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Bulletin Board Newsletter Michigan Home Health Association



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Board of Directors

Jill Roby-Snyder

◆ On behalf of the MHHA Board of Directors let me extend best wishes to all of our members for a happy, healthy and successful New Year! We are looking forward to an ambitious schedule of MHHA activity in 2012. ◆ Congratulations are in order for Mary Ann Rayrat, MSN, RN - Executive Director of Mercy Home Care & Mercy Hospice. Effective February 3, Mary Ann will begin her new position as Surveyor for the Joint Commission (JCAHO). This surely is a surprise to those of us who know her. She is a true professional and one of the most knowledgeable people I know in the health care industry. A MHHA Past President, Mary Ann has continued her active volunteer and leadership involvement as MHHA's Liaison to the Michigan Survey Division, National Government Services, and many others. She is a caring person and trusted mentor to her staff, colleagues and friends. She will always have friends at MHHA and hope she will continue to visit with us often. ◆ January 31 - MHHA Home Health Software Vendor Showcase. A day long "free" event at MHHA Headquarters in Okemos. This is your opportunity to meet and hear from software vendors who will display and present their products. The Education Committee is doing a great job spearheading this event and reports there are nine vendors participating so far. If you are evaluating software options, this is a must attend event. You will find more information including registration details at the MHHA Website at <https://m360.mhha.org/event.aspx?eventID=39696&instance=0>. ◆ March on Washington. MHHA will once again participate with the National Association of Home Care & Hospice "March on Washington, scheduled March 25 - 28. And the AA Homecare "Legislative Day", scheduled February 15. Both events are in Washington and MHHA will have a delegation attending to meet with members of the Michigan Congressional Delegation to convey our Public Policy Priorities. Contact our Executive Director, Barry Cargill, if you would like to join the MHHA delegation for either of these events at: Cargill.barry@mhha.org or 517 349-8089. ◆ Make it your 2012 resolution to actively participate on one or more MHHA Committees. Check out the

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MHHA Events Calendar on the website www.mhha.org for the calendar to see when Committees meet and events are happening. ◆ May 23 - 25. MHHA Annual Conference. Plan now to attend this terrific event being held at the Grand Traverse Resort in beautiful Traverse City, Michigan. ◆ YOUR OPINION COUNTS. During January, expect to receive an email survey (Survey Monkey) from Edge Partnership who is working under contract on behalf of MHHA. This survey is the first step the Board of Directors is taking to develop the next MHHA Strategic Plan. We want to know from you what MHHA is doing right and where we need to improve. If you don't happen to receive your survey in the next couple of weeks, please call the MHHA office (517 349-8089) and one will be sent. Your responses will be kept confidential and please know your opinions and participation are very important to us. ◆ Microsoft "Outlook" Fans. Did you know you can populate your "Outlook" Calendar or register for events from the Events Page on the MHHA website www.mhha.org? It's true! At the top of the home page is a menu box called "Events". Click on "Events" and then "Calendar" to find some impressive options. To make this even easier, here is the direct link to the calendar: <https://m360.mhha.org/ViewCalendar.aspx>. Check it out!

Rehab

Ruth Benjamin

◆ The Rehab Committee did not meet in December. Next meeting: Wednesday, January 25, 2011 (conference phone will be available). Please send agenda items to Ruth at ruth.benjamin@midmichigan.org. You do not need to be a therapist to join this dynamic group in discussing hot topics in home health. Hope to see you there!



Psych

Pamela Wozniak

- ◆ No Meeting in December, future meetings are on hold until determination of need.

Membership

Barbara Serra

- ◆ The Membership Committee invited Lorri Rishar Jandron from Edge Partnerships to give a brief presentation at the December Board meeting. The presentation provided an outline of Edge Partnerships plan to gather input to help MHHA gain insight from our members as well as external input from other organizations that are potential members. Edge Partnerships together with the Membership Committee, is in the process of developing an online survey which will be ready by the end of January and will be the first step in gathering feedback. ◆ Additionally, the Membership Committee will be meeting with the ByLaws Committee later in January to take a detailed look at the ByLaws to determine if there are any potential changes that may have a positive effect on securing new members. Wishing you all a Happy and Prosperous New Year!

Please help me welcome our new members!

Apollo Home Care, Inc.

Contact: Charu Vinaik
3058 Metro Parkway, Suite 205
Sterling Heights, MI 48310

Phone: 586/983-2790

Fax: 586/983-2791

E-mail: apollohomecare@yahoo.com

Regular – Certified

Caring Hands Home Care Services, LLC

Db: Attendant Care Services of Michigan

Contact: Katie McDonald
16950 19 Mile Road, Suite 5B
Clinton Township, MI 48038

Phone: 586/228-9991

E-mail: kmcdonald@accofmi.com

Regular – Certified

Public Policy

Linda Rutman & John Ruswinckel & Michael Bartz

- ◆ Welcome to the new year same as the old year. As each and every one of us “come back refreshed” from the holidays, be ready to continue working on all of the same issues you have been. More and more of these issues require that we talk and work together in the public and political arena. F2F, “dual eligible care and management”, catastrophic or no fault auto insurance and lifetime cap changes (aka HB-4936) and Medicare funding and copays are the old issues. ◆ New issues include, the Blue Cross Blue Shield request for information concerning the scope of services offered by Michigan skilled home health companies, Blue Cross’s shift to a fee for service per visit payment methodology, and a proposal to replace HME competitive bidding with a more market driven approach known as the “Market Pricing Proposal.” ◆ Join us on our next call Friday, February 3rd by conference call.

IV/Infection Control

Deb Opalowski & Rachel Aultman

- ◆ The IV/Infection Control Committee continues to work diligently on revising and updating the MHHA Infusion Policies and Procedures. We did not meet in December. At our last meeting in November, we decided to begin collecting information on adequate and acceptable disposal of discontinued medications. We hope to include this information as a resource tool in the addendum of the Policy and Procedure Manual. Our next meeting will be after Clinical Ops on January 19, 2012. New members and any feedback or suggestions are always welcome.

Hospice

Rene Wheaton & Laura Bonde

- ◆ The Hospice Committee met on January 4th, discussing several issues. Currently, at the forefront is hospice indicators and coordination with MHPCO for statewide reporting of these indicators. ◆ Several questions were posed regarding daily operations and regulations. These questions and answers can be found in the Hospice Committee meeting minutes. Please also refer to the listserv for current hospice issues and questions. Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 1, 2012 at the MHHA office. There is availability for you to call in should you be unable to attend in person.



Complex Rehab

Michael Barner

◆ **Hot topics:** Power Wheelchair Prepay/Prior Authorization Demonstration (Medicare). Effective January 1st 2012, Michigan is included. 1. All Power Operated Vehicles (K0800-K0805 and K0809-K0812); 2. All standard power wheelchairs (K0813 thru K0829); 3. All Group 2 complex rehabilitative power wheelchairs (K0835 thru K0843); 4. All Group 3 complex rehabilitative power wheelchairs without power options (K0848 thru K0855); 5. All pediatric and Group 4 power wheelchairs (K0887 thru K0891); 6. Miscellaneous power wheelchairs (K0898); 7. **Group 3 complex rehabilitative power wheelchairs with power options (K0856 thru K0864) have been excluded from this demonstration project.**

- a.) **100% prepayment review** will occur on the above HCPCS on January 1st. This will delay payment or rejection notice for at least 30 up to 90 days.
- b.) Sometime after April 2012, the prepayment review will stop and a prior authorization process will begin that includes a requirement that the Physician must submit the documentation for the prior authorization. HUGE Concern!
- c.) I believe Pride Mobility will be hosting one more webinar on the 28th of this month on this topic. This webinar is recommended by the MHHA-CRT Chair, Mike Barner. Please contact Pride for registration information.

◆ The **January 9th** DME/HME Liaison meeting with Medicaid has been canceled. ◆ **Action items:** Contact your Congressman and Senators (federal) to express your concerns on the above Prepay review payment delays and how that will affect your business. ◆ **Meetings:** Medicaid - Repair labor payment policy. Several members met with MDCH staff via a conference call on Monday December 12th. The primary person from MDCH on the call was Lisa Trumbell, she is heading up this project. Members brought up several topics of concern regarding the current policy on repair labor payment. Some of the top concerns were;

- i. Payment for repair labor on all items regardless if there is a HCPCS or fee schedule established.
- ii. Establish a standardized labor rate manual for repair labor hours.

iii. Rental payment for "loaner" equipment during a repair episode.

iv. Service fee for "In-Home" service calls.

Lisa will establish future meeting dates/times for further work on this ◆ The following dates are for the next DME Liaison meetings: **DME Meetings:** Monday, April 9, 2012; Monday, July 9, 2012; Monday, October 8, 2012.

Regulatory

Joan Taylor & Paula Stopjik

◆ The next meeting is January 19, 2012 following the Clinical Operations meeting at the MHHA office. The agenda will include continued review of the Survey Protocols- Professional Standards beginning with G-tags 202, and identify best practice actions that agencies can take to meet the standards. The Committee will also be discussing any new/changed regulatory items that will be affecting agencies in 2012. We wish all a happy and successful new year!

PAC Report

Larry Treece

◆ Thank you all for an informative, challenging, interesting year. I tip my hat to Barry and all the committees that he is involved in at MHHA. To my friends on public policy I salute you...in the words of Emerson..."what lies behind us and what lies ahead of us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us". Public Policy is always trying to stay ahead of the game and I appreciate their work. PAC is looking forward to a year that will prove to be historic as we head towards elections and Medicare Tweaking. ◆ My goal...Our Goal...increase PAC dollars to help get our message to those who have the power to do something about it. Please at this year end...send a check to MHHA PAC...I will match the first \$500.00 sent to kick start the year. Wishing you a Happy New Year!

Clinical Operations

Shari Wilson & Donna Kleinschmit

◆ The Clinical Operations Committee did not meet in December. The next meeting will be January 19, 2012 at 9:30 at the MHHA office.



Education

Deb Holman

◆ The Education Committee continues to work on planning the MHHA Annual Conference. ◆ Mark your Calendars! MHHA has scheduled another ICD-9 Coding Workshop for May 26 & 27, 2012 and a third day on March 28th on ICD-10 preparations. MHHA will be holding a “Blueprint for OASIS” workshop on April 25th and 26th with testing on the 27th. Also, MHHA will host a Corporate Compliance workshop for HME on February 22, 2012 and a Corporate Compliance Workshop for Home Health on March 1st. ◆ Please submit any other workshop ideas or speakers to thelen.cindy@mhha.org if you think it would be of great interest to the membership. We want to host trainings that the membership needs and wants. ◆ **MHHA’s Vendor Software Showcase has been rescheduled to January 31, 2012 to better accommodate the vendor’s schedule.** We have a full house of vendors attending - McKesson, PPS Plus, HealthTrust Software, Kinser, GLMI, CareAnyware, ContinuumLink and HealthcareFirst, GLHIE. This will be a great opportunity for those looking for new software or for those that would just like to see what is out there. If you have not registered for this event, please do so. We need to know a head of time the people that plan to attend in order for us to make all the necessary arrangements. Follow the link to register: [Software Vendor Showcase - Free of Charge](#)

Ethics

Susan Clemen-Stone

◆ The Ethics Committee will meet next on January 25, 2011 from 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Private Duty

Thomas Mann & Jill Roby-Snyder

◆ The Private Duty Committee met via teleconference. Barry Cargill provided the Executive Directors report that provided a summary of issues impacting home care in general, and specifically private duty. An emphasis was placed on the vast amount of change occurring in home care services at this time. Agenda topics included: Auto No-Fault: MHHA continues to oppose legislation that would decrease personal injury protection coverage and instill a less than favorable fee schedule for both skilled and unskilled services. MHHA is participating in opposition efforts with CPAN as well as with the Michigan Health and Hospital Association. Legislatures are currently on a holiday break and will begin discussions on this topic after the New Year. ◆ Workers Compensation As a result of the auto no-fault legislation, there has been discussion of implementing a similar fee schedule for both skilled and non-skilled home care services. Tom Unger and Barry Cargill provided testimony opposing in-home services fee schedules before the Michigan Workers Compensation Advisory Board. It appears that any changes to workers compensation rates will continue to be discussed and vetted through a formal process that most likely will take some time. ◆ Private Duty Reimbursement Sub-Committee Tom Rowley and Sheila Doeden will be leading the efforts of the Private Duty Reimbursement Committee. The goal is to work collaboratively with the current reimbursement committee through MHHA and identify the best method to accommodate reimbursement issues relating specifically to private duty. ◆ Changes to FLSA Domestic Services The Department of Labor is looking to eliminate the FLSA exemption requirement for companionship and domestic services that impact live-in caregivers. The Private Duty Committee opposes this change and will be seeking support from the MHHA Board of Directors to formally comment with opposition. ◆ Education Committee The MHHA Annual Meeting is scheduled for May 23-25 in Traverse City. MHHA encourages all to attend as the speakers and educational sessions will be very good. MHHA is hosting a Vendor Showcase on January 31 where several software vendors will be at the MHHA office to provide demonstration and discussion about their home care software products. ◆ Licensing Bill The licensing bill is currently on-hold as legislators are on their holiday break. General agreement has occurred. MHHA looks for passage in 2012. ◆ MHHA Membership Committee A survey is coming in early 2012 to all current, past, and potential MHHA members. The purpose is to identify the pros and cons of MHHA membership and look at key opportunities where MHHA can enhance value to its customers. ◆ Next Meeting Tuesday January 17th, 12:30pm in the MHHA office.



Reimbursement

Chris Kisell & Amy Gil

- ◆ The Reimbursement Committee met by teleconference on December 21, 2011. Please join us for the next meeting by teleconference at 9:30 a.m. on January 18th. ◆ At the last meeting, we discussed the formation of a Private Duty Reimbursement Sub-Committee which will be meeting on January 10th in Okemos. ◆ As we all know, the Super Committee did not come to a determination on what cuts should be made. Any cuts to the Medicare program would start January 1st 2013. For most of us our budgets for at least half of that year will already be in progress. Therefore, we have to try and make educated assumptions about the impact to the lines of business. This will continue to be part of our discussions moving forward. ◆ Healthcare and reimbursement are in a time of change, 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 Christopher.Kisell@stjohn.org or by phone at (586)-753-0139. 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.

HME/Infusion Pharmacy

Matt Metzger & Julie Johnson

- ◆ **Medicare Competitive Bidding Timeline Update**
The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has provided Educational Information as of 1/6/2012. Here it is in brief. Please go to www.dmecompetitivebid.com for the full details:
Three DMEPOS Competitive Bidding Announcements
The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has three announcements for suppliers that are interested in participating in the Round 2 and national mail-order competitions of the Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics, and Supplies (DMEPOS) Competitive Bidding Program. First, bid limits in the Round 2 Bid Preparation Worksheets have been revised for 14 Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) codes for power wheelchairs (K0813 through K0829)...Second, we have made three clarifying updates to the list of glucose monitors on the 50 Percent Compliance Form, a required bid document for the national mail-order competition...Third, CMS would like to

remind potential bidders that four adjustable seat cushion codes (E2622 through E2625) have been removed from the Round 2 standard wheelchairs product category. ◆ **AAHomecare**

We continue to participate with AAHomecare in discussion regarding Competitive Bidding Options. As relevant information is forthcoming we will relay it to you. ◆ **Wholesale License requirement to bill Medicare** Please note that this is a CMS requirement to retain a Medicare Billing ID. There may be a modified version of this requirement in the future specific to HME companies, but it remains a necessary item at this time. Also note that Pharmacy members have a separate requirement to operate their pharmacy in Michigan and do not have to have the Wholesale License also. ◆ **Report Any Needs.** Report any HME related needs, meaning information or requests for clarifying issues to MHHA so they can be addressed. Barry Cargill is our MHHA Director and stands ready to assist and determine who best might offer help within the Association.

◆ **Next HME meeting in January** . Next HME Teleconference on Monday, January 16th at 10 a.m. Notice will be sent with phone number, etc.



MHA Newsletter Links of Interest

[Hospice Education - Top 10 Resolutions for Excellence in Aide Performance](#) - January 10, 2012

[Home Health Aide Certification - Detroit](#) - January 11, 2012

[Aides Role in Falls Prevention Teleconference](#) - January 12, 2012

[Software Vendor Showcase - Free of Charge](#) - January 31, 2012

[Aides role in HIPAA Teleconference](#) - February 9, 2012

[Hospice Education - The Meaning of Caring](#) - February 14, 2012

MDCH 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.mhha.org/ViewCalendar.aspx>

Additional Links of Interest

<http://mhha.org/displayassociationlinks.cfm>

MHA January Committee Calendar

Hospice Committee Meeting – February 1, 2012

[Private Duty Reimbursement SubCommittee](#) – January 10, 2012

[Board of Director's Teleconference Meeting](#) – January 12, 2012

[HME Committee Teleconference](#) – January 16, 2012

[Private Duty Committee Meeting](#) January 17, 2012

[Reimbursement Committee Meeting](#) – January 18, 2012

[Clinical Operations Committee Meeting](#) – January 19, 2012

[Regulatory Committee Meeting](#) – January 19, 2012

[IV/ Infection Control SubCommittee](#) – January 19, 2012

[BCBS Liaison Meeting](#) – January 23, 2012

[Ethics Committee](#) – January 25, 2012

[Rehab SubCommittee](#) – January 25, 2012

[Education Committee Meeting](#) – January 26, 2012

[Public Policy Teleconference](#) – January 6, 2012