



Michigan Child Welfare Improvement Task Force

Improving the safe, fair, and equitable treatment of all Michigan's children and families.





Welcome

Child Welfare Improvement Task Force

Charge Statement

Purpose: Time-limited task force to provide legislative, policy, and practice recommendations to MDHHS on:

- Redesigning a front-end response to allegations of abuse and neglect that is free from bias and distinguishes between crisis and a need for family services and support.
- Reducing racial disparities in child welfare outcomes by:
 - Increased use of supported, safe kinship care
 - Improved access to community mental health services
 - Elimination of improper placements in residential settings



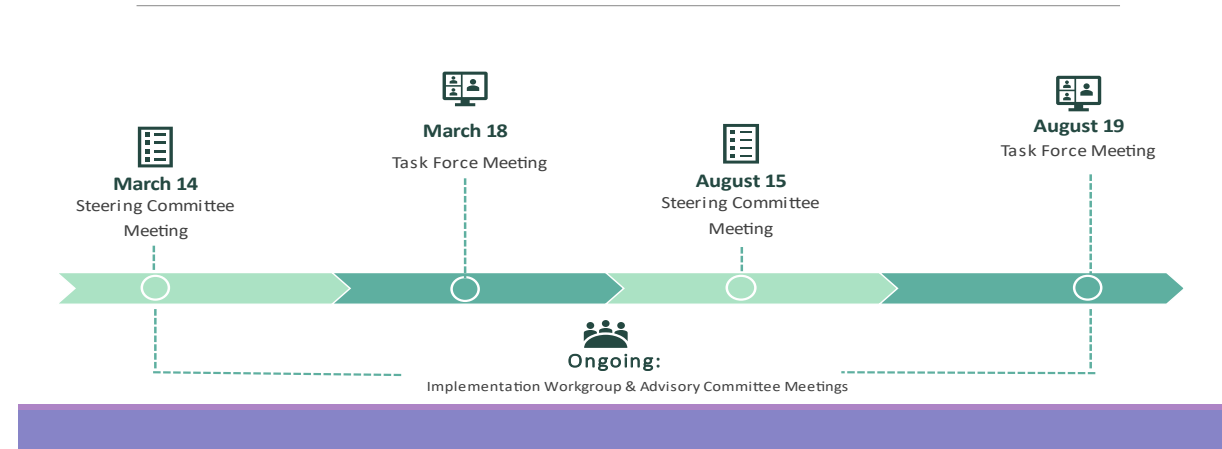
Timeline Overview

Tentative 2021 Meeting Schedule

11:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M. EST

Phase 1 Grounding/Listening/Learning	Phase 2 Implementing/Monitoring	Phase 3 Reporting
<p>February 26</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data Overview MDHHS Practice Model Workgroup Report Out Review Decision Action Log <p>March 26</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listening Session with youth/families/child welfare staff Workgroup Report Out Review Decision Action Log 	<p>April 23 - Data subcommittee meeting</p> <p>May 28 - Data subcommittee meeting</p> <p>June 25 - Full Task Force meeting</p> <p>July 23 - Data subcommittee meeting</p>	<p>August 27 - Full Task Force meeting</p> <p>September 24 - Full Task Force meeting</p>

2022 Task Force Timeline



Task Force Meetings in Bold

**Additional dates to be added if needed*

2023~~2023~~ Task Force Timeline



What to Expect for 2024.....

- **Congregate Care Workgroup Meeting Date and Times**

February 29th 10:00am-11:30am

March- update will be sent soon

April 22nd 8:30am-10:00am

May 23rd 10:30am-12noon

June 26th 1:00pm-2:30pm

July 31st 10:00am-11:30am

August 21st 1:00pm-2:30pm

****All calendar invites have been sent out.
Additional dates will be scheduled for the
rest of year, please be on the look out for
emails/calendar invites with those dates****

Recruitment and Retention Unit

Jessica Sweet, Program Manager - Caregiver Recruitment, Support and
Development

Staff

Jessica Bodell	Relative Licensing and Placement Specialist
Monica Jackson	Adoptive and Foster Parent Recruitment and Retention Coordinator
Trina Richardson	Community and Faith Based Initiative on Foster Care and Adoption Coordinator
Joanne Metcalfe	Contracted Community Placements Analyst
John Joubert	Caregiver Resource Analyst

Unit Responsibilities

Adoptive and Foster Parent Recruitment and Retention	Relative Placement and Licensing	Community and Faith Based Initiative	Family Incentive Grant	Transitional Placement Program	Community Reintegration Homes	Respite
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Statewide recruitment• County recruitment planning oversight and TA• Caregiver Development• Caregiver Supports• Regional Resource Teams• AFPRR funding allocation and utilization TA• Foster home Licensing and utilization data analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Relative placement policy, forms and practice• Relative supports and support programing• Relative search and engagement• Relative licensing projects and practice• Oversight of the Kinship Navigator Program called the Kinship Support Program• Relative placement and licensing data analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Connect community and faith leaders with MDHHS and PAFC offices• Coordination of donations and donation requests<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Over 3500 masks, 2800 bottles of hand sanitizer, 65 gift cards, and various other items (clothes, diapers Etc.)• TA to congregations around beginning foster care ministries• TA to counties about faith-based outreach	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• FY24 allocation of \$1,375,000.• Intended for items or repairs needed to:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Ensure child safety○ Achieve licensing rule compliance• Eligibility:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Unlicensed relatives with placement○ Licensed foster families○ Families enrolled to become licensed	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Replaced previous Shelter Home Program• Emergency temporary placements instead of shelter CCI• 43 current active TPP homes and 81 TPP beds statewide.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Contracted foster homes providing step-down from residential treatment and hospitalization.• 5 current contracted beds.• Goal of 20 beds.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Working on a statewide program that would see Respite provided for:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Foster Parents• Relative Caregivers• Parents with an active foster care case• Adoptive Parents who qualify for respite services though the AGAO.• Families with a child receiving SED waiver services regardless of foster care status.

Community Reintegration Home (CRH) Program Specifics

Up to 20 homes will be identified and contracted to provide CRH beds across the state. One CRH bed per home.

Specified age ranges and service types will be part of the recruitment and contracting process to meet the needs, age range and behavioral profiles of youth typically exiting congregate care (RPU data analysis).

CRH foster parents will complete evidence based and trauma informed training and participate in monthly coaching for fidelity.

CRH Foster parents will have access to therapeutic support services for themselves and a support/mentor group.

CRH foster parents will receive a specialized daily rate and a pre-placement hold/transition rate up to 60 days prior to youth placement in their home.

CRH foster parents are expected to participate in the youth's case service planning and recommended treatment services.

Placement Barriers

- Mental and Behavioral Health services not set up timely.
- Lack of coordinated supports when children move from one placement to the next
- Lack of consistent crisis response based on county of the caregiver.
- Relatives are not anticipating placements and are not always prepared for placement of youth with higher level needs. There is a lack of support to preserve these placements once needs arise.
- Staff not trained in parenting techniques for children with trauma histories and complex needs. This causes frustration.

DRAFT: CCI Action Plan

Problem Statement: Children of color are disproportionately placed in CCIs and have longer lengths of stay.
Recommendation: Implement appropriate services to reduce CCI placements and length of stay.

