



June 29, 2020

Dear Community Partner,

The Ottawa County Department of Public Health (OCDPH) is now a part of the Great Lakes Health Connect (GLHC) [Bridge Referral Application system](#). The GLHC Bridge Referral application offers healthcare organizations and providers a secure system for sending and receiving referrals throughout Michigan. This application allows for improved communication, increased efficiency, and enhanced care coordination.

Partner agencies may refer to any OCDPH program using the GLHC Bridge Referral Application. Yet, the following programs are anticipating high utilization of the Referral Application because it replaces traditional fax referrals:

- [Maternal Infant Health Program](#) (MIHP): Michigan's largest evidenced-based home visiting program for Medicaid eligible pregnant women and infants; helps provide education, support, and connection to community resources.
- [Ottawa Pathways to Better Health](#) (OPBH): A program designed to assist people with accessing community services, to improve health outcomes and decrease unnecessary hospitalizations and emergency department visits. The OPBH program will continue to accept electronic referrals through their website as well.
- [Children's Special Health Care Services](#) (CSHCS): A program for children and some adults with special health care needs and their families. CSHCS helps pay for medical care and treatment for certain eligible medical conditions. Eligibility is based on a qualifying diagnosis and not income.
- [Tuberculosis \(TB\) Control Program](#): Helps promote effective diagnosis, treatment, and management of persons affected by tuberculosis and to prevent the spread of tuberculosis in the community. TB is a reportable disease.

In order to make a referral through GLHC your agency must also be a part of the GLHC Bridge Referral Application network. The OCDPH will continue to accept fax referrals. For questions please contact Tony Benjamin at tbenjamin@miottawa.org or (616)494-5587.

Thank you for your ongoing partnership. We look forward to continuing the work of protecting and promoting the health of our community alongside you
Sincerely,

Paul Heidel, M.D., M.P.H.
Medical Director

Lisa Stefanovsky, M.Ed
Health Officer