



# CHILDREN'S AGENDA 2008

Priority Legislative Issues for Children and Families • 25th Release

## *Investment in health and mental health services*

### **Progress Made:**

- ❑ Require coverage of health and mental health services by public and private health insurance for children through age 18 and pregnant women.
  - *Progress: Package of bills HB 4390-4393 and SB 329, 330, 332-335 moving in legislature to provide parity for mental health and substance abuse services.*
  - *Progress: \$130 million for a 4.2% increase in provider reimbursement rate for Medicaid services to children and pregnant women.*
  - *Progress: Preserved Medicaid eligibility for 19 and 20 year olds and low income relatives caring for children who have been removed from their homes.*
- ❑ Access to preventive oral health care for children up to age 18
  - *Progress: Added \$2.6 million for two Healthy Kids Dental programs in Genesee and Saginaw Counties*
  - *Progress: MDCH received \$250,000 from the Delta Dental Foundation for oral health services.*
  - *Progress: MDCH Oral Health staff provided training to 40 non-oral health clinicians in School Based Health Centers on oral health examinations diagnosis.*
- ❑ Access to community and school-based primary preventive health care and case management
  - *Progress: Medicaid partnership with MI Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics supported and promoted state grant for pilots to implement new developmental screening standards of practice.*
  - *Progress: Primary care reimbursement rates doubled for selected prevention codes during well-child visits.*
- ❑ Access to comprehensive family planning counseling for adults, and age appropriate education and services for youth.
  - *Progress: MDCH implemented Plan First, the Family Planning Waiver program.*
  - *Lost Ground: Healthy Michigan Fund cuts in pregnancy prevention and family planning.*
- ❑ Special health care services and respite care for children with special needs.
- ❑ Access to comprehensive prevention and early intervention services for children and youth with mental health needs.
  - *Progress: \$13.2 million increase in Medicaid authorization for mental health services to children for 2008.*
  
- ❑ Support smoke free environments and programs to keep kids from starting to smoke. Help adults, especially pregnant women, to stop smoking.
  - *Progress: Smoke Free Workplace legislation passed House. (Tobacco Free)*

### **Opportunities in 2008**

- Review MDCH report to legislature on use of increased funding in Medicaid for mental health services to children.



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- Develop framework for creation of children's medical home to improve primary care and development screening and treatment.
- Develop cost based reimbursement structure to fully implement the redesigned Maternal and Infant Health Program.

***Contact MCCF members for more information:***

*Association for Children's Mental Health*

*Center for Civil Justice*

*Michigan Association for Community Mental Health Boards*

*Michigan Association for Infant Mental Health*

*Michigan's Children*

*Michigan Council for Maternal and Child Health*

*Michigan Public Health Association*



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