

MEMORANDUM
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909

DATE: March 12, 2004

TO: Jean Chabut, Chairperson
Michigan Local Public Health Accreditation Commission
2440 Woodlake Circle, Suite 150
Okemos, MI 48864

FROM: Jim Butler, Michigan Department of Community Health
Katherine Fedder, Michigan Department of Agriculture
Richard Sacks, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality

SUBJECT: AQIP Implementation Status Report

The Michigan Departments of Community Health (MDCH), Agriculture (MDA), and Environmental Quality (MDEQ) are pleased to present the Accreditation Quality Improvement Process Implementation Status Report to the Michigan Local Public Health Accreditation Commission.

MDCH, MDA, and MDEQ are committed to assuring and enhancing the quality of local public health in Michigan. Paramount to this commitment is providing strong and effective local health programs. The Michigan Local Public Health Accreditation Program has been successful in establishing a set of standards that define public health and assure local level capacity to address core functions.

As you know, last year we and our local health partners embarked upon a large-scale Accreditation Quality Improvement Process (AQIP) to increase stakeholder satisfaction with the program. Numerous areas for process improvement were identified through a survey of local and state public health professionals.

At this time, we are providing the Commission with a status report that identifies AQIP recommendations and the state agencies' approach to implementation. In summary, we are pleased to share that 21 of the 44 recommendations for improvement have already been implemented.

Further, to improve the Accreditation program, we propose to focus subsequent efforts in three principal areas: 1) Accreditation Process Training, 2) Reviewer Evaluation, and 3) Appeals Process. Based on the AQIP survey and AQIP Workgroup deliberations, the state agencies believe that improvement in these three key areas will strengthen the program, improve communication, and produce a positive impact on local and state participants' satisfaction.

In closing, we seek to continually improve the Accreditation Program and look forward to sharing our ongoing improvement efforts with the Commission.

Cc: Mary Kushion, AQIP Chairperson
Trina Pyron, MPH Accreditation Program Coordinator