

Board of Directors

Tom Mann

◆ September is here which means Michigan Home Care Committees are returning to normal schedules. Your involvement in this organization is one of the best investments you can make for your career or business so make this month the time to commit to being involved in your association. ◆ **Expansion of Michigan Medicaid** Michigan Home Care experienced a significant accomplishment last week with the passage of the Medicaid Expansion. The vote was “nip and tuck” as our state elected officials debated the measure and overcame significant opposition from the Tea Party. We firmly believe that expansion of Medicaid is an important step to reducing the uncompensated care provided in our emergency rooms across this state. Now that expansion has passed, we have other Medicaid challenges facing Michigan Home Care including increasing the reimbursement rate and expediting the implementation date from April 1, 2014 to January. Our Executive Director, Barry Cargill serves on the State Medicaid Advisory Council which positions Michigan Home Care to be instrumental in implementing Medicaid expansion. Plan on Michigan Medicaid to be on each Committee agenda, with the Public Policy Committee taking the lead in advocating for improved changes and reforms. ◆ **Health Insurance Exchange** Beginning October 1, individuals and employees of small businesses will have their first look at new competitive private health insurance products offered through the Health Insurance Marketplace. The Marketplace is designed to offer “one-stop shopping” to find and compare private health insurance options. Open enrollment for health insurance coverage through the Marketplace begins October 1, 2013 and individuals and employees may purchase insurance beginning January 1, 2014. Employers are mandated to provide coverage to full time employees beginning January 2015. Individuals are mandated to have coverage beginning January 1, 2014. Michigan Home Care and the Public Policy Committee continue to advocate to increase the number of employees from 30 – 40, the hours needed to define “full time”; as well as eliminate the 2015 employer mandate for employers with over 50 employees to provide employee insurance coverage. ◆ **Employer Notice Required by October**

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In This Issue

Board of Directors • Private Duty	1
Reimbursement • Regulatory • Hospice	2
Clinical • Education • Membership	3
Public Policy • HME/Infusion	4
Links of Interest	5

1, 2013. The Affordable Care Act requires all employers with one or more employees to provide notice to each (both full and part time) informing them about opportunities to obtain coverage through the Health Insurance Exchange. If the employer sponsors a health insurance plan, current and future employees must be notified of the sponsored converges. An informational website to help employers understand the legal requirements is available at: <http://www.dol.gov/ebsa/newsroom/tr13-02.html>. To satisfy the content requirements for the required employee notice including model letters for employers to use, visit www.dol.gov/ebsa/healthreform. ◆ **Regulation – Regulation - Regulation** It never seems to end in home care! Michigan Home Care is your organization to help understand the impact of regulations facing your agency and profession. We are involved at all levels of government to impact the issues facing you, which include: F2F, Rebasing of Medicare Reimbursement, HME Competitive Bidding, Elimination of the Companionship Exemption from Wage & Hour, Health Exchanges, and others. These are only a few of the issues facing our industry and your agency. If you are not already actively involved in the Committees offered by Michigan Home Care, I invite you to make September the month you make the commitment to be involved and learn of the threats and opportunities facing the home care industry. Visit the Events Calendar at www.HomeCareMI.org to review the education and committee opportunities available to you. ◆ Enjoy this issue of the Bulletin and learn more.

Private Duty

Sheila Doeden & Tom Rowley

◆ Michigan Association for Home Care’s Private Duty Committee met August 20, 2013 in Okemos. Our next meeting is September 17, 2013 via teleconference. ◆ Licensing-SB 71 is on hold for now due to a movement regarding nurse practitioners. The Wall Street Journal published an article regarding the movement on August 14 and can be viewed by following this link. <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424127887323455104579>

013193992224008.html. ♦ A meeting was held July 16, 2013 to discuss Live-in care and potential definitions. A basic definition has been discussed by members and those will continue. ♦ Currently Michigan Association for Home Care is continuing to work with community partners in the state on defining what a live-in caregiver means and what the proposed definition could be. The real issue is restoring companionship exemption in its entirety in MI. The federal Government has not passed the removal of the exemption. ♦ CNA license renewal at the State Level continues to be an issue. The Michigan Association for Home Care continues to talk about ways to help members with their license renewals for CNA's. ♦ Auto no fault Reform- Proposal to remove catastrophic claims fund and decrease Personal Injury Protection (PIP). Nothing has passed at the State level and the Association continues to work with legislators and discuss how passage will negatively impact the care that we provide. ♦ Medicaid Expansion passed the Michigan legislature last week. Federal money supports the expansion for the first 3 years and then the State contributes 10% per year after 3 years. There has been deliberation over expansion and if the expansion occurs now that the expansion of Medicaid has passed, Private Duty reimbursement needs to increase for personal care/support and nursing. Michigan Home Care supports this effort. ♦ Schedulers Day is October 22, 2013, please plan to bring your staff with you. This is always a great event with good discussion amongst each other. Details and a registration form will be sent prior so we can plan for how many will be attending.

Reimbursement

Chris Kisell & Amy Gil

♦ The Reimbursement Committee met on-site on August 21st, 2013. Please join us for the next meeting by tele-conference at 9:30 on September 18th. ♦ The Committee discussed the rebasing and budgeting issues associated with that along with the 2% sequestration. Health Insurance Exchanges, Dual Eligible and Medicaid Expansion are big topics on the forefront of reimbursement. ♦ If you have any recommendations for topics and speakers for our Annual Conference please send them to me as we work towards creating Finance and Reimbursement rich sessions at the conference. ♦ The Accountable Care Act sample letters to all employees notifying them of the exchange was distributed. ♦ Email Cindy Thelen cindyth@homecaremi.org at Michigan Home Care if you are interested in participating in the Reimbursement Listserv. ♦ We need everybody's knowledge and input to make this committee work. We urge agencies to join us to stay informed. If you have questions or topics, please send them to Amy or I and we'll get them on the agenda. Let's share the knowledge and work together to

solve our issues. ♦ If you would like more information I can be reached by email at CKisell@Crittentonhc.com or by phone at (248)-656-6757. Chris Kisell, Chair of Reimbursement Committee. Amy Gil, Co-chair can be reached by e-mail at Agil@uhhs.org or by phone at (734) 981-8820.

Regulatory

Valerie Ghattas

♦ The Committee met on August 15th. ICD-10 preparation continues and everyone is asked to share any information or tools you have regarding implementation. In the proposed rule for 2014 rates, CMS disclosed that the list of ICD10 case mix diagnosis will be released July 2014. There is concern that this is very late due to the need for dual coding beginning in August 2014 and the timelines that software vendors will need to ready their systems. ♦ A list of important changes to Home Health Compare which went into effect July 18th was shared with the group. The changes impacted the process measures and outcomes. ♦ Discussion regarding location Q codes in home health. As a group, the committee has made a recommendation that in the absence of licensure or even a definition of Assisted Living in Michigan, the Association should recommend to members that the Q code for the patient residing in a facility should be used only when the patient does reside in an AFC or licensed Home for the Aged. Any other congregate (non-nursing home) setting should be defined as the patient's home. The list of AFC and Homes for the Aged that are licensed in Michigan can be found at www.dleg.stte.mi.us/brs_afc/sr_afc.asp. ♦ The next meeting will be held immediately following the Clinical Ops meeting on September 19th.

Hospice

Laura Bonde & Rene Wheaton

♦ The Hospice Committee met on Wednesday, August 7, 2013 and September 3rd. Several topics were discussed including the upcoming changes in HIPPA compliance, Physician and NP billing, Management of supplies and equipment, Hospice payment reform, State licensing surveys, and the elimination of debility as a diagnosis. The next Hospice Committee meeting will be on Wednesday, October 2, 2013 at 10AM at the Michigan Association for Home Care Office.

Education

Deb Holman

◆ The Education Committee is accepting [Call for Presentations](#) for next year's conference to be held May 14-16, 2014. The Theme: "There is No Place Like Home" will encourage individuals and providers to "Follow the Yellow Brick Road" by being prepared for the changes that lie ahead in home care. Presentations need to be into the Michigan Home Care office by August 2nd. The Committee is continuing to work on sessions for the Annual Conference. If you are interested in participating in the committee, please contact cindy@homecaremi.org. ◆ Coming up in September, Michigan Home Care will be holding an ICD-9 Coding Class September 23rd and 24th and an ICD-10 Coding Class on September 25th. This ICD-10 class is for any healthcare organization that does coding and will be switching to ICD-10 in 2014. An opportunity to sit for the coding exam will be offered for the 26th of September as well. Registration materials can be found at www.homecaremi.org under the Calendar of Events. ◆ We will also be holding an OASIS workshop on November 6-7, 2013 with the OASIS exam being held November 8th. ◆ Check out the calendar of events on www.homecaremi.org or at the back of this newsletter for the many teleconference opportunities coming up in the next few months. ◆ The Committee is looking for ideas and topics that you would like to be educated on. Please let the Michigan Home Care Office know if you have ideas.

Clinical Operations

Sara Simonds

◆ Executive Directors report – Barry reported on the state legislature activity regarding Medicaid expansion. Work continues on the dual eligible population at the state level. May end up as a Medicaid HMO product and RFP's will be collected. ◆ June 1 was the date for renewal of dues for members. ◆ Private duty licensure – we are probably 2 years out from any movement. ◆ NGS – meeting was on 6/14/13. The CERT's are denying more and more F2F documentations as inadequate. Most of the denials relate to not adequate homebound information – WHY the patient is homebound, not simply diagnosis or the regulatory language from the Medicare manual. The group worked on Sally's PowerPoint in relation to Face to Face encounter language examples that physicians could use – demonstrating adequate and inadequate clinical information as well as the therapy re-evaluation teaching PowerPoint. Both are available on the NGS site. ◆ MILARA – Group met. There is another new organizational chart since last meeting. Most complaints are in regard to hospice – less visits made than patients/family expected. MILARA would support Michigan Home Care in setting up our own home health aide certification program. ◆ BCBSM – No report since our last meeting. They are in the process of many internal changes. Questions have been

collected and submitted to BCBSM, so will work on getting a date set with them. ◆ Regulatory/QI – Work continues on ICD-10 preparation, Medicaid F2F issues. ◆ Education Committee – Looking for suggestions for the Annual conference. It is important that members submit requests for sessions as this is part of applying for CE's. ◆ IV Therapy/Infection Prevention – work is almost complete on the revised IV therapy manual. ◆ Psych – no report. Committee is in recess until issues arise. ◆ Rehab – no report. This Committee will meet after Clinical Ops. One concern is that apparently the Michigan PT board changes rules approximately 2 years ago, requiring direct supervision of home health aides. Barry to investigate potentially going to the board's next meeting to raise this as a concern. ◆ Sharing: HIPAA – reminder that enforcement of Hitech requirements is 9/23/13 – Notice of Privacy practices, BAA's should be updated. New requirement to be able to give medical records to clients in an electronic format if requested. ◆ CMS has changed the way that some outcomes are reported – was reported in Home Health Line on August 5. ◆ Next meeting will be September 19, 2013 at 9:30. Please join us!

Membership

Tom Mann

Help me welcome the following new member to the Michigan Home Care family:

Bay Home Health Care, LLC

Contact: Megan Banton

680 W. Sleights Road

Traverse City, MI 49696

Phone: 231/360-9980

E-mail: megan.bayhomehealth@gmail.com

Service Line – Private Duty

Betty Dumont

Contact: Betty Dumont

1113 Sunnyside Drive

Cadillac, MI 49601

Phone: 231/878-3224

Fax: 231/779-9550

E-mail: bettydumont@charter.net

Individual - Certified

Briarwood Home Healthcare, Inc. – Private Duty

Contact: Charles Aro

41875 11 Mile Road, Suite 205
Novi, MI 48375
Phone: 248/553-3333
Fax: 248/553-3377
E-mail: charlesaro@yahoo.com
Service Line – Private Duty

Care Plus TLC

Contact: Cindy Mosher
8460 Algoma Ave., NE, Suite B
Rockford, MI 49341
Phone: 616/884-5401
Fax: 616/884-5334
E-mail: cmosher@tlccareplus.com
Service Line - Certified

Public Policy

Linda Rutman & John Ruswinkel

◆ As usual, items of public policy and advocacy by and on behalf of Michigan Home Care members continue to be important to the success and survival of our members. It's not like day to day operations and issues of quality, compliance and personnel aren't important, they certainly are but once again your involvement and help are needed in the following areas: Hospice payment reform: the committee agreed to involve the members of the hospice committee in a review of the proposed Hospice payment reforms. The objective is to prepare an issue brief to the Board. ◆ Medicare Home Care reimbursement rebasing. ◆ Face to Face: Please contact your federal representative and have them sign on the a dear colleague letter sponsored by Rep. Reed asking for improvements in the face to face regulations and processes. ◆ The first two months of the provision of home medical equipment to Medicare beneficiaries after competitive bidding ended without much clarity. Please support the market pricing proposal designed to reimburse providers at a market clearing bid price rather than the current lowest bid model. ◆ As always, you are all invited to participate in the committee's monthly telephone meeting on the first Friday of the month at 10:00 am. Next meeting is September 6, 2013 via teleconference.

HME/Infusion

Brian Griffore & Julie Johnson

◆ Committee met on August 19th following the Mary Wicken's Workshop on Subcontracting. Next meeting is by teleconference on September 16, 2013.

Links of Interest

[Hospice Education Aide Resource Teleconferences](#) - September 10, 2013

[The Aide's Role in Safety in Food Handling and Preparation](#) – September 12, 2013

[Overview of Hospice Final rule](#) Teleconference – September 26, 2013

[The Aide's Role in Conflict Resolution](#) – October 10, 2013

[Better Business Bootcamp--Oct 16th Teleconference](#) – October 16, 2013

[ICD-9 Coding Workshop](#) – September 23-24, 2013 – More information and registration coming soon

[ICD-10 Coding Workshop](#) – September 25, 2013 – More information and registration coming soon

[OASIS Workshop](#) – November 6-7, 2013 – More information and registration coming soon

MDLARA Questions Needed

<http://m360.mhha.org/admin/forms/ViewForm.aspx?id=28910>

NGS Questions Needed

<http://m360.mhha.org/admin/forms/ViewForm.aspx?id=28911>

BCBS Call for Questions

<http://m360.mhha.org/admin/forms/ViewForm.aspx?id=28912>

Additional Events

<https://m360.homecaremi.org/ViewCalendar.aspx>

Committee Calendar

[Billers Certified Meeting](#) – September 10, 2013

[Board of Directors Meeting](#) – September 12, 2013

[Ethics Committee](#) – September 16, 2013

[Hospice Committee Meeting](#) - September 4, 2013

[HME Committee Teleconference](#) – September 16, 2013

[Infection Control/IV](#) – September 19, 2013

[Membership/Finance Committee](#) –October 1 2013

[Private Duty Committee Teleconference](#) –September 17, 2013

[Reimbursement Committee Teleconference](#) – September 18, 2013

[Clinical Operations Committee Meeting](#) – September 19, 2013

[Regulatory Committee](#) –September 19, 2013

[Public Policy Committee](#) – September 6, 2013

[Education Committee](#) – September 17, 2013

*If you are not receiving your Committee Bulletin Board directly at your e-mail,
e-mail cindy@homecaremi.org to be added to our distribution list.*