



April, 2012
Volume 22, Issue 4

Bulletin Board Newsletter Michigan Home Health Association



Published by the Michigan Home Health Association

Board of Directors

Jill Roby-Snyder

◆ Just as with our early Spring, MHHA is bringing fresh opportunities to improve your agency, your industry, meet new people and learn more. I encourage everyone to take full advantage of your membership with MHHA and get involved. Committees and programs related to your service line interests are open to your participation. Please take advantage of the networking and education opportunities and get involved. It could be the best investment you make in your home health career or business. ◆ The work of our Public Policy Committee has been very notable this month in getting us all ready for our State Legislative Day on April 19, at the State Capitol Building. If you have not yet registered, please do so at the MHHA website or by calling Mary at the MHHA offices (517/349-8089). At press time for the Bulletin, we have over 40 MHHA members and 40 Legislators registered. With more to come, it's sure to be an enjoyable and productive day at the State Capitol. ◆ On the Federal front, many thanks to all (ten people) who went to Washington DC in March and February to educate our congresspersons and senators on the issues important to home care. Joining myself at the March on Washington were John Ruswinckel, Lifespan, Inc.; Michael Bartz, Beaumont Home Health Services; Chris Chesny, MidMichigan Home Care; Don Gillespie, Lakeland HomeCare Solutions; Melanie Schoenberger and Sejal Gandhi, Robert Bosch Health Care Systems; and our Executive Director, Barry Cargill. We were able to meet with staff from every office and also Senator Stabenow. The March on Washington was held March 25 - 27 and followed the AAHomecare March in February where Barry Cargill, Michael Bartz, Beaumont Home Care Services, Julie Johnson, Detroit Oxygen; Jim Shurlow, U of M Health Care System; and Bob Binson, Binson's Home Health Care Centers attended. Our message in Washington as you might imagine was to ask for a F2F fix, to fight against Medicare reductions and co-pays, support the Market Pricing Plan alternative to HME Competitive Bidding and to reject the Dept. of Labor proposal to eliminate the Companionship Exemption. ◆ The Annual Business Membership Meeting will be held on May 23 during the Annual Conference at Traverse City. Along with the slate of candidates, you will be asked to vote on changes to the Bylaws. Of particular note in the Bylaws will be creation of the Membership Committee as a Standing Committee. This change will elevate the importance of the Membership Committee to include oversight and recommendations for strategic planning. Barb Serra of Beaumont Home Health Services Chairs the Committee and as a MHHA member you

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are invited to be on the committee and participate in helping meet the membership and strategic goals of your association. ◆ I look forward to seeing everyone in Traverse City on May 23 - 25 for the Annual Conference. The Education Committee has outdone themselves with the line-up of speakers and events.

Rehab

Ruth Benjamin

◆ The Rehab Committee met on March 15th with Clinical Ops. Discussion included the proposal by Medicaid to require Speech Language Pathologist licensure by May 1, 2012 instead of the state deadline of December 2013. Ruth Benjamin and Paula Stopjik submitted a letter regarding this proposal on March 26, 2012. The response from the Michigan Department of Community Health was as follows: *At the time this bulletin was drafted and released for public comment, Medicaid was unaware that the State Licensing Board was giving individuals until December 2013 to become licensed. As Medicaid does not have the authority to require licensure prior to that date, the bulletin will not go into effect until December 2013.* ◆ Therapy day at the Annual Conference will be Thursday May 24th. Programming will include care management under therapy payment reforms and introduction to LSVT Big and Loud. MHHA has the opportunity to host a conference for certification for LSVT Big and Loud later this year based on member projected participation. ◆ Next meeting: Thursday May 24th from 3:30-4:30 at MHHA Annual Conference. You do not need to be a therapist to attend and discuss hot topics with this diverse group. Hope to see you there!



Membership

Barbara Serra

◆ The primary goal of the Membership Committee these past months has been to gather information and potential ideas for maintaining and growing the MHHA membership. Lorri Jandron/Edge Partnerships has obtained feedback from both current members as well as non-members that may have been previous members of MHHA and/or are potential new members. She provided the initial results of the member survey and strongly encouraged us to leave our "branding" as is, stating that the MHHA image is strong and positive. She is currently putting together the remaining results and will have a packet for review which will also include recommendations and/or suggestions for actions to be taken moving forward. The Membership Committee will have the information ready to share with the Board of Directors at the April 19th meeting. ◆ Additionally the Membership Committee has met with the Bylaws Committee and recommended changes to the Bylaws which we believe would have a positive impact on retaining current members as well as increasing membership. Two issue briefs were prepared by the Bylaws Committee and shared at the last Board of Director's meeting. Both were tabled until further discussion could be done. These issue briefs will also be presented at the April 19th meeting. By April month end the Membership Committee should be ready to move forward with the next plan of action to increase and enhance memberships.

Please help me welcome our new members!

Caring Connection Home Health Care, Inc.

Contact: Mian Khurram
5820 N. Lilley Road, Suite 4
Canton, MI 48187
Phone: 734/404-6190
Fax: 734/404-6186

E-mail: info@caringconnectionsahc.com

Regular Member - Certified

Helping Hand Nursing Service, Inc.

Contact: James Spangler
G-8305 S. Saginaw Street, Suite 4
Grand Blanc, MI 48439
Phone: 810/606-8400
Fax: 810/606-8406
E-mail: adeviellis@helpinghandhealthcare.com
Regular - Private Duty

Complex Rehab

Michael Barner

◆ No report this month because of Medicare Competitive Bid fun. Will have a full report next month.

Regulatory

Joan Taylor & Paula Stopjik

◆ Face to Face continues to be a concern for many agencies. CMS has released questions and answers, <https://questions.cms.hhs.gov/app/answers/detail>. Committee reviewed and discussed seven home health Q&A's and one hospice. The Committee encourages agencies to read what is on the face to face as some agencies have had inappropriate responses written by the physician. The Face to Face issue was taken to the NAHC March on Washington to ask legislatures for assistance in changing the context of how CMS is requiring the documentation. ◆ CMS is combining documents for the Notice of Medicare Non Coverage (CMS 10123 and 10124) They are Archiving the Medicare Advantage form. For more details go to https://www.cms.gov/BNI/06_FFSEDNotices ◆ Chris Garfield shared the purpose of the revalidation site visits and what the surveyor is looking for. ◆ CMS announced delayed implementation of ICD-10 to October 1, 2014. ◆ MHHA did receive response from BCBS regarding BCBS requirement that a Home Health agency needs to discharge and readmit when a BCBS patient is hospitalized for 5 or more days. There is no written documentation to support any time frame limit for home health agencies. Response remains unclear for those agencies who do not complete OASIS documentation on BCBS patients as it is not required at this time. ◆ There will not be a meeting April 19, since it is MHHA State Legislature Day, members are encouraged to attend. ◆ May is MHHA Annual Conference and there will not be a Regulatory Committee meeting at the conference. The next meeting will be June 21, 2012 at the MHHA office, following the Clinical Ops meeting.

IV/Infection Control

Deb Opalowski & Rachel Aultman

◆ The IV/Infection Control Subcommittee continues to work on updating and reformatting the MHHA IV Procedure Manual. The purpose of the project is to ensure the manual has the most current Intravenous Nurses Society standards of practice reflected. The team met in February, and will meet the next time, after Clinical Operations on Thursday 6/21/2012. If you have any questions or would like to join the group or contribute to this project, please contact the MHHA office.



Education

Deb Holman

◆ The Education Committee continues to work on planning the MHHA Annual Conference. ◆ MHHA will be holding a “Blueprint for OASIS” workshop on April 25th and 26th with testing on the 27th. MHHA has re-scheduled the Corporate Compliance Workshop for Home Health to June 19th. ◆ 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.

Public Policy

Linda Rutman & John Ruswinckel & Michael Bartz

◆ **For your immediate attention: The Michigan Home Health Association Legislative Day is April 19, 2012**
Please join members of your Board and other like-minded care givers. Come prepared to talk with your legislators about Michigan Home Health and Hospice issues including Medicaid Funding, Dual Eligible Changes, No Fault Insurance Reform, and licensure just to name a few. Members can arrive at the Capitol at 10:30 a.m. in room 404 for an orientation on the issues that we will be addressing etc. Then beginning at 11:00 a.m. on the 1st Floor North Wing of the Capitol you will have the opportunity to have lunch with your Legislators and educate them on our issues. We can't make a difference if we don't work with those who can vote to improve things for both beneficiaries and providers. Easy to say no, but ask anyone who has attended how personally and professionally this yearly opportunity is for making important business and legislative contacts. ◆ The Public Policy Committee meeting is a great opportunity for members to raise issues that affect enough beneficiaries and/or members that a legislative remedy is the best option for resolution. Join us for our next meeting, May 4th (First Friday of every month) at our 10 a.m. teleconference... your participation is welcome and needed as we hear the results of both the state and federal meetings and begin a work plan for summer/fall public policy activities. See you in Lansing on the 19th.

Hospice

Rene Wheaton & Laura Bonde

◆ The Hospice Committee met on Wednesday, March 7, 2012 at the MHHA offices. Among topics for discussion was the upcoming MHHA Annual Conference, Integrated Care program, POLST, hospice in nursing homes, and survey issues. Next month, we will begin further work on developing questions for surveyors and looking at the State Hospice Regulations.

Private Duty

Thomas Mann & Sheila Doeden

◆ The Private Duty Committee held a meeting on Tuesday March 20, 2012 in Okemos. Several members participated. Barry Cargill provided the Executive Director report that included reminders of several key dates and functions important to MHHA and private duty:

NAHC March on Washington - March 25-27

MHHA Legislative Day - April 19, 2012

MHHA Annual Conference - May 23-25

◆ MHHA Lobbyist, Sandi Lewis was a guest speaker who shared information about auto no fault and healthcare exchanges. MHHA wants certainty in reimbursement and regulation. This has passed in the Senate and is sitting in the House. ◆ Companionship exemption was discussed; in MI there is an exemption for overtime and minimum wage. ◆ The Auto No Fault bill passed to get it out of committee and not enough votes to get it out of the House, CPAN's advocacy efforts have been successful. If reform happens there will be changes in the WC fee schedule. ◆ There was a petition filed a couple of weeks by the Michigan Quality Community Care Council about union issues with the Home Helper Program. Information was shared about Service Employees International Union and some of the issues transpiring for caregivers that are part of this union. ◆ The MHHA membership survey has been completed. The Board of Directors reviewed the results and a preliminary report has been formulated. The final report should be done by the third week in April. ◆ The Public Policy Committee meets on the first Friday of every month and anyone who would like to attend, are welcome. ◆ The next Private Duty Committee meeting will be held in Lansing on the 4th floor of the Capitol on Thursday April 19, 2012 at 9:30 a.m. Following the Private Duty meeting at 10:30, all who are present will then participate in the MHHA Annual Legislative Day where we will discuss with Legislatives various talking points.

PAC

Larry Treece

◆ Greetings to all MHHA PAC supporters. I look forward to seeing all of you next week in Lansing at the Legislative Day gathering. Please keep in mind this is a great time to visit with your representatives plus meet others in MHHA who all year long are on the issues that face us here in Michigan. The Capitol is beautiful this time of year also, so take the time to join us. ◆ I am still in need of books, tickets etc. for the Silent Auction at the Annual Conference...PLEASE BRING ANY ITEM THAT YOU CAN SPARE...my email is ccgpresident@aol.com ...I would love to hear from you. Who you support is just as important as what we do...so come join and give MHHA a boost of support in 2012....The PAC Man looks forward to seeing you.



Clinical Operations

Shari Wilson & Donna Kleinschmit

◆ Barry Cargill, Executive Director reported on the NAHC March on Washington is March 25-27. Public Policy Committee formulated the agenda and talking points for those who attended and spoke with the Congressmen and Senators. April 19, 2012 is the MHHA State Legislative Day. Barry encouraged all to participate as the representatives that attend really want to speak with someone from their district. Attendees are to meet on the 4th floor of the Capital to receive talking points, before the box lunch session begins. MHHA Annual Conference is May 23-25 at the Grand Traverse Resort in Traverse City Michigan, registration information is now available. ◆ Integrated Care dual eligible program continues to move forward. The state received \$1,000,000 grant to put this together. There was more public hearings in the Detroit area on March 20 & 24. The State has a web site <http://www.michigan.gov/mdch> or <https://janus.pscinc.com/dualeligibles>. ◆ Agencies are encouraged to participate in the MHHA Listserv. Send email to MHHA to participate in Listserv. Currently the List Serv is used frequently for home health but would like to expand the effectiveness for HME, Hospice, PD and Infusion. ◆ Regulatory updates: BCBS Hospital contract includes supplies for home health. Next meeting is not scheduled, they asked that agencies work with their regional office case managers. It was suggested by a Clinical Ops Committee member to ask if MHHA could obtain contact with Medicare Plus Blue representative as agencies are having difficulty with receiving payment from them. ◆ Regulatory/QI Committee: Completed review of the Survey Guidelines at last meeting. Face to Face issues continue to be covered. ICD-10 has been delayed but will continue to be on agenda. Revalidation surveys continue to be topics for discussion. ◆ Sub-Committee/Task Force Reports: IV Therapy/Infection Control: Working on MHHA Infusion Policy/Procedure Manual, utilizing the INS standards which are supported by evidenced based practice. Need members to assist. ◆ Rehab committee: members joined Clinical Ops for last meeting. Annual Conference- May 24 is Therapy Day, the agenda includes therapy topics and agencies are encouraged to send their therapist to this day if they are unable to attend the entire conference. ◆ Survey report: one agency received survey by MDLARA and one is currently receiving BCBS HIT survey. ◆ Several agenda items were discussed: verbal orders at start of care by NP, medical record retention, non-routine supply pricing, upcoming educational events provided by MHHA, therapy coordination of reassessments, Medicaid proposal to move up speech therapy license requirement date. ◆ MPRO invites all MHHA members to attend the Statewide Summit "Reducing Avoidable Readmissions by Improving Care Transitions," May 1, 2012, Lexington Lansing Hotel, Lansing MI. Registration is requested by April 19, 2012. ◆ Next Meeting: April 19, 2012, 9:00 to 10:00 at the MHHA office, then transition to the State Legislative Day at 10:30.

Ethics

Sue Clemen-Stone

◆ Please note two stimulating educational sessions related to Ethics at the Annual Conference on Thursday, May 24th. Dr. Leonard Weber will be presenting on Moral Distress in Home Care: The Individual and the Organization and Cherry Picking: Patients and Ethical Foundations for Healthcare. ◆ We are still recruiting Committee members. Interested individuals are invited to attend the Ethics Committee Meeting on April 23, 2012 from 2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Reimbursement

Chris Kisell & Amy Gil

◆ The Reimbursement Committee met onsite in Okemos on March 21, 2011. Please join us for the next meeting by teleconference at 9:30 on April 18th. ◆ At the last meeting, there was continued discussion regarding the on the dual eligible population and the government's goals to realize cost savings by enhanced care coordination, simplification and alignment of Medicare and Medicaid rules. We talked about these impending changes and the impact it may have on agencies. ◆ Agencies are experiencing some challenges with the new BCBSM reimbursement rates and payments. The remittance advice has changed as well as, agencies having reported receiving incorrect payment. ◆ The next Benchmarking period in 01/01/12 - 03/31/12 and will be due by May 11th. The Committee still would like an increase in participation. The more agencies that take part, the more meaningful the data becomes. Abby will give results at Annual Conference, as well as the committee meeting. We look forward to your participation! ◆ The Billing Committee met on February 23rd by teleconference. ◆ Linda Rutman presented "Future Shock or Opportunity, Home Care Will Be There.....Will You?" She spoke to the group regarding legislative changes, proposals and models of care, third party payers and the health care reform. The Committee sincerely appreciated Linda's presentation, which was very informative, thought provoking and encouraging. ◆ 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

◆ Next HME Teleconference is Monday, April 16, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. Call-in number is 866/206-0131, PIN: 375230#



MHHA Newsletter Links of Interest

[24th Annual MHHA State Legislative Day](#) - April 19, 2012

[Home Care Webinar: Interdisciplinary Medication Management](#) - April 19, 2012

[Blueprint for OASIS Accuracy - Two Day Workshop and Exam](#) - April 25-27, 2012

[Home Health Aide Test - Okemos](#) - May 2, 2012

[Home Care Webinar: Therapy and Wound Care](#) - May 3, 2012

[The Aide's Role in Maintaining Professional Boundaries](#) - May 10, 2012

[MHHA Annual Conference Registration](#) - May 23-25, 2012

[The Aide's Role in Understanding the Health of Older Adults](#) - June 14, 2012

[Home Health Corporate Compliance Workshop](#) - June 19, 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>

MHHA Committee Calendar

[Hospice Committee Meeting](#) – April 4, 2012

[Board of Director's Meeting](#) – April 19, 2012

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

[Private Duty Committee Meeting](#)- April 19, 2012

[Reimbursement Committee Teleconference](#) – April 18, 2012

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

[Ethics Committee](#) –April 23, 2012

[Education Committee Meeting](#) – April 17, 2012

[Public Policy Teleconference](#) – May 4, 2012