

# Free & Charitable Clinics of Michigan 15th Annual Conference

April 28, 2023

## Introductions

- Phillip Bergquist, Chief Executive Officer
- Frank Waters, Director of Policy and Government Affairs





# Our Time Together Today

- Who We Are
- State Political Context
- (Potential) Shared Areas of Policy Focus
- Other Areas of Policy Focus
- Q&A





#### Who We Are

We advocate to influence and advance health policy in Lansing and Washington, D.C., foster collaboration among health centers and with external partners, and support health centers in the continuous pursuit of high-quality, patient-centered services.

#### Mission

To support health center excellence in the delivery of equitable care.

#### Vision

Equitable and Just Healthcare For All

#### **Driving Principles**



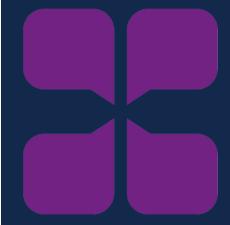
Advocate- MPCA champions health and social policies that support health centers and the patients and communities they serve.



Collaborate- MPCA brings together member organizations to encourage peer sharing and the continuous pursuit of high-quality, learning and supports relationships between health centers and a diverse set of partners to further integration and common objectives.



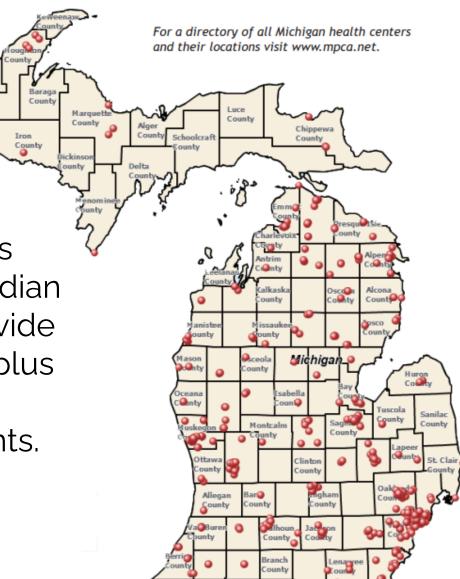
**Improve-** MPCA supports health centers in patient-centered services, the advancement of value-based care, and organizational excellence.





### Our Members

MPCA is the voice of 40 community health centers and four tribal or urban Indian health programs that provide health care through 370-plus locations for about one in every 14 Michigan residents.





#### What We Do

- State Legislative Advocacy and Lobbying
- State Government Relations and Regulatory Policy
- Federal Policy Advocacy
- Training and Peer Learning
- Programmatic and Technical Assistance
- Workforce and Health Professions Training
- Group Purchasing
- Health Information Technology and Exchange Support
- Managed Information Technology and Security
- Health Insurance Contracting and Value-Based Agreement
- Access, Quality, and Utilization Improvement Support





## State Political Context



## Who's Who

- 110 State Representatives
  - 56 Democrats
  - 54 Republicans
- 38 State Senators
  - 20 Democrats
  - 18 Republicans
- This is the first time in almost 40 years Democrats control both chambers of the legislature and the Governor's Office, but the majorities are narrow
  - And, many members of the legislature were newly elected in January



# Legislative Activity

- The beginning of this legislative session has focused on issues that Democrats have had at the top of their agenda for many years:
  - Gun Control
  - Pension Tax Repeal
  - Working Families Tax Credit Expansion
  - Prevailing Wage / Workers' Rights
  - Reproductive Rights
  - Civil Rights Protections
  - Economic Development / Jobs Investment
  - Improving Access / Quality Childcare



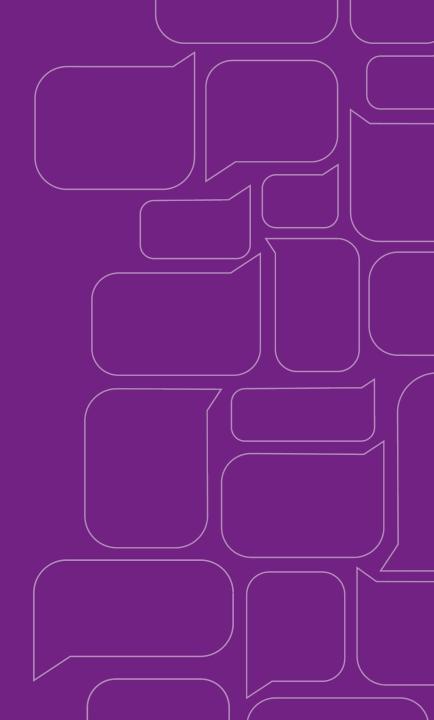
# **Budget Process**

- Budget cycle is October 1st through September 31st of the following year
- Budget starts with the Governor proposing an Executive Budget recommendation
- House and Senate review the Governor's proposal and make changes based on individual priorities
- Budgets are reconciled after May Revenue Estimating
  Conference which determines revenues for the state
- Right now, we're in the middle of budget work...
  - House and Senate budgets were released this week with a June target for completing conference reconciliation and final passage





# Shared Areas of Policy Focus



## Telehealth

- Telehealth has proven itself to be a very effective way to deliver services for some patients
- It allows patients that, for any number of reasons, cannot make in-person appointments to access quality care
- HB 4213 is legislation to ensure that telehealth services including audio-only services remain covered and reimbursed by Medicaid after the end of the Public Health Emergency



#### Health Careers

- We've all seen unprecedented shortages in critical healthcare roles over the last several years, not only in licensed clinical roles but in support roles as well
- MPCA launched the Health Center Careers Training Program in March of 2022 to train and employ up to 300 new healthcare professionals using new training approaches, and they're working
- We're advocating for reinvestment in the program to sustain on-the-job training and registered apprenticeship programs that surmount barriers to entering health professions and rapidly grow workforce needed to meet healthcare needs
- The models we're investing in are largely replicable with other publicly available resources as well (e.g Going PRO)
- And, even if your organization does not participate in one of these programs directly, they are developing people in your community in roles you'll need too



# Medicaid and Health Programs

- Public Health Emergency and Unwinding of COVID-19 Response Policies / Medicaid Redetermination Restarting
- Medicaid Adult Dental Restructuring
- Medicaid Coverage for Doula Services
- Targeted Case Management Services for Recently Incarcerated Beneficiaries
- Medicaid Coverage for Community Health Worker Services



# **Budget Proposals**

- Senate DHHS
- House DHHS
- These budgets contain a wide variety of existing and new investments (but are not final),
  including things like...
  - Establishing a Medicaid Recuperative Care Benefit
  - Specific Medicaid Reimbursement Rate Increases (e.g. Hospitals / Trauma Centers)
  - Healthy Moms, Healthy Babies
    - Including removing the 5-year Medicaid waiting period for lawfully residing children and pregnant women, centering pregnancy grants, and reestablishing Plan First!
  - Boosting Childcare Reimbursement Rates
  - First Responder Mental Health and Safety Grants



# Other Areas of Policy Focus



# Other Areas of Policy Focus

- Repeal of Workforce Engagement Requirements for the Health Michigan Plan
- State Health Insurance Marketplace
- "Filter First"
- Nurse Practitioner Full Practice Authority
- Prescription Drug Pricing Transparency





