

# Introduction to MI Health Link: Michigan's Latest Health Care Initiative

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Michigan Voices for Better Health

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# What is MI Health Link?

- Under the Affordable Care Act, states may “integrate” care for people eligible for **both** Medicaid and Medicare.
- Blending of Medicaid and Medicare rules, funding streams, and benefits into a single coordinated health care delivery system.
- MI Health Link is Michigan’s Integrated Care for Dually Eligible Individuals Demonstration Project.
- Capitated Model

# How does fit into the ACA?

- Initiative included in the ACA but less well known than the Marketplace and Medicaid Expansion aspects of law
- ACA provision follows years of interest in integrating care and demonstration project through federal waivers

# How does fit into the ACA?

- Very different issues from insurance affordability and coverage of the uninsured
- Affects different populations with higher needs
- More complicated issues for individuals
- Political implications if demonstrations fail

# State's goals for MI Health Link

- Improved quality and enrollee satisfaction
- "Choice and voice" for consumers
- Seamless access to services

# State's goals for MI Health Link

- Increased access to home and community based care
- Effective, person-centered care coordination through a "Care Bridge"
- Streamlined bureaucracy

# Where will MI Health Link be available?

It will be offered in 4 regions of the state and affect approximately 100,000 people.

- Wayne County
- Macomb County
- All of the Upper Peninsula
- Eight counties in SW Michigan (Barry, Berrien, Branch, Calhoun, Cass, Kalamazoo, St. Joseph, and Van Buren)

# Timetable for Implementation

- In the U.P. and S.W. MI:
  - Services start for voluntary enrollees 1/1/15
  - Services start for passive enrollees 4/1/15
- In Wayne and Macomb Counties:
  - Services start for voluntary enrollees 5/1/15
  - Services start for passive enrollees 7/1/15
- Demonstration runs through 12/31/17



# How will MI Health Link work?

- Acute and primary care & long term supports and services will be offered by Integrated Care Organizations (“**ICOs**” or health plans).
- Mental health, substance use services, & services for people with Developmental Disabilities will be offered by existing Prepaid In-patient Health Plans (“**PIHPs**”)
- Services will be coordinated between ICOs and PIHPs across a “**Care Bridge**”
  - Sharing of electronic medical records
  - Collaboration and coordination by care coordinators

# What health plans will offer MI Health Link?

- **Upper Peninsula**
  - Upper Peninsula Health Plan, LLC
- **Southwest Michigan**
  - Aetna/Coventry Cares Better Health of Michigan
  - Meridian Health Plan of Michigan
- **Wayne County & Macomb County**
  - United Healthcare Community Plan, Inc.
  - Molina Healthcare of Michigan
  - Aetna Better Health of Michigan
  - AmeriHealth Michigan, Inc.
  - Midwest Health Plan
  - Fidelis SecureCare of Michigan, Inc.

# How will people enroll in MI Health Link?

- Most dually eligible people (21+) in the 4 regions will have three choices:
  - Voluntarily enroll
  - Do nothing and be passively enrolled
  - Opt out

# How will people enroll in MI Health Link?

- A few groups (e.g., those in MI Choice or PACE) can choose to enroll but will not be auto-enrolled
- Once enrolled, can opt out at any time
- People with Medicaid spend-down, those in hospice, or those with Medicare Savings, (Medicaid assists with Medicare premium) cannot enroll

# What services will MI Health Link offer?

- Acute care
- Primary Care
- Behavioral Health Care
- Long Term Supports and Services
- Pharmacy
- Dental
- Vision
- Durable Medical Equipment

## Resources to help consumers....

- Michigan ENROLLS
- Medicare/Medicaid Assistance Program (MMAP)
- Integrated Care Ombudsman
- Medicare hotline

# What we like

- State shares same goals as consumers and advocates and welcomes in-put
- No co-pays or deductibles
- Care coordinator for every enrollee

# What we like

- Holistic, person-centered care and supports
- Focus on quality
- Increased access to home and community based care including many new home and community based waiver slots



# What we worry about

- State has had insufficient staff to manage implementation.
- New program will cause confusion and disruption for older people and people with disabilities who may have to change doctors and other providers and who may not understand their rights and options.

# What we worry about

- Reality may not match promise (quality, choice, access)
- ICOs have little experience with managed long term care in Michigan
- Care coordination is cornerstone of program but not clear how well it will work

# What we are doing

- With funding from Atlantic Philanthropies and Community Catalyst, we have formed **Michigan Voices for Better Health (MVBH)**.
- Collaboration of: Michigan Consumers for Health Care, Michigan Disability Rights Coalition, Michigan Elder Justice Initiative

# What we are doing

- **MVBH** is:
  - Advocating for policy and practices that meet consumer needs and preferences
  - Educating, engaging, and supporting consumer champions in advocating for themselves and others
  - Coordinating advocacy among consumers and advocates on MI Health Link.

# Thank you!



Questions?

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