

Board of Directors

Tom Mann

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◆ **Impact of Partial Government Shutdown:** With the Congress and White House unable to reach agreement on funding the Federal Government, a partial government shutdown was initiated yesterday, the first day of the government's new fiscal year. Both the House and the Senate have passed Continuing Resolutions (CR) to resolve the funding dilemma but they differ greatly. The House proposes to delay implementation of the Affordable Care Act, which the Senate and White House refuse to negotiate on. We are hopeful and reasonably confident the home care and hospice community will be minimally affected since Medicare and Medicaid are entitlement programs that are deemed "mandatory spending" and therefore not part of the government's discretionary spending negotiations. At this point it appears that Medicare payments to providers would continue, yet slowdowns remain possible depending on how CMS staff and/or contractors are affected by the shutdown. ◆ The Department of Health and Human Services has furloughed over 50 percent of its workforce, which could have an effect on programs and services that aren't "mandatory, essential, or deemed to be top priorities". You can review the HSS contingency plan here: [click here](#). Health Insurance Exchanges and other health care reform provisions will move forward effective October 1. Michigan Home Care will continue to monitor developments and lobby the Michigan Congressional Delegation on the many issues impacting Home Care and share relevant updates with members. ◆ **Health @ Home** is the new tagline for Michigan Home Care after Board approval and registry with the State of Michigan as a Service Mark. You will see the tag line used in association with our logo, membership marketing, and advertising. The new tag line is simply one more step in our new branding campaign. Michigan Home Care is the organization for health at home in Michigan (Health @ Home). ◆ **Our National Partners.** Two of our partner organizations are holding national conferences. AA Home Care will meet in Orlando for Medtrade (October 7-11) and the National Association for Home Care and Hospice Meets in Washington DC (October 30 – November 3). Your Executive Director, Barry Cargill will be hosting an exhibitor table at Medtrade and both he and I will be attending the

NAHC Conference. ◆ The Michigan Home Care Board of Directors will meet on Thursday (October 3) to review the Association's strategic plan. The planning session is important to the future direction of your organization. ◆ If you have an interest in serving on the Board of Directors, please call me or Jill Roby Snyder of Mid Michigan Home Care. Jill is our Immediate Past President and serves as Chair of the Board Nominating Committee. You can contact Jill at: jill.robby-snyder@midmichigan.org. There will be open seats available next spring and now is the appropriate time to begin asking questions and sharing your interest with myself, Jill or any member of the Board of Directors. If you don't feel you are ready to make a commitment to being a Board member yet, there are numerous other opportunities to be involved. ◆ Thank you to our committee chairpersons and those who make this organization so enjoyable. Enjoy your October Bulletin Report and share it with your colleagues at your agency.

Regulatory

Valerie Ghattas

◆ The Regulatory Committee met on September 19, 2013. We worked on: ICD-10 preparation which is an ongoing concern for this committee. The group discussed what the different agencies are planning for the implementation. Discussion regarding the use of certified home health coders vs. RN home health coders occurred as well as the different QA processes occurring at the agencies. Some of the software vendors do not have their systems ready for ICD-10 coding. The basic ICD-10 preparation plan will be distributed at the next meeting. ◆ A discussion about HHCAHPS vendors occurred. The group discussed telephone versus paper questionnaires. The ongoing demand for better outcomes and the implementation of Value Based Purchasing is driving the need for improved HHCAHP scores. ◆ The next Regulatory meeting will be on October 17, 2013 immediately following the Clinical Operations meeting.

Private Duty

Sheila Doeden & Tom Rowley

◆ Michigan Association for Home Care's Private Duty Committee met via teleconference on September 17, 2013. Our next meeting is October 22, in person and it's our Schedulers Day. Please plan to bring key people in your organization who work with your clients and families, Mary has sent out the registration for the event, lunch is provided and the cost is \$10.00 per person. ◆ Executive Directors Report: Barry met with the Michigan Health Council and the discussion revolved around a potential shortage of nurses and other providers in the next 10 years. Retirement of current clinicians/home health care workers will result in a shortage of providers. How do the Members of the Michigan Association for Home Care continue to employ enough people to help our clients and families. The Michigan Association for Home Care will continue to have those discussions with other organizations and its members in preparing for those potential shortages. ◆ Licensing-SB 71 is on hold for now due to a movement regarding nurse practitioners. SB-2 addresses the nurse practitioner movement and Michigan is one of 12 States that has not made major changes. The National trend has been to allow nurses to do more with patients. It is expected that some legislation will pass this year. Michigan Home Care will be watching and sharing more information as it becomes available. ◆ CNA license renewal at the State Level continues to be an issue. The Michigan Association for Home Care continues to work with the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulation to resolve the CNA renewal concern. We believe the Department will agree to drop the "facility" requirement which would be a resolution to the issue. This will be discussed more detail at our next Private Duty Committee meeting. ◆ Auto no fault Reform- Nothing has passed regarding reform at this time. Michigan Home Care feels that this is a good thing and will continue to watch the issue and oppose efforts to undermine the no-fault auto insurance coverage. ◆ Medicaid Expansion passed on September 16, Governor Snyder signed the expansion. There was discussion about the number of Medicaid providers in different parts of SE Michigan and the allotted number of providers in the State that are able to provide care to Medicaid Recipients. ◆ Health Plans/Health Exchange and how do Private Duty Members along with other members continue to run a profitable business and other related employer issues, how will Insurance carriers pay for services, what will they pay for and how will providers be reimbursed. ◆ Annual Conference May 14-16, 2014 in Traverse City and the theme is "There's No Place like Home". The Education Committee is asking for potential topics for the agenda, if you have suggestions for topics e-mail cindy@homecaremi.org.

Public Policy

Linda Rutman & John Ruswinkel

◆ Public Policy will meet by teleconference on October 4, 2013, at 10:00 am.

Hospice

Laura Bonde & Rene Wheaton

◆ The Hospice Committee met on October 2, 2013, discussing many topics including the new HIPPA laws, education, state survey processes and the potential for an instituted license fee.

Reimbursement

Chris Kisell & Amy Gil

◆ The Reimbursement Committee met by Tele-Conference on September 18th, 2013. Please join us for the next meeting by on-site at 9:30 on October 16th. ◆ The Committee discussed the rebasing and budgeting issues. Past and upcoming topics for the Billers Committee were discussed. Health Insurance Exchanges, Dual Eligible and Medicaid Expansion are big topics we continue to explore. ◆ The Committee submitted around 10 recommendations of topics and speakers for the Annual Conference. If you have any recommendations for topics and speakers please send them to me as we work towards creating Finance and Reimbursement rich sessions at the conference. ◆ Email Cindy Thelen cindy@homecaremi.org at Michigan Home Care if you are interested in participating in the Reimbursement ListServ. ◆ 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.

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. ◆ Michigan Home Care just completed four days of ICD-9 and ICD-10 coding classes

as well as testing for ICD-9 the last week in September. The next ICD-10 Coding class will be March 4 & 5, 2014. ♦ 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

♦ The Clinical Ops Committee met on Thursday September 19, 2013. ♦ Executive Directors report – Barry announced the work with NAHC on a response to the proposed 14% cuts due to rebasing. On the state level, recent passage of Medicaid expansion is announced with exchanges to be up and available by 10/1. Employers must notify employees of the availability of the exchanges before 10/1. ♦ BCBSM update – gathering questions for upcoming meeting to be scheduled. Discussion re: POC's can be for 60 days, however, therapy orders must be renewed every 30 days (April 2013 Record). ♦ NGS – met in September. Increase in denials related to inadequate F2F documentation. Wisconsin workload up to 62% claim error rate. Overview of the NGS website – live webinars coming – will be beneficial to new agencies/staff. ABN changes – reviewed at the meeting, since then changes have been approved by OMB. ♦ Regulatory Committee has been working on ICD-10 readiness; ABN changes. ♦ Subcommittees: IV/Infection Control – work on the policy and procedure manual almost completed. Psych – no active issues. Rehab Subcommittee – no report, working on membership. ♦ Clinical Operations committee will meet again on October 17, 2013.

Membership

Tom Mann

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

Avesta Home Health Care

Contact: Malika Sherali
2840 E. Grand River Ave., Suite 3
E. Lansing, MI 48823
Phone: 517/927-7395
Fax: 517/664-8616
E-mail: avestahealth@gamil.com
Service Line – Private Duty

Dee Petry

10878 Emerald Drive
Cement City, MI 49233
Phone: 734/649-6609
E-mail: mdpetry@comcast.net
Individual – Private Duty

OakMed Home Care

Contact: Christine Andrews
1938 Woodslee
Troy, MI 48083
Phone: 313/972-1014
Fax: 248/288-5713
E-mail: candrews@americaremedical.com
Service Line – Private Duty

Partners in Personal Assistance

Contact: Daphne Briggs
3810 Packard #100B
Ann Arbor, MI 48108
Phone: 734/214-3890
Fax: 734/214-0644
E-mail: info@annarborppa.org
Service Line – Private Duty

HME/Infusion

Brian Griffore & Julie Johnson

♦ Ed Maul presented at the September HME Committee meeting. He spoke specifically about Blue Cross Blue Shield DME Policy Changes. ♦ CMS announced steeper cuts for Round 1 re-compete on Oct 1st, 2013. The reimbursement rates for certain home medical equipment will be, on average, 37% lower as part of the Round 1 re-compete of competitive bidding, CMS announced today. The Round 1 re-compete is scheduled to kick off in nine cities on Jan. 1, 2014. None of these cities are located in Michigan, though Round 2 rate reductions continue to affect providers in Detroit, Grand Rapids, Flint areas. The reimbursement rates for Round 1 of competitive bidding, which kicked off Jan. 1, 2011, were, on average, 32%, below the current fee schedule. In the Round 1 re-compete, providers submitted bids for a revamped list of product categories: Respiratory equipment (oxygen and CPAP); Standard mobility equipment (walkers, manual and power wheelchairs); General HME (beds, support surfaces, TENS devices, commode chairs, patient lifts and seat lifts); Enteral nutrients; Negative pressure wound therapy; External infusion pumps and supplies. ♦ The reimbursement rates for the Round 1 re-compete will be, on average, 41% lower for enteral nutrients; 21% lower for external infusion pumps; 47% lower for general HME; 42% lower for negative pressure wound therapy pumps; 40% lower for respiratory equipment; and 34% lower for standard mobility equipment.

Links of Interest

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

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

[OASIS Workshop](#) – November 6-7, 2013

[The Aide's Role in Understanding Body Mechanics](#) – November 14, 2013

[The Aide's Role in Customer Service And Patient-Centered Care](#) – December 12, 2013

[Better Business Bootcamp--Dec 18th Teleconference](#) – December 18, 2013

[The Aide's Role in Understanding How Patients Qualify For Medicare Home Health Services](#) – January 9, 2013

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

[Board of Directors Meeting](#) – October 3, 2013

[Ethics Committee](#) – October 23, 2013

HME Committee Teleconference – Not Meeting in October

[Infection Control/IV](#) – October 17, 2013

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

[Private Duty Committee/Scheduler's Day](#) –October 22, 2013

[Reimbursement Committee](#) – October 16, 2013

[Clinical Operations Committee Meeting](#) – October 17, 2013

[Regulatory Committee](#) –October 17, 2013

[Public Policy Committee](#) – October 4, 2013

[Education Committee](#) – October 23, 2013

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