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## Bulletin Board Newsletter Michigan Home Health Association



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### Board of Directors

Jill Roby-Snyder

◆ Change in home care seems to be constant. While we all experience change at our agencies, this month it impacts the planned transition of our MHHA Board leadership. With changes in employment by John Ruswinckel, the Board accepted his resignation as President-elect but he will continue to serve as a member of the Board. To avoid the anticipated vacancy of the office of President, the Board asked me to serve another term as President. Serving this past year as your President has been very rewarding for me and with support of the MHHA Board and Membership, I look forward to serving another year. ◆ I wish to thank the MHHA Board for an exciting and successful year. My fellow Executive Committee Members, Steve Slater, John Ruswinckel, Julie Johnson and Chris Kisell made it all very easy. MHHA is a wonderful organization and reflective of an involved membership and history of developing and empowering volunteer leaders and professional staff. The home care industry in Michigan is well served by MHHA! ◆ 2012 will continue to be a challenging year for home care as we face the challenges and uncertainty of health care reform. We are strongest when all of our providers---home health, hospice, private duty, home medical equipment and pharmacy-infusion---stand together against threats to any part of our home care industry. We must continue to collaborate as an industry to bring unified response to the opportunities and challenges our agencies face. In that effort, it is very important for all of us to remain involved in MHHA affairs. Participation in your service line and other committees can be essential to the success of your business, so if you are not already involved, please know you are invited and encouraged to take full advantage of your MHHA membership by becoming involved. For event notices or to register for education programs, visit the MHHA "Events" page at [www.mhha.org](http://www.mhha.org) or contact MHHA Administrative Assistant Mary Pfeiffer at 517/349-8089, email: [Pfeiffer.mary@mhha.org](mailto:Pfeiffer.mary@mhha.org). MHHA is your organization so please take full advantage of your benefits of membership. ◆ The Annual Education Conference was a huge success and many said the best yet. One of the highlights was the recognition of three standout individuals at the Awards Luncheon held May 24. Our 2012 Spirit of Caring Award was presented to Jesse Cruz, nominated by Henry Ford Health Care. The MHHA/Kitch, Drutchas, Wagner, Valitutti & Sherbrook Allied Health Scholarship was awarded to Michael Robertson, CNA who was nominated by United Home Health Services. And, Cheryl Nagel and Karla Rouland of Wellsbrooke Premium Home Health Care represented their agency for special honors in having more employees enrolled and completed the long

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distance learning courses than any other home care provider agency in Michigan. The award was provided by RCTC, a very important long-distance learning partner of the MHHA Home Care University. ◆ Following the Business Meeting election at our Annual Conference, the 2012-2013 MHHA Board of Directors is as follows: Shari Wilson - Certified. Steve Slater - Home Infusion/Pharmacy, Deb Holman- Home Medical Equipment, Don Gillespie - Hospice, Tom Mann - Private Duty, Julie Johnson - Member-at-Large, John Ruswinckel - Member-at-Large, Dave Herbal, Associate Board Member. Special thanks go to departing Board members Matt Metzger and Rene Wheaton. ◆ Jim Shurlow of the U of M Health System and Ann Brissette of Bronson Home Health Care were elected to a two year term on the Nominating Committee. Congratulations! ◆ Speaking of benefits of membership, mark your calendar for the MHHA Annual Conference, set for May 22 - 24, 2013. Once again, the conference will be held at the beautiful Grand Traverse Resort & Spa in beautiful Acme, Michigan. ◆The MHHA Education Committee does the planning for the conference and I want to thank and congratulate Committee Chair, Debbie Holman of Genesys Health Enterprises and members of her Committee for a successful conference. If you are interested in homecare education, please consider sharing your experience as a member of the Education Committee. ◆ Please consider joining the Education, Membership or other MHHA Committees. Your participation is a benefit of MHHA membership and one more way for you to get value from your membership. It could be the best investment you make for your career or business this year.

### IV/Infection Control

Deb Opalowski & Rachel Aultman

◆ The IV/Infection Control Subcommittee will be meeting again on June 21, 2012 directly following Clinical Ops. The group is wrapping up the IV Procedure Manual revisions. We are looking for additional members to join this committee so please contact the MHHA office if you are interested.



## Regulatory

Joan Taylor & Paula Stopjik

◆ The Regulatory Committee did not meet in April or May due to MHHA Legislative Day and the Annual Conference respectively. The next meeting will be June 21, 2012 at the MHHA office following the Clinical Operations Committee. Agenda topics include: F2F, ICD-10, PECOS Enrollment for Ordering and Referring Physicians and Review of the 2012-2013 Committee Goals.

## Rehab

Ruth Benjamin

◆ The Rehab Committee met during the Annual Conference. Discussions included The Office of Regulatory Reinvention (ORR) recommendations to deregulate ST and OT, visit utilization, and contract staffing. ◆ MHHA has the opportunity to host a conference for certification for LSVT Big and Loud later this year based on projected participation. Please let the office know if you are interested in attending or sending staff to attend. ◆ Next meeting: Wednesday July 25th at 9:30. Call-in option is available. You do not need to be a therapist to attend and discuss hot topics with this diverse group. Hope to see you there!

## Education

Deb Holman

◆ The 2012 MHHA Annual Conference was a huge success. There has been many positive comments and I think much was learned. Next year's Annual Conference will return to the Grand Traverse Resort, May 22-24, 2013. Mark Your Calendars! ◆ MHHA will be hosting a Corporate Compliance Workshop for Home Health to June 19th. We will also be holding a Drivers Certification Program on September 22, 2012 at the MHHA office for those drivers of our HME companies. ◆ Please submit any other workshop ideas or speakers to [thelen.cindy@mhha.org](mailto: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.

## Membership

Barbara Serra & Tom Mann

◆ The Membership Committee will be meeting in the next few months to discuss the results of the membership survey and put in place goals and an action plan to get and retain members. We are looking for new committee members in all service line member areas. If you are a strategic thinker, this Committee wants you.

## Reimbursement

Chris Kisell & Amy Gil

◆ The Reimbursement Meeting for June is cancelled. Please join us for our next meeting at 9:30 on July 18<sup>th</sup> on site at the MHHA office. ◆ We distributed the Benchmarking results at the Annual Conference. Thank you to all that participated. ◆ The Committee is working to secure a guest speaker from MDCH that will talk about changes prompted by the new Healthcare Reform Legislation. This spokesperson will discuss what the State is doing to prepare for these changes and what agencies can expect. There will also be a Q&A session at the end of the presentation. ◆ 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](mailto: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](mailto:Agil@uhhs.org) or by phone at (734) 981-8820.

## Clinical Operations

Shari Wilson & Donna Kleinschmit

◆ The Clinical Operations (Clin Ops) Committee met during the MHHA Annual Conference in Traverse City. The Committee took the opportunity to explain the purpose, function and benefits of participating in the monthly Clin Ops meetings. ◆ Shari Wilson shared information from the MHHA Annual Legislative Day in April. Chris Kisel explained the process and advantages of financial benchmarking through MHHA. Those interested in benchmarking financials indicators with other MHHA members should send an email to Mary Pfeiffer at MHHA who will forward the information onto Chris. ◆ Several sites shared recent State survey findings with the group. Questions regarding the survey process and findings were referred to Marole English from MDLRA and Terry Duncombe from CHAP who also happened to be attending the MHHA conference as well. ◆ The next meeting will be June 21, 2012 at 9:30 a.m. at the MHHA office.

## PAC

Larry Treece

◆ Greetings to all the PAC supporters and friends. Well we had a great time at the Annual Conference and we raised over \$4000 to assist the PAC in our efforts to educate those who decide how funding is allocated as well as how our industry is regulated. I am always encouraged by support from those who work very hard every day of the year to improve what we do and how we do it...thank you friends. I will continue to monitor Public Policy Meetings. I am optimistic that our hard work will pay off...but the next few years will be work. An optimistic attitude is not a luxury...it is a necessity.



## HME/Infusion Pharmacy

**Matt Metzger & Julie Johnson**

◆ Thank you to all of you who attended the Annual Conference this year. It was a great success. ◆ **Audits/Report Any Problems Associated with Payers.** The Widespread Prepayment Oxygen Audits continue to be problematic with many providers receiving (CO-50) “Not Medically Necessary” rejections. MHHA representatives reported these issues at the Region B Council Meeting. A discussion also took place at the Annual Conference. It was reported by Region B staff members that the oxygen audit is a technical audit mandated by CMS and no end in sight. We are still working on obtaining additional information on the details of the denials. As soon as the information is available, we will send it out to the HME membership. Region B representatives provided an update regarding the Demonstration Project for Prior Authorization of Power Mobility Devices. The Demonstration Project has been delayed. As soon as the new date is announced, we will notify you. ◆ **Next HME Teleconference** - The next HME Teleconference will be held on: Monday, June 18<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.

## Private Duty

**Thomas Mann & Sheila Doeden**

◆ There were a number of attendee’s at the Private Duty meeting and it was nice to see everyone at the conference. ◆ The licensing bill continues to remain in motion. MHHA does support adding registry’s to the bill. Initially registries were not included in the bill as some thought it may cause some unnecessary controversy. However, after discussions with the NPDA and MHHA it was concluded that registry’s should be included as part of the bill. ◆ Discussion took place regarding Auto No Fault and related issues. Fee schedules for Workers Compensation are part of the issue. Auto No-Fault reform continues to progress. Concerns regarding changes to PIP coverage and fee schedules are the focal point. ◆ Next Meeting is June 19<sup>th</sup> via teleconference at 12:30

## Public Policy

**Linda Rutman & John Ruswinckel & Michael Bartz**

◆ Wow, what a great Annual Meeting! Kudos to the MHHA staff for its efforts to make it so successful every year. The meeting served many purposes for members, but one that has special meaning to the Public Policy committee is the updates we received on political activities in the state and nation from Sandi Lewis, John Gallagher, and Bill Dombi. Our efforts are now focused on supporting MHHA’s board approved state and federal talking points. As the state budget is finalized and legislators break for election runs, members are reminded to make personal contacts with their local representatives and candidates to share your beneficiary and provider issues and learn their positions on them. ◆ At the federal level we are focusing on communication with our two Senators and local Representatives and candidates in regard to:

- \* The Supreme Court decision due later this month;
- \* FLSA companionship exemption;
- \* Medicaid financing and revisions;
- \* Home Health Co-pays (yes again!);
- \* HME Market Pricing Proposal ;
- \* Hospice and Homecare Face-to-face requirements.

◆ Join us 1st Fridays at 10 a.m. for our monthly teleconference meeting.... Be a part of the solution!





## MHA Newsletter Links of Interest

[Hospice Education: Understanding Dementia/Alzheimer's Disease](#) - June 12, 2012

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

[Home Health Corporate Compliance Workshop](#) - June 19, 2012

[Hospice Education: Providing Care for the Patient with Heart Disease in Hospice](#) - July 10, 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>

[2011-2012 MHA Committee Accomplishments](#)

## MHA Committee Calendar

Hospice Committee Meeting – No Meeting in June

[Board of Director's Meeting](#) – June 14, 2012

[HME Committee](#) – June 18, 2012

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

Reimbursement Committee – No June Meeting

[Clinical Operations Committee Meeting](#) – June 21, 2012

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

[Public Policy Teleconference](#) – June 1, 2012

[Regulatory Committee](#) – June 21, 2012