



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL F. RICE, Ph.D.
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 12, 2021

TO: Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents
Public School Academy Directors

FROM: Kyle L. Guerrant, Deputy Superintendent
Finance and Operations KG

SUBJECT: Behavioral Health Care Coordination Platform Available to All
Intermediate School Districts

The Michigan Department of Education has made *bhworks*, a behavioral health software program from mdlogix (Medical Decision Logic, Inc.), available to school-based mental health providers statewide. This will allow schools to confidentially screen students and streamline communication with families and school staff to improve student mental health outcomes.

With the expansion of 31n funding (MCL 388.1631n) for intermediate school districts (ISDs) to offer mental health and support services in schools, a comprehensive technology platform to assist with universal screening and treatment options is necessary. The *bhworks* platform will enable Michigan providers to save time, work more effectively, collectively follow evidence-based standards, and leverage best practices. In addition to mental health conditions like depression, trauma, anxiety, substance use, and eating disorders, behavioral health screening assessments in *bhworks* uncover factors that may increase risk for self-harm, violence, and suicidality, which includes both thinking of and actually attempting suicide.

Questions about this initiative may be directed to Scott Hutchins, the school mental health and Medicaid consultant in the Michigan Department of Education's Office of Health and Nutrition Services, at 517-241-7099 or HutchinsS1@michigan.gov.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance
Confederation of Michigan Tribal Education Directors

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