

Arkay Unity Newsletter September 2022



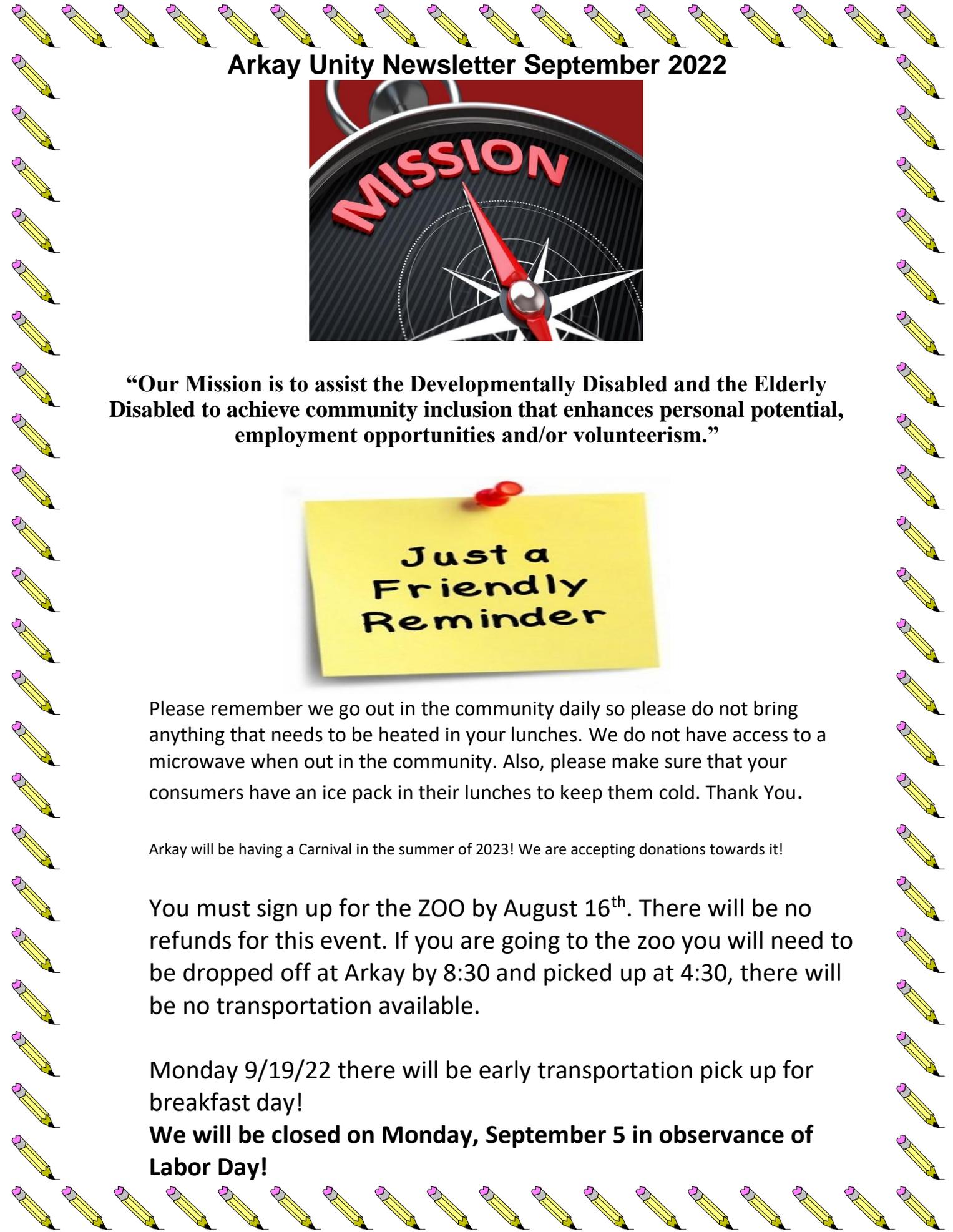
27600 Hall Road
Office: (734)782-3999 **Fax:** (734)782-3110
Email: Arkay.unity@miarkay.org

Website: ****CHECKOUT THE NEW REVAMPED WEBSITE AT:**
www.miarkay.org

Do not forget to like us on Facebook at:
www.facebook.com/miarkay.org
Executive Director: Kevin McGuckin
Program Director: Amanda Merritt **Lead Director**
Case Managers: Tiffani Paschall, Gerri Loree

The Staff That Proudly Serves Our Individuals:

Angelo Bivings, Brenda Capps, Dollie Germer,
Lisa Green, James Kendrick, Dea Laitis,
James Medaris, Deana Sabaitis, Vanessa Broome, Darnell White,
Monica Martinez, Tiara Norwood- Ellis



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“Our Mission is to assist the Developmentally Disabled and the Elderly Disabled to achieve community inclusion that enhances personal potential, employment opportunities and/or volunteerism.”



**Just a
Friendly
Reminder**

Please remember we go out in the community daily so please do not bring anything that needs to be heated in your lunches. We do not have access to a microwave when out in the community. Also, please make sure that your consumers have an ice pack in their lunches to keep them cold. Thank You.

Arkay will be having a Carnival in the summer of 2023! We are accepting donations towards it!

You must sign up for the ZOO by August 16th. There will be no refunds for this event. If you are going to the zoo you will need to be dropped off at Arkay by 8:30 and picked up at 4:30, there will be no transportation available.

Monday 9/19/22 there will be early transportation pick up for breakfast day!

We will be closed on Monday, September 5 in observance of Labor Day!

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THESE WONDERFUL CONSUMERS!!!!

Susann Kaczmar 9/6, Carmon Duchene 9/15 and Keith Wright 9/25



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BUSINESS DEVELOPER'S CORNER

Two Arkay Individuals participated in the Taylor Made Market on August 19th, selling their handmade crafts. We also sold Arkay's Coffee! We have one last Taylor Market day on September 16th! The hours are from 4 – 8 pm.

At this market event they will have free bounce houses, farm animals, pumpkin decorating, cider & doughnuts and the Taylor Made Market. Stop on by and check us out at the Taylor Made Market and support Arkay Inc.!

We continue to assist Arkay Individuals in finding Community based, integrated employment. Arkay Business Developers also assist with Individuals who want to have their own micro business.

Our work with Michigan Rehabilitation Services is ongoing, providing job placement, vocational assessments, job coaching with 30 & 90 day follow up job retention services. All Arkay staff strives to help each Individual we work with to reach their goal.

Please check out and donate to our Avon fund raiser that's going on now until September 30, 2022! There's something for everyone at Avon! Christmas is around the corner! You can check out the fundraiser on Arkay's Facebook page or go to: www.avon.com/fundraiser/arkayjavajunction4

If you have any questions concerning the fund raiser, please call the Arkay Administration office: 734-284-2929. Thank you for your help in our endeavor to have a Coffee shop where the Individuals we serve will be able to work and learn new skills.

Your Business Development team: Kyra, Kim, Mark, Megan, Tammy, Ken & Shantel

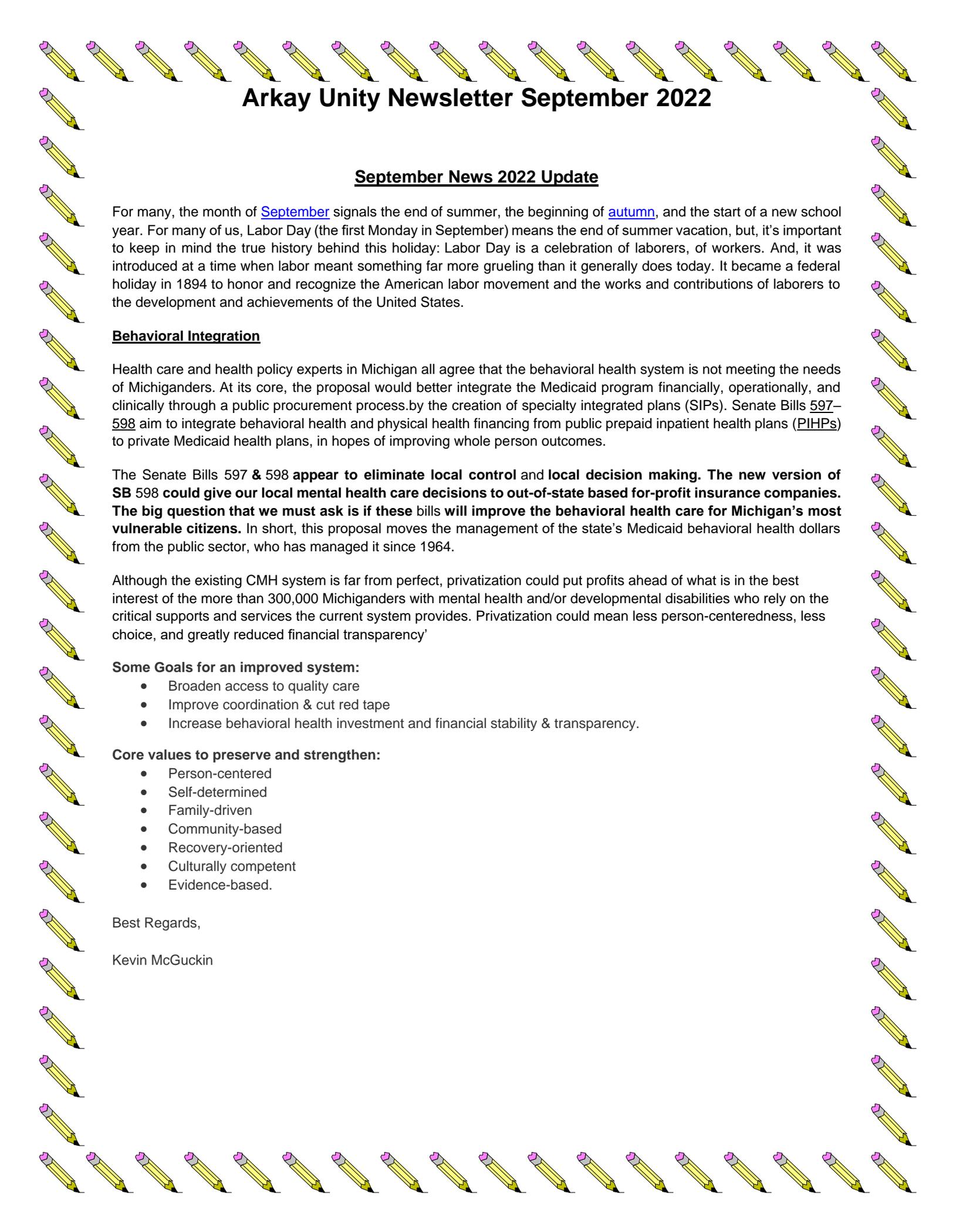


**Arkay
Garden Club**

Learn how to take care of our new raised gardens...water, weed, harvest, and more!
July-October
Crossings will meet Wednesday
Unity will meet Thursday

**This is a free activity
Anyone can sign up**

The graphic features two cartoon gardeners in a field. One is kneeling and holding a basket of pumpkins, while the other is watering a large sunflower with a pink watering can. The background is a light beige color with soft, circular patterns.



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September News 2022 Update

For many, the month of [September](#) signals the end of summer, the beginning of [autumn](#), and the start of a new school year. For many of us, Labor Day (the first Monday in September) means the end of summer vacation, but, it's important to keep in mind the true history behind this holiday: Labor Day is a celebration of laborers, of workers. And, it was introduced at a time when labor meant something far more grueling than it generally does today. It became a federal holiday in 1894 to honor and recognize the American labor movement and the works and contributions of laborers to the development and achievements of the United States.

Behavioral Integration

Health care and health policy experts in Michigan all agree that the behavioral health system is not meeting the needs of Michiganders. At its core, the proposal would better integrate the Medicaid program financially, operationally, and clinically through a public procurement process by the creation of specialty integrated plans (SIPs). Senate Bills [597–598](#) aim to integrate behavioral health and physical health financing from public prepaid inpatient health plans (PIHPs) to private Medicaid health plans, in hopes of improving whole person outcomes.

The Senate Bills 597 & 598 **appear to eliminate local control and local decision making. The new version of SB 598 could give our local mental health care decisions to out-of-state based for-profit insurance companies. The big question that we must ask is if these bills will improve the behavioral health care for Michigan's most vulnerable citizens.** In short, this proposal moves the management of the state's Medicaid behavioral health dollars from the public sector, who has managed it since 1964.

Although the existing CMH system is far from perfect, privatization could put profits ahead of what is in the best interest of the more than 300,000 Michiganders with mental health and/or developmental disabilities who rely on the critical supports and services the current system provides. Privatization could mean less person-centeredness, less choice, and greatly reduced financial transparency'

Some Goals for an improved system:

- Broaden access to quality care
- Improve coordination & cut red tape
- Increase behavioral health investment and financial stability & transparency.

Core values to preserve and strengthen:

- Person-centered
- Self-determined
- Family-driven
- Community-based
- Recovery-oriented
- Culturally competent
- Evidence-based.

Best Regards,

Kevin McGuckin