

Message to All Staff

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
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To: Todd Culver <tculver@incompassmi.org>



Dear Colleagues,

We hope this note finds you and your loved ones well.

Yesterday, the Michigan Supreme Court ruled that Governor Whitmer lacked the authority to issue emergency Executive Orders to fight COVID-19. As Governor Whitmer noted in her [statement](#), many orders protective of public health can continue under other authorities, including authorities of this department.

Most importantly, the ruling does nothing to change our commitment to protecting public health and saving lives during the pandemic. Over the last nine months, every person at MDHHS has contributed to honoring human dignity during the crisis — whether by providing PPE or food assistance, working on physical health or mental health, or serving vulnerable children or older Michiganders. Our work continues. And while there will be more to say in coming days about the legal framework, what is right for public health has not changed. For you, your loved ones, and everyone in our state, these truths remain: wear masks, keep 6 feet of social distance, wash hands, and get a flu shot this year.

Keep up hope, keep up your commitment to human dignity, and keep up your pride in the work you have done and will continue to do.

Sincerely,

Director Robert Gordon
Dr. Joneigh Khaldun

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