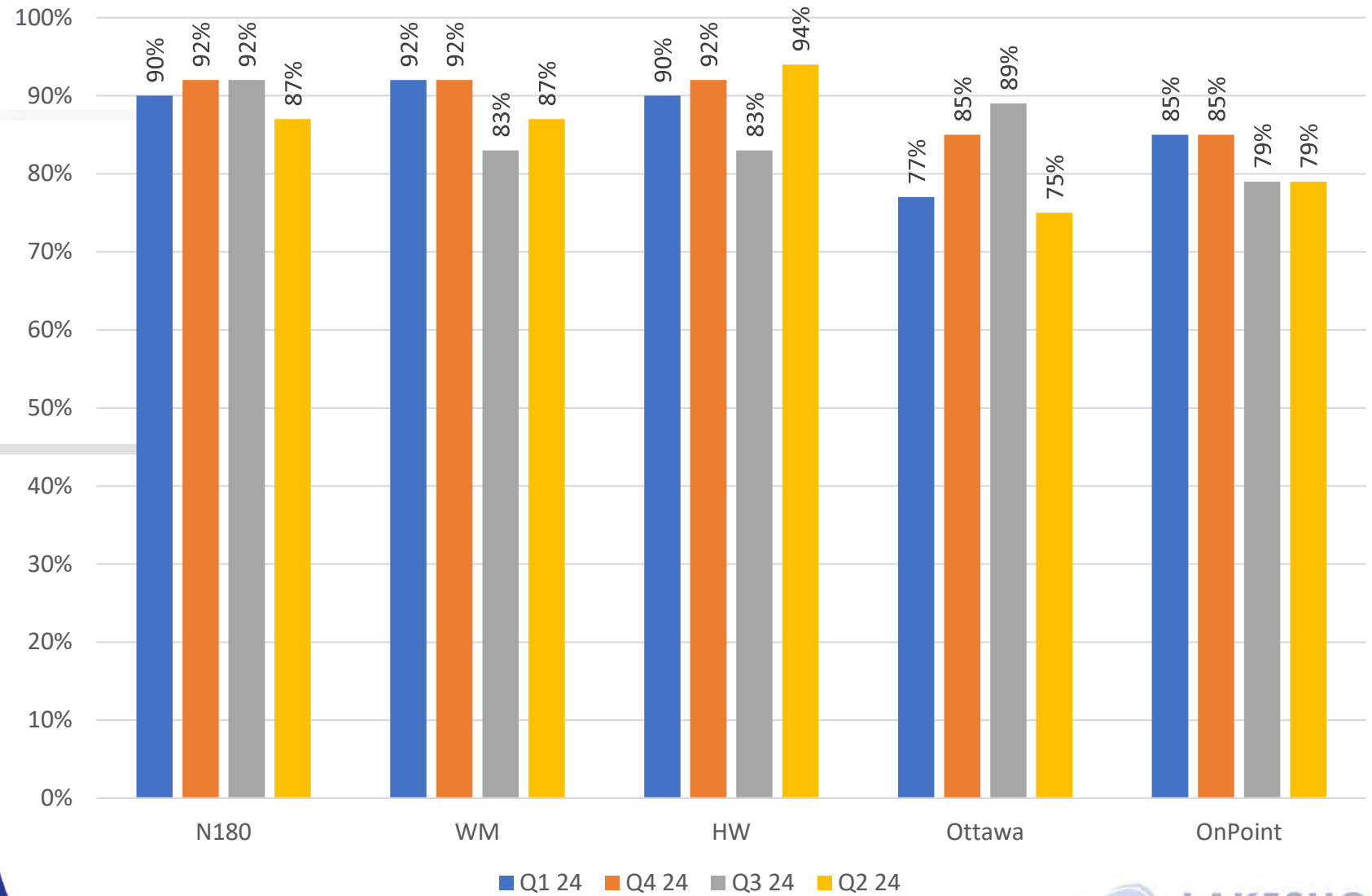
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- LRE conducts annual audits of CMHSP grievance notices and investigations, requesting samples randomly chosen from the year-end state reporting template. Each CMHSP submitted 5 grievance samples which were completed during FY25. These selections were analyzed and evaluated for readability, notice content, investigative process, and timeliness according to standards outlines within the Grievance and Appeal Technical Requirements. All CMHSPs received a 100% compliance score with minor recommendations.

# FY25 NABD Results



# FY24 NABD Results







# FY26 NABD Audit Changes

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- Audits reduced to 2x year
- New question regarding provision of evidence of guardianship or representative authorization
- Bringing unidentified NABD's to CS ROAT to review as a group

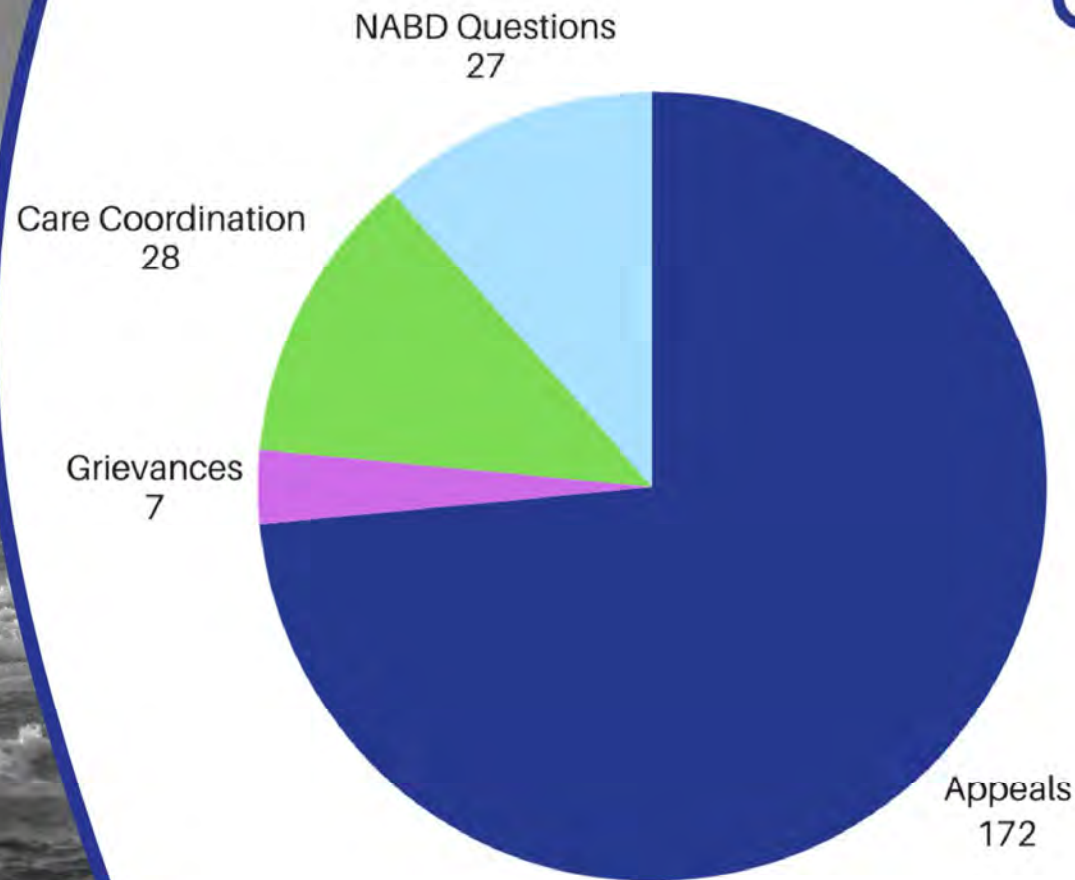
# Customer Service Phone Calls

## CS PHONE CALLS IN FY25

In FY25 the LRE logged 234 total calls to the Customer Services phone line:

- **Appeals: 174 calls**
- **Grievances: 7 calls**
- **Care Coordination: 28 calls**
- **NABD Questions: 27 calls**

The LRE also receives unlogged calls that dealt mainly with billing/claims and SUD access requests.







# LRE Trainings

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- NABD trainings offered January, April, July & October
- Customer Services Standards training was offered to all the PIHP's in May 2025
- 208 people attended NABD training in 2024
- 90 people attended Person Centered Writing Training offered in January, March, June & September.
- Trainings will be provided to the CMHSP's in 2026 to provide to all staff.



# Trends

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- Grievance numbers have gone up from 2024 (249) to 2025 (296)- added change of worker request to grievances.
- Grievance breakdown interaction with provider (152) quality of care(75) and access and availability (45) show the highest numbers- interaction with provider or plan (3) in 2024- this increase is due to change of worker request now being filed as a grievance.
- Appeals have increased (130 in 2024 and 170 in 2025), denials have increased which leads to more appeals.
- Majority of appeals were Applied Behavioral Analysis (26) with SUD inpatient(15) and targeted case management (17).
- HSAG audits and LRE audit results for grievance and appeals have gone up dramatically, we are following recommendations and meeting requirements.



# Goals for 2026

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## For the Region

- Continue audits yearly
- Offer NABD and PCW trainings at all time
- Bring Customer Services Concerns to Meetings
- Exploring Trends and Creating Initiatives

## Within the Create solid data Region

- Create consistency throughout the region
- Communicate effectively



# Thank You

Thanks to your commitment to provide quality customer service, we know next year will be **even better** than the last.

We look forward to continuing to **work together**.

**Sincerely**

LRE Customer Services Staff



**LAKESHORE**  
REGIONAL ENTITY

# GAMBLING

DISORDER  
PREVENTION &  
TREATMENT

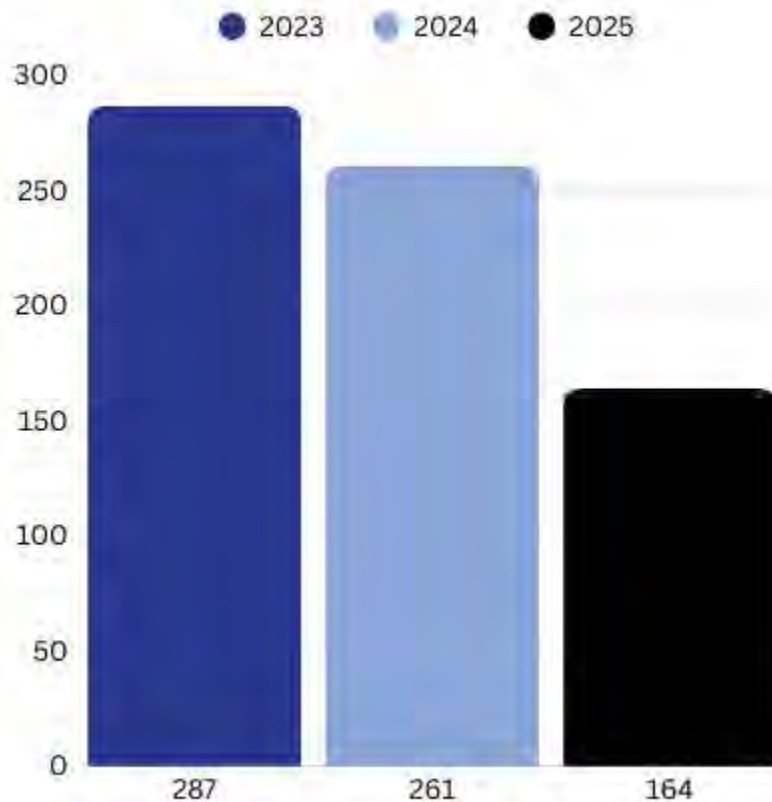
FY2025 UPDATE



Presented

# TREATMENT

Regional Calls Made to the Helpline



GD Treatment Admissions  
for the LRE Region



In 2025, Lakeshore Regional Entity represented 6.7% of the state's treatment referrals and 2.2% of the state's total helpline calls.

**7** certified gambling treatment disorder clinicians in the region.

# PREVENTION



## SOCIAL MEDIA

In an effort to promote safer gambling attitudes and behaviors, a social media campaign was launched on the LRE social media accounts during Quarters 3 and 4 of FY25. Two campaigns on Facebook and Instagram ran for six weeks, reaching a total of 32,558 individuals.

## PRESS RELEASE

A press release in the Grand Rapids Free Press was issued on December 16, 2024 that focused on gifting responsibly, reminding adults not to give lotto tickets to minors for Christmas. It also connected readers to Problem Gambling websites and online resources.



## WEBSITE

Provides examples of warning signs, prevention, talking tips and resources.

[stayoutofthedangerzone.com](http://stayoutofthedangerzone.com)



# PREVENTION



## RADIO

Bret Bakita, local sports director with IHeartMedia, recorded 3 separate campaign messages promoting responsible online gaming and warning parents of the dangers of youth gambling. During the 7-week campaign, ads aired 374 times on IHeart radio station 96.1 & WOOD-AM reaching an estimated 29,600 individuals.



## TV INTERVIEW

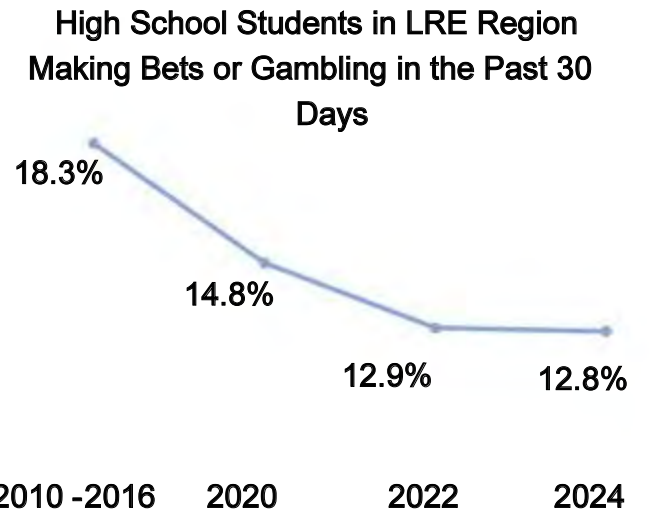
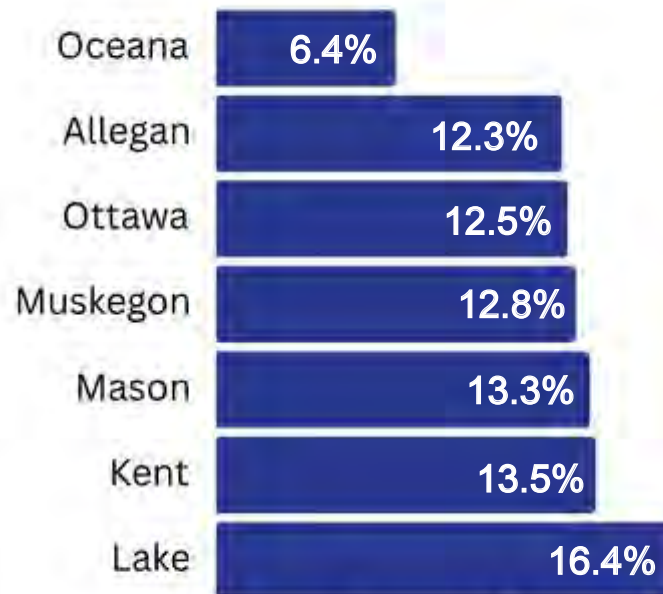
On March 28, 2025, Zack Yokum and Leigh Moerdyke participated in a gambling awareness interview with WZZM 13 On Your Side. The estimated reach for viewership on this page is around 134,000 subscribers.

# YOUTH

REGION

COUNTY

High School Students in  
LRE Region Making Bets or  
Gambling in the Past  
30 Days -by County in  
2024



# LOTTERY



County	Net Sales (including online)			Number of (Brick and Morter) Retailers		
	2024	2025	Net Increase	2024	2025	Net Decrease
<b>Allegan</b>	\$139,816,248	\$166,001,678	↑ 19%	133	96	↓ 28%
<b>Kent</b>	\$1,017,741,406	\$1,215,927,272	↑ 19%	615	517	↓ 16%
<b>Lake</b>	\$30,347,174	\$36,028,129	↑ 19%	34	25	↓ 27%
<b>Mason</b>	\$49,571,842	\$59,490,120	↑ 20%	47	37	↓ 21%
<b>Muskegon</b>	\$470,133,006	\$556,127,365	↑ 18%	232	181	↓ 22%
<b>Oceana</b>	\$41,786,102	\$50,100,721	↑ 20%	64	31	↓ 52%
<b>Ottawa</b>	\$272,592,192	\$328,104,799	↑ 20%	218	187	↓ 14%
<b>Regional</b>	<b>\$2,021,987,970</b>	<b>\$2,411,780,084</b>	<b>19.3%</b>	<b>1343</b>	<b>1074</b>	<b>↓ 20%</b>

# CHALLENGES



DID YOU  
KNOW?

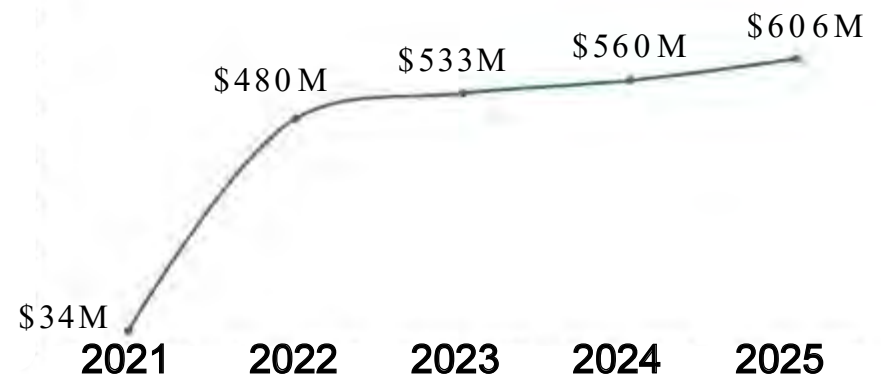
- In the absence of a nationwide policy or a national gambling commission to oversee the industry, each state is on its own.\*
- Sports betting is now legal in 38 states, including Michigan.\*\*
- Nearly 20 million American adults report experiencing at least one problematic gambling behavior “many times” in the past year.\*\*

## Gambling is on the Rise and Spending is Increasing in Michigan



Michigan has seen a significant increase in gambling spending over the past 5 years with the legalization of online gambling in 2019.\*\*\*

SPORTS BETTING TOTAL AMOUNT WAGERED  
IN OCTOBER IN MICHIGAN (IN MILLIONS)



\*KAREN BROWN, NPR, 2025

\*\*NATIONAL COUNCIL ON PROBLEM GAMBLING, 2025

\*\*\* MICHIGAN GAMING CONTRAL BOARD, 2025

# CHALLENGES,



## Funding is Inconsistent

One ongoing challenge in advancing gambling disorder prevention has been the variability in annual funding levels .

Resources have shifted from year to year, and at times adjustments have been needed partway through the fiscal cycle . These changes can make it harder to plan activities, maintain continuity, and fully engage in long-term prevention planning .

Despite these challenges, partners across the region continue to adapt and work collaboratively to support effective gambling disorder prevention .



# Lakeshore Regional Entity’s Legislative Update – 11/12/2025

This document contains a summary and status of bills in the House and Senate, and other political and noteworthy happenings that pertain to both mental and behavioral health, and substance use disorder in Michigan and the United States.



Prepared by Melanie Misiuk, SEDW & 1915(i)SPA Specialist & Stephanie VanDerKooi, Chief Operating Officer

**Highlight** = new updates  
**Highlight** = old bill, no longer active  
**Highlight** = Suggestions for Action & **Supported**/**Opposed** by CMHAM (Community Mental Health Association of Michigan)  
**Highlight** = Artificial Intelligence – New Section

## STATE LEGISLATION

BILLS & REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO MENTAL HEALTH				
Priority	BILL #	SUMMARY	SPONSOR	ACTION DATE
	HB 4032	Removes interstate medical licensure compact sunset (LARA Lead)	Rylee Lynting	1/28/25: Introduced, Referred to Committee on Health Policy 2/26/25: Referred to a second reading 3/5/25: Placed on a third reading, read a third time, passed 3/12/25: Passed by House with Immediate Effect, Referred to Committee on Health Policy
	HB 4037 & 4038	Establishes certain requirements to operate a health data utility (DHHS Lead)	Julie Rogers Curtie VanderWall	1/29/25: Introduced, Read, referred to the Committee on Health Policy 5/21/25: Referred to a second reading
	HB 4095	Requires insurance providers to panel mental health provider within a certain time period of application process (DIFS Lead)	Noah Arbit	2/20/25: Introduced, Read a first time, referred to Committee on Insurance
	SB 3-5	Creates prescription drug cost and affordability review act, and requires compliance (DIFS/DHHS/LEGAL)	Darrin Camilleri	1/8/25: Introduced, Referred to Committee on Finance, Insurance, and Consumer Protection 4/24/2025 – Referred to Committee of the Whole with substitute, placed on order of third reading, placed on immediate passage, amendments adopted, passed roll call, received in House, read a first time, referred to Committee on Government



BILLS & REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO MENTAL HEALTH				
Priority	BILL #	SUMMARY	SPONSOR	ACTION DATE
				Operations
	SB 18	Provides conditions on the use of certain federal benefits, including disability benefits, for a child in foster care. (DHHS/LEGAL)	Jeff Irwin	1/22/25: Introduced, Referred to the Committee on Housing and Human Services 3/20/25: Reported favorably without amendment, Referred to Committee of the Whole 4/16/2025: Reported by Committee of the Whole favorably without amendment, placed on order of third reading. 4/17/2025: Passed roll call, received in House, read a first time, referred to Committee on Families and Veterans
	SB 111	The bills would enhance protections against financial exploitation, abuse, and neglect of vulnerable adults. Specifically, they would create a process for certain elder and vulnerable adults to petition a circuit court to enter an elder and vulnerable adult personal protection order (PPO). They also would allow a county or region to create a vulnerable adult multidisciplinary team (team) that would work within that area to protect against and bring awareness to vulnerable adult abuse, neglect, and financial exploitation.	Jeff Irwin	2/27/25: Introduced, Referred to the Committee on Civil Rights, Judiciary, and Public Safety 3/18/25: Reported Favorably Without Amendment, Referred to the Committee of the Whole, Rules suspended for immediate consideration, reported by Committee of the Whole favorably without amendment, placed on order of Third Reading 4/16/2025: Passed roll call, received in House, read a first time, referred to Committee on Judiciary
	HB 4218 SB 142	These bills would make changes to the state recipient rights advisory committee to explicitly include a representative from Disability Rights Michigan, the Mental Health Association in Michigan, and the Arc Michigan.	Rep - Jamie Thompson Sen – Michael Webber	3/12/25: Introduced, read a first time, referred to the Committee on Health Policy (4218) 3/12/25: Introduced, Referred to the Committee on Housing and Human Services (142) 6/4/25: Referred to a second reading 7/24/25: Read a second time, placed on a third reading 9/4/25: Read a third time, passed House 9/9/25: Referred to Senate Committee on Housing and Human Services
	HB 4219 SB 143	These bills would require that patient’s rights during mental health treatment, including the objection to treatment, must be communicated orally and in writing to the patient.	Rep - Jamie Thompson Sen – Rick Outman	3/12/25: Introduced, read a first time, referred to the Committee on Health Policy (4219) 3/12/25: Introduced, Referred to the Committee on

## BILLS & REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO MENTAL HEALTH

Priority	BILL #	SUMMARY	SPONSOR	ACTION DATE
				Housing and Human Services (143) 6/4/25: Referred to a second reading 7/24/25: Read a second time, placed on a third reading 8/19/25: Read a third time 9/4/25: Read a third time, passed House 9/9/25: Referred to Senate Committee on Housing and Human Services
	SB 129	This bill would amend the Open Meetings Act to allow an appointed member of a public body who has a disability to fully participate in a meeting remotely upon request. The bill would not apply to a member of a public body who was elected by electors to serve.	Sean McCann	3/6/25: Introduced, Rederred to the Committee on Civil Rights, Judiciary, and Public Safety 3/18/25: Reported favorably without amendment, referred to the Committee of the Whole 4/16/2025: Reported by the Committee of the Whole favorable without Amendment, placed on order of third reading 4/17/2025: Passed Roll Call, received in the House, read a first time, referred to Committee on Government Operations
	HB 4530	A bill to modify the deadline for mental health professionals to release mental health records or information pertinent to child abuse or neglect investigation to the department.	Laurie Pothusky	6/3/2025: Introduced, read a first time, referred to Committee on Families and Veterans <b>10/28/2025: Committee Hearing in House</b>
	HB 4535	Modifies eligibility for mental health court.	Kara Hope	6/3/2025: Introduced, read a first time, referred to Committee on Judiciary <b>10/28/2025: Committee Hearing in House</b>
	SB 221	A bill to provide for outpatient treatment for misdemeanor offenders with mental health issues	Sylvia Santana	4/17/2025: Introduced, referred to committee on Health Policy 5/8/2025: Reported favorably without amendment, referred to Committee of the Whole 5/20/2025: Referred to Committee of the Whole favorably without amendment, placed on order of a third reading 5/21/2025: passed roll call, received in House, read a first time, referred to Committee on Health Policy
	SB 334	Police Training; Requires mental health and law enforcement response training for law enforcement	Jeff Irwin	5/29/2025: Introduced, Referred to the Committee



BILLS & REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO MENTAL HEALTH				
Priority	BILL #	SUMMARY	SPONSOR	ACTION DATE
		officers.		on Civil Rights, Judiciary, and Public Safety 9/9/2025: Referred to Committee of the Whole with Substitute
	HB 4676	A bill to amend Chapter 6 (Guardianship for the Developmentally Disabled) of the Mental Health Code to require courts to consider alternatives to appointing a guardian for an individual with a developmental disability who the court has determined is likely to need protection based on factors set forth in Chapter 6.	Sharon MacDonell	6/25/25: Introduced, Read a first time, referred to the Committee on Families and Veterans 8/13/25: Referred to a Second Reading 9/10/25: Read a second time
	HCR 1	<b>Adverse Childhood Experiences:</b> A concurrent resolution to urge the Governor of Michigan to issue an executive directive that would require administrating agencies to assess if the implementation of their programs reduce Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and provide an annual report and data to the Legislature and general public about progress in reducing ACEs in Michigan.	Douglas Wozniak	8/19/2025 – Introduced, Referred to the Committee on Families and Veterans 10/28/2025 – Committee Hearing, Reported with Recommendation without amendment

BILLS & REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO SUD				
Priority	BILL #	SUMMARY	SPONSOR(s)	STATUS/ACTION DATE
	SB 68	A bill to amend 1998 PA 58 to prohibit displaying co-branded alcoholic beverages adjacent to certain products.	Dayna Polehanki	2/5/25: Introduced, Referred to the Committee on Regulatory Affairs 2/26/25: Reported favorable without amendment, Referred to Committee of the Whole 3/6/25: Reported by Committee of the Whole favorable with amendments, placed on order of third reading 3/12/25: Passed Roll Call, Received in House, Read a first time, referred to Committee on Regulatory Reform
	HB 4166 & 4167	Prohibits illicit use of xylazine and provides penalties; Provides sentencing guidelines for illicit use of xylazine.	Kelly Breen Mike Mueller	3/5/2025 – Introduced, referred to the Committee on the Judiciary
	HB 4255 & 4256	Modifies penalties for crime of manufacturing, delivering, or possession of with intent to deliver certain controlled substances; Amends sentencing guidelines for delivering, manufacturing, or possessing with intent to deliver certain controlled substances. <b>*PLEASE SEE THE MISCELLANEOUS UPDATES SECTION BELOW FOR MORE INFORMATION*</b>	Sarah Lightner Ann Bollin	3/18/2025 – Introduced, referred to the Committee on the Judiciary 4/16/2025 – Reported with recommendation, referred to a second reading 4/23/2025 – Read a third time, passed, transmitted

BILLS & REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO SUD				
Priority	BILL #	SUMMARY	SPONSOR(s)	STATUS/ACTION DATE
				4/29/2025 – Passed House with immediate effect, referred to Committee on Civil Rights, Judiciary, and Public Safety
	HB 4390 & 4391	Expands methods of testing intoxication or impairment in the Michigan vehicle code to include other bodily fluid.	Brian BeGole Julie Rogers	4/24/2025 – Introduced, read a first time, referred to Committee on Government Operations 5/22/25: Referred to a second reading 6/26/25: Read a second time, placed on a third reading 7/1/25: Read a third time, Passed, given immediate effect, transmitted 7/17/25: Passed by the House with Immediate Effect, moved to the Senate and referred to the Committee on Civil Rights, Judiciary, and Public Safety
	SB 219-222	Expands petition for access to assisted outpatient treatment to additional health providers	Paul Wojno	4/17/2025 – Introduced, Referred to Committee on Health Policy 5/8/2025 – Referred to Committee of the Whole 5/20/2025 – Placed on order of third reading with substitute 5/21/25 – passed roll call, received in the House, read a first time, referred to the Committee on Health Policy
	HB 4686	Controlled Substances; Allows creating, manufacturing, possessing, or using psilocybin or psilocin under certain circumstances.	Mike McFall	6/25/2025 – Introduced, Read a first time, Referred to the Committee on Families and Veterans
	SB 400	Prohibits prior authorization for certain opioid use disorder and alcohol use disorder medications.	Kevin Hertel	6/11/2025 – Introduced, Referred to the Committee on Health Policy, Reported favorably without amendment, Referred to the Committee of the Whole, Rules suspended for immediate consideration. 7/1/2025 – Reported favorably without amendment,

BILLS & REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO SUD				
Priority	BILL #	SUMMARY	SPONSOR(s)	STATUS/ACTION DATE
				placed on order of third reading, placed on immediate passage, passed roll call, Received in House, Read a first time, referred to Committee on Insurance
	SB 430 SB 431 SB 432	Modifies crime of manufacturing, delivering, or possession of with intent to deliver heroin or fentanyl to reflect changes in sentencing guidelines; Amends sentencing guidelines for delivering, manufacturing, or possessing with intent to deliver heroin or fentanyl; Allows probation for certain major controlled substances offenses.	Stephanie Chang Sarah Anthony Roger Victory	6/17/2025 – Introduced, Referred to the Committee on Civil Rights, Judiciary, and Public Safety 9/18/2025 – Committee Meeting 10/6/2025 – Reported favorably without amendment, referred to the Committee of the Whole 10/29/2025 – Placed on order of third reading
	SB 462, 464-465	Legislation to require retailers to obtain a state-issued license to sell tobacco products, including e-cigarettes and nicotine pouches.	Sam Singh Joe Bellino	6/26/2025 – Introduced, referred to the Committee on Regulatory Affairs
	SB 463 SB 466	Legislation that will repeal ineffective penalties on young people -- holding retailers accountable not, children.	Paul Wojno Mary Cavanaugh	6/26/2025 – Introduced, referred to the Committee on Regulatory Affairs
	SB 399	To amend Part 74 (Offenses and Penalties) of the Public Health Code to specify that, as used in Sections 7453 to 7461 and Section 7521, "drug paraphernalia" would not include testing products used in determining whether a controlled substance contained chemicals, toxic substances, or hazardous compounds in quantities that could cause physical harm or death. "Testing products" would include fentanyl testing strips.	Jeff Irwin	6/11/25 – Introduced, Referred to Committee on Health Policy 6/26/25 – Referred to Committee of the Whole 7/1/25 – Placed on order of third reading, placed on immediate passage, passed roll call, received in the House, read a first time, referred to the Committee on Insurance
	SB 402	To amend Section 109 of the Social Welfare Act to allow a Medicaid-eligible individual to receive street medicine services, including prescriptions for opioid use disorder, by an eligible provider.	Paul Wojno	6/11/25 – Introduced, Referred to Committee on Health Policy 6/26/25 – Referred to Committee of the Whole 7/1/25 – Placed on order of third reading, placed on immediate passage, passed roll call, received in the House, read a first time, referred to the Committee on Insurance

## BILLS & REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO SUD

Priority	BILL #	SUMMARY	SPONSOR(s)	STATUS/ACTION DATE
	SB 592	A bill to require reentry services and support for certain individuals after resentencing.	Sylvia Santana	9/25/25 – Introduced, Referred to Committee on Civil Rights, Judiciary, and Public Safety
	SB 582	To establish a 32% tax on the sale and distribution of nicotine, vapor, and alternative nicotine products-"Alternative nicotine product" means a noncombustible product that contains nicotine derived from any source and that is intended for human consumption, whether chewed, absorbed, dissolved, or ingested by any other means.	Stephanie Chang	9/24/25 – Introduced, Referred to the Committee on Appropriations
	HB 5087	To mandate \$3,000,000.00 of tax revenue from the sale of tobacco products to be placed in the "Healthy Michigan Fund" each fiscal year for smoking prevention programs.	Phil Green	9/26/25 – Introduced, Read a first time, referred to the Committee on Finance
	SB 597 & 598	The bill would amend the Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marihuana Act to prohibit the Cannabis Regulatory Agency (Agency) from issuing a marihuana retailer license if doing so would result in more than one marihuana retailer for every 5,000 residents in the applicant's municipality, beginning January 1, 2026	Sam Singh Jeremy Moss	10/2/25 – Introduced, Referred to Committee on Regulatory Affairs
	SB 599-602	The bills would enact the "Industrial Hemp Processing Act" to require a person to hold a license before processing consumable hemp products from industrial hemp. Industrial hemp is generally cannabis with less than 0.3% Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), the intoxicant in marihuana. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Currently, the licensing of persons engaged in the growing, processing, and handling of industrial hemp is governed by the Industrial Hemp Research and Development Act, which the bills would repeal.</li> <li>The bills would require the Cannabis Regulatory Agency (CRA) to administer the "Industrial Hemp Processing Act's" licensing and regulatory requirements and to promulgate rules.</li> <li>They also would establish licensure fees and qualifications and civil and criminal penalties for violations of the proposed Act.</li> </ul>	Dayna Polehanki	10/2/25 – Introduced, Referred to Committee on Regulatory Affairs
	HB 5134 & 5135	To amend MRTMA (or MMFLIA) to say: A person shall not advertise any of the following on a billboard or digital billboard that is located in this state: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Marihuana.</li> <li>A marihuana-infused product.</li> <li>A marihuana accessory.</li> <li>A marihuana establishment.</li> </ul>	William Bruck Donovan McKinney	10/23/25 – Introduced, Read a first time, Referred to Committee on Regulatory Reform
	HB 5122	To amend MLCC to allow "A current photo identification card issued by a local government. A current student photo identification card issued by an educational institution" to be qualified forms of identification to purchase alcohol.	Alicia St. Germaine	10/23/25 – Introduced, read a first time, referred to Committee on Regulatory Reform

## BILLS & REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Priority	BILL #	SUMMARY	SPONSOR(s)	STATUS/ACTION DATE
	HB 4667	A bill to add a new section to the Michigan Penal Code to create three felonies related to AI systems, and provide for related penalties.	Sarah Lightner	6/24/25: Introduced, read a first time, referred to the Committee on Judiciary
	HB 4668	A bill to create a new act, the Artificial Intelligence Safety and Security Transparency Act, which would require large developers of foundation models to create and implement certain risk management practices relating to the use of those models, as well as provide for the powers and duties of government officers and entities, protections for certain employees, and related civil causes of action and sanctions.	Sarah Lightner	6/24/25: Introduced, read a first time, referred to the Committee on Judiciary 9/11/25: reported with recommendation for referral to Committee on Communications and Technology 9/18/25: placed on second reading; referred to Committee on Regulatory Reform
	HB 4536	An insurer that delivers, issues for delivery, or renews in this state a health insurance policy shall not deny, modify, or delay a claim based on a review using artificial intelligence	Carrie Rheingans	6/3/25: Introduced, read a first time; referred to Committee on Communications and Technology 9/18/25: placed on second reading; referred to Committee on Insurance
	HB 4537	The department or a contracted health plan shall not deny, modify, or delay a claim under the medical assistance program based on a review using artificial intelligence	Carrie Rheingans	6/3/25: Introduced, read a first time; referred to Committee on Communications and Technology 9/18/25: placed on second reading; referred to Committee on Insurance
	HB 4661	A bill to establish a crime victim communication modernization grant program to provide grants to certain state and local governmental officers to modernize communication with victims of crime and other individuals; to create the crime victim communication modernization fund and provide for the distribution of money from the fund; to provide for appropriations; and to provide for the powers and duties of certain state and local governmental officers and entities.	Curtis VanderWall	6/17/25: Introduced, read a first time, referred to the Committee on Appropriations

## FEDERAL LEGISLATION

BILLS & REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO MENTAL HEALTH				
Priority	BILL #	SUMMARY	SPONSOR(s)	STATUS/ACTION DATE
	H.R. 5725	To direct the Attorney General to establish a grant to support communities transitioning to health-centered responses for mental health-related emergencies	Bonnie Watson Coleman	10/8/25 – Introduced, Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary
	H.R. 5706	To establish a grant program to assist eligible entities in developing or expanding behavioral health crisis response programs that do not rely primarily on law enforcement, and for other purposes.	Yassamin Ansari	10/8/25 – Introduced, Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce
	H.R. 5557	<b>Mental Health Services for Students Act of 2025:</b> to amend the Public Health Service Act to revise and extend projects relating to children and to provide access to school-based comprehensive mental health programs.	Andrea Salinas	9/23/25 - Introduced, Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce


BILLS & REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO SUD				
Priority	BILL #	SUMMARY	SPONSOR(s)	STATUS/ACTION DATE
	H.R. 27 S. 331	<b>HALT Fentanyl Act:</b> This bill permanently places fentanyl-related substances as a class into schedule I of the Controlled Substances Act. Under the bill, offenses involving fentanyl-related substances are triggered by the same quantity thresholds and subject to the same penalties as offenses involving fentanyl analogues (e.g., offenses involving 100 grams or more trigger a 10-year mandatory minimum prison term). Additionally, the bill establishes a new, alternative registration process for certain schedule I research.	Rep - H. Morgan Griffith Sen – Bill Cassidy	1/3/25: Introduced, Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, Committee on the Judiciary See – H. Res. 93 2/10/25: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary 3/3/25: Committee on the Judiciary. Reported by Senator Grassley with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. Without written report. 3/14/25: Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate with an amendment by Yea-Nay Vote. 84 – 16 3/18/25: Received in House 6/11/2025: Debate in House, Postponed Proceedings 6/12/2025: Considered Unfinished Business, On passage Passed by the Yeas and Nays: 321-104. Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection. 7/8/25: Presented to President 7/16/25: Signed by President. Became Public Law No: 119-26.

	H. Res. 93	Providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 27) to amend the Controlled Substances Act with respect to the scheduling of fentanyl-related substances, and for other purposes.	H. Morgan Griffith	2/4/25: Submitted in the House, reported in the House 2/5/25: Debate – proceeded with one hour of debate, postponed proceedings, considered as unfinished business, motion to reconsider laid on the table without objection
	HR 2383	<b>Protecting Kids from Fentanyl Act of 2025:</b> To amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize the use of Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grants to purchase life-saving opioid antagonists for schools and to provide related training and education to students and teachers	Joe Neguse	03/26/2025 - Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce
	S 1132	<b>Families Care Act:</b> To amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to include peer supports as a supportive service within the National Family Caregiver Support Program, to require States to consider the unique needs of caregivers whose families have been impacted by substance use disorder, including opioid use disorder, in providing services under such program	Ted Budd	03/26/2025 - Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
	HR 2935	<b>PREPARE Act of 2025:</b> To establish a Commission on the Federal Regulation of Cannabis to study a prompt and plausible pathway to the Federal regulation of cannabis.	David Joyce	04/17/2025 - Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, Ways and Means, Agriculture, and Financial Services
	HR 2483	<b>SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Reauthorization Act of 2025 (SUPPORT Act):</b> This bill reauthorizes and revises Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) programs that address substance use disorders, overdoses, and mental health.	Brett Guthrie	3/31/2025 – Introduced in the House, Referred to the Committees on Energy, and Commerce, Education and Workforce, Judiciary, and Financial Services. 5/29/2025 – Placed on the Union Calendar 6/4/2025 – General Debate. Passed in the House 6/5/2025 – Received in the Senate, read twice, referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
	HR 4607	<b>SEEK HELP Act:</b> To provide protections from prosecution for drug possession to individuals who seek medical assistance when witnessing or experiencing an overdose	Joe Neguse	07/22/2025 – Introduced, Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce
	HR 4595	<b>Small and Homestead Independent Producers Act of 2025:</b> To provide authority for small cultivators of cannabis and small manufacturers of cannabis products to ship cannabis and cannabis products using the mail	Jared Huffman	07/22/2025 – Introduced, Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Agriculture, Oversight and Government Reform, and the Judiciary


	HR 1	<p><b>One Big Beautiful Bill Act:</b> This bill reduces taxes, reduces or increases spending for various federal programs, increases the statutory debt limit, and otherwise addresses agencies and programs throughout the federal government. It is known as a reconciliation bill and includes legislation submitted by several congressional committees pursuant to provisions in the FY2025 congressional budget resolution (<a href="#">H Con. Res. 14</a>) that directed the committees to submit legislation to the House or Senate Budget Committee that will increase or decrease the deficit and increase the statutory debt limit by specified amounts. (Reconciliation bills are considered by Congress using expedited legislative procedures that prevent a filibuster and restrict amendments in the Senate.)</p> <p>*The LRE is actively monitoring the repercussions of this new law, and the effects it will have on our system.</p>	Jodey Arrington	<p>5/20/2025 - The House Committee on the Budget reported an original measure</p> <p>5/22/2025 - On passage Passed by the Yeas and Nays: 215 – 214 in the House</p> <p>6/27/2025 – Received in the Senate</p> <p>7/1/2025 - Passed Senate with an amendment by Yea-Nay Vote. 51 – 50</p> <p>7/3/2025 - On motion that the House agree to the Senate amendment Agreed to by recorded vote: 218 – 214. Presented to President.</p> <p>7/4/2025 - Signed by President. Became Public Law No: 119-21.</p>
	H.R 5630	To amend the Public Health Service Act to require additional information in State plans for Substance Use Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Services block grants.	Erin Houchin	9/30/25 - Introduced, Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce



## LEGISLATIVE CONCERNS

LOCAL THREATS AND CHALLENGES				
	ISSUE	SUMMARY	COUNTY	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/LINKS
	<b>FY 26 Appropriations Issues</b>	See Attached Document		 FY26 CMHA key budget issues.docx
	<b>COVID Relief Funding Rescinded – ARPA Funds</b>	As of March 24, HHS halted distribution of unspent COVID relief grant funds, this includes additional Community Mental Health Services Block Grant (MHBG) funding and Substance Use Prevention, Treatment and Recovery Services (SUPTRS) Block Grant funding. This additional funding was originally authorized in statute by a pair of COVID-19 relief bills passed by Congress in 2020 and 2021, the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act and American Rescue Act, which gave states until Sept. 30, 2025, to use the funds.		National perspective: <a href="#">Mental health and addiction funding on the federal chopping block : NPR</a>  State perspective: <a href="#">Nessel sues as Trump health cuts hit Michigan disease, addiction programs</a>

## MISCELLANEOUS UPDATES

	ISSUE	SUMMARY	COUNTY	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/LINKS
	<b>Presidential Drug Policy Priorities</b>	The White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) has announced six key priority areas that it plans to focus on this year: Reduce the Number of Overdose Fatalities, with a Focus on Fentanyl; Secure the Global Supply Chain Against Drug Trafficking; Stop the Flow of Drugs Across our Borders and into Our Communities; Prevent Drug Use Before It Starts; Provide Treatment That Leads to Long-Term Recovery; Innovate in Research and Data to Support Drug Control Strategies		<a href="#">ONDCP Releases Trump Administration’s Statement of Drug Policy Priorities – The White House</a>  <a href="#">2025-Trump-Administration-Drug-Policy-Priorities.pdf</a>
	<b>Regional Opposition to HB 4255 &amp; 4256</b>	The LRE and MSHN both have sent letters to State Senators in opposition of HB 4255 and 4256. Please see the attached letter. This letter was emailed to Senators at the instruction of the Regional SUD Directors.		 2025-5-2-HB4255-42 56 Opposition Letter.1

## Elected Officials

FEDERAL			
NAME		NATIONAL OFFICE CONTACT INFORMATION	LOCAL OFFICE CONTACT INFORMATION
US Senate	Elissa Slotkin	825B Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510-2204 Phone: (202) 224-4822	315 W. Allegan St. Suite 207 Lansing, MI 48933
US Senate	Gary Peters	Hart Senate Office Building Suite 724 Washington, D.C. 20510 Phone: (202) 224-6221	110 Michigan Street NW Suite 720 Grand Rapids, MI 49503 Phone: (616) 233-9150
US Representative	Bill Huizenga	2232 Rayburn HOB Washington, D.C. 20515 Phone: (202) 225-4401	170 College Ave. Suite 160 Holland, MI 49423 Phone: (616) 251-6741
US Representative	Hillary Scholten	1317 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 Phone: (202) 225-3831	110 Michigan Street NW Grand Rapids, MI 49503 Phone: (616) 451-8383
US Representative	John Moolenaar	246 Cannon House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 Phone: (202) 225-3561	8980 North Rodgers Court Suite H Caledonia, MI 49316 Phone: (616) 528-7100

STATE	
Find Your State Senator	<a href="https://senate.michigan.gov/FindYourSenator/">Home Page Find Your Senator - Michigan Senate</a> ( <a href="https://senate.michigan.gov/FindYourSenator/">https://senate.michigan.gov/FindYourSenator/</a> )
Find Your State Representative	<a href="https://www.house.mi.gov/">Michigan House - Home Page</a> ( <a href="https://www.house.mi.gov/">https://www.house.mi.gov/</a> )



## SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER OVERSIGHT POLICY BOARD

December 10, 2025

Rep. William Bruck, District 30  
Rep. Donovan McKinney, District 11  
Rep. Alicia St. Germaine, District 62  
Rep. Joseph Pavlov, District 64  
Rep. Joseph Fox, District 101  
Rep. Josh Schriver, District 66  
Rep. Matt Bierlein, District 97

<i>Zee Bankhead</i>	<i>Horace Lattimore</i>
<i>Shellie Cole-Mickins</i>	<i>David Parnin</i>
<i>Jessica Cook</i>	<i>Sarah Sobel</i>
<i>Mark DeYoung</i>	<i>Stan Stek</i>
<i>Dawn Fuller</i>	<i>Joe Stone</i>
<i>Jordan Jorritsma</i>	<i>James Storey</i>
<i>Richard Kanten</i>	<i>Patrick Sweeney</i>
<i>Rebecca Lange</i>	<i>Robert Walker</i>

Honorable Representatives:

We, the members of the Lakeshore Regional Entity Substance Use Disorder Oversight Policy Board, write to express our support for HB 5134 and HB 5135, legislation that would prohibit the advertisement of cannabis products on billboards and digital billboards within the State of Michigan. This measure is critical for safeguarding public health, protecting youth, and promoting responsible cannabis regulation.

Michigan's existing regulatory framework, including the Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marihuana Act (MRTMA) and related administrative rules, recognizes the importance of limiting exposure to cannabis marketing. Rule 420.507 of the Cannabis Regulatory Agency already outlines restrictions on advertising to prevent misleading claims and youth targeting. Extending these protections to outdoor advertising is a logical and necessary step to reduce normalization and accessibility among minors.

Health and safety risks are amplified as the potency of tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), the primary psychoactive component of cannabis, increases. Over recent decades, THC concentrations have risen dramatically. In 1995, marijuana samples confiscated by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) averaged less than 4% THC. By 2021, this average had climbed to over 15% THC, with some marijuana extracts exceeding 80% THC.

Research demonstrates that cannabis use, particularly among adolescents, is associated with significant health and developmental risks, including cognitive impairment, increased likelihood of school dropout, and mental health challenges such as anxiety and depression. Furthermore, accidental ingestion among children has risen sharply, with cases increasing by 60% between 2020 and 2023 according to the Michigan Poison and Drug Information Center. Billboard advertising amplifies these risks by increasing visibility and social acceptance of cannabis products.

Given the substantial evidence of harm associated with today's high potency cannabis, especially in light of increasing THC concentrations and expanding usage, it is critical to consider limiting billboard advertising to align with public health strategies used for other substances, such as alcohol and tobacco, where outdoor advertising restrictions have proven effective in reducing youth exposure. Multiple states with legal marijuana markets—such as Colorado, California, and Oregon—have already banned or heavily restricted billboard advertising as a youth protection measure. This legislation would reinforce Michigan's commitment to responsible cannabis regulation while prioritizing community well-being.

We thank you for introducing this bill, and we encourage all lawmakers to advance this legislation promptly to ensure that Michigan continues to lead in balancing legal access with public health protections.

Sincerely,

Board Members  
Lakeshore Regional Entity  
Substance Use Disorder Oversight Policy  
cc: LRE Executive Board

## **CMHA's Persons Served Advisory Group**

### Summary of discussion and recommendations of the

### CMHA Persons Served Advisory Group meeting

November 19, 2025

*(This summary is in addition to any of the materials contained in the CMHA Legislative and Policy Committee packet which was reviewed with the Advisory Group. This summary will be shared with those on the Advisory Group e-mail list and at the upcoming meeting of the CMHA Board of Directors.)*

#### A. Review of issues that recently came before the CMHA Legislative and Policy Committee and those that have arisen since the Advisory Group's most recent meeting.

CMHA staff provided a discussion of the following topics:

1. The State Legislature will only be in session for a short period, closing out a year in which a very small number of bills were passed.
2. The passage of the FY 2026 State Budget, including the roads package.
3. The reissuance of SNAP (food stamp) benefits with the end to the federal government shut down.
4. SB 456, which creates an "Amber Alert" for missing seniors of vulnerable adults, was introduced and passed the Senate.
5. HB 5044, which would require school districts to provide medically necessary treatment if ordered by a health care provider, was introduced in the House. These services would include ABA services (services to treat autism)
6. The MDHHS bid out of the management of the state's public mental health system, the PIHPs, and the advocacy efforts, of CMHA and its allies, to halt this bid out
7. The federal Rural Health Transformation Program (RHTP).
8. The MDHHS proposal to eliminate supported employment and skill building.

#### B. Recommendations of Advisory Group

The recommendations made, actions taken, and issues raised by the Advisory Group centered around:

1. Group members underscored the need for supports in school for children and adolescents with mental health needs.
2. Group members indicated that it is key that parents are deeply involved in the approval and provision of school-based mental health care and physical health care.
3. Group members indicated concerns relative to the PIHP bid out – centering around the view that the bid out is being falsely framed as improving care for persons served rather than accurately framed as a vendetta against the state's PIHPs. The group members underscored deep concerns over the PIHP bid out and its impact on persons served.
4. Group members expressed concerns relative to the elimination of Supported Employment and Skill Building services from the Healthy Michigan Plan benefit package. It was noted by group members that this seems to be part of an effort to withdraw key supports with persons with disabilities and persons with low incomes. The value of these two services was underscored by the

- group members as key to recovery, as was the need for support of independent businesses formed and run by persons with disabilities. The harm to persons who have long received
5. Group members discussed their opposition to 14c certificates. These certificates allow employers to pay persons with disabilities below a state's minimum wage. Efforts to increase the wages of peer support specialists, across the state, were discussed.
  6. Group members discussed the importance of equine therapy for children and adolescents – a service newly added to the Medicaid benefit.

#### C. Future meeting schedule for the Persons Served Advisory Group

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The meeting schedule for the 2026 meetings of the Advisory Group was reviewed with the group. Those dates and times are provided below:

January 14, 2026

1:00 -2:30 pm

April 15, 2026

1:00 -2:30 pm

September 16, 2026

1:00 -2:30 pm

November 18, 2026

1:00 -2:30 pm

# HEALTHWEST

## CONFIDENTIALITY STATEMENT

Maintaining confidentiality is required by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) and the Mental Health Code of the State of Michigan. Since the HealthWest Board operates on the assurance of said confidentiality to all individuals receiving services, it has adopted detailed policies that speak to this issue (see Policy and Procedure 04-001 and 04-002 enclosed with this form).

Confidentiality is important to those who seek services from HealthWest. All individuals served at HealthWest are assured that their protected health information (PHI) will remain confidential.

The phrase "maintaining confidentiality" is very broad and inclusive. In effect, it means a representative of HealthWest is not permitted to divulge the names of consumers or other PHI. Such disclosure is only appropriate when it is in a work-related situation that requires such information to be given and then only to authorized personnel and agencies.

This form has been developed to ensure that HealthWest employees, interns, volunteers, and student observers are informed of the importance of maintaining confidentiality. After you have read this form, HealthWest Policy and Procedure 04-001 and 04-002, and your supervisor has discussed them with you, please sign your name on the line indicated below acknowledging that you have read and understand the confidentiality requirements of HealthWest.

**Name (Printed):** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

<b>I am a</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Job Shadow Student</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Clinical Rotation Student</b>
	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Volunteer</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Intern</b>
	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Contractor</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Consumer Advisory Committee</b>

## HEALTHWEST

### PHOTO, AUDIO, VIDEO RELEASE

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_ Case No. \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby grant permission to HealthWest to use: (check all that apply)

☒ Photograph    ☒ Audio Recording    ☒ Video Recording

In a public display for the purpose of HealthWest's education and anti-stigma activities including: the HealthWest's website; social media; annual report; print ad; and/or other educational materials distributed to the community.

Specific Event or Activity    Consumer Advisory Committee    Date    2026-2027  
Events/Communications /Annual Report / Medicaid PR

Expires on    One year from signature

This consent extends through the entire event period. Your name, photo, or personal story once created as part of HealthWest's orientation video, handbook or other educational material will continue in use as long as the product is used for the specified event or activity. For example: if a photo or name is used in an annual report or calendar the release is in effect until all of the printed material is consumed. Your personal information or photo will not be used for other events or materials unless you grant an additional release.

Internet liability: I understand that HealthWest cannot control and shall not be liable for the unauthorized use of my image once it is placed on the internet.

I understand said photograph, audio, or video recording will be utilized only for the purpose stated above, and that they will be kept otherwise confidential in accordance with Section 724 and 748 of Public Act 258.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Recipient Signature    Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian    Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness    Date

#### Contact Information

HealthWest Contact \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Legal Representative \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_