



STATE OF MICHIGAN

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GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
LANSING

ELIZABETH HERTEL
DIRECTOR

February 11, 2025

Rick Lowe, Chief Internal Auditor
Office of Internal Audit Services
111 S. Capitol Avenue
Lansing, Michigan 48933

Dear Mr. Lowe:

In accordance with the State of Michigan Financial Management Guide, Part VII, enclosed is our final corrective action plan to address recommendations contained within the Office of the Auditor General report of the Partnership. Accountability. Training. Hope. (PATH) Program Deferrals.

All legislative inquiries should be directed to Chardae Burton, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Director of Legislative Affairs, at burtonc5@michigan.gov. All other questions regarding the corrective action plan should be directed to me at havenss2@michigan.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Shannah M. Havens".

Shannah Havens, CPA, MBA
Director, MDHHS Bureau of Audit

Enclosure (1)

c: Executive Office
Office of the Auditor General
House and Senate Fiscal Agencies
House and Senate Oversight Committees
House Appropriations Subcommittee on Human Services
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on MDHHS
House Families and Veterans Committee
Senate Housing and Human Services Committee
Elizabeth Hertel, MDHHS, Director
David Knezek, MDHHS, Chief Operating Officer
Amy Epkey, MDHHS, Senior Deputy Director, Financial Operations Administration
Chardae Burton, MDHHS, Director, Legislative Affairs
Dwayne Haywood, MDHHS, Senior Deputy Director, Economic Stability Administration
Laura Blodgett, MDHHS, Senior Deputy Director, Communications Administration

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
PATH Program Deferrals (491-3302-24)
Issued by the Office of the Auditor General
November 2024
Department Final Corrective Action Plan

Summary Response Matrix

	Complied	Will Comply	Partially Complied	Will Not Comply
Agrees		Finding 1		
Partially Agrees				
Disagrees				

Final Corrective Action Plan

Finding Number 1

Finding Title: Improved compliance with PATH Program guidelines is needed.

Department Response

Management Views: MDHHS agrees.

Planned Corrective Action and Milestones:

MDHHS is developing additional trainings in partnership with the Office of Workforce, Development, and Training on properly supporting deferrals with adequate documentation and verification, appropriate coding to establish incapacity prior to coding as incapacitated, and monitoring to ensure timely redeterminations. MDHHS will also continue to communicate to local offices the importance of properly supporting deferrals and appropriate coding through trainings, memos, and regularly recurring meetings. In addition, local offices will continue to receive a monthly Family Automated Screening Tool (FAST) and Family Self-Sufficiency Plan (FSSP) report that highlight FIP cases in need of action to ensure more timely determinations. Lastly, MDHHS met with local offices to determine technical improvements needed to enhance tracking of PATH deferrals to ensure a more standardized process.

Anticipated Compliance Date: May 31, 2025

Responsible Individual: Nicole Denson-Sogbaka, Director, MDHHS Economic Stability Administration Policy