

Dear stakeholders,

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) published the draft interim report for the Section 298 Initiative for public review. The Section 298 Initiative is a statewide effort to improve the coordination of physical health services and behavioral health services. The draft interim report contains a series of policy recommendations for the Michigan Legislature on this issue. The draft interim report can be accessed through the following [link](#).

The interim report reflects the discussions and recommendations of the 298 Facilitation Workgroup. MDHHS convened the 298 Facilitation Workgroup to assist with the development of the recommendations. The workgroup also facilitated 44 Affinity Group meetings to gather input from more than 1,076 Michiganders, including 767 consumers and family members, 249 providers, 48 payers and 12 tribal health organizations. The input from the Affinity Group meetings was used to develop the recommendations for the interim report.

Public review of the draft interim report will last from December 14, 2016 to January 4, 2017. MDHHS has established several opportunities to gather comments on the draft interim report, including:

- A short online survey to gather feedback on the draft interim report. The survey can be accessed through this [web link](#).
- Written comments on the draft interim report are also being accepted. Comments can be sent via email to MDHHS-298@michigan.gov or by mail to the Section 298 Initiative, with the Policy, Planning, and Legislative Services Administration, South Grand Building, 5th Floor, 333 South Grand Avenue, Lansing, Michigan 48933.
- A public forum to gather comments will also be held on January 3, 2017 from 2 to 4 p.m. The forum will be held at the Lansing Community College West Campus, located at 5708 Cornerstone Drive in Lansing. Individuals can RSVP to attend the public forum by using this [web link](#).

MDHHS and the 298 Facilitation Workgroup will use the comments from the public review process to refine and improve the policy recommendations in the interim report. MDHHS will submit the revised interim report to the legislature by January 15, 2017. MDHHS and the 298 Facilitation Workgroup will also create a final report for the Legislature, which will include the policy recommendations from the interim report and additional recommendations on integration models and benchmarks for implementation.

For more information about the draft interim report or the Section 298 Initiative, visit www.michigan.gov/stakeholder298 or send an email to MDHHS-298@michigan.gov.

Best regards,

The MDHHS 298 Team