

Background Information for Affinity Group Meeting Participants

Section 298 Initiative

The following document provides background information on the Section 298 Initiative and Affinity Group process. If you have questions about the Section 298 Initiative or Affinity Group process, please visit the project webpage at www.michigan.gov/stakeholder298 or send an email to MDHHS-298@michigan.gov.

Section 298 Initiative

- The Section 298 Initiative is a statewide effort to improve the coordination of physical health and behavioral health services.
- Section 298 is a section of Public Act 268 of 2016 that was passed by the Michigan Legislature.
- Under Section 298, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Service must develop recommendations on improving the coordination of physical health and behavioral health services.
- The Department must submit a report with recommendations to the Michigan Legislature by January 15, 2016.

Affinity Group Process

- The Department is organizing several Affinity Group meetings as part of the Section 298 Initiative.
- During these meetings, the Department will collect further ideas, input, and feedback from citizens to help inform the development of the recommendations.
- The Department is working to engage persons who receive services, families, providers, service agencies, and other stakeholders through this process.
- Participants in these meetings will be asked to provide responses to several questions. The questions are based upon the report of the initial 298 Workgroup. The Department will use the responses to these questions to develop the recommendations.

Other Opportunities for Participation

- Individuals can submit written responses to the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. Responses can be submitted by email (MDHHS-298@michigan.gov) or by regular mail (Section 298 Initiative, Policy, Planning, and Legislative Services Administration, South Grand Building, 5th Floor, 333 South Grand Avenue, Lansing, Michigan 48933).
- The Department will also post a draft version of the report for public review. Individuals will have the opportunity to review and provide feedback on the draft report.
- If you are interested in receiving additional updates on the Section 298 Initiative, please send an email to MDHHS-298@michigan.gov.

The Department thanks you for your participation and support for the Section 298 Initiative.