

**Boilerplate Report - Section 423  
PA 159 of 2003**

**Child Welfare/Substance Abuse Task Force**

Through a collaborative effort with Family Independence Agency and State Court Administrator's Office, Michigan Department of Community Health continues to participate in the Child Welfare/Substance Abuse Task Force. This is an interagency effort aimed at identifying and addressing substance abuse issues within the child welfare system. Activities that have taken place include:

- MDCH, FIA and SCAO submitted a proposal to the National Center on Substance Abuse and Child Welfare (NCSACW) for an intensive technical assistance grant addressing substance abuse in the child welfare population. Michigan was one of the five states selected to receive the intensive technical assistance award. The Michigan Substance Abuse Child Welfare State Team working with a consultant from NCSACW has completed a strategic plan.
- Three educational community forums were held in Sheridan for Montcalm County; Centreville for St. Joseph County; and Sault Ste. Marie for Luce, Mackinaw and Chippewa Counties. Over 100 local FIA, court, school and treatment staff participated in the forums.
- Training on Family Drug Treatment Courts. Ninety court staff, FIA workers, substance abuse treatment staff, educators and substance abuse coordinating agency staff attended the training.
- A spring conference is planned for May 2004 with the American Bar Association. Planned topics: ASFA-Adoption and Safe Families Act timelines.

**Robert Wood Johnson Grant**

The department has begun working with MDOC on a joint effort to identify greater efficiencies in how the two agencies purchase addiction treatment, and to reinvest the associated savings back into the treatment system. This effort was begun as part of the national Resources for Recovery program sponsored by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Through this program, a team representing various state and local substance abuse and corrections agencies will attempt to reduce duplicative and unproductive activity, increase joint state agency purchasing, and streamline requirements to the extent possible. This effort is expected to last for three years.