



Mental Health Public Policy Update

- An overview of public policy initiatives from 2022 and 2023
- Marianne Huff, LMSW
- Mental Health Association in Michigan
- May 17, 2023



Discussion Items

- High Level Review of the mental health policy issues that were prevalent during the last legislative session: 2021-2022
- Overview of the mental health policy issues pending in 2023:
 - Red Flag Laws SB 83
 - Proposed Parity Bill SB 27
 - K.B. Vs. Lyon, et. al children's lawsuit
 - Integrated Care Bills from 2021/2022: Senate Bills 597/598
 - Mental Health Parity Bills from 2021/2022: HB 6137-39.

Legislation in 2021-2022

- SB 597 and 598 that were introduced into the Senate by Sen. Mike Shirkey. These bills were defeated in the Senate in 2022. These bills would have included integration of physical and behavioral healthcare for individuals who are in the public mental health system.
- HB 4925-4929 are bills introduced into the House by Rep. Mary Whiteford in 2021. These bills would have created a single statewide PIHP (Prepaid Inpatient Health Plan).
- Parity Bills HB 6137-39 were introduced into the House by Rep. Mary Whiteford and Rep. Julie Calley in June of 2022. These bills would have required insurers subject to the MHPAEA to submit their self-assessments to the Department of Insurance and Financial Services at the state of Michigan.



Current Legislation in 2023

- New legislative session with both chambers and the executive branch controlled by the Democrats for the first time in 40 years.
- New legislature focused on gun control laws including SB 83 which has been presented to Governor Whitmer for her signature. SB 83 is a law that allows for a person to petition the Circuit Court for an extreme risk protection order.
- SB 27 is focused on mental health parity and was introduced by Senator Sarah Anthony.



K.B. vs. Lyons, et. al lawsuit

- Filed in June of 2018 against the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) for failure to provide EPSDT services to children and youth under age 21 with Serious Emotional Disturbance and intellectual/developmental disabilities.
- Currently there is an interim settlement agreement between the Plaintiffs and the State.
- Problems continue to exist for families, children and adolescents attempting to access specialty supports and services from the public mental health system.





Questions?

- Thanks so much for inviting us to the policy discussion!
- If you need more information, please email me at mhuff@mha-mi.com.
- Visit our website at: <https://www.mha-mi.com/>.
- Cell Phone: 313-641-1109.
- Thanks!