

# MICHIGAN: MOBILE HEALTH CARE PCA & HCCN CONFERENCE GALLERY WALK (2023)



## PROJECT AIM

For this project, the Michigan Primary Care Association (MPCA) first aimed to conduct a statewide assessment of mobile units in Michigan to better understand how mobile units are being utilized, what areas health centers need assistance with, and to gain a better understanding of how we can help health centers maximize their mobile unit capacity and services that they provide.

Secondly, MPCA will provide health centers with training and technical assistance in partnership with organizations like the Mobile Healthcare Association to assist health centers with thinking through how they may utilize their mobile units to reach additional patients and expand the services they are currently providing within those units to new service lines like substance use services, vaccinations, oral health, behavioral health, and more. In addition, we will provide training and technical assistance to assist health centers with compliance and emergency preparedness efforts, as they think about expanding.

At the end of the project, MPCA will work to develop a written report of our evaluative findings, including best practices, that we will share with other PCAs.

Over the course of the COVID-19 pandemic, health centers across the state of Michigan have utilized their mobile units in varying capacities. This project will ensure health centers are not only maximizing the services they are providing within their mobile unit but also help them to develop efficiencies, ensure compliance, and ensure they are prepared for the next emergency. Lastly, this funding will help MPCA develop resources and capacity to provide health centers with structured training and technical assistance around mobile units that would be difficult for us to provide without this funding.

## CURRENT STATE OF MOBILE

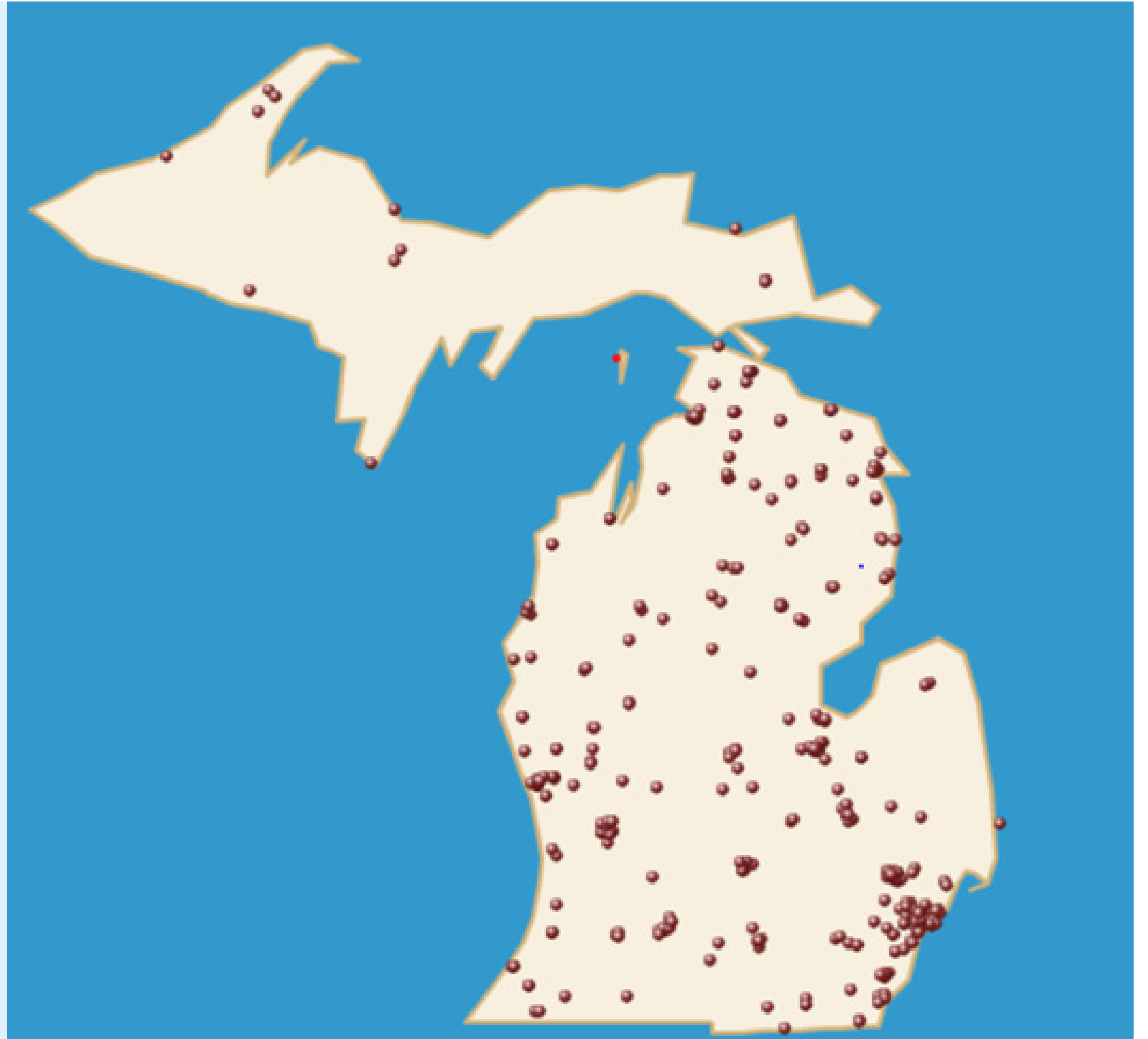
Health Centers in Michigan are currently using mobile units for several initiatives, including outreach to migrant camps and farms, dental services in schools, outreach to homeless populations, to provide vaccinations in the community and are working on implementing substance use disorder services on mobile units. A few examples of this care include:

- **InterCare** utilizes mobile units to conduct outreach and provide healthcare services to migrant farmworkers.
- **Great Lakes Bay** currently works on implementing substance use disorder services through their mobile unit.
- **Ingham Community Health Centers** currently has a mobile unit to provide oral health services to patients in their community.

These are just a few examples but there are many more across the state.

## SURVEY RESULTS

- 62% of health centers represented operate at least one mobile unit.
- Two thirds or 66% of health centers represented have provided care through a mobile unit for less than five years.
- Health centers have primarily offered preventive health screenings, immunizations, enabling services, outreach and enrollment, primary care and dental through their mobile units.



## IMPACT SO FAR

We sent out the assessment to our members and had 1:1 conversation with a few to gauge the types of training/technical assistance they need in terms of mobile units. MPCA is also in the process of developing a webinar series that will kick off this fall. This will be a 3-part series focused on Mobile Unit Program Expansion, Choosing the Right Mobile Unit, and Mobile Unit Compliance and Emergency Preparedness.